



LEAGUE BYLAWS

Effective Spring 2009

Revised February 10, 2009

ARTICLE ONE - NAME

1.01

The name of the organization is "America's Finest City Softball League," hereinafter referred to as "AFCSL"

ARTICLE TWO - OBJECTIVES

2.01

The specific purpose for this organization is to be a permanently organized, not-for-profit slow pitch softball league dedicated to the promotion of amateur athletics for all persons regardless of age, race, creed, religion, national origin, or sexual orientation, with special emphasis on the participation of members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

2.02

AFCSL is a member of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) and the Amateur Sports Alliance of North America (ASANA), and subscribes to NAGAAA and ASANA policies unless specifically amended by AFCSL rules.

2.03

Rules of play will be those adopted by the Amateur Softball Association (A.S.A.), unless specifically amended by AFCSL rules.

2.04

AFCSL is a voluntary participation organization.

ARTICLE THREE - PARTICIPATION

3.01

Categories of participation in this AFCSL will be: Individual and Team.

3.02

Team Participation is available to teams submitting proper and approved applications and payments, and remaining in good standing within the AFCSL, NAGAAA, and ASANA.

3.03

Team Participation fees will be paid by the team or team sponsor, as uniformly set and communicated by the Board of Officers for all teams in AFCSL.

3.04

Individual participation on a team is available to any person who is rostered as a playing or non-playing participant on an approved team, in good standing and maintains eligibility requirements as set forth by AFCSL Rules; or who is serving on the Board of Officers.

3.05

Individual fees for playing participants shall be paid by the individual, as uniformly set and communicated by the Board of Officers for all participants in AFCSL.

3.06

A Player is eligible to participate in the AFCSL provided said participant is:

- a) at least eighteen (18) years of age and, upon request, furnishes proof of age; and
- b) not under suspension or disqualification from AFCSL or any NAGAAA or ASANA League.

3.07

Transfer of Participation: Participation in the AFCSL is not transferable or assignable. Should participation be terminated for any reason, the fees are not refundable.

ARTICLE FOUR - AFCSL DELEGATES

4.01

The composition of AFCSL Delegation shall be the Executive Board, the Board of Officers, and one Representative from each participating team during a given season. Each delegate shall have one vote. As presiding officers, the Commissioner from each division will have no vote unless the Delegation is equally divided. If this were to occur, the Commissioner who is serving their second year in their term will be the deciding vote.

4.02

The person seated on the Delegation from each team will remain the same for the specific season as designated by team manager, unless an alternate representative is designated by team manager in writing to Divisional Representative.

4.03

Duties of Delegate Representatives:

- a) Responsible for attendance at AFCSL meetings to participate and vote.
- b) Communicate information, needs, and requirements to their teams.

ARTICLE FIVE - OFFICERS

5.01

The Executive Officers of AFCSL will be: Co-Commissioner (oversee Open Division), Co-Commissioner (oversee Women's Division), Assistant Commissioner, Secretary, and Treasurer.

5.02

The Board of Officers will consist of:

Two (2) Directors of Player & Team Operations: (1) Open Division and (1) Women's Division

Four (4) Divisional Representatives: One (1) for Open A/B; One (1) for Open C/D; One (1) for Women's A/B; One (1) for Women's C/D.

5.03

The duties of the Executive Board and Board of Officers will be to manage the business and affairs related to the operations of the AFCSL. The Executive Board and Board of Officers are to be empowered to make decisions and act upon them in the best interest of the AFCSL and report at AFCSL meetings such pertinent activities.

5.04

Election of Officers:

a) Nominations will be opened in the month of May at least three weeks prior to Voting Day. Candidates may be self nominated, nominated by AFCSL Delegates, or nominated by any AFCSL participant with candidate approval. (Nominations may be submitted in email prior to the month of May provided the candidate has approved nomination.)

b) Qualifications: To qualify for a position on the AFCSL Executive Board, candidate must be a current AFCSL participant in good standing (no warnings, suspensions, or disqualifications) and/or have been an AFCSL participant in good standing from previous year. To qualify for a position on the Board of Officers, candidate must be in current standing in appropriate division.

c) To be eligible for Co-Commissioner positions, candidates must have two years experience on the AFCSL Executive Board or Board of Officers.

d) To be eligible for Assistant Commissioner, candidates must have one year experience on the AFCSL Board of Officers.

e) To be eligible for Treasurer, candidates must have accounting experience, as well as approval from the AFCSL Executive Board.

f) Election of Officers: Each Officer will be elected from the candidates nominated by a majority vote by AFCSL participants.

g) Method of Voting: Each AFCSL participant will cast votes at a designated time and place prior to conclusion of Spring season. Only rostered AFCSL participants present at time and location of vote may cast a vote. No absentee or late votes will be considered.

1. Each rostered AFCSL participant will cast one vote per open Board position.
2. A voting committee consisting of two Board Officers not affected by outcome of vote and one AFCSL delegate from each division appointed by Executive Board will tally the ballots and report the results.
3. The Co-Commissioners will report the results.
4. A candidate must win by a majority vote by AFCSL participants.
5. Voting for Executive Board positions will include participants from both divisions.
6. Voting for Board of Officers will include participants from each particular division.

h) Run-Off Election: If needed, a run-off election will be conducted within thirty (30) days following election.

5.05

Terms of Office:

Terms of Office will be effective on the first day of November in the current calendar year of said election.

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| Co-Commissioner, Open Division: | Two years elected in odd years |
| Co-Commissioner, Women's Division: | Two years elected in even years |
| Assistant Commissioner: | Two years elected in odd years |
| Secretary: | Two years elected in odd years |
| Treasurer: | Two years elected in even years |

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| Open Division Director of Player & Team Operations: | One year |
| Women's Division Director of Player & Team Operations: | One year |
| Open Divisional Representatives: A/B and C/D: | One year |
| Women's Divisional Representatives: A/B and C/D: | One year |

Each Officer shall serve until her/his successor has been qualified and elected, unless such Officer resigns or is removed from office.

5.06

Removal of Office:

A Board Officer may be removed by two-thirds vote at a duly announced AFCSL delegate meeting. Such removal will only take place if a Board officer fails to perform or violated the duties required by office.

5.07

Filling Vacancy of Office:

In the event that an Officer resigns or is removed from office prior to the end of her/his term, the vacancy will be filled by an appointment made by majority vote of the Executive Board serving at that time.

In the event of a Co-Commissioner's resignation or removal, the remainder of the Commissioner's term will be served by the Assistant Commissioner, and an Acting Assistant Commissioner will be appointed by the Executive Board.

Post filling of vacant officer positions: If there are no nominations for a vacant position by the stated deadline or a position is newly created, the current Executive Board may appoint someone to fill the position. Said individual is not required to have experience requirements for an elected position. This appointed individual will fulfill the duties of the position for the remainder current season, not the term of said position unless newly created position dictates other terms.

5.08

Duties of Co-Commissioners:

- a) Co-preside at all meetings of the Board of Officers and of AFCSL Delegates.
- b) Direct and manage the policies of AFCSL.
- c) Perform duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the AFCSL and appropriate divisions.
- d) Act on behalf of AFCSL in any matter of emergency that is not covered in these Bylaws or Rules of General Conduct.
- e) Represent AFCSL at semi-annual NAGAAA and ASANA meetings for respective divisions and report those findings to meetings of the Delegation. In the event the Commissioner is unable to fulfill duties as the NAGAAA or ASANA representative at these meetings, a current AFCSL Board participant will be appointed by Co-Commissioner to attend.
- f) Administer and approve participation of AFCSL teams in their respective World Series, ensuring AFCSL/Teams meet the appropriate NAGAAA or ASANA Guidelines.
- g) Direct and manage all activities related to the Autumn Classic Tournament
- h) Act as tie-breaking vote on issues before Board of Officers / AFCSL delegates.

5.09

Duties of Assistant Commissioner:

- a) Serve as Acting Commissioner in the event of a Co-Commissioner's inability to act. The individual in office will serve as the Co-Commissioner if the Co-Commissioner resigns or is removed from office.
- b) Work with Board appointed Umpire in Chief on Rules Document for said season
- c) Administer and represent AFCSL in all Field and Field operation related matters
- d) Administer process of appointing Umpire in Chief to the Board of Officers for vote
- e) Work with Co-Commissioners to administer play schedule for said season
- f) Voting officer on Executive Board

5.10

Duties of the Secretary:

- a) Maintain the official copy of the bylaws, General Rules of Conduct, and related documents of the Softball AFCSL, NAGAAA, and ASANA.
- b) Record and maintain all meeting minutes.
- c) Ensure proper notice to include but not be limited to electronic mail and telephone is communicated to AFCSL Delegates at least three days (3) in advance for notification of AFCSL meetings.
- d) Voting officer on Executive Board

5.11

Duties of the Treasurer:

- a) Act as the chief financial officer in charge of and with responsibility for all funds collected directly by or on behalf of AFCSL or its committees, tournaments, and related activities.
- b) Pay out AFCSL funds on the order of the Executive Board or Delegation as certified by the countersignature of either Co-Commissioner on a AFCSL check for such ordered payment.
- c) Develop and maintain the Projected as well as Actual Annual Budget
- d) Voting officer on Executive Board

5.12

Duties of the Director of Player & Team Operations:

- a) Maintain records of all teams; this shall include team roster information, team sponsor information, player ratings and team qualification assessments and individual player information.
- b) Working with respective Commissioner, set up divisions for fair and competitive play based on skill and abilities as set up by AFCSL, and abiding with NAGAAA and ASANA guidelines.
- c) Set up new player recruitment opportunities.
- d) Voting officer on Board of Officers

5.13

Duties of the Division Representatives:

- a) Acts as designated liaison and representative for respective divisions between Executive Board, Board of Officers and AFCSL participants.
- b) Voting officer on Board of Officers

ARTICLE SIX - MEETINGS

6.01

AFCSL meetings:

- a) AFCSL meetings of the delegates will begin at a place and time as set by the Executive Board and will be held at least once per month during AFCSL Spring season.

6.02

Special Meetings:

A Special Meeting of AFCSL delegates may be called by a majority of the Executive Board and/or Board of Officers, or by the majority of AFCSL delegates. Notification of date, time, place and purpose of such meeting will be delivered by electronic mail or telephone at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance. Business transacted at a Special Meeting will be limited to that mentioned in the notification.

6.03

Quorum: A quorum for any meeting shall be constituted by the attendance of a majority.

ARTICLE SEVEN - FISCAL YEAR

7.01

The Fiscal year of the AFCSL shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31.

ARTICLE EIGHT - BUDGET AND FEES

8.01

The Projected Annual Budget prepared by the Treasurer, with the Executive Board shall include but not be limited to:

- a) Funds for fields
- b) Funds for required ASA Insurance
- c) Funds for reasonable administrative and legal expenses
- d) Funds for field /field operations/maintenance
- e) Funds for umpire game fees
- f) Funds for transportation for two (2) Officers to attends NAGAAA and ASANA semi-annual meetings
- g) Funds for Annual AFCSL End of Season event
- h) Offsetting fund raising projections from dues, fees and AFCSL events
- i) NAGAAA and ASANA fees and dues
- j) Autumn Classic Tournament

8.02

Team/Individual Fees:

Since team and individual dues or fees must be effectively assessed before the regular AFCSL season begins, the Executive Board will set annual fees based on the current years projected Annual Budget.

ARTICLE NINE - NAGAAA and ASANA AFFILIATIONS

9.01.1

NAGAAA rules and guidelines will determine the eligibility of AFCSL Open Division teams for participation in the Gay Softball World Series.

9.01.2

ASANA rules and guidelines will determine the eligibility of AFCSL Women's Division teams for participation in their Softball World Series.

ARTICLE TEN - AFCSL PUBLICATIONS

10.01

A copy of the Bylaws, General Code, Rules of Play are to be reviewed and published annually.

ARTICLE ELEVEN - AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

11.01

The method by which these Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new Bylaws adopted is by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the current season AFCSL delegates at which a quorum is present.

11.02

Amendments shall be effective immediately upon adoption, unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

COMMITTEES:

Creation of a Committee: Board of Officers may create a committee. Motions to create a committee shall specify:

1. The objective of the committee
2. The term of the committee
3. The number of participants on the committee
4. The participants to serve on the committee

Tenure:

Each committee participant shall commit to one year unless committee shall sooner be terminated or unless such participant resigns or is removed by the Executive Board. A committee member may be reappointed to a committee.

Chairs:

One participant of each committee shall be appointed Chair by the Executive Board and be responsible for the operation of the committee.

Vacancies:

Vacancies in the participants of a committee whether by resignation or removal, shall be filled by the appointment of replacement by the Executive Board.

Standing Committees:

The following committees shall serve as permanent committees:

- a. Rules Committee
- b. End of Season Event Committee
- c. Appeals committee (not to include open division rating appeals)