

Bylaws of Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association

Article I

The principal place of business of this Corporation is located in the County of San Mateo, State of California.

Article II – Objectives

The objective of the Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association (hereafter referred to as BRSYSA) is to teach young women the skills, knowledge and sportsmanship necessary to play softball. To that end, the League will provide, to the best of its ability, the equipment, uniforms, playing facilities, team management and coaching staff, and league organization. The Association will welcome all players and will never discriminate on the basis of race, physical or mental handicap.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. Eligibility: Any person interested in active participation to promote the objective of this Association may apply to become a member.

Section 2. Class: There shall be the following classes of members:

- a) **Player Members:** Any youth from the ages of 5 and 16 meeting the requirements of any organization to which BRSYSA is a member or requirements established by BRSYSA, shall be eligible for participation but shall have no rights, duties or obligations with respect to the management or in the property of the Association.
- b) **Regular Members:** Any adult actively interested in furthering the objectives of the League may become a regular member if they are the parent or legal guardian of a player member or if they receive approval to be a regular member by a simple majority of the Board of Directors

Section 3. Suspension or Termination: Membership may be terminated by resignation or action of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors, by a majority vote at any duly constituted meeting, with a quorum attending, shall have the authority to discipline or suspend or terminate the membership of any member of any class when the conduct of such member is considered detrimental to the best interests of BRSYSA and/or any regional or national organization to which it belongs. The member involved shall be notified of such meeting, informed of the general nature of the charges and given an opportunity to appear at the meeting to answer such charges. If the member involved is a player member, their parents or legal guardian must also be informed of the charges and must appear at any meeting that takes place.

Article IV - Membership Fees

Membership or enrollment fee will be required of Player Members. However, if unable to pay, a donation may be asked at the time of registration to defray the expenses of the Association. Full or partial scholarships may be made available upon request. No girl shall be excluded for financial reasons.

Article V - Meetings

Section 1. Annual Meeting: The annual meeting of the Regular Members (as stated in Article III Section 2 b) of the League shall be held in June of each year for the purpose of electing the Board of Directors, who shall serve until their successors are installed, receiving reports, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Section 2. Notice of Meeting: Notices of each meeting shall be made known to the membership at least ten (10) days in advance thereof, setting forth the time, place, and purpose of the meeting. Notice shall be by BRSYSA website or any other means pursuant to a single notice given.

Section 3. Only Regular Members shall be entitled to vote at any meetings of the League.

- a) Only Regular Members shall be entitled to be elected or appointed as directors.
- b) Only members present at meetings will be allowed to vote on an issue put forth at a meeting.

Section 4. A quorum shall consist of 2/3rds of the members of the Board of Directors including at least three (3) elected officers.

Section 5. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the proceedings of all meetings, except where in some conflict with the Constitution or Bylaws of the Association.

Article VI - Board of Directors

Section 1. Board and Number: The management of the property and affairs of the League shall be invested in the Board of Directors. The numbers of Directors shall not be less than five (5) nor more than fifteen (15). The Board of Directors shall act as Directors until the election of their successors.

Section 2. Required Members: The Board of Directors shall include the following five elected officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Player Agent. Additional positions may be filled as necessary up to a maximum of fifteen (15), as listed in Article VII, Section 3.1.

Section 3. Balanced Voting Privileges: In no case shall the Player Agent be a member of a coaching staff of a team in the Farm League (10&U) or above in the Association.

Article VII - Method to Amend

Section 1. Method to amend Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation or any other rules established by or for the Association.

- a) League Management. May be changed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at a meeting duly called and held.
- b) Rules affecting Player Members. Rules that pertain to Player Member eligibility, playing time, and/or team formation may be changed only by a 2/3 majority vote of the Board of Directors and a 2/3 vote of the Regular Membership Either vote may be in person or via electronic means.
- c)
- d) Any Bylaw changes must be proposed and members notified a minimum of ten (10) days prior to voting at a meeting duly called and held.

LEAGUE ORGANIZATION

Rule 1 - League Organization

1.0 LEAGUE OBJECTIVES. The objective of the Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association shall be to:

- a) Teach and instruct girls and young women how to play softball and will include physical fitness, skills, sportsmanship, and competition.
- b) Provide the necessary coaching instruction, equipment, playing facilities, umpiring, etc. for every player - be they recreational in nature or competitive.
- c) Treat every player or group of players equally during the regular season.
- d) Provide, support, and encourage competitive, inter-league play for those young women whose abilities and ambitions lead them to further advancement, instruction and competition.
- e) Provide equipment, playing facilities and tournament entry fees for one or more post season tournaments for such post season play, but out of pocket costs (such as transportation and accommodations) for post season play will not be funded directly by the league.

Rule 2 - Membership

2.0 LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP. All parents and legal guardians of players in the Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association shall be members of the League.

2.1 League members can and are encouraged to vote in annual Board of Directors elections and in changes to the League Bylaws that may affect players.

Rule 3 - Board of Directors

3.0 DUTIES. The Board of Directors shall manage the Leagues and ensure that each player is provided with coaching and instruction, uniforms and equipment, umpiring, playing facilities, and other items and services necessary for them to learn to play softball.

3.0.1 The Board of Directors shall never impose rules that will in any way deny any player the opportunity to participate in the Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association.

3.0.2 The Board of Directors shall be responsible for establishing publishing, and enforcing the rules that will govern the Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association.

3.0.3 The Board of Directors may enter into associations with other leagues and league organizations to provide the necessary training and competition for the players. Such associations must not, however, result in the loss of the ability of the Belmont organization to maintain control of the league operations that affect Belmont players or result in rules that conflict with the rules of the Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association.

3.0.4 The Board of Directors will purchase injury insurance for all players and registered managers, coaches, and chaperones; will purchase bonding insurance for each Board member who is responsible for League assets and can co-sign checks; will purchase liability insurance for the League, Board of Directors and registered managers and coaches.

3.1 MEMBERSHIP. The Board of Directors shall consist of five to fifteen voting members, five of whom shall be elected by the League membership, the remaining positions shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the four other elected officers. In addition, the Board of Directors may appoint additional non-voting chairpersons for special events and/or projects (such as team pictures, field preparation, public relations).

3.1.1 The five elected offices shall be:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Player Agent

3.1.2 The other voting positions shall be:

Pee Wee Commissioner (6U)

Rookie Commissioner (8U)

Farm Commissioner (10U)

Minor Commissioner (12U)

Major Commissioner (14U)

3.1.3 The other non-voting positions may consist of:

Financial Chairperson

Uniform Manager

Concessions Manager

Equipment Manager

Field Maintenance Manager

Awards Manager

Newsletter/Website Manager

Fundraising/Sponsor Manger

All Star Commissioner

Special Projects Commissioner

Schedule Commissioner

3.1.4 The Player Agent may not be a member of a coaching staff of a team in the Farm League (10U) or above in the Association.

3.2 TERM OF OFFICE. Following the first year of the Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association, Board of Director members will serve a term of office of one year. Elections will be held in June of each year following regular season play. Terms of office will begin the following September. It is recommended that the President serve a two-year term.

3.3 LEAGUE OPERATION RULES. All League business and decisions regarding the management of the League will be determined by simple majority vote of the Board of Directors, except as noted in these rules.

3.3.1 A quorum shall consist of 2/3rds of the members of the Board of Directors, three of whom shall be elected officers.

3.3.2 Rules or decisions affecting individual leagues (Pee Wee (6U), Rookies (8U), Farm (10U), Minor (12U), Major (14U)) cannot be made without the presence or knowledge of the appropriate League Commissioner.

3.3.3 Any rule affecting Players such as the "every player plays every game" rules, the competitive nature of the regular season or similar rules that may in any way deny or discourage any player from participating in the Belmont Youth Softball Association will require a two-thirds majority vote of the entire Board of Directors as well as a two-thirds vote of the League membership as defined in 2.0.

3.3.3.1 Notification of voting for such rule changes must be communicated to all members at least 10 days prior to the meeting during which voting is to take place through mail, email or posted on the website.

3.4 DUTIES OF OFFICERS

3.4.1 President - the executive officer of the League and as such coordinates all League activities; presides over all League meetings; is responsible for the League's assets; may direct and assist League committees and officers, should represent the League at appropriate city, county, inter-city softball organization meetings, etc.; assists the Vice President in scheduling Pre-and Regular season games; may co-sign checks. In instances where co-signing is required i.e. check value of \$5000.00 or more, the co-signers cannot be married, domestic partners, or related to each other.

3.4.2 Vice President - assists the President in the management of the League; presides at League meetings or functions in the absence of the President, together with the President schedules Pre-and Regular season games; is the Tournament Director for the Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association Sponsors' Tournament.

3.4.3 Secretary - keeps permanent minutes of all meetings; maintains files of all correspondence to and from the League; notifies all Board Members and interested parties of meetings; may co-sign checks. In instances where co-signing is required i.e. check value of \$5000.00 or more, the co-signers cannot be married, domestic partners, or related to each other.

3.4.4 Treasurer - maintains complete records of all financial transactions of the League; oversees the collection and disbursement of League funds; deposits League income in a timely manner; pays League debts in a timely manner; provides a financial report for every regularly scheduled Board meeting; must co-sign checks. In instances where co-signing is required i.e. check value of \$5000.00 or more, the co-signers cannot be married, domestic partners, or related to each other.

3.4.5 Player Agent - acts as a representative of the players to the Board; organizes and directs registration; organizes and directs the team drafts; organizes and directs the selection of the All Star team; investigates and/or reports to the Board any actions by players, parents or team personnel that affects any player or the League; will periodically observe safety practices at games and practices, will make suggestions and reports on safety issues to the Board of Directors, and will receive and file all accident reports.

3.4.6 Pee Wee (6U) League Commissioner – represents the players, managers and coaches in the Pee Wee League; reports problems, concerns, etc. of the Pee Wee League to the Board.

- 3.4.7 Rookie (8U) League Commissioner - represents the players, managers and coaches in the Rookie League; reports problems, concerns, etc. of the Rookie League to the Board. Assists in Draft and All-Star Selection
- 3.4.8 Farm (10U) League Commissioner - represents the players, managers and coaches in the Farm League; reports problems, concerns, etc. of the Farm League to the Board. Assists in Draft and All-Star Selection.
- 3.4.9 Minor (12U) League Commissioner - represents the players, managers and coaches in the Minor League; reports problems, concerns, etc. of the Minor League to the Board. Assists in Draft and All-Star Selection.
- 3.4.10 Major (14U) League Commissioner - represents the players, managers and coaches in the Major League; reports problems, concerns, etc. of the Major League to the Board. Assists in Draft and All-Star Selection.
- 3.4.11 Uniform Manager - maintains, distributes, collects, and replaces player uniforms; is the only person allowed to purchase uniform items at the direction of the Board.
- 3.4.12 Concessions Manager - organizes and schedules concession volunteers; purchases concessions items, coordinates concessions activities with other leagues as necessary; maintains records of purchases and sales.
- 3.4.13 Equipment Manager - maintains, distributes, collects and replaces all League equipment; is the only person allowed to purchase equipment items at the direction of the Board.
- 3.4.14 Field Maintenance Manager - maintains, fields and field maintenance equipment. Is the only person allowed to purchase equipment and supplies at the direction of the Board.
- 3.4.15 Awards Manager – solicits bids for awards and is the only person allowed to purchase awards at the direction of the Board.
- 3.4.16 Newsletter/Website Manager – solicits articles, publishes and distributes the newsletter on a quarterly basis. Also maintains the website.
- 3.4.17 Sponsor/Fundraising Manager - solicits team and league sponsors, co-chairs all fundraising activities; maintain records of fund raising events (income, expenses, etc.).
- 3.4.18 All-Star Commissioner - represents the players, managers and coaches in the All-Star League; reports problems, issues, concerns, etc. of the major league to the Board. Holds All-Star committee meetings to discuss drafting procedures, funding, etc. and brings committee recommendations to the board.

3.4.19 Special Projects Commissioner - organizes and schedules skill clinics. Solicits corporate interest and sponsorships.

3.4.20 Schedule Commissioner – Responsible for developing and managing the schedule for the spring season by working with the Tri-City league and the BRSYSA Board President and Vice-President, including scheduling make-up games and umpires as necessary.

LEAGUE RULES

Rule 4 – Leagues

4.0 The Belmont Redwood Shores Youth Softball Association (BRSYSA) will conduct at least five separate leagues as appropriate: the Pee Wee (6U) League, the Rookie (8U) League, the Farm (10U) League, the Minor (12U) League, and the Major (14U) League. If a sufficient number of girls register for and qualify for the Sixteen-and-Under League, then BRSYSA will also conduct the Sixteen-and-Under League. Age groupings for all BRSYSA leagues will be consistent with those established by USA Softball, with the exception of the Rookie League. Every girl or young woman who registers during open registration will be given the opportunity to play in a BRSYSA League, except for players who are in violation of the BRSYSA Commitment Agreement (Sec. 5.1.3) or have health conditions not certified as safe by a medical doctor.

4.1 BRSYSA Leagues will be open to all girls and young women interested in playing softball who are between the ages of 5 and 16, inclusive.

4.2 All BRSYSA-Sponsored League games will be played under USA Softball rules except as amended herein by the BRSYSA. In cases of conflict between USA Softball rules and BRSYSA amended rules, the BRSYSA rules shall take precedence. BRSYSA All Star teams will play under the rules of the tournament with the exception that every BRSYSA All-Star will play at least two innings of pool play at each tournament.

Rule 5 – Registration

5.0 REGISTRATION for BRSYSA leagues will be held prior to the team draw. A Registration Form must be filled out by each registrant's parents or guardian.

5.1 Any girl who wants to play in a BRSYSA league must register at an open BRSYSA registration. Scholastic league players who may be prohibited by their scholastic league from playing in a BRSYSA league until the end of their scholastic league season, must register during an open registration.

5.1.1 At the time of registration a fee will be collected. Registrant or her family unable to afford the fee may request a scholarship. Members of the BRSYSA Board of Directors available at registration will decide on the scholarship request and amount of the scholarship. Such requests shall be strictly confidential.

5.1.2 Each player's parents or guardian will be required to read and to sign a standard Waiver of Liability which releases BRSYSA, its Board of Directors, managers, coaches, chaperones, umpires, score-keepers, and any other, persons hired or providing volunteer work for the BRSYSA from any liability for accidents, injury, damage, or other such incidents.

5.1.3 Players and their parents or guardians will also agree that players will participate only in BRSYSA Leagues and in no other non-scholastic softball leagues from the first BRSYSA practice through the end of the first BRSYSA Recreational League tournament. A player may be released from this agreement by two-thirds vote of the BRSYSA Board at a duly held meeting.

5.1.4 The BRSYSA Player Agent, President, Vice President or any manager may request that a medical doctor's approval be obtained for any registrant whose ability to play softball safely may be in question.

5.2 Scholastic league players will be assigned to a team after she reports her availability to league. The team assignment will be made by the Player Agent and the appropriate League Commissioner. If a registered scholastic league player elects not to participate in BRSYSA following the end of her scholastic league softball season, her registration fees will be returned.

5.3 For players who will be participating in the Pee Wee (6U) and Rookie (8U) Leagues, BRSYSA will consider special requests to place one or more specified players on the same team (for such reasons as "carpooling" and "best friends").

5.4 A registration deadline will be determined by the Board annually. The deadline will be prior to the team drafts.

5.4.1 Players who register after the open registration will be considered late registrants. Late registrants will be assessed a late fee at the time of their registration. All fees paid by a late registrant will be refunded if their participation in BRSYSA is denied.

5.4.2 The eligibility of any player who wants to join BRSYSA after the team drafts will be determined by the Board with a majority vote. The Player Agent will be responsible for presenting any extenuating circumstances which may influence the decision.

5.4.3 Exception to Rule 5.4.2 will be in the Rookie League. Rookies will be allowed to register after the team drafts and will be placed on teams until such time as the teams are deemed full, after which a waiting list will be kept. The late fee will apply.

Rule 6 - Team Organization

6.0 Each BRSYSA team must have a manager, a head coach and may have one or more assistant coaches. The manager may also serve as an assistant coach for the team. All managers, coaches and assistant coaches must be approved by a simple majority

vote of the Board of Directors at a duly held meeting. Once a manager and one or more coaches have been assigned to a team, that team shall have at least one representative attend every regularly scheduled Board meeting up through the conclusion of league play. At least one of the three positions of Head Coach, Manager and Assistant Coach must be held by an adult female 21 yrs of age or older.

6.1 MANAGER. Every BRSYSA team in every league will be managed by an adult 21 years or older. The manager is in charge of all aspects of the team throughout the season. Managers may manage or coach in more than one BRSYSA League at the same time, but never for more than one team in any League. All Managers in all Divisions are required to be ACE certified.

6.2 HEAD COACH. Every BRSYSA team in every league will be coached by an adult 21 years or older who must be registered. Head coaches will be selected by the Manager and may coach or manage in more than one BRSYSA League at the same time, but never for more than one team in any League. All Head Coaches in all Divisions are required to be ACE certified.

6.3 ASSISTANT COACH. Assistant coaches must be adults 21 years of age or older, except that graduates of the BRSYSA program who are 18 years or older may be rostered as assistant coaches with the approval of the Board of Directors. Assistant coaches must be registered. They may coach or manage in more than one BRSYSA League at the same time, but never for more than one team in any League. All Assistant Coaches in all Divisions are required to be ACE certified.

6.4 CHAPERONE. Each team must have at least one adult female present for each practice and game. Individuals may chaperone for more than one BRSYSA team at the same time.

6.5 MANAGERS AND COACHES will be required to attend a special meeting/clinic prior to the first practice. This meeting/clinic will outline approved practice procedures, suggested skills and drills for each League, safety requirements, practice field assignments, and practice schedules.

6.6 An ACE Certified Manager or Coach must be present at all Games and Practices.

6.7 All coaches shall attend positive coaching classes as required at the Board's request

Rule 7 - Team Formation

7.0 All BRSYSA regular season teams will be established by a draft system. All references in this Rule to "draft" shall mean that process by which a team representative chooses (or drafts) one player at a time from the various categories of players created by this Rule. For purposes of facilitating this draft, Managers and Head Coaches shall have access to the player evaluations from the prior year. Additionally, each player registered with the League shall be required to attend at least one day of a skills

evaluation. These skills evaluation days are to be scheduled by the Board on two separate weekends prior to draft night.

7.1 TEAM DRAFTS. In the Farm League and above, the total number of players eligible to play in each League will be divided by 10 (players per team) to determine the approximate number of teams to be drawn. A team should not initially have less than 9 players or more than 13 players. A separate draft for each League will be conducted by the Player Agent. Each eligible player will be assigned to a player category by the Player Agent and the appropriate League Commissioner. The number and kinds of categories vary by League and are described in each league's rules. The Player Agent, President, Vice President and parents will determine the appropriate BRSYSA League and Player Draft Category for any registrant whose physical or mental abilities may limit her ability to play safely in her age League. If there are not enough pitchers in a division to be distributed across teams (i.e. at least one pitcher per team), the Board reserves the right to reject certain manager/coach/assistant coach combinations.

For those age divisions that are participating in Spring or Fall Intercity League play, teams may be formed to conform to norms as determined by the Intercity League (e.g. Peninsula League for 10U and 12U). For Gold/Silver team formation, BRSYSA teams may use a "fall 5" draft as outlined in Fall Ball (7.3) in lieu of the "Core 2" draft otherwise prescribed in these bylaws, at the discretion of the voting Board.

Fall Ball teams may form with as few as 9 players per team. Roster sizes over 12 players shall be allowed only with approval of the Board. In the event that registration numbers allow formation of more than one team in an age division, coaches are encouraged to form teams to compete at the Gold (generally second year players) or Silver (generally first year players) level, as appropriate.

7.1.1 Farm League Player Categories (10U). The following player categories apply to the Farm League:

- (i) Returning Farm League All Star Pitchers
- (ii) Returning Farm League Rated Pitchers & Rookie Pitchers taking lessons
- (iii) Returning Farm League All Stars
- (iv) Returning Farm League players, Rookie League Players moving up & all inexperienced players

Each pitcher will be rated by the President and the Player Agent at the beginning of each season at a tryout.

7.1.2 Minor League Player Categories (12U). The following player categories apply to the Minor League:

- (i) Returning Minor League All Star Pitchers
- (ii) Returning Minor League Rated Pitchers & Farm League Pitchers moving up
- (iii) Returning Minor League All Stars
- (iv) Returning Minor League players, Farm League players moving up and all inexperienced players.

Each pitcher will be rated by the President and the Player Agent at the beginning of each season at a tryout.

7.1.3 Major League Player Categories (14U). The following player categories apply to the Major League:

- (i) Returning Major League All-Star Pitchers
- (ii) Returning Major League Rated Pitchers & Minor League pitchers moving up
- (iii) Returning Major League All Stars
- (iv) Returning Major League Players, Minor League players moving up and all inexperienced players.

Each pitcher will be rated by the President and the Player Agent at the beginning of each season at a tryout.

7.1.4 Sixteen and Under League Player Categories. The following player categories will apply to the 16&U League:

- (i) Returning 16&U League All Star Pitchers
- (ii) Returning 16&U League Rated Pitchers & Major League pitchers moving up
- (iii) Returning 16&U League All Stars
- (iv) Returning 16&U League Players, Major League Players moving up and all inexperienced players

Each pitcher will be rated by the President and the Player Agent at the beginning of each season at a tryout.

7.2 LEAGUE ADVANCEMENT. Players may try out to play in the next higher League than the one corresponding to their age in accordance with these rules. These rules apply to any team selection regardless of season.

Fall Ball participants are generally encouraged to play in the age division in which they will play in the following spring. Players may remain in a younger age division at the discretion of the Board.

7.2.1 Experienced players, who are in their final year of eligibility in an age division, may "play-up" in the next age division. To be eligible to play up, a written parental request must be emailed to the Player Agent prior to Try-Outs. The player must attend try-outs for both the Try-Out corresponding to their age group and the Try-Out for the next League. Approval to play-up must be given by a majority vote of the Coaches of both age divisions, the Commissioners of both age divisions, and the Player Agent. Advancement to the next League must be approved prior to the team draw.

7.2.2 In order to qualify for advancement, a player must demonstrate skills superior to those of players in her current League in each of the following areas: Fielding (to include catching and throwing), Batting, Base Running (to include running and sliding).

7.2.3 The Board of Directors will determine the Player Draw Category for any player who qualifies for advancement to the next league. The category will generally be that of the League's youngest experienced players.

7.3 For the Farm, Major, and Minor leagues, only the daughters of the Manager and a Coach will be assigned to the parents' team prior to the draft. These are the only two players considered protected. These girls must be chosen when first entering the category in which they are assigned. Prior to the draft, the Board as a group will determine which of the four (4) categories the daughters of the Manager and Coach will be assigned to. In addition, once the category is assigned, then a round in that category will be assigned as well. The Board reserves the right to reject any Manager/Coach combination that results in an uneven distribution of pitching and/or talent level in the league.

For Fall Ball: Daughters of the 1) Manager, 2) Head Coach, 3) Assistant Coach, 4) Team Parent and 5) Uniform Coordinator will be assigned to their team prior to the draft. Coaches are encouraged to consider buddy/carpool requests when drafting.

7.4 Sisters will be placed on the same team unless otherwise requested in writing by the player's parents prior to the Team Draft. However, these girls will still be part of the actual draft so that they can be assigned to the team based upon when they are drafted in the appropriate player categories. The first sister will be assigned to a team when she is drafted. The second sister will be assigned to that same team when her name is drafted. However, these girls will still be part of the actual draft so that they can be assigned to a team based upon their appropriate player categories.

7.5 PEE WEE (6U) AND ROOKIE (8U) LEAGUE ONLY: As the names of players are drawn, Rookie League managers may request that the player currently being assigned be added to the requesting manager's team as a "best friend" or "car pool. Exception to the random draw. This will be allowed, provided all other Rookie League managers agree to the special request.

7.6 The application of an approved "exception to the draft" should never result in an unfair proportion of players from the first four (4) Player Categories being assigned to the same team. If exceptions to the draft results in an unfair proportion of players from the first four (4) Player Categories being assigned to the same team, then the disinterested members of the BRSYSA Board present at the Team Draft will determine which "excepted" players will be moved to different teams in order to insure a balanced League.

- 7.7 Late Registrants, after receiving Board approval to play, will be placed on teams by the sole authority of the Player Agent and the appropriate League Commissioner. The placement of late registrants must be made in such a way as to maintain equality of team strength within the League. The Player Agent may ask the BRSYSA Board for advice and assistance. Late registrants must attend at least two practices before they can play in a regular season game. Practice games, if scheduled, may be considered one practice.
- 7.8 DRAFT PROCEDURES Prior to the draft each team in each league will be assigned a number at random. The first player from the first player category will be selected and assigned to "team 1", the next to "team 2", etc. until each team has been assigned a player from the first category or until there are no more players left in the category.
- 7.8.1 If there are remaining players in the first category, the next player drafted is assigned to the "highest numbered team", the next player after that to the "next highest numbered team", etc. until each team has been assigned another player from the first category or until there are no more players left in the category.
- 7.8.2 If there are still unassigned players in the first category, the draft proceeds as in (7.8.1) above.
- 7.8.3 If, during any round of drawing, there are no more players left unassigned before each team has had its chance during that round, the draw will continue using players from the next category for that League's draw.
- 7.9 Only the following individuals may be present at team draws. The first three BRSYSA Board members listed must attend, it is highly recommended that all of the listed individuals attend: President, Vice President, Player Agent and other Board members deemed necessary by the Player Agent, appropriate League Commissioner, two representatives from each team in the League.
- 7.10 Only players with developmental disabilities, or those who are physically challenged as determined by the American Disabilities Act, will be allowed to play down in the next lowest league. Upon a parent's request, approval for playing down may only be granted by a majority vote of the President, Vice-President, Player Agent, and two League Commissioners affected, meeting in closed session.
- 7.11 If the Board determines it necessary to avoid the forfeiture of league games played between BRSYSA teams and teams from other cities a list of unrostered substitutes from the next lowest league will be created. A needed player will be assigned from the name first on the list, and thereafter that player's name will be placed at the bottom of the list. The use of unrostered substitutes will be announced to the visiting team, may only be used with the permission of the visiting team, and will only be added to enable a BRSYSA team to field the maximum number of field

positions needed for a game as determined each individual league. Unrostered substitutes shall be allowed to play outfield positions only.

7.12 If a player misses 4 consecutive games and/or practices due to reasons other than injury or illness, eligibility to continue to play will be determined by a majority vote of the Board.

Rule 8 – Sportsmanship

8.0 Everyone involved with any BRSYSA event (on the field or as a spectator) are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is consistent with good sportsmanship. The BRSYSA Board of Directors is responsible for upholding all rules of play and conduct, especially those related to sportsmanship. Any member of the Board of Directors who witnesses unacceptable behavior has the responsibility and duty to talk to the offending adult(s) and remind them of these rules regarding conduct. If necessary, the Board Member may eject those engaged in such behavior from the playing field and stands. The City of Belmont Police will support any such action by a BRSYSA Board Member. Managers and coaches (not umpires) are responsible for controlling the behavior of their players, their assistant coaches, themselves, and their fans. Umpires are responsible for play and sportsmanship on the field and will never be expected to control or discipline spectators.

The following forms of behavior are totally unacceptable and, if they occur during any BRSYSA games, practices, or other sponsored activities may be cause for ejection from a game or cause for other disciplinary actions:

- Use of foul language.
- Excessive arguing with umpires, with members of the opposing team, with parents, or with spectators.
- Use of extreme sarcasm, belittlement, or similarly degrading or distracting comments to players, coaches, or managers.
- Intentional violation of BRSYSA playing rules in order to further a team's or an individual's position, score, or status.

8.1 Manager, coaches and assistant coaches engaging in unacceptable behavior as outlined in Section 8.0 may be expelled from a game by the umpire. There will be no appeal of an umpire's decision to eject a manager or coach or assistant coach.

8.2 An umpire has the authority, however, to forfeit any game if the players, manager, coaches or the spectators are, in the umpire's judgment, out of control or are acting in a manner detrimental to the game.

8.2.1 An umpire will report to the Umpire-In-Chief of Peninsula Sports Officials Association, within two days, any Instance in which a manager or coach or player has been ejected from a game.

8.3 Instances of unacceptable behavior by players must be pointed out to the player by the managers and coaches and proper behavior must be explained.

8.3.1 Any players who consistently engage in unsportsmanlike behavior or in other unacceptable forms of behavior may be disciplined by the manager. Such discipline cannot involve physical punishment, but may involve restricting the playing time of the player or even suspension for one game. Such action must be reported to the Player Agent.

8.3.2 The League Commissioner and the BRSYSA Player Agent must be notified by the team manager in advance of any anticipated player suspensions. The Manager and/or Player Agent will discuss the discipline problem and pending disciplinary action with the player's parents or guardian.

8.3.3 Any more serious matters involving players or player discipline will require prior review and action by the BRSYSA Board of Directors.

8.4 Written charges of unsportsmanlike or unacceptable conduct (as outlined In Section 8.0) by a manager, coach, assistant coach, or any other team personnel will be promptly handled by the Board of Directors. Adults so charged will be contacted by the President and requested to appear at a Board of Directors' meeting to answer the charges. The Board may also invite the Individual making the charges to attend the meeting. The Board will review the situation and the information presented by all parties present and may, at its discretion, request additional information or interview other individuals.

The Board of Directors, by 2/3 vote in closed session may take one or more of the following actions against a manager; coach, assistant coach or other team personnel found to have engaged in one or more forms of unacceptable behavior as outlined in 8.0.

(i) Official reprimand.

(ii) Probation or suspension for one or more games or for the remaining part of the season.

(iii) Removal from participation in all future BRSYSA activities.

The President of the League shall inform all involved parties of the Board's action. The notice will simply inform the manager, coach or assistant coach of the action being taken and will not reveal the vote, discussion or any other conversation made during the closed meeting. The Secretary's minutes of the Board action will be held confidential for Board Members only.

8.5 The Board of Directors shall solicit input from parents about their experience in the league, including knowledge & conduct of coaching staff.

Rule 9 – Safety

9.0 Everyone Involved with BRSYSA will use the utmost care to ensure the safety of players, umpires, managers, coaches, chaperones, volunteers, and spectators. All teams must have first aid kits and player registration/medical information forms at all team functions. All accidents will be reported immediately to the team manager (and to the player's parents or guardian if a player is involved). The manager will then immediately inform the League Commissioner. In all practices and games, or any other time the coaching staff deems it necessary the batters and base runners must wear a batting helmet with strap and face guard.

9.0.1 All infield positions are highly recommended to wear protective face masks.

9.1 NO COLLISION RULE In every league, a no collision rule will be enforced. Play: When a defensive player has possession of the ball and is preparing to tag a runner, the runner must either slide into that base or vacate the base path to avoid a collision with the defensive player. The penalty for running into a defensive player is that the runner will be called out. The runner may also be ejected from the game if, in the umpire's opinion, she deliberately ran into the defensive player

Rule 10 - Practice and Regular Season Games

10.0 The use and scheduling of all practice and game fields will be determined and published by the BRSYSA Board of Directors. Practices will begin no later than four weeks prior to the first scheduled regular season game. The first practice games will be scheduled by the BRSYSA Board following at least two weeks of skills practice. Managers may arrange for additional practice games after the first BRSYSA scheduled practice game. These additional practice games must occur during the team's regularly scheduled practices and must not interfere with the practices of other teams. Managers and coaches are encouraged to use practice games to help players learn the game - that is, play can be stopped to correct errors and to explain situations. Incomplete or canceled practice games need not be completed.

10.1 The BRSYSA Board will schedule all regular season games. If a girl shows up in uniform and is able to play, she will be rostered for that game.

10.1.1 Pee Wee (6U) and Rookie (8U) Leagues are played in Belmont and will be subject to playing rules as outlined in appendix A.

10.1.2 Farm (10U), Minor (12U) and Major (14U) Leagues are part of a multi-city league and will be subject to playing rules as outlined by the Peninsula League.

Rule 11 - All-Star Teams

11.0 BRSYSA will sponsor All-Star teams from each League in one or more post-season tournaments. No All-Star player shall be released or approved to play on any tournament team during the post-season BRSYSA tournament period (defined as that period of time between BRSYSA All-Star selection and June 30).

BRSYSA may also sponsor All-Star or "Select" team during any regular season. To be eligible to play for a regular season Select team, a player must be playing for a recreational team, Belmont or Peninsula League. The player must attend practices and games for their recreational team. The Select team is in addition to regular season play. The Select season is a bonus season for the upper-level girls playing in their division and shall be treated as "bonus" play.

11.1 Each All-Star team will consist of up to fifteen players.

11.2 Any player selected as an All-Star may refuse to play on her League's All-Star team. If the player does not play on the BRSYSA All-Star team and plays on another team competing in the same tournament, she may be suspended for up to a year from play in BRSYSA at the discretion of a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

11.3 All-Star players and their parents may be asked to conduct a special fundraising event, the proceeds of which will be used to offset BRSYSA All Star costs. The League will cover the costs for the Nor-Cal tournament for all teams participating (including C teams) and one All Star tournament played by the Rookie (8U teams). All other costs for playing on the All Stars, including uniforms and tournament play will be covered by parents or by fundraising.

11.4 Each League will hold a try out to select the All-Star team of up to 15 players.

11.4.1 No earlier than last Saturday in April, the BRSYSA Board will conduct an All-Star try out for each League. The appropriate League managers and head coaches, along with the League Commissioner and Player Agent will evaluate the players on their playing skills. Evaluation will also be based on play during the regular season.

11.4.2 The Player Agent will schedule an All-Star selection meeting. Ballots of the managers, head coaches, League Commissioner and Player Agent will be tallied to select the players for each League's All-Star team.

11.4.3 All ballots must be completed prior to the All-Star selection meeting.

11.4.4 For each League, players receiving the 8 highest votes will be placed on the All-Star team for that League. The elected coaching staff for each league will then select up to 7 players to fill out the roster, seriously taking into consideration the players voted for but not receiving one of the 8 highest vote counts. The coaching staff may elect to choose certain players based on the need to fill certain roles/positions.

11.4.5 If there is a tie for the last player to be voted to the All-Star team, another ballot for that last position will be cast among all those players tied for the last player position. Players involved in the tie vote count will be added to the All-Star team based upon their vote count in the tie-breaking ballot.

11.4.6 If there are enough players to form a second All-Star team for any league, placement shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

11.5 Manager and Coach Selection - At the time of the All-Star selection meeting, the manager and head coach of the All-Star team will be selected from the roster of managers and head coaches of the league.

11.5.1 Prior to voting, all managers and head coaches will be asked if they want to be considered for an All-Star Team manager or head coach position.

11.5.2 The All-Star Manager for each League will be selected from the list of Managers who want to be considered for the All-Star Manager position by written vote of the managers and head coaches of that League, the President, the Vice-President, the Player Agent, and related League Commissioner. The voting will occur at the All-Star team meeting. If unable to attend, those entitled to vote may give their signed ballot to the Player Agent prior to the All-Star team meeting. If such an absentee ballot contains the name of a Manager who has decided not to be considered for the position, the ballot will not be counted. All absentee ballots must be signed and dated. The All-Star manager need not have a daughter on the All-Star team.

11.5.3 The All-Star Head Coach for each League will be selected from the list of Coaches who want to be considered for the All-Star Head Coach position by written vote of the head coaches and managers of that League, the President, the Vice-president, the Player Agent, and related League Commissioner. The voting will occur at the All-Star team meeting. If unable to attend, those entitled to vote may give their signed ballot to the Player Agent prior to the All-Star team meeting. If such absentee ballot names a Head Coach who has decided not to be considered for the position, the ballot will not be counted. All absentee ballots must be signed and dated. The All-Star Head Coach need not have a daughter on the All-Star team.

11.5.4 A tie vote for All Star manager or head coach will require a second vote. If, after the second vote, a tie still exists additional ballots will be taken until one manager and one head coach is selected.

11.5.5 Each All-Star Manager and Head Coach will select their own assistant coaches and chaperone.

11.5.6 Any Manager, Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Parent, or Player on which disciplinary action was taken by the Board of Directors during the regular season (see Rule 8 Sportsmanship) will not be allowed to participate.

11.6 BRSYSA plays their regular season in a multi-city league and plays by one set of regular season league rules. Any city playing in these leagues has the right to pick up any player(s) from one of the cities' players for their All-Star team, with the provisions, that the city where the player originates (plays) from does not have an All-Star team, or that the city's All-Star team is no longer in championship

contention (defined as after June 30th) and that the league officials allow the transfer. However, preference for players on BRSYSA All-star teams will be given to BRSYSA players.

11.7 Regardless of tournament rules, every BRSYSA All-Star team, manager, and coach will ensure that every player on the team plays at least two (2) innings during pool play. With this exception, BRSYSA amended rules will not be used for tournament play. Not every player may play during tournament play, and shall play at the discretion of the Head Coach.

PLAYING RULES

Rule 12 - Pee Wee (6U) and Rookie (8U) League

12.0 PEE WEE AND ROOKIE LEAGUE

These leagues are for girls who are six years of age and under (Pee Wee) and 8 years of age and under (Rookie). These leagues are instructional leagues designed to help young girls learn the basics of softball, such as the object of the game, how to throw, how to catch, how to bat, how to run the bases and sportsmanship.

12.1 Pee Wee (6U) and Rookie (8U) Leagues are played in Belmont and will be subject to playing rules as outlined in appendix A.

Rule 13 - Farm (10U) League

13.0 FARM LEAGUE

This league is for girls who are ten years of age and under. This league is also an instructional league and will continue the instruction in softball fundamentals begun in the Pee Wee (6U) and Rookie (8U) Leagues.

13.1 The Farm (10U) League is a part of a multi-city league and will be subject to playing rules as outlined by the Peninsula League.

Rule 14 - Minor (12U) League

14.0 MINOR LEAGUE

This league is for girls who are twelve years of age and under. This league will provide increased levels of competition, but will continue to provide instruction with emphasis on skills and game strategy.

14.1 The Minor (12U) League is a part of a multi-city league and will be subject to playing rules as outlined by the Peninsula League.

Rule 15 - Major (14U) League

15.0 MAJOR LEAGUE

This league is for girls who are fourteen years of age and under. This league will provide increased levels of competition, but will continue to provide instruction with emphasis on skills and game strategy.

15.1 The Major League (14U) League is a part of a multi-city league and will be subject to playing rules as outlined by the Peninsula League.

Rule 14 - Sixteen and Under League

16.0 SIXTEEN LEAGUE (16U)

This league is for young women who are fifteen and sixteen years of age. If BRSYSA does field one or more such teams, then the team(s) will participate in the San Mateo County ASA program under the sponsorship of BRSYSA. The Sixteen-and-Under League will encourage and support young women who wish to continue in softball. In order to provide the necessary levels of competition, games will be scheduled with teams from other Sixteen-and-Under Leagues of nearby communities.