



Cypress Girls Softball League Blue Book

Rules, Regulations, and Policies

August 1, 2025

Revision – 2025-0

The Cypress Girls Softball League Blue Book is revised at the beginning of every season, as well as per changes approved by the Cypress Girls Softball League Board of Directors. Distribution of the Cypress Girls Softball League Blue Book is available to all league members and to the public via the Cypress Girls Softball website at cypressgirlssoftball.com

Revision History

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I - Introduction

Blue Book Purpose

The Cypress Girls Softball League (CGSL) was established in 1970 in Cypress, California. CGSL's mission is to provide recreation softball opportunities for athletes in Cypress and surrounding communities. The purpose of the CGSL Blue Book is to document the league's operating procedures and rules. The CGSL Blue Book is updated at least once every season, as well as when changes are decided upon by the CGSL Board of Directors (BOD).

The procedures and rules within this document have been approved by a majority vote by the members of the CGSL BOD. The BOD makes every effort to update the Blue Book within one month of approved changes, but sometimes changes take additional time to be incorporated and are documented within the minutes of the meeting at which the changes were approved. The CGSL Blue Book is available on the CGSL website at cypressgirlssoftball.com.

II - Board of Directors

Board Member Information

The general duties of each CGSL Board of Director position is listed in Table 1 – CGSL Board of Directors. Contact information for each position is available on the CGSL website. Executive Board positions are indicated with an Asterix. Figure 1 outlines the organizational structure of the league’s Board of Directors.

Table 1 – CGSL Board of Directors

Position	General Duties
President*	The President is the chairperson of the Board of Directors; presides over all Board, General and Special meetings; is an ex official member of all committees; will coordinate all league activities; must observe all phases of the local league program; will report to the Board of Directors when necessary or directed; is responsible for all volunteer personnel and league functions.
Vice President of Operations*	The VP of Operations is responsible for the league insurance program, investigates and files all claims and makes recommendations to further safety. The VP of Operations acts as the liaison to the city of Cypress and USA Softball in the absence of the President. The VP of Operations oversees the directors of Field Maintenance, USA Softball League Administrator, Tournament Director, and All Star/Select Director, and acts as their first point of communication for questions, needs, and issues.
Vice President of Communications*	The VP of Communications presides in the absence of the President; assists the President in league activities as directed; keeps the minutes of all meetings as directed; is responsible for correspondence; keeps current membership rolls, both voting and nonvoting, as directed. The VP of Communications oversees the directors of Events, Publicity, Technology, and acts as their first point of communication for questions, needs, and issues.
Vice President of Players and Coaches*	The VP of Players and Coaches is the representative of all players in the league; is responsible for league registration, evaluations, draft meeting; maintains team rosters; maintains a complete and current file of registration and keep records of players information. The VP of Players and Coaches oversees commissioners of all divisions and acts as their first point of communication for questions, needs, and issues. A woman will hold this position.
Vice President of Finance*	The VP of Finance shall receive all monies for the League and shall deposit them in the name of the League in a bank or banks approved by the Board of Directors; shall keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements; shall present a financial report at

	monthly meetings of the Board of Directors and General Membership meetings. The VP of Finance oversees all income and expenditures and files income taxes. The VP of Finance oversees the directors of Fundraising, Co-Snack Bar, Uniform/Spirit Wear, and Equipment, and acts as their first point of communication for questions, needs, and issues.
14U Commissioner	Responsible for the 14 & Under division. First point of contact for Coaches and Managers within their division. Recruits coaches and managers prior to every season. Disseminates information to coaches and managers for team distribution. Reports to the VP of Players and Coaches.
12U Commissioner	Responsible for the 12 & Under division. First point of contact for Coaches and Managers within their division. Recruits coaches and managers prior to every season. Disseminates information to coaches and managers for team distribution. Reports to the VP of Players and Coaches.
10U Commissioner	Responsible for the 10 & Under division. First point of contact for Coaches and Managers within their division. Recruits coaches and managers prior to every season. Disseminates information to coaches and managers for team distribution. Reports to the VP of Players and Coaches.
8U Commissioner	Responsible for the 8 & Under division. First point of contact for Coaches and Managers within their division. Recruits coaches and managers prior to every season. Disseminates information to coaches and managers for team distribution. Reports to the VP of Players and Coaches.
6U Commissioner	Responsible for the 6u division. First point of contact for Coaches and Managers within their division. Recruits coaches and managers prior to every season. Disseminates information to coaches and managers for team distribution. Reports to the VP of Players and Coaches.
All Star/Select Commissioner	Responsible for the Select Program and All-Star Season. Responsible for ensuring that the league is compliant with all USA softball rules and regulations in order to maintain USA Softball Championship Play eligibility.
Co-Snack Bar Director	Responsible for all food sales. Is in direct charge of Snack Bars at any field that CGSL has home games.
Co-Snack Bar Director	Responsible for all food sales. Is in direct charge of Snack Bars at any field that CGSL has home games.

Events Director	Responsible for planning and coordination of all league events such as Opening Day and the Halloween Festival.
Fundraising Director	Responsible for all fund-raising activities for the league (excluding the snack bar).
Equipment Director	Responsible for purchasing, distributing, collecting and maintaining League equipment.
Uniform/Spirit Wear Director	Responsible for the organization, purchase and distribution of league uniforms and wearables.
Field Maintenance Director	Responsible for maintaining the fields, and the equipment used to maintain the fields. Is responsible for purchasing any equipment needed for the fields. Also is responsible for reporting any safety issues that are observed on the fields that need to be reported to the City of Cypress.
Umpire in Chief (UIC)	Responsible for all Umpires and related activities.
Publicity Director	Responsible for publicizing the league activities; Picture Day and Year Books.
Technology Director	Responsible for updating and maintaining the league's website and ensuring the schedule is complete and accurate.
Tournament Director	Responsible for league tournaments.
USA Softball League Administrator	Responsible for registration of all players, coaches, volunteers, and board members through USA Softball. Acts as the registration liaison between CGSL and USA Softball.

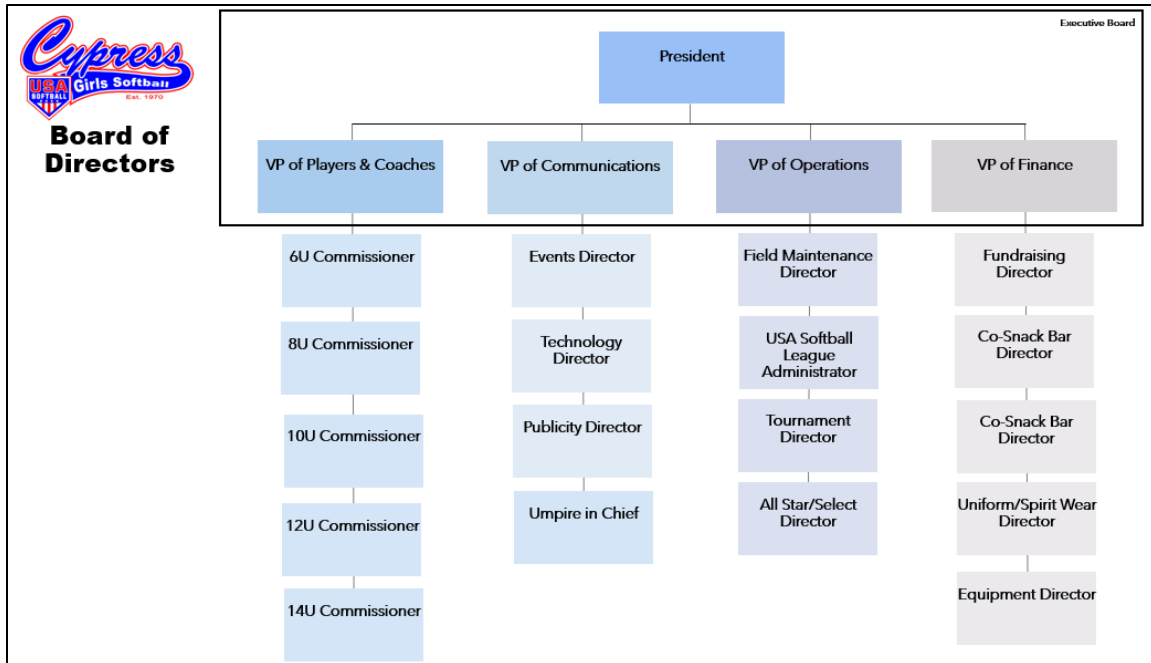


Figure 1. Board of Directors Organizational Structure

Chapter 1. League Membership

Section 1. Overview of USA Softball of Southern California Junior Olympic Program

1.1.1 USA Softball of Southern California Junior Olympic Program

- 1.1.1.1 The USA softball of Southern California Junior Olympic Program exists to help develop the interest, skills and desires of our ever-growing younger generation of softball players. The program offers various classifications of fastpitch play, with emphasis on fun and providing a positive, supportive environment for all participants.
- 1.1.1.2 CGSL is a member of the Central District of USA Softball of Southern California. Rules and regulations governing participation in USA Softball of Southern California activities are found in the Yellow Book located on the USA Softball of Southern California website at <https://www.usasoftballsocal.com/>.

Section 2. Overview of League Operations

1.2.1 Board Meetings

1.2.1.1 Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Cypress Senior Center or via Zoom. All league members are encouraged to attend.

1.2.2 Facilities

1.2.2.1 CGSL plays home games at Arnold Cypress Park, Oak Knoll Park, or Walker Junior High School. Interleague games are played at various locations around Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

1.2.3 Snack Bar

1.2.3.1 There is only one (1) snack bar available at Arnold Cypress Park.

1.2.3.2 Managing the snack bar is a monumental job and concession sales from the snack bar is the single largest stream of income that the league uses to offset operating expenses; consequently, operating the snack bar efficiently and profitably is critical to the continued success of the league.

1.2.3.3 As part of the registration fee, parents pay an additional fee which will be used to pay league-approved workers during the hours that the snack bar is open. The snack bar is open during scheduled games during the season for the convenience of everyone. Workers are scheduled by our snack bar directors and must meet the criteria listed below:

1.2.3.4 Snack Bar Workers:

- (a) Must be at least 14 years of age by January 1st of the current year.
- (b) Have participated in a league-sponsored completion of the snack bar orientation training.
- (c) Please contact the snack bar director if you are interested in becoming a snack bar worker.

1.2.3.5 Parents of players participating in a CGSL-hosted tournament may be required to work a snack bar shift during the tournament.

1.2.3.6 Snack Bar Policies:

- (a) Children under the age of 14 years are not permitted in the snack bar.
- (b) The snack bar is a major source of income for our non-profit league. If workers wish to consume products from the snack bar, they are expected to pay full prices for all items like everyone else, and NOT UNTIL the shift has ended.
- (c) The snack bar is not to be used as a storage place for strollers, equipment bags, etc.
- (d) Lost items are stored in the Snack Bar. Please try to claim them in a timely manner. Any items unclaimed at the end of the year will be disposed of or donated.

1.2.4 Volunteers

1.2.4.1 The League depends on parents and other volunteers to help ensure the league runs smoothly. Your team may ask you to volunteer and help with the team. CGSL has implemented the following procedures if you are asked to volunteer:

- (a) CGSL will pay for the background check of six (6) volunteers in the 6U division. Teams can pay for two (2) additional volunteers, for a total of eight (8) volunteers.
- (b) CGSL will pay for the background check of four (4) volunteers in the 8u-14u divisions. Teams can pay for two (2) additional volunteers, for a total of six (6) volunteers.

- (c) Any board member from the team, who has a role as a manager, coach, or parent, will be considered a cleared volunteer and do not count towards the limit per team.
 - (d) Each volunteer must have a cleared background check through USA So CA Softball.
 - (e) Each volunteer must complete the SAFESPORT online certification program.
 - (f) Each volunteer must provide their information to Register USA.
- 1.2.4.2 Volunteers are not allowed to interact with the players until their background checks have been submitted. The background check cycle runs from September to September.
- 1.2.4.3 Teams may be asked to help the league with providing umpires. CGSL will provide a training clinic for all adults and juniors (7th grade or older) who are interested.
- (a) Any person interested must attend the clinic and register as an umpire through Register USA. Only those registered will be used to umpire games
 - (b) Any fees paid to register will be reimbursed by CGSL.
 - (c) Junior umpires will only be used in 8u games, when needed.
 - (d) Any fees paid to umpires will be approved before the season starts.
- 1.2.5 Sponsorships and Fundraising**
- 1.2.5.1 A Sponsor fee provides the funds necessary to operate our league. Therefore, each team is required to obtain a minimum of one (1) sponsor; however, sponsors are not required during the Fall season.
- 1.2.5.2 Any sponsorships obtained for the All-Star and Fall season will be reimbursed at 100% to the team.
- 1.2.5.3 3. In Spring only, Sponsor plaques will be issued only to those sponsoring an individual team for the entire \$250.00. Fall and All Star teams may purchase plaques for their sponsors if they choose.
- 1.2.5.4 Sponsors who sponsor the whole \$250 amount will receive a commemorative plaque with their team's photo and engraved inscription, as well as published in our annual spring CGSL yearbook.
- 1.2.5.5 An incentive of a percentage of the total amount of the full sponsor fee will be provided back to the individual teams to be used for the players on the team.
- (a) Team incentives will be 35% back for the first sponsor, 50% back for the second sponsor, 75% back for the third sponsor, and 90% back for the fourth sponsor and beyond.
 - (b) League sponsors and donations will be displayed in our CGSL yearbook.
 - (c) If you are interested in sponsoring a team or know of someone who is, contact the VP Finance listed in this booklet or any board member. All sponsorship fees must be received by the indicated due date, to receive the sponsorship incentive.
- 1.2.5.6** During the spring and fall Seasons, your daughter will be asked to participate in various fundraising activities. Since the annual cost of operating the league is substantial, these sales are one of the major sources of revenue necessary to meet league expenses.

- 1.2.5.7 As a non-profit organization, CGSL relies on fundraising to provide a sizable portion of its annual operating budget. In order to benefit as many players as possible, fundraisers should, if possible, be league-wide. However, we recognize that this requires significant organization, and if the league is not already raising funds for a specific purpose, individual teams may wish to raise funds on their own. CGSL teams may wish to raise funds to cover various team costs including, but not limited to, tournament fees, team bonding events, team apparel, and/or equipment. CGSL encourages this, so long as any team fundraiser does not interfere or overlap with an existing league effort.
- 1.2.5.8 All fundraisers must be approved by the CGSL Board before they are advertised. Approval must be received from the CGSL VP Finance and CGSL Fundraising Coordinator.
- 1.2.5.9 2. Certain types of fundraisers may be prohibited by state or federal law. The CGSL VP Finance and Fundraising Coordinator(s) can help advise teams about good types of fundraisers to hold.
- (a) Any team fundraiser which overlaps with or is expected to interfere with a league-wide fundraiser or event may be denied. We strongly encourage teams to communicate with the CGSL Fundraising Coordinator early in the planning process to avoid this.
 - (b) The overlap of TEAM fundraisers will not be grounds for disapproval. We encourage teams not to schedule similar fundraisers at the same time, but also recognize that scheduling issues may require it.
 - (c) Direct solicitation of area businesses is considered fundraising by CGSL and is subject to this policy. Fundraisers which are deemed to conflict with an existing team sponsor will not be allowed. CGSL Fundraising Coordinator will be responsible for this determination.
- 1.2.5.10 Teams are required to provide an accounting of all income and expenses. This report must be available to all members upon request. Reports must be turned in to the VP Finance within two weeks after the fundraising event.
- (a) Teams are responsible for all upfront costs related to a fundraiser including the purchase of items to be sold and items needed to hold the fundraiser.
 - (b) Teams are encouraged to obtain a copy of the CGSL nonprofit designation letter when soliciting donations so that businesses can have records for tax purposes. If a business requires a receipt for large donations, contact the VP Finance.
 - (c) Funds must be used for activities directly related to the players on the CGSL team. Funds are not to be used for gifts for coaches or managers.
 - (d) Funds from sponsors must be made out to CGSL. Once the funds are cleared, the VP Finance will provide payment back to the team manager .

1.2.6 League Insurance

- 1.2.6.1 A secondary sports league insurance policy is provided for league participants. Any accidental injury occurring during practice, games, tournaments, and travel to and from the same are covered.
- 1.2.6.2 1. Coverage includes players, league directors and executive officers, sponsors, managers, coaches and auxiliaries (umpires, scorekeepers, authorized snack bar workers, etc.). It does not cover injuries to spectators or any non-accidental sickness or injury. **Coverage does not include any deductible not paid by the injured person's primary insurance.**

- 1.2.6.3 A secondary insurance policy means that they pay second after your own personal insurance company has met their obligation. League insurance will pay the remaining medical fees resulting from league-related injuries.
- 1.2.6.4 If you have an injury and should need to file a claim, please ask your team manager to get the paperwork from your divisional commissioner listed in this booklet, or in the event that you cannot reach them, notify the VP Operations and the VP Players and Coaches.
- 1.2.6.5 If a player sustains an injury that disables her for a period of seven (7) days or more, a written release from either her doctor or parent must be turned into a CGSL board member.
 - (a) The manager has one week from the date of the release, to play the girl in a regular league game and/or practice.

1.2.7 Banners

- 1.2.7.1 Each team is responsible for providing a team banner during the Spring Season only.
- 1.2.7.2 Banner size is to be 4 feet by 3 feet. No poster board. Any sizes different than 4' x 3' will be disqualified from the banner competition during Opening Day Ceremonies.
- 1.2.7.3 Banners should include the name of the team, team members, manager, coaches and the name of the team Sponsor(s). Anything else may be added if appropriate.
- 1.2.7.4 All banners will be judged at CGSL Opening Day Ceremonies and winners will be announced at that time.
- 1.2.7.5 Each Division winner will receive awards announced by the CGSL board for the winning banner.
- 1.2.7.6 Any banner that is professionally made or airbrushed or does not meet the size requirements will automatically be disqualified from judging. Professional banners are acceptable, but not eligible for judging.
- 1.2.7.7 Banners are to be hung at every game on a fence close to your dugout, that does not obstruct the view of the game. Banners are to be taken down at conclusion of the game.

Section 3. Membership Responsibilities

1.3.1 Board of Directors

1.3.1.1 Responsibilities

- (a) All members of the Board of Directors must abide by the Board of Directors Code of Conduct. (see Appendix I)
- (b) Definitions of each role can be found in the front matter of this document.
- (c) Board members are required to adhere to all rules and regulations. They are expected to model the mission and goals of the league organization, as well as that of USA Softball of Southern California. Board members who do not respect the mission of the league are subject to disciplinary action.

1.3.2 Players

1.3.2.1 Responsibilities

- (a) All players must abide by the Player Code of Conduct. (see Appendix III)
- (b) Players shall conduct themselves in a proper manner at all league functions. Disrespect, bad language, physical altercations, or insubordination will be met with appropriate action, up to and including suspension. Unfortunately, discipline including benching, or suspending the player is sometimes necessary for the benefit of the entire team.
- (c) Players shall abide by their manager's and coach's decisions regarding game positions, batting order, practices, and playing strategies.
- (d) Players are expected to keep their uniforms in good condition.
- (e) Jerseys must be tucked in. Jerseys and pants cannot be altered from their original appearance.
- (f) Last names will be included on the back of the uniform.
- (g) Players must provide their own game pants glove, helmet, with a face guard, bat(s), rubber-cleated shoes and 14u may wear metal cleats if they desire. **In addition, pitchers must wear a face mask while on defense. Metal cleats are not permitted on any turf playing surface.**
- (h) Failure to wear proper equipment will forfeit the rights of the player to participate in a game or practice.
- (i) All batting helmets are required to have faceguards per USA Softball So Cal rules and must be stamped with the approved NOCSAE imprint. Umpires will inspect the player's equipment prior to the start of every game.
- (j) During a game, players are NOT allowed to leave the dugout without the manager's permission.
- (k) Players are expected to participate in all league functions and fundraising events unless the parent(s) pay to opt-out of the fundraising activities.
- (l) For your safety, players with long hair must keep it pulled back. Jewelry cannot be worn during a game or practice. This includes body piercing of any kind. (Exception: medical ID's only and must be taped on the wrist during a game.). No metal hair barrettes are allowed.
- (m) Players shall be at all practices, games, team functions, and special events at the assigned time.

- (n) It is your responsibility to notify your manager ahead of time if you cannot make it on time, or at all. Excessive unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action, including removal from the team.
- (o) Players are expected to take proper care of all league equipment used by them and their teammates and to treat facilities with respect, i.e., dugouts, fences, benches, bleachers, restrooms, snack bars, fields, etc.
- (p) It is the responsibility of every team to clean their practice area and dugout at the end of every practice and game.
- (q) Girls should cheer for their own team in a positive way. Screaming or negative cheering against the other team is discouraged.
- (r) Players are not allowed to use electronic devices (cell phones, headphones, earbuds, smart watches, or any other mobile devices) in the dugout during games or practices.
- (s) If a player needs to contact her parent or guardian during a game or practice, the player must discuss her wishes with her manager first.
- (t) Only water is allowed on the fields at Arnold Park.

1.3.3 Coaches and Managers

1.3.3.1 Responsibilities

- (a) All managers and coaches must abide by the Manager and Coach Code of Conduct. (See Appendix II)
- (b) Managers and coaches are obligated to maintain and teach the goals of the league.
 - i. Fun for all
 - ii. Good sportsmanship
 - iii. Fair play
 - iv. Team effort
 - v. Skills necessary to play the game of softball
- (c) Managers and coaches have responsibility for the operation and control of their teams, including the players and parents. They are expected to listen to individual problems and/or complaints away from their team members.
- (d) Managers and coaches are expected to practice fairness and impartiality for all the girls on their teams. Batting order and playing position decisions are up to the coach and manager of each team. These decisions should be based on the individual player's softball skills, experience, attitude, sportsmanship, and the overall benefit of the team.
- (e) Managers and coaches **MUST** conduct a mandatory parent meeting before the first team practice to introduce herself and her coaches, outline the training program, explain what is expected of the girls and the parents, obtain necessary forms, enlist parent help for her team, explain functions and policies and to answer any questions.
 - vi. Please note that a CGSL board member **MUST** be present at the first parent meeting and cannot be a parent of a player from your team.
- (f) Managers and coaches and/or team mom shall be present at all team functions including practices, games, and special events.

- (g) Managers must communicate with the parents about all league activities as well as informing them about league deadlines and fundraising activities.
- (h) When collecting money for fundraisers the manager must not accept any coins.
- (i) Managers are responsible to communicate information about Opening Day Ceremonies. This includes the pancake breakfast, the day's activities, and the silent auction.
- (j) Managers and coaches are responsible for all equipment.
 - vii. The equipment must be returned to the equipment manager at the completion of the season.
 - viii. The equipment will include: . the team equipment bag, catcher's helmet, chest protector and shin guards, first aid kit, batting tee (6u), shed keys, and 5 practice softballs.
 - ix. Each team is required to leave a deposit in the form of a check with the equipment director, which will be destroyed when all equipment is returned.
- (k) Managers are responsible for the overall conduct of the team's players and spectators. The manager shall institute appropriate disciplinary action, if necessary.
- (l) The manager must explain the concussion protocol to both the parents and players on your team that is used by CGSL and the CDC.
 - x. It is the responsibility of the manager and coach to remove a player from a practice or game if they are showing concussion symptoms.
 - xi. A player may not return to the team activities unless they have a doctor's release.
- (m) Managers and coaches shall conduct themselves in a proper manner at all league functions.
 - xii. Bad language, physical or verbal abuse, and other unsportsmanlike conduct are subject to disciplinary action by the CGSL Board of Directors.
- (n) Managers shall have all pertinent information including the team roster with addresses and phone numbers of players and parents.
 - xiii. If the manager is unable to attend any team function, she must provide all the above to a board-approved female representative from her team.
- (o) Managers and coaches must have the first aid kit provided by the league at all practices and games.
- (p) There will be a mandatory manager and coaches meeting that is held the 3rd Wednesday of every month.
 - xiv. Each team must have a representative present at the meeting. Important information is discussed at the monthly meeting so it is imperative that your team has representation.
- (q) Managers and coaches are invited to the leagues monthly board meeting that is held the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Please contact the VP of Communications of the league for information about the time and place of the meeting.
- (r) Managers and Coaches should maintain notes throughout the season for All-Star selections, however, they are **NOT reviewed** or discussed with other coaches, managers, or parents. The notes are helpful when preparing for the All-Star Draft at the end of the spring season.

- (s) Managers and coaches must hold practices at the league approved locations. Should practices be held at an unapproved location, there may be disciplinary action per the code of conduct. In addition, managers and coaches should attempt to keep as close as possible to their practice schedule and not keep the girls longer than specified.
 - xv. For insurance purposes, please contact the Vice President of Operations for approved practice locations.
- (t) Managers and coaches will be provided a schedule to sign-up to use the fields for practice following the player draft.
 - xvi. The number of times each team may use the fields will be determined based on the number of teams registered during the current season
- (u) 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U teams are prohibited from practicing on the 6U field.
- (v) It is the responsibility of the managers and coaches to properly put away league equipment into the field shed at all facilities
 - xvii. All sheds and gates MUST be locked by the last scheduled team using the field.
 - xviii. Failure to comply will result in future loss of use of the fields.
- (w) By City Ordinance, no vehicles are allowed on park grounds. Only CGSL board-approved vehicles (field cart, snack bar cart, etc.) are allowed on the field.
- (x) All managers and coaches must be at least 18 years of age. The CGSL Board of Directors must approve assistant coaches and helpers.
 - xix. Junior coaches under the age of 18 are permitted to help during practices but are not permitted to coach during games
- (y) Each team should acquire volunteers based on your division. See section 1.2.4.
- (z) Each volunteer, along with the manager and coach must have a cleared background check administered by USA softball.
 - xx. Each volunteer, along with the manager and coach must complete the online SAFESPORT (safesport.gov) certification program, with the fee being paid by the league. The SAFESPORT certificate must be acquired every year.
- (aa) Each manager and coach must have a current HEADS UP to Youth Sports online concussion certification training (cdc.gov).
 - xxi. The concussion certificate is good for 2 years.
- (bb) The manager and coach of record may not be living in the same household or have the same interest in the same child.
- (cc) Each manager must email our website, Team Sideline, at the conclusion of their game to report the outcome of the game.
- (dd) The email will include the date of the game, team (s) played, and score of the game.
- (ee) Pitching outs will be tracked by a league representative using the online scorekeeping app Game Changer.
- (ff) Each team must allow the leaguerepresentative access to your game summary in the app as a staff or family member.
- (gg) Each team will need someone to keep score using Game Changer as well as keeping score in a scorebook that will be provided by the league.

- (hh) The head coach of record and either the manager or assistant coach is required to attend USA Softball of Southern California coaching clinic at a date to be determined.
- (ii) The registration fee for the two (2) people mentioned above will be paid by the league.
- (jj) Any other coaches who would like to attend the clinic may sign up and are responsible for the registration fee.
- (kk) Managers must report any injuries requiring medical attention to the division commissioner and/or the CGSL Vice President of Operations and VP Players and Coaches within 24 hours of the injury.
- (ll) It is the manager's responsibility to report any excessive absences or players who have dropped to the division commissioner and VP Players and Coaches immediately.
- (mm) Coaches and managers are expected to wear appropriate team attire which shall include team colors or spirit wear.
- (nn) Coaches/managers should not wear their hats backwards or sideways when coaching on the field.
- (oo) For safety reasons, coaches/managers should not wear open-toed shoes in the dugout or on the field.
- (pp) A person entering into an agreement to manage or coach a Cypress Girls Softball team shall not enter into the agreement with the intent of recruiting CGSL players to play for other leagues or teams.
- (qq) Any manager or coach found violating this term will be prohibited from managing or coaching any CGSL team, including select and all star teams, in future seasons.
- (rr) The manager or coach may be asked to help umpire games. Unfortunately as with most things, there is a shortage of umpires.
- (ss) The league will host an umpire training clinic, provide the equipment needed, and help you register as an umpire.
- (tt) You will also be provided the information about the pay.

1.3.4 Parents and Guardians

1.3.4.1 Code of Conduct

1.3.4.2 Responsibilities

- (a) All parents and guardians must abide by the Parent and Guardian Code of Conduct. (See Appendix IV)
- (b) Parents will receive league parent-player sportsmanship guidelines as part of their online player registration. It is the responsibility of the parent to discuss these guidelines with their child and adhere to them.
- (c) Parents shall attend the **MANDATORY** team meeting with their daughter's manager and coach at the beginning of the Season.
- (d) It is the sole responsibility of the parents to provide transportation for their daughter to and from all team practices, games, and other league activities. Your daughter's manager is already donating a great deal of her time, so DO NOT keep her waiting for you to pick up your daughter. Find out when the activity is going to be over and BE THERE AT THAT TIME. Remember, the manager has other things to do too.

- (e) Please inform the manager prior to the practice or game if a player will be leaving before the conclusion of the practice or game.
- (f) Parents must notify the manager, coach, or team mom **AHEAD** of time in the event of illness.
 - xxii. In the event of a serious injury that requires medical attention, a written medical release is required in order to return to a game or practice.
- (g) We ask parents to provide their daughter with an appropriate softball glove, rubber cleated shoes, 14u may wear metal cleats if they desire, a bat, and a helmet.
 - xxiii. All batting helmets are required to have, per USA Softball ruling, faceguards and must be stamped with the approved NOCSAE imprint. Umpires will often inspect the player's equipment prior to the start of the game.
- (h) Your presence, support, and enthusiasm at all games, fundraisers, opening day ceremonies, tournaments, etc. are essential to the success and enjoyment of the program.
 - xxiv. Please note that pictures will be taken periodically at various league events and may be posted on the league's website.
- (i) It is the responsibility of the parents to make sure their daughter arrives at the designated time at the league sponsored picture day .
 - xxv. The league will provide a basic package and any additional individual and team pictures may be purchased if you wish, at an additional charge.
 - xxvi. If a player cannot make it on picture day they may have their picture taken on make-up day. Only individuals can have pictures taken on make-up day, there are no team make-ups
- (j) Each team will need two (2) scorekeepers.
 - xxvii. One will be keeping score on the Game Changer scorekeeper online app, and the other will keep score in the team scorebook.
- (k) Parents must always show sportsmanlike conduct.
 - xxviii. Bad language, physical or verbal abuse, and other unsportsmanlike conduct are subject to disciplinary action by the CGSL Board of Directors.
 - xxix. Please refrain from approaching coaches and/or managers with individual problems during the game.
- (l) There will be **NO** smoking around any CGSL player. This includes practices, games, and league functions.
 - xxx. If you must smoke, it must be in one of the parking lots.
 - xxxi. If you are observed smoking near the fields or players, you will be asked to move to one of the parking lots.
- (m) Parents are responsible for understanding the concussion protocol that is used by CGSL and the CDC.
 - xxxii. The manager/coach is required to remove any player from a game or practice if they are having concussion symptoms.
 - xxxiii. A player must have a doctor's release to return to a game or practice.
- (n) Parents are responsible for cleaning up their area after any practice or game at any field where CGSL games or practices are scheduled.

- (o) Parents are invited to the monthly board meeting that is held the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Please contact the Vice President of Communications to obtain the time and location of the meeting.
- (p) It is the parent responsibility to meet league deadlines when turning in paperwork or fundraiser money.
 - xxxiv. Any money turned in for fundraising may not include any coins.
- (q) The league runs a merchandise store through our website. Parents should be aware of the opening and closing dates in which they can order items.

1.3.5 Safesport

1.3.5.1 CGSL has adopted the following policies from the U.S. Center for SafeSport for Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention:

- (a) The minor athlete shall be defined below as the registered player of CGSL. Adults will be defined below as members who have regular contact with amateur athletes who are registered players of CGSL and are minors; any adult who has been approved by CGSL to have regular contact with or authority over an amateur athlete who is a minor; and any adult board member of CGSL.
- (b) Meetings between adults and minor athletes may only occur if another adult is present. Meetings must be easily observed and in a location that is easily interpretable.
- (c) Individual training sessions with adults and a minor athlete are permitted if the session is observable and interruptible by another adult. Parents, guardians, and other caretakers must be allowed to view the training session.
- (d) All electronic communication between adults and minor athletes must be professional in nature.
- (e) If an adult needs to communicate directly with a minor athlete via electronic communication (including social media), another adult or the minor's legal guardian must be copied.
- (f) If a minor athlete communicates with the adult privately first, the adult should respond to the athlete with a copy to another adult or the athlete's legal guardian.
- (g) When an adult communicates with the whole team, the adult will copy another adult.
- (h) Minor Athletes may "friend" the team's official page.
- (i) Unrelated adults may not "friend" a minor athlete's personal social media page. Existing social media connections on personal pages with unrelated minor athletes will be discontinued.
- (j) Legal guardians may request in writing that their minor athlete not be contacted through any form of electronic communication by the organization or adult.
- (k) Electronic communication will generally only be sent between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm, unless emergency circumstances exist.
- (l) CGSL will monitor the league's and individual team social media page, and will remove any posts that show inappropriate behavior.
- (m) CGSL will inform the legal guardian of a minor athlete of any inappropriate posts.
- (n) CGSL encourages parents/legal guardians to pick up their minor athlete first and drop off their minor athlete last in any shared or carpool or shared arrangement.

- (o) Adults shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a minor athlete (unless the adult is the legal guardian, sibling, or is otherwise related to the minor athlete).

Chapter 2. Recreation Program

Section 1. Registration and Player Evaluation

2.1.1 Registration

2.1.1.1 Registration is available online through the website cypressgirlssoftball.com.

2.1.1.2 Players must register in the division according to age per USA softball regulations. Exceptions are granted only by request and are at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

2.1.1.3 Registration payment is debit or credit card only. No cash or check is accepted.

2.1.1.4 Registration must be paid in full prior to the draft. If not paid in full, the player will be placed on the waitlist and will not go through the draft.

2.1.1.5 New registrations will not be accepted after one (1) week after the division draft.

2.1.1.6 Waitlist

- (a) Any girl registered after the divisional draft, but prior to the cutoff, will be accepted as a tentative player upon payment of all fees (registration, and fundraiser buyout) and will be placed on a waitlist.
- (b) The waitlist will be used to fill vacancies on the original rosters due to an unequal number of players on the original list due to 1) illness, 2) injuries 3) resignations.
- (c) Following the original draft, the VP Players and Coaches, assisted by members of the Board of Directors, will select players from the waitlist to fill vacancies.
- (d) At no time after the original draft will a team be permitted to add a player to its roster if any other team has fewer players.
- (e) Placement of players on teams who have fewer players than all the other teams in the same division will only be allowed after registered players have been on the waitlist for a period of one week. No new player will be placed on a team post one (1) week of the division draft.
- (f) If for any reason a player cannot be placed on a team, her fee for registration will be refunded. If a player resigns from a team, she becomes ineligible to play on any other CGSL team during that season.

2.1.1.7 Waitlist placement is based on the following order. All must be paid in full to be removed from the waitlist.

- (a) Cypress residents
- (b) Players attending qualifying Cypress schools
- (c) Date of registration

2.1.1.8 Coach/Manager Sets

- (a) CGSL always needs managers and coaches in every division. If you are interested in becoming a manager or coach, please do the following:
 - xxxv. Interested managers and coaches can register through our website cypressgirlssoftball.com or they can contact their division commissioner.
 - xxxvi. Managers and coaches will then be approved as a set by the board. Each set of manager and coach must contain at least one woman.
 - xxxvii. All registrations must be completed before the divisional draft.

2.1.2 Uniforms and Spirit Wear

- 2.1.2.1 The league will hold a minimum of two uniform fitting events prior to the draft.
- 2.1.2.2 Parents are required to attend one of the fitting events and fill out a form with player name, uniform sizing, and requested numbers. Incorrect or misspelled information is the responsibility of parent. Should any information be incorrect, the parent is responsible for the cost of a new uniform.
- 2.1.2.3 All players must wear the league approved and provided uniforms for games. Exceptions include if a player lost their uniform or if the team is participating in a special event, such as Halloween. In such instances, the division commissioner must be notified in advance.
- 2.1.2.4 Recreational teams may offer their players team specific spirit wear from an outside vendor that includes a team specific logo. Team specific spirit wear must include "Cypress Girls Softball" somewhere within the design.
- 2.1.2.5 Select and All Star teams are limited to the uniforms and spirit wear provided by the league. They may not produce or offer spirit wear outside of what is offered by the league. Managers and Coaches that provide unapproved uniforms or spirit wear will be subject to suspension.

2.1.3 Player Request Procedure

- 2.1.3.1 A list of all Board-approved managers and coaches will be available at evaluations.
- 2.1.3.2 After reviewing the list, a parent or guardian may complete a Do Not Draft Request (DND) form. Requests will only be approved if the player, or siblings within the same family, have been previously coached or managed by that individual during the last two (2) calendar years. DND must be sent to the VP PLAYERS AND COACHES at least 24 hours before the draft.
- 2.1.3.3 Players requesting to be on the same team as another registered player, manager or coach must notify the VP Players and Coaches at least 24 hours prior to the draft.
- 2.1.3.4 Player requests to be on the same team as another registered player, manager, or coach will only be guaranteed in the 6u division.
- 2.1.3.5 Player requests to be on the same team as another registered player, manager or coach, in all other divisions, will be considered by the managers and coaches at the draft, but are not guaranteed.

2.1.4 Player Evaluation Procedure

- 2.1.4.1 The following guidelines apply to the 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14u Divisions. Evaluations are held prior to the Spring Season and may be held prior to the Fall season based on the discretion of the board.
- 2.1.4.2 The general location of each activity is in relation to the respective division. The players will be assigned to manageable groups of not more than ten girls. The groups will be judged in general defense and offense categories.
- 2.1.4.3 Each player that has previously pitched in an organized league or has any type of formal pitching training will be identified and are encouraged to be evaluated for the convenience of all managers and coaches.
- 2.1.4.4 When you arrive for check-in you will be asked to fill out an evaluation questionnaire which will help the managers and coaches identify who is being evaluated.
 - (a) Please make sure the information on the questionnaire is accurate. Any other sport that interferes with CGSL must be disclosed on the questionnaire.
 - (b) Every player should hold onto the questionnaire until their group is called.

(c) Once your group is called you will be asked for your questionnaire.

2.1.4.5 Defensive evaluations:

- (a) The player, standing in the left field, will attempt to catch three fly balls and throw the ball as directed.
- (b) The player, at the shortstop position, will attempt to field three ground balls hit from home plate and throw the ball to first base.

2.1.4.6 Offensive evaluations:

- (a) The player, standing at home plate, will attempt to hit five pitches.
- (b) On the last attempted hit, the player will drop the bat and run to first base at full speed.

2.1.4.7 Pitching evaluations:

- (a) All eligible pitchers who are not frozen should be evaluated after sufficiently warming up their arm.
- (b) Players are considered eligible pitchers after they have pitched during the previous USA Softball Southern California spring season.

2.1.4.8 Catching evaluations:

- (a) From behind Home Plate, Catchers will defend a bunt and throw to first base 2 times.
- (b) From behind Home Plate, Catchers will make a throw to 2B (2 times)

Section 2. Drafting Procedure and Team Formation

2.2.1 6U Team Formation

2.2.1.1 Team number will be determined by a draw of numbers going in alphabetical order by the legal last name of the manager. One manager and one coach may team up to accept a 6u team with exclusive draft rights to their daughters.

2.2.1.2 All 6u teams should have a substantially equal number of players of each age

2.2.2 Pitching Categories

2.2.2.1 All players who have recorded pitching outs during the previous spring season will be assigned a category based on the following criteria:

2.2.2.2 A Pitcher (P) will be defined as one of the following:

- (a) Any pitcher who pitched the highest number of outs on their previous spring season team.
- (b) Any pitcher who pitched the highest number of outs on their previous fall season team.
- (c) Any player who pitched more than six (6) outs for the previous season's all star team.
- (d) Any player who pitched more than 15 outs for the previous fall or spring season's select team.

2.2.2.3 A Secondary Pitcher (SP) shall be defined as the following:

- (a) Any pitcher who pitched the second highest number of outs on their previous spring team.
- (b) Any pitcher who pitched the second highest number of outs on their previous fall team.

2.2.2.4 All other Pitchers who are not defined as Pitchers or Secondary Pitchers will be defined as Players Who Pitch (PWP).

- (a) These are players who pitched but were not one of the two pitchers on the same team who pitched the highest number of outs in the previous spring or fall season. These are players who play another primary position(s) but did pitch some outs during the previous spring or fall season

2.2.2.5 2. The player's category will be determined by any or all of the following:

- (a) Each team's pitching outs will be recorded while using the online scorekeeping app Game Changer.
- (b) A designated board member will collect all outs and generate a list with all recorded outs.
- (c) Copies of the final list must be filed with the CGSL President, Vice President, Secretary, VP Players and Coaches, and 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U Commissioners. This completed list will be passed on to the current officer of the board when board members leave office.
- (d) The draft list will include the pitchers and their designated category.

2.2.3 General Drafting Rules

2.2.3.1 All teams in the 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, and divisions shall be formed by a general draft for each division.

2.2.3.2 The Spring season player draft will be conducted in early January, after a player evaluation for each division.

2.2.3.3 The Fall season player draft will be conducted in early August. There may be Fall evaluations based on the discretion of the board of directors.

2.2.3.4 All girls in the 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions must participate in the Spring and Fall evaluations

- 2.2.3.5 If a player does not participate in evaluations, she will either go into the hat pick or in the draft, depending on how many coaches and managers are aware of the player's skills and abilities. Coaches and managers will be asked for their preferences during the draft. A simple majority will be the determining factor.
- 2.2.3.6 Hat picks will be discussed prior to the draft by the coaches and managers of each division to determine whether or not the child will be taken out of the hat and made draftable. Hat picks will be drawn at the start of the 9th round or any down round if there are less than 11 rounds in a draft.
- 2.2.3.7 2. 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U Drafting Procedure
- 2.2.3.8 The draft for each division will be held on a date/place selected by the board of directors, teams shall draw for their position in the draft order.
- 2.2.3.9 Drafting order will be determined by each manager drawing a number out of a hat. The drawing order will be the alphabetical order of the manager's legal last name.
- 2.2.3.10 Selections will start with the manager drawing the first position, etc.
- 2.2.3.11 The draft will continue with the next manager based on team number.
- 2.2.3.12** Selections will continue in serpentine order, with the team drafting last in each round making the first selection in the following round until all eligible players are drafted.

2.2.4 Pitcher Drafting Rules

NOTE

The Board of Directors reserves the right to modify drafting rules for pitching to maintain league competitiveness based on the quality or quantity of the players involved.

- 2.2.4.1 Prior to each draft, the VP Players and Coaches will classify all eligible pitchers according to their correct category and inform all managers and coaches.
- 2.2.4.2 Any disputes of pitcher classifications should be discussed openly by all coaches and managers prior to draft commencement.
- 2.2.4.3 Teams who have more than one P frozen may not draft a P or SP as their first available draft choice. This team may draft a *PWP* as their first available draft choice.
- 2.2.4.4 Teams who have at least one P frozen may not draft a P as their first available draft choice. This team may draft an *SP* or *PWP* as their first available draft choice.
- 2.2.4.5 Teams who have at least one frozen SP or PWP may draft a P, SP, or PWP as their first available draft choice.
- 2.2.4.6 P, SP, or PWP who are hat picks will be determined a draft-able player or a hat pick player based on their category.
- 2.2.4.7 Any Late sign-ups who are P, SP, or PWP will be placed on teams based on drafting privileges.

2.2.5 Manager and Coach Exclusive Draft Rights

NOTE

Frozen players can be frozen in consecutive rounds. For example, if a team has a returning Blue All-Star and an advancing Blue All-Star, they will be frozen in the 1st and 2nd rounds.

- 2.2.5.1 Managers and Coaches of record must freeze their daughter(s).
- 2.2.5.2 Only one Manager and one Coach per team shall be officially recognized and approved by the board of directors for the purpose of exercising these exclusive draft rights.
- 2.2.5.3 Any Coach or Manager who does not have a daughter in the division they are coaching may freeze a child with written permission from the child's parent and notification to the Division Commissioner and VP Players and Coaches.
- 2.2.5.4 An All-Star player(s) shall be defined as one who has been officially recognized by the board of directors as a CGSL "Blue" / USA Softball Southern California "Gold" or CGSL "Red" / USA Softball Southern California "Silver" All-Star.
- 2.2.5.5 Managers and coaches drafting rights for an All-Star daughter(s) returning to the division in which she was recognized as a **Blue All-Star** shall be exercised starting in the first round.
- 2.2.5.6 Managers and coaches drafting rights for a **Blue All-Star** daughter(s) advancing to the next division shall be exercised starting in the second round.
- 2.2.5.7 Managers and coaches drafting rights for an All-Star daughter(s) returning to the division in which she was recognized as a **Red All-Star** shall be exercised starting in the second round.
- 2.2.5.8 Managers and coaches drafting rights for a **Red All-Star** daughter(s) advancing to the next division shall be exercised starting in the third round.
- 2.2.5.9 No team may protect more than one returning **Blue All-Star**. Exception: Sister Combinations only which must be frozen in the first and second rounds.
- 2.2.5.10 The protected daughter of a manager or coach who was an All-Star in a league *other than* CGSL will be frozen starting in the third round, upon verification. If she was a pitcher, she would be frozen in the second round.

2.2.6 Other Exclusive Draft Rights for Managers and Coaches

- 2.2.6.1 Managers and coaches' exclusive draft rights for any daughter(s) not defined in section above will be exercised starting in the fourth draft round.
- 2.2.6.2 Where there is more than one daughter involved, the exclusive draft rights must be exercised in alternate rounds for sisters remaining after the fourth round. For example, round 4, round 6, round 8, etc. Starting in the fourth round, no team will be frozen in consecutive rounds.

NOTE

It is possible for players to be frozen in the third and fourth round if one player is an advancing Red All-Star and the other player is not defined as an all star.

- (a) The protected daughter(s) of managers or coaches who did not play in the previous spring season in CGSL, shall have their draft rights exercised starting in the fourth round if not recognized as an eligible pitcher.
- (b) If the protected daughter is a player who has previous pitching experience and did not play in the previous spring season with CGSL and is not recognized as an eligible pitcher, will not be allowed to pitch during the entire Spring season.

2.2.7 Sister Combinations

- 2.2.7.1 Managers who are selecting a player (not a daughter) who has a sister(s) must draft the remaining sister(s) providing the parents of these sisters have not requested otherwise.

- (a) The remaining sister(s) shall be taken as the draft choice for every second remaining draft round until all sisters have been taken. (Example: The remaining sister(s) of a fifth-round choice must be taken as the seventh-round choice, ninth-round choice, etc.). However, under no condition shall the second sister be considered higher than a fifth-round draft choice.

2.2.7.2 To start the ninth round, any remaining sister combinations will be taken

2.2.7.3 All sister combinations will be offered to managers in draft rotation.

2.2.7.4 If any combinations remain, random selection will be instituted in the draft order. Exception: A three-sister combination must be drafted starting in the seventh round. Selection (a) and (b) will apply here.

2.2.8 Miscellaneous Draft Rules

2.2.8.1 All managers must notify each player of her selection within 24 hours following the draft.

2.2.8.2 Under no circumstances will a team be drafted without a manager and coach.

2.2.8.3 No team will consist of more than 12 players except for the fall season. This rule may be modified with the approval of the board of directors to avoid waiting lists, etc.

2.2.8.4 Team color choices and practice times are granted in reverse order of the drafting sequence.

2.2.8.5 A player drafted on a team shall remain on that team until the conclusion of the season. There will be no trading players.

- (a) In the event that a player makes an All-Star team, she must remain with her “league” team during all practices until the spring season is completed.

Section 3. Spring Season Regulations

2.3.1 Playing Obligations

2.3.1.1 No player will sit out two (2) consecutive innings on defense.

- (a) No record of substitutions will be kept and will be solely based on each manager's integrity. Failure to substitute as the rules state constitutes an automatic forfeit. **EXCEPTION:** A player may sit out two (2) consecutive innings if she has a minor illness/injury or needs to use the restroom.

2.3.1.2 Nine (9) players will play on defense in 10u, 12u, and 14u, Ten (10) in 8u, and the whole roster in 6u. However, eight (8) players may start or continue a game.

2.3.2 Spring Season Game Regulations

2.3.2.1 Regulation Games: A game will be scheduled for seven (7) innings in the 8u, 10u, 12u, and 14u divisions. A regulation game shall be defined as a game that ends with a winner or is a tie game at the completion of time or four (4) innings. During the regular season, games can end in a tie.

2.3.2.2 Game Time: 1 hour and 25 minutes (no new inning), drop dead 1 hour 40 minutes. Incomplete innings will revert back to the last completed inning. Refer to the revert back rule.

- (a) Forfeit Time – Forfeit time shall be scheduled game time.
- (b) Completion of Time – No new inning will start after 1 hour and 25 minutes. A new inning starts when the third out is recorded in the previous inning.

2.3.2.3 Incomplete Games: Games that end before the completion of time will be considered incomplete and shall resume at the exact point where they are stopped. The time and the game ended must be noted in the official scorebook as to determine the remaining time to be completed. Any player not present from the original game must be entered at the bottom of the line-up and an attempt must be made to fulfill her playing obligation

2.3.2.4 Make-Up Games: Make-up games will be scheduled at the discretion of the league President, Vice President, Division Commissioner, and the UIC.

2.3.2.5 Rescheduled Games: Games may be rescheduled by a majority vote of the board of directors.

- (a) Requests for a rescheduled game must be submitted to the board of directors in writing 14 days prior to the game date. Make-up games or rescheduled games may be scheduled on Sundays starting as early as 8 a.m.
- (b) The only basis for rescheduling a game shall be that a team has less than seven players and the missing players shall be absent because of involvement in an organized church or school activity. If the reasons cannot be verified, the result is a forfeit of the game.

2.3.2.6 Suspended Games: It is the responsibility of the umpire to suspend a game due to inclement weather or darkness.

- (a) If the game has gone regulation four (4) innings, or more, it will be considered an official game and the score will stand.
- (b) If the game has **not** gone the regulation four (4) innings, it shall be considered an incomplete game and shall resume at a later date.
- (c) If the game is suspended during an incomplete inning, and the game has already gone the regulation four (4) complete innings, the score will revert to the last completed inning.

(d) A suspended game shall be resumed the same as an incomplete game which is explained above in #3.

2.3.2.7 If a player is late arriving at the game, she will be permitted to play and enter at the bottom of the line-up, if she arrives prior to the completion of the third inning.

(a) This addition must be given to the plate umpire on the arrival of the player.

(b) If she arrives after the completion of the third inning, she will be considered absent in the official scorebook.

(c) If the Manager advises the official scorekeeper prior to the game that a player must leave early, there will be no penalty. If prior notice is not given, an out will be recorded when the player would have come to bat.

(d) In the case of an injury preventing the player from completing the game, the out will not be recorded.

2.3.3 Pitching Regulations

2.3.3.1 The following are the pitching limits per division:

(a) 8u division pitchers may pitch 6 outs per game for the first four (4) games of the season, it will then be nine (9) outs per game for the completion of the season.

(b) 10u pitchers may pitch twelve (12) outs per game.

(c) 12u pitchers may pitch twelve (12) outs per game.

(d) 14u teams have no pitching limits.

2.3.3.2 There will be some seasons that we interleague with other softball leagues. If that is the case, then refer to the specific interleague rules concerning pitching limits.

2.3.3.3 A pitcher may not pitch after they have reached the pitching limit specified for each division.

2.3.3.4 A pitching out is any out recorded while the pitcher is the pitcher of record.

2.3.3.5 If the 4-up limit is reached in an inning, the pitcher of the record is charged the remaining outs.

NOTE

If a game reverts to the prior inning due to a suspended game that is regulation, or in a tournament game where time limits are drop-dead, please refer to the Revert Back Rule.

2.3.3.6 No game will be forfeited because of excess pitching outs which occur because of outs made during a continuous play that began with the pitcher having less than the specified number of outs in that game. The excess will not carry over to the next game.

2.3.3.7 Pitching changes must be given to the umpire, the official scorekeeper, and the opposing team.

2.3.3.8 The official scorekeeper will keep an accurate record of pitching outs in the official scorebook.

2.3.3.9 Innings pitched in make-up, postponed, and suspended games will be counted together with innings that were pitched in the week when the original game was played.

2.3.3.10 Pitchers may make two (2) pitching appearances per game.

2.3.4 Revert Back Rule

2.3.4.1 Any game that ends early without completing an inning may need to revert to the last completed inning. Below you will see five (5) scenarios to help you better understand the details regarding the revert rule and how they affect the score and pitching outs.

2.3.4.2 **Scenario # 1:** If the Home Team comes up to bat in the bottom of the inning, and they are behind and time expires due to the drop-dead rule before they can tie, or go ahead, the score will revert to the last completed inning. The pitching outs from the last (incomplete) inning will be recorded as follows:

(a) **Home Team's Pitcher:** Revert to the last complete inning

(b) **Visiting Team's Pitcher:** Revert to the last complete inning

2.3.4.3 **Scenario # 2:** If the Home Team comes up to bat in the bottom of the inning, and they are already ahead of the Visiting Team and time expires due to the drop-dead rule, the score will still revert to the last completed inning. The pitching outs from the last (incomplete) inning will be recorded as follows:

(a) **Home Team's Pitcher:** Revert to the last complete inning

(b) **Visiting Team's Pitcher:** Revert to the last complete inning

NOTE

If the no new inning has already passed, there is no reason for the Home Team to come up to bat in the bottom half of the inning if the Home Team is already ahead.

NOTE

If the Home Team is already ahead going into the bottom of the inning and they score additional runs, but they do not complete the inning, the score will still revert to the prior complete inning. The additional runs scored in the incomplete inning do not count. The outcome is still the same either way – the Home Team is the winner.

2.3.4.4 **Scenario # 3:** If the Home Team comes up to bat in the bottom of the inning, and the score is already tied and time expires before the Home Team can complete the inning, the score will revert to the last complete inning. The pitching outs from the last (incomplete) inning will be recorded as follows:

(a) **Home Team's Pitcher:** Revert to the last complete inning

(b) **Visiting Team's Pitcher:** Revert to the last complete inning

2.3.4.5 **Scenario # 4:** If the Home Team comes up to bat in the bottom of the inning and they are behind by one or more runs but tie the game in the bottom half of the inning, then time expires before they can complete the inning, the game ends in a tie. The pitching outs from the last (incomplete) inning will be recorded as follows:

(a) **Home Team's Pitcher:** Revert to the last complete inning

(b) **Visiting Team's Pitcher:** Revert to the last complete inning

2.3.4.6 **Scenario # 5:** If the Home Team comes up to bat in the bottom of the inning and the score is tied, but the home team scores one (1) additional run in the bottom of the inning before time expires, the game ends there and the Home Team wins by the one (1) run. The pitching outs from the last (complete) inning will be recorded as follows: **NOTE:** This is a complete game because the time did not expire due to the drop-dead rule.

(a) Home Team's Pitcher: Recorded (3 outs)

(b) Visiting Team's Pitcher: Recorded, but only the physical outs pitched (0, 1 or 2)

2.3.5 Spring Regular Season Championship

- 2.3.5.1 For the spring division standings, teams are awarded **2 points** for **each win**, and **1 point** for **each tie**.
- 2.3.5.2 The team with the most points in the standings at the conclusion of regular season play will be declared the league champion for their division.
- 2.3.5.3 The team with the second-most points in the standings will be declared the second-place team for their division.
- 2.3.5.4 The team with the third-most points in the standings will be declared the third-place team.
- 2.3.5.5 The End of Season Tournament (EOST) winners do not factor into league finishers.
- 2.3.5.6 In the event of a tie in points in the standings, the tie will be broken in the following order:
- (a) Head-to-head (how they did against each other)
 - (b) Runs allowed (who allowed the fewest runs)
 - (c) Runs scored (who scored the most runs)
 - (d) Coin Toss

Example:

	Wins	Losses	Ties	Points
Team A	13	2	1	$(13*2) + (1*1) = 27$ points
Team B	12	3	1	$(12*2) + (1*1) = 25$ points
Team C	11	2	3	$(11*2) + (3*1) = 25$ points

- (e) In the example above, Team A would be declared as 1st place. Teams B & C are tied with 25 points each, so their fate would be decided following the above tiebreakers.

2.3.6 Spring End of Season Tournament

- 2.3.6.1 At the conclusion of the spring season, Cypress Girls Softball may have a season-ending tournament with all the league teams that wish to participate.
- (a) CGSL may ask for a contribution from each team to offset the cost of the tournament.
 - (b) All teams will play at least two games in the tournament and teams who finish in 1st or 2nd place will receive awards.
 - (c) The EOST tournament does not affect the final spring standings.

Section 4. 6U Game Rules

NOTE

The 6U division of CGSL is an instructional division for girls that are a minimum age of 4 years old as of last date of registration, and as such, is non-competitive. No league standings will be kept.

2.4.1 Playing Obligations

NOTE

During tournament play, playing obligation rules may change.

- 2.4.1.1 All players will constitute a team on the field. However, eight (8) players must start or continue a game.
- 2.4.1.2 The entire team will play defense at all times. Only six (6) players will comprise the infield. The remaining players will be positioned in the outfield behind the baseline.
- 2.4.1.3 No infielder (with the exception of the catcher and pitcher) may play in front of the pitching rubber.
- 2.4.1.4 Prior to each game, each manager will submit to the official scorekeeper and opposing manager a complete roster line-up (to include first and last name) for girls that are present and eligible to play that day. Each girl on the roster line-up will bat continuously in the order submitted.
- 2.4.1.5 If a player is late arriving to the game, she will be permitted to play. The player will be added to the bottom of the line-up.
- 2.4.1.6 Position changes will be made every inning.

2.4.2 Game Rules

- 2.4.2.1 A regulation game will be four (4) innings or one hour and fifteen minutes (1:15), whichever comes first.
- 2.4.2.2 A game not started within 15 minutes after the scheduled game time shall not be played.
- 2.4.2.3 Make-up games may only be scheduled with the approval of the board of directors.

NOTE

During tournament play impartial umpires will be used.

- 2.4.2.4 No umpires will be provided. Parent volunteers from each participating team will umpire.
- 2.4.2.5 Sliding is permitted by any player in 6u. However, the manager and coaches should work with the players during practice and teach proper sliding techniques prior to sliding during games.
- 2.4.2.6 Bases shall be a minimum of 50 feet apart.
- 2.4.2.7 Managers and coaches may stand near batters and defensive players to offer advice but shall not interfere with play.
- 2.4.2.8 The manager or coach must request "time" from the umpire before demonstrating a technique or situation to players during the progress of the game.
- 2.4.2.9 No more than four parents may be on the field at one time, including the coach and manager.
- 2.4.2.10 A batter may be pitched to at the discretion of the coach. The number of pitches will be limited to three (3) and will be pitched from a distance of 15 feet.

- 2.4.2.11 If the ball is not hit into fair territory within those three (3) pitches, the batter shall be allowed three swings on the tee.
- 2.4.2.12 If the batter fouls the 3rd pitch, the coach can continue to pitch to the batter until she misses the ball or hits the ball in fair territory.
- 2.4.2.13 If the batter is not pitched to, then the batter will be allowed up to five (5) swings to hit the ball into fair territory. The coach or manager may help the batter on the fifth swing to make contact with the ball.
- 2.4.2.14 During the first half of the season, each team will bat through their entire lineup during their half of the inning.
- 2.4.2.15 If a batter is called out, she must return to the dugout.
- 2.4.2.16 After the last batter hits in the lineup, she can continue to run the bases until she is tagged out at a base. After the last batter crosses the plate (or is tagged out at a base), the opposing team will come up to bat.
- 2.4.2.17 During the second half of the season, outs will be recorded.
- 2.4.2.18 An inning will consist of either three (3) outs, or the entire line-up has batted.
- 2.4.2.19 Infield fly rule will not be used.
- 2.4.2.20 Base runners must stay in contact until the ball is hit. The penalty for leaving the base before the ball is hit is that the runner is out.
- 2.4.2.21 The ball will be considered dead at the moment it enters the pitcher's circle after a defensive player throws it back to the pitcher. (The pitcher's circle is a 16-foot circle drawn around the pitching rubber.)
- 2.4.2.22 A runner halfway or more to the next base when the ball becomes dead may continue to advance to the next base.
- 2.4.2.23 A runner less than halfway must go back to the last base. The ball is also considered dead when it is hit to the outfield and the outfielder touches the ball.
- 2.4.2.24 On an overthrow, whether in play or not, the ball is dead, and the runner may only advance one base
- 2.4.2.25 If the ball travels less than 8 feet in fair territory from home plate, or the batter hits the tee with the bat causing the ball to fall from the tee, it is a foul ball.
- 2.4.2.26 A runner on third base may not score on an overthrow from the catcher to the pitcher.
- 2.4.2.27 No base runner may score from third base on a passed ball by the catcher (closed home plate).
- 2.4.2.28 When interleague with other leagues, please refer to the SPECIAL published interleague rules that are disbursed to each team.

Section 5. 8U Game Rules

NOTE

CGSL will use the current USA Softball rules with the following modifications.

2.5.1 8U Rules

- 2.5.1.1 Pitching distance shall be 30 feet, bases shall be 60 feet.
- 2.5.1.2 Ten (10) players will play defense at a time.
- 2.5.1.3 The tenth player will be an outfielder and be positioned no closer than ten (10) feet from the baseline.
- 2.5.1.4 A minimum of eight (8) players may start a game without an offensive penalty incurred for the vacant player.
- 2.5.1.5 Infield fly rule will not be used in 8U.
- 2.5.1.6 Base runners shall not leave the base until after the pitcher has released the ball.
- 2.5.1.7 The coach is considered part of the playing field while pitching.
- 2.5.1.8 He/she must pitch from the rubber and try to avoid contact with a hit ball. If he/she is hit, then it will be a judgment call by the umpire regarding interference, or not.
- 2.5.1.9 Home plate is closed.
- 2.5.1.10 The only time a base runner may score is after a hit ball or a hit batter with the bases loaded.
Penalty: The base runner is out if she touches home plate.
- 2.5.1.11 No batter may advance to first base on a third strike not held by the catcher.
- 2.5.1.12 A base runner may advance one base per pitch.
- 2.5.1.13 When a base has been stolen and a play has been made, runners may not advance on a throwback to the pitcher.
- 2.5.1.14 No base runner will be awarded home plate when a thrown ball goes out of play on a pick-off or steal attempt.
- 2.5.1.15 No tee shall be used.
- 2.5.1.16 During the first 6 scheduled games of the season, there will be no walks.
- 2.5.1.17 In all walk situations, the coach or adult designated pitcher (C/ADP) shall pitch to the batter and will assume the existing count.
- 2.5.1.18 The C/ADP will continue to pitch to the batter and the umpire will rule on each pitch utilizing the strike zone. A limit of four (4) pitches from the C/ADP to the batter will be allowed until a ball is hit, or the umpire calls out the batter on strikes.
- 2.5.1.19 A batter may strike out against the coach on called strikes.
- 2.5.1.20 If the 4th or any pitch after that, from the C/ADP, is a batted foul ball, then pitches will continue until a ball is hit fair, or the batter is called out on strikes. Any pitch after that, which is not swung at, will be considered a strike, and the batter will be called out.
- 2.5.1.21 The C/ADP must be in contact with the pitching rubber when making a pitch.
- 2.5.1.22 The pitcher must have both feet in the pitcher's circle when the C/ADP releases the ball.
- 2.5.1.23 There will be no bunting off the coach.
- 2.5.1.24 After six scheduled games have been completed, there will be no coach pitch.

- 2.5.1.25 For the first three innings (3) of play, four (4) up rules will be used. Each team can either score four (4) runs or can tie the score and go up by four (4) runs each inning.
- 2.5.1.26 Starting in the fourth (4th) and every inning, thereafter, runs will be unlimited.
- 2.5.1.27 If the winning team is ahead by 15 runs or more after three (3) complete innings, 12 runs after four (4) complete innings, or 8 runs after five (5) complete innings, it will be considered a mercy game.
- 2.5.1.28 Any complete innings played shall constitute a complete game.
- 2.5.1.29 If a ball pitched by the opposing pitcher hits the batter, the count will be reset, and the batter will receive C/ADP pitches.
- 2.5.1.30 If a ball pitched by the C/ADP hits the batter, the batter must continue her at-bat.
- 2.5.1.31 If bases or pitching distances are marked in error and discovered after play has started, the inning in progress shall be completed. Then the correct distance shall be used. No protest is allowed.
- 2.5.1.32 If an apparent injury occurs while at-bat and the player cannot continue, the player who made the previous out will complete the player's at-bat and that player will assume the count.
- 2.5.1.33 In the case of an injury where a courtesy runner is granted, the runner shall be the player that made the last out. If the last out is the pitcher or catcher, the runner may be the previous last out.
- 2.5.1.34 No more than one board-approved representative of any one team will be allowed on the field to discuss disputed calls with the umpire.
- 2.5.1.35 The umpire may ask a player, manager, coach, parent, or anyone else who is obstructing the playing of the game or is guilty of improper behavior; to leave the area or the game will be forfeited.
- 2.5.1.36 Sliding is permitted, and encouraged, by any player in 8u.
- 2.5.1.37 The runner must avoid contact at all bases when a play is being made. Failure to do so could result in an out being called on the runner.
- 2.5.1.38 A courtesy runner will be allowed for pitchers and catchers only.
- 2.5.1.39 The courtesy runner must be the player furthest in the line-up who is occupying a base. If the player designated to be the courtesy runner is the pitcher or catcher, move to the next player in the line-up who is not occupying a base.
- 2.5.1.40 CGSL will allow USA Softball registered adult and junior umpires to umpire games when needed. Junior umpires will only be used in the 8u division, when needed.
- 2.5.1.41 When interleague with other leagues, please refer to the SPECIAL published interleague rules that are disbursed to each team

Section 6. 10U Game Rules

NOTE

CGSL will use the current USA Softball rules with the following modifications.

2.6.1 10U Game Rules

- 2.6.1.1 The pitching distance shall be 35 feet, bases shall be 60 feet.
- 2.6.1.2 For the first three innings (3) of play, four (4) up rule will be used. Each team can either score four (4) runs or can tie the score and go up by four (4) runs each inning.
- 2.6.1.3 Starting in the fourth (4th) and every inning, thereafter, runs will be unlimited.
- 2.6.1.4 If the winning team is ahead by 15 runs or more after three (3) complete innings, 12 runs after four (4) complete innings, or 8 runs after five (5) complete innings, it will be considered a mercy game.
- 2.6.1.5 No pitcher may pitch over 12 outs per game.
- 2.6.1.6 Should the records reflect a girl pitching more than 12 outs per game, upon appeal from the opposing manager, the game in question shall be forfeited.
- 2.6.1.7 No game will be forfeited because of excessive pitching out which occurs as the result of outs being made during a continuous play, that began with the pitcher having less than the specified number of outs in that game.
- 2.6.1.8 The pitcher shall be credited with three pitching outs in any inning ended by the 4-up rule.
- 2.6.1.9 If bases or pitching distances are marked in error and discovered after play has started, the inning in progress shall be completed. Then the correct distance shall be used. No protest is allowed.
- 2.6.1.10 If an apparent injury occurs while at-bat and the player cannot continue, the player who made the previous out will complete the player's at-bat and that player will assume the count.
- 2.6.1.11 In the case of an injury where a courtesy runner is granted, the runner shall be the player that made the last out. If the last out is the pitcher or catcher, the runner shall be the previous last out.
- 2.6.1.12 No more than one board-approved representative of any one team will be allowed on the field to discuss disputed calls with the umpire.
- 2.6.1.13 The umpire may ask a player, manager, coach, parent, or anyone else who is obstructing the playing of the game or is guilty of improper behavior; to leave the area or the game will be forfeited.
- 2.6.1.14 Sliding is permitted, and encouraged, by any player in 10u.
- 2.6.1.15 The runner must avoid contact at all bases when a play is being made. Failure to do so could result in an out being called on the runner.
- 2.6.1.16 A courtesy runner will be allowed for pitchers and catchers only.
- 2.6.1.17 The courtesy runner shall be the player listed furthest in the line-up from the pitcher or catcher that isn't already occupying a base. If that player is the pitcher or a catcher, move to the next player in the line-up who is not

2.6.1.18 When interleague with other leagues, please refer to the SPECIAL published interleague rules that are disbursed to each team.

Section 7. 12U Game Rules

NOTE

CGSL will use the current USA Softball rules with the following modifications.

2.7.1 12U Rules

- 2.7.1.1 The pitching distance shall be 40 feet, bases shall be 60 feet.
- 2.7.1.2 For the first three innings (3) of play, four (4) up rules will be used. Each team can either score four (4) runs or can tie the score and go up by four (4) runs each inning. Starting in the fourth (4th) and every inning, thereafter, runs will be unlimited.
- 2.7.1.3 If the winning team is ahead by 15 runs or more after three (3) complete innings, 12 runs after four (4) complete innings, or 8 runs after five (5) complete innings, it will be considered a mercy game.
- 2.7.1.4 No pitcher may pitch over 12 outs per game.
- 2.7.1.5 Should the records reflect a girl pitching more than 12 outs per game, upon appeal from the opposing manager, the game in question shall be forfeited.
- 2.7.1.6 No game will be forfeited because of excessive pitching out which occurs as the result of outs being made during a continuous play, that began with the pitcher having less than the specified number of outs in that game
- 2.7.1.7 The pitcher shall be credited with three pitching outs in any inning ended by the 4-up rule.
- 2.7.1.8 If bases or pitching distances are marked in error and discovered after play has started, the inning in progress shall be completed. Then the correct distance shall be used. No protest is allowed.
- 2.7.1.9 If an apparent injury occurs while at-bat and the player cannot continue, the player who made the previous out will complete the player's at-bat and that player will assume the count.
- 2.7.1.10 In the case of an injury where a courtesy runner is granted, the runner shall be the player that made the last out. If the last out is the pitcher or catcher, the runner shall be the previous last out.
- 2.7.1.11 No more than one board-approved representative of any one team will be allowed on the field to discuss disputed calls with the umpire.
- 2.7.1.12 The umpire may ask a player, manager, coach, parent, or anyone else who is obstructing the playing of the game or is guilty of improper behavior; to leave the area or the game will be forfeited.
- 2.7.1.13 Sliding is permitted, and encouraged, by any player in 12u.
- 2.7.1.14 The runner must avoid contact at all bases when a play is being made. Failure to do so could result in an out being called on the runner.
- 2.7.1.15 A courtesy runner will be allowed for pitchers and catchers only.
- 2.7.1.16 The courtesy runner shall be the player listed furthest in the line-up from the pitcher or catcher that isn't already occupying a base. If that player is the pitcher or a catcher, move to the next player in the line-up who is not occupying a base.
- 2.7.1.17 13. When interleague with other leagues, please refer to the SPECIAL published interleague rules that are disbursed to each team.

Section 8. 14U Game Rules

CGSL will use the current USA Softball rules with the following modifications.

2.8.1 14U Game Rules

- 2.8.1.1 The pitching distance shall be 43 feet, bases shall be 60 feet.
- 2.8.1.2 If the winning team is ahead by 15 runs or more after three (3) complete innings, 12 runs after four (4) complete innings, or 8 runs after five (5) complete innings, it will be considered a mercy game.
- 2.8.1.3 If bases or pitching distances are marked in error and discovered after play has started, the inning in progress will be completed. Then the correct distance will be used. No protest is allowed.
- 2.8.1.4 If an apparent injury occurs while at-bat and the player cannot continue, the player who made the previous out will complete the player's at-bat and that player will assume the count.
- 2.8.1.5 In the case of an injury where a courtesy runner is granted, the runner shall be the player that made the last out.
- 2.8.1.6 If the last out is a pitcher or catcher, the runner may be the previous out.
- 2.8.1.7 No more than one board-approved representative of any one team will be allowed on the field to discuss disputed calls with the umpire.
- 2.8.1.8 The umpire may ask a player, manager, coach, parent, or anyone else who is obstructing the playing of the game or is guilty of improper behavior; to leave the area or the game will be forfeited.
- 2.8.1.9 Sliding is permitted, and encouraged, by any player in 14u.
- 2.8.1.10 The runner must avoid contact at all bases when a play is being made. Failure to do so could result in an out being called on the runner.
- 2.8.1.11 A courtesy runner will be allowed for pitchers and catchers only.
- 2.8.1.12 The courtesy runner shall be the player listed furthest in the line-up from the pitcher or catcher that isn't already occupying a base. If that player is the pitcher or a catcher, move to the next player in the line-up who is not occupying a base.
- 2.8.1.13 When interleague with other leagues, please refer to the SPECIAL published interleague rules that are disbursed to each team.

Section 9. Manager and Coach Game Responsibilities

2.9.1 Outline of Responsibilities

- 2.9.1.1 All games must start at their scheduled starting time. NO INFIELD PRACTICE IS ALLOWED ON THE FIELD PRIOR TO ANY GAME.
- 2.9.1.2 Do not allow unnecessary delays to take place during the game. The games are a time limited and scheduled throughout the entire day.
- 2.9.1.3 Do not intimidate the umpires or act unprofessionally towards any umpire.
- 2.9.1.4 No new inning shall start after the time limit has expired. Do not request umpires to continue the game after the legal time limit has expired, especially if the game was called because of darkness. It is for the girl's safety.
- 2.9.1.5 All umpires must be treated with respect by managers, coaches and all spectators.
- 2.9.1.6 Any disrespect or intimidation may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.
- 2.9.1.7 Some games may be using trained 8u umpires. Please give them the same respect as an adult umpire.
- 2.9.1.8 Should there be an umpiring problem or any questions, contact the CGSL Umpire-in-Chief (UIC) immediately.
- 2.9.1.9 All managers or coaches are responsible for informing the home plate umpire that you are making a pitching change. You are telling the umpire as a courtesy. You must also inform the opposing team of any such changes.
- 2.9.1.10 It is the responsibility of managers, coaches, and parent volunteers to prepare and tear down the Cypress fields.
- 2.9.1.11 It is the Managers responsibility to maintain a clean dugout upon leaving at the completion of the game, and to have their team exit in a timely manner
- 2.9.1.12 For any games played Monday-Friday the HOME team will prepare the field prior to their game
 - (a) 6U: Drag, water, chalk field; put out bases
 - (b) 8U-14U: put out bases and pitching mat.
- 2.9.1.13 The VISITING will put the bases away and drag and water the field (6U).
- 2.9.1.14 For any games played on Saturday the HOME team will prepare the field for the 1st game of the day. For every game following, the HOME team will prepare the field prior to their game. At the conclusion of the last game of the day, the VISITING team will put all equipment away, including bases, and drag and water the fields (6U).
- 2.9.1.15 For any game that is Cypress vs Any other league, the Cypress team will perform both field preparation and field clean up/shut down.
- 2.9.1.16 If you are having challenges with a player, parent, spectator, or any other person(s) during the season, you should consult with your CGSL Division Commissioner before it escalates into a problem.
- 2.9.1.17 If a parent or other spectator from your team is ejected by an umpire, USA Softball of Southern California Commissioner, or CGSL Board Member [for any reason], that person must leave the park for the remainder of the game and is suspended and not allowed at the next scheduled game.

2.9.1.18 It is the responsibility of the manager and coach to always manage your parents and to make sure they are showing good sportsmanship at all games, practices, and events.

2.9.1.19 There is no alcohol allowed at any fields or parks where CGSL players are present.

2.9.1.20 Teams have the privilege to use music during practices and games.

- (a) Music must be appropriate and may not include foul language, negativity, or words that need to be blocked out.
- (b) Appropriate walk-up music is permissible during games but may not be played when the ball is live.
- (c) The team at bat may play appropriate music ONLY between innings. Between innings is NOT between plays. The music must be stopped when the batter is starting her at bat.
- (d) The volume of the music must be at a level where it is only heard at the field where your game is being played.
- (e) Music will not be allowed by both teams if there are any complaints from the neighbors around Arnold Park or any of the neighboring fields, or if music is being used to intimidate the opposing team, for the duration of the game.
- (f) If a CGSL board member feels that playing the music is causing a negative impact on the game, they shall remove the privilege.

Section 10. Scorekeeping

2.10.1 Scorekeeping Responsibilities

- 2.10.1.1 It is required that each team has two scorekeepers. One will keep score in a scorebook that is provided by the league, and the other will keep score in the Game Changer app. The Game Changer app is primarily to be used to track the pitching outs by a designated board member.
- 2.10.1.2 The home team will be designated as the official scorekeeper. If a team is designated as the home team for a game, but they do not have a scorekeeper, the visiting team (assuming they have a designated scorekeeper) will be responsible for becoming the official scorekeeper.
- 2.10.1.3 List VISITORS first and the HOME team second in the book, as this is the order in which they will bat during the game.
- 2.10.1.4 Indicate which field the game is being played at and enter the day and date of the game where indicated. When the game starts, get the official start time from the plate umpire and record it at the top of the scorebook. Remember to also record the ending time of the game.
- 2.10.1.5 Your coach and manager must have an accurate accounting of pitching outs. It is the scorekeeper's responsibility to track and record these pitching outs accurately. When a pitching change is made, record it by her name immediately so you don't forget. Be sure to give the retiring pitcher credit for any outs she may have before being replaced. Periodically count the outs you have recorded and make sure it is the same number as the inning you are in. EXAMPLE: Top of the 4th Inning, both pitchers should have nine (9) outs (3 completed innings each * 3 outs each), etc. If there are any errors in counting pitching outs, this will make it easier to check back and find out where the error was made before the end of the game. NOTE: Please check the REVERT BACK section in this book to get a better understanding of how pitching outs are recorded.
- 2.10.1.6 Put the final score in BIG NUMBERS with the winning team name written underneath it. If the game is called on darkness or time, the score reverts to the last completed inning.
- 2.10.1.7 Sign your name where indicated.
- 2.10.1.8 All players on each team must be listed in the book by first AND last name and jersey number, even if they are injured, absent or late. THIS IS MANDATORY.
- 2.10.1.9 The official scorekeeper (Home Team) cannot sit in either dugout.
- 2.10.1.10 Only the official scorekeeper can ask for a time out during a game.
- 2.10.1.11 The official scorekeeper is expected to remain impartial.
- 2.10.1.12 When you are the official scorekeeper, the lineup should be recorded in the books in ink. The reason for this is so that no changes can be made after the line-up is turned in to the scorekeepers. The rest of the book may be entered in pencil.
- 2.10.1.13 The most important thing to be recorded is the pitch count (balls and strikes), outs, runs scored (inning-by-inning and total), and the pitching outs for each pitcher. Don't be too concerned if you miss how an out is made; just make sure you have the balls, strikes, outs, and runs recorded.
- 2.10.1.14 Between each inning, the opposing scorekeeper will verify the score with the official scorekeeper.

Section 11. Appeals and Protests

2.11.1 Appeals

- 2.11.1.1 Appeals shall be limited to violations of the CGSL rules and shall differ from protests in that notification of the alleged violation need not have been brought up during the game in question.
- 2.11.1.2 Appeals shall be limited to violation of such rules as pitching regulations and/or player obligations.
- 2.11.1.3 You may not appeal an umpire's call or interpretation of a rule. These must be handled as protests.
- 2.11.1.4 Only the team manager may make an appeal.
- 2.11.1.5 Appeals must be in writing and delivered to the umpire-in-chief, or in their absence, to a CGSL board member within 48 hours of the starting time of the game in question.
- 2.11.1.6 The Umpire-in-Chief shall have the authority to rule on appeals.
 - (a) At their discretion, they may seek consultation with other members of the board.
 - (b) Prior to the ruling on the appeal, he shall contact the manager of the other team involved and allow the manager an appropriate time to respond to the alleged violation.
 - (c) The umpire in chief's ruling shall be final and he shall cause the appropriate changes to be made in the official scorebook.
- 2.11.1.7 All games shall be played to completion per CGSL rules.
- 2.11.1.8 Should a violation of the rules occur and become known during the game the game shall be completed.

2.11.2 Protests

- 2.11.2.1 Protests shall be received and heard pursuant to USA Softball. rules. Protests shall not be based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire.
- 2.11.2.2 Protests must be made in the following manner:
 - (a) The Manager or coach of the protesting team must inform the plate umpire that the game is continuing under protest.
 - (b) The plate umpire shall inform the opposing manager, coach and official scorekeeper of the protest and shall cause to be noted in the official scorebook the exact point in the game at which the protest was made. This should include the inning, number of outs, pitchers' name, locations of base runners, count on the batter, and name(s) of the umpires.
 - (c) The game shall then proceed to conclusion.
 - (d) The protest must be made prior to the next pitch being delivered to a batter.
- 2.11.2.3 Protests must be submitted in writing to the Umpire-in-Chief, or in the absence, a CGSL Board member within 48 hours of the starting time of the game in question.
- 2.11.2.4 The written protest shall be accompanied by a \$50 protest fee that will be refunded if the protest is upheld.
- 2.11.2.5 The manager and/or coach of both teams and the umpires (if possible) involved should be at the protest hearing.
- 2.11.2.6 The manager and/or coaches shall be heard separately in order to avoid unnecessary debating between the two parties.

- 2.11.2.7 Should a protest be upheld, the game shall be replayed from the point at which the incorrect decision was made with the decision corrected.
- 2.11.2.8 The protest committee shall consist of the umpire-in-chief, the division commissioner, and the president or vice-president
- 2.11.2.9 The ruling of the protest committee shall be final.

Section 12. Complaints

2.12.1 Filing a Complain

2.12.1.1 Step One: You must discuss the difference of opinion with the respective Manager and/or Coach.

(a) If there is no satisfaction between the two parties, then proceed to step two.

2.12.1.2 Step Two: Your complaint must be given in WRITING, dated, and signed to the Divisional Commissioner or any Board Member.

(a) A meeting will be called with all concerned parties; the Manager, Coach, you, and the Divisional Commissioner. If you are still unsatisfied, then proceed to step three.

2.12.1.3 Step Three: Your written complaint goes to the Board of Directors.

(a) You will be notified of the time, date, and place where it will be discussed.

(b) The board of directors will reach a decision, which shall be final.

Section 13. Unsportsmanlike Conduct

2.13.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct

2.13.1.1 Any participant, member of the board, coach, manager, player, or spectator displaying unsportsmanlike conduct or actions detrimental to CGSL is subject to disciplinary action. Any participant suspended from a game shall not participate or attend any team functions.

2.13.1.2 Ejection from any CGSL game will carry the following penalties:

- (a) 1st ejection - Suspension from the next scheduled game.
- (b) 2nd ejection - Suspension from the remainder of the season and all CGSL activities including the postseason.
- (c) Any physical altercation (for any reason) will result in an immediate suspension for the remainder of the season and all CGSL activities including the postseason.
- (d) Any ejection by an umpire will not be overruled by the CGSL Board of Directors. If a participant is ejected from a game by an umpire, the participant is to leave the field and shall not be in the umpire's view, or within hearing distance of the umpire. This is to help prevent any further delays in the game.
- (e) Per USA Softball Rule 4, Section 8: "An ejected participant must leave the grounds and have no contact with the umpires or participants in the game". If the ejected participant does not leave the grounds, this could result in the game being forfeited.
- (f) CGSL further interprets this rule - "leaving the grounds" as leaving Arnold Park or any other location of a CGSL game such as Oak Knoll, or another league's park.
- (g) In addition, the league interprets no contact with the umpire as - the umpire should not be able to see or hear from the ejected participant. If the ejected participant refuses to leave the park, the game will be forfeited per the USA Softball rule cited above.

2.13.1.3 A manager may bench a player for any conduct unbecoming a member of CGSL.

- (a) The manager or coach must notify the VP Players and Coaches or any board member prior to the game. The opposing manager shall also be notified prior to the game. The player should be identified as "Benched" in the lineup prior to the beginning of the game.
- (b) Disciplinary actions necessary during a game are allowed; however, it is up to the manager or head coach to report this action to the CGSL Division Commissioner and/or VP Players and Coaches within 24 hours. Benched players during a game will be counted as an out each time at-bat. The umpire and opposing manager must be notified.

Section 14. Fall Season

2.14.1 Fall Season

NOTE

Fall rules are subject to change every season.

2.14.1.1 Fall ball season runs from August through November.

2.14.1.2 The season may begin with a Labor Day Tournament and will end with a November end of season tournament. The season may include other tournaments.

2.14.1.3 The fall ball league is a traveling league comprising several Central District leagues and consisting of ten weeks.

2.14.1.4 Evaluations may be held at the discretion of the board.

2.14.1.5 Teams are formed by a player draft.

2.14.1.6 Drafting procedure will be in accordance with our Drafting Rules.

2.14.1.7 Fall Ball is an instructional league and no standings are kept, therefore will be no league winners.

(a) When playing a double header, the first game should be considered a competitive game. The second game is when you give players an opportunity to play different positions.

(b) The batting order for the second game of a double header will be a continuation of the batting order from the first game.

(c) Every player will have an opportunity to play at least one inning at an infield position during the single or doubleheader game(s).

2.14.1.8 Each team must keep score with a scorebook provided by the league, as well as use the Game Changer app.

(a) The team must allow a league representative to be included in your Game Changer app as either a staff or family member.

(b) The league representative will record the pitching outs from the teams during the Fall season.

(c) The recorded outs will be provided as part of the draft list in the Spring season.

(d) Pitchers will not be given a category, but should be used as a tool to help with a team's draft.

2.14.1.9 Current Fall Ball rules that are voted on by all the participating leagues, may be found on the league website: [**cypressgirlssoftball.com/about/downloads**](http://cypressgirlssoftball.com/about/downloads).

Chapter 3. Select Program

Section 1. Select Program Operating Instructions

3.1.1 Select Program

- 3.1.1.1 Select players are those who have the desire to play softball at a higher level of competition within the recreational league of Cypress Girls Softball.
- 3.1.1.2 Select players must be registered in Cypress Girls Softball for the current season and be rostered players.
- 3.1.1.3 The league will post a flyer asking those interested in playing select to contact a designated board representative.
- 3.1.1.4 The board of directors will determine if there is enough interest to form select teams in the 8u, 10u, 12u, or 14u divisions.
- 3.1.1.5 Managers and coaches of select teams will be voted by the board of directors.
- 3.1.1.6 An evaluation date and time will be determined with notification being sent to all registered players.
 - (a) A committee will evaluate all players at the date and time determined.
 - (b) The players will be evaluated on throwing, fielding, pitching, catching, batting, and running speed.
 - (c) After the evaluation, the committee will determine the roster of the team and players will be notified.
- 3.1.1.7 An additional registration fee will be charged which will cover the uniform cost, umpire fees, field usage fees, as well as tournament fees.
- 3.1.1.8 Games will be played against local leagues and will be on Sundays.
- 3.1.1.9 Regular team practices and games take precedence over select teams.
- 3.1.1.10 Any drafted select player or team who participates on any other USA or non-USA team will be ineligible for any All-Star team in CGSL.

Chapter 4. All Star Program

Section 1. All Star Program Operating Procedures

4.1.1 All Star Program

4.1.1.1 All Star Cost

- (a) Due to the additional cost of All-Stars (Uniforms, All-Star Tournaments, trophies, and other misc. expenses) the League will charge at least \$500.00 per player to offset the cost(s) to the League. This will cover the cost of the uniform, three (3) USA Softball All-Star Tournaments and other miscellaneous items provided to each All-Star player. This fee will be evaluated by the Board each year depending on the projected cost. All-Stars can cost the League as much as \$1,800.00 to \$2,500.00 per Team depending on if they qualify for States, Nationals, etc. CGSL designates “Blue All-Stars” as equivalent to USA Softball Gold and “Red All-Stars” as equivalent to USA Softball Silver.

4.1.1.2 League All Star Eligibility

- (a) Eligibility rules per USA So Cal Softball rules must be followed which can be found in the Yellow Book under USA “B” Classification.
- (b) The manager will provide each parent/guardian with the player all star eligibility form during the month of March.
- (c) Each player/guardian must fill out the information and determine if they want the player to become eligible for the All Star ballot.
- (d) The form must be returned back to their team manager by the date to be determined, who will return it back to the All Star Commissioner.
- (e) The All Star Commissioner will generate a list of names eligible for All-Star voting based on the completed forms.
- (f) Any form changes will not be allowed after April 15 and must be in writing to the All Star Commissioner.

4.1.1.3 All Star Season Information

- (a) The league will pay for up to three (3) All-Star tournaments for every All-Star team. The league will pay the entry for any additional USAS SoCal championship tournaments.
- (b) All-Star teams may acquire sponsors or have fundraisers to offset the cost of the season. The sponsor and fundraiser incentive are given 100% back to the team. Any funds acquired must be used strictly on the players. It is the responsibility of each team to provide sponsor plaques to their sponsors.
- (c) Any planned fundraiser must have the approval of the CGSL Fundraiser Commissioner. A financial report showing the income and expenses must be turned in to the All-Star Commissioner at the conclusion of the season.
- (d) All-Star teams will wear league-approved uniforms. Following the All Star draft, the league will schedule a parent meeting with the All Star commissioner, uniform director, VP Players and Coaches, and VP Finance. At that time the fee will be paid, and uniforms will be sized. All Star information will be discussed at that time, as well as answer any questions you may have.
- (e) CGSL will arrange for All-Star pictures to be taken. The team is responsible for generating a team collage of pictures to be included in the next spring season yearbook.

(f) Any team that advances to the USA SoCal Championships and beyond, will be provided with pins for trading.

4.1.1.4 All Star Playing Time Rules

(a) All-Star players must play a minimum of nine (9) outs or three (3) defensive innings per game. In the event that a game ends before any player completes her three innings, the player must start the next game and complete three innings of play. No CGSL player shall sit two consecutive innings in any tournaments that allow round-robin batting and free substitution.

(b) Some All-Star Tournaments, particularly championship games, are based on 'USA Softball-9' or DP/Flex extra player rules. When this happens, the All-Star Coach(s) and Manager will make decisions about the lineup that they feel is best overall for the team for that game. For example, a player designated as the "DP" might only bat during a game, and a player designated as the "Flex" player might only play defense during a game. These rules can get complicated, so the coach and manager will make decisions that are best for the team.

(c) Managers and Coaches voted for pitchers and catchers in each division. Those players must be given an opportunity to play those positions.

4.1.1.5 All Star Vote

(a) The date, place, and time for All-Star voting will be made available to all Managers and Coaches of record at least two (2) weeks in advance. Failure of a Team Manager and/or Coach of record to be in attendance on the day of voting loses their right to vote for All Stars.

(b) 8U, 10U, 12U, and 14U will each select 12 players representing Blue All-Stars. A Red All Star team will be allowed based on the discretion of the board, when criteria is met. No All Star team will be added after April 1.

4.1.1.6 All Star Team Selection

(a) The Managers and Coaches of record must be present at the time of voting for the selection of players to be valid. No mail-in votes are allowed.

(b) The Manager and Coach of record from each team will vote separately for the first five players with an emphasis on pitching and catching abilities; three (3) nominated pitchers and two (2) nominated catchers.

(c) Players receiving a majority vote of managers and coaches present will be declared an All Star.

(d) In the case of a tie, coaches, and managers will re-enter to break the tie. The manager and coach of record of each team will cast one vote each among the players who received the same number of votes. The player with the most votes will advance.

(e) A board member will post in alphabetical order the five (5) players (3 pitchers and 2 catchers) with the most votes after voting has concluded.

(f) Second voting will take place for the next seven (7) players with an emphasis on the field playing ability. The selection of these seven players will be done in the same fashion as the previous five players.

(g) The manager and coach of the Blue All-Star team will then be selected.

(h) The selection of the Red All-Stars will follow the same procedures as the Blue All-Star selection immediately following the end of the Blue All-Star selections.

4.1.1.7 Alternate Selection

- (a) A master list from each division will be compiled, listing all players not selected as All Stars.
- (b) If a manager/coach needs a player, the All Star Commissioner must be contacted.

4.1.1.8 All Star Manager and Coach Selection

- (a) The managers and coaches in their respective divisions will select (via vote) the manager and coach of the Blue All Star team. The manager and coach selected as the Blue All Star Manager and Coach must be selected from existing managers and coaches of record during the spring season in their divisions. If no coaches or managers are eligible, the board will decide how to proceed.
- (b) The Blue All Star Coach and Manager may choose, at their discretion, other assistants to help with the team. However, these assistants will not be considered as official coaches, and they must be cleared by USA Softball during the Spring season via a background check.
- (c) The selection of the Manager and Coach of the Red All-Star team will follow the same procedures as the Blue All Star team.

Appendix I – Code of Conduct for Members of the Board of Directors

As a member of the Board of Directors for the Cypress Girls Softball League (CGSL), I understand the importance of my role in fostering a positive, safe, and ethical environment for all league participants. I recognize that my behavior and decisions set the tone for the organization, and I commit to the following Code of Conduct:

Integrity and Accountability

- I will conduct myself with honesty, fairness, and integrity in all league matters.
- I will accept responsibility for my decisions and actions and hold others accountable to the same standard.

Respect and Civility

- I will treat fellow board members, volunteers, coaches, players, parents, officials, and community members with dignity and respect at all times.
- I will foster an atmosphere of collaboration and open communication, even during disagreements.

Leadership and Example

- I will model professionalism and ethical conduct that reflects positively on CGSL.
- I will avoid any behavior, in person or online, that could harm the reputation of the league.

Confidentiality

- I will maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information, including personnel matters, finances, and internal discussions, unless authorized for disclosure.

Conflict of Interest

- I will disclose any potential conflicts of interest and recuse myself from decisions where a conflict exists or may appear to exist.

Support of League Mission

- I will act in the best interest of CGSL and its mission to promote youth development through softball.
- I will support board decisions once they are made, regardless of personal opinion.

Compliance

- I will follow all CGSL bylaws, policies, and USA Softball rules and regulations.
- I will encourage adherence to these rules throughout the organization.

Violations and Disciplinary Action

I understand that violations of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to:

- Verbal or written warnings
- Removal from board meetings
- Temporary suspension from board duties
- Permanent removal from the Board of Directors

Appendix II – Code of Conduct for Coaches and Managers

I understand that my responsibilities as a youth coach are of great importance and that my actions have the potential to significantly influence the youth athletes I coach. Therefore, I promise to uphold the following rights of young athletes to the best of my ability. The following player rights and code of ethics for coaches has been provided by CGSL and USA Softball.

Our players have the following rights:

- I. Right to have fun in sports.
- II. Right to participate in sports.
- III. Right to participate at a level commensurate with each child's maturity and ability.
- IV. Right to have qualified adult leadership.
- V. Right to play as a child and not as an adult.
- VI. Right of children to share in the leadership and decision-making of their sport participation.
- VII. Right to participate in safe and healthy environments.
- VIII. Right to proper preparation for participation in sports.
- IX. Right to an equal opportunity to strive for success.
- X. Right to be treated with dignity.

I also promise to conduct myself in accordance with the Code of Ethics for Coaches as given next:

1. I will treat each athlete, opposing coach, official, parent, and administrator with respect and dignity.
2. I will set an example for all athletes and parents by controlling my temper and refrain from using foul language.
3. I will do my best to learn the fundamental skills, teaching and evaluation techniques and strategies of my sport.
4. I will become thoroughly familiar with the rules of my sport.
5. I will become familiar with the objectives of the youth sport program with which I am affiliated.
6. I will uphold the authority of officials who are assigned to the contests in which I coach, and I will assist them in every way to conduct fair and impartial competitive contests.
7. I will learn the strengths and weaknesses of my athletes so that I might place them in situations where they have a maximum opportunity to achieve success.
8. I will conduct my practices and games so that all athletes have an opportunity to improve their skill level through active participation.
9. I will communicate to my athletes and their parents the rights and responsibilities of individuals on our team.
10. I will cooperate with the administration of our organization in the enforcement of rules and regulations, and I will report any irregularities that violate sound competitive practices.
11. I will protect the health and safety of my athletes by insisting that all of the activities under my control are conducted for their psychological welfare rather than for the vicarious interests of adults.
12. I will not tolerate any form of abuse of children, be it physical, verbal, emotional, ethical or sexual and will immediately report any such abuse to the proper authorities.

I understand that any violation of this code of conduct could result in the following consequences:

- ✓ Formal warning from the CGSL Executive Board of Directors
- ✓ Removal from the field of play during a practice or game
- ✓ Suspension from practices or games
- ✓ Inability to coach for the rest of the current season and/or future seasons
- ✓ Inability to coach an All Star or Select team

Appendix III – Code of Conduct for Players

As a player in the Cypress Girls Softball League (CGSL), I understand that I represent myself, my team, and my league. I know that my behavior on and off the field reflects not only on me but also on my teammates and coaches. I agree to follow the Code of Conduct below to help make CGSL a fun, safe, and respectful place for everyone.

Sportsmanship and Respect

- I will show respect to my coaches, teammates, opponents, officials, and all spectators.
- I will play fair and follow the rules of the game at all times.

Teamwork and Effort

- I will try my best at practices and games, and support my teammates no matter what.
- I will listen to my coaches and do my part to help the team succeed.

Positive Attitude

- I will stay positive and never give up, even when things are hard.
- I will encourage my teammates and help create a supportive team environment.

Responsibility and Commitment

- I will show up on time and be ready to play with the proper equipment.
- I will let my coach know ahead of time if I cannot attend a game or practice.

Respect for the Game

- I will take care of my uniform and gear, and treat the field and equipment with respect.
- I will represent CGSL with pride on and off the field.

Violations and Disciplinary Action

I understand that not following this Code of Conduct may lead to consequences decided by my coach and/or the CGSL Board of Directors. These may include warnings, reduced playing time, suspension from practices or games, or removal from the team or league.

Appendix IV – Code of Conduct for Parents and Guardians

As a parent or guardian of a player in the Cypress Girls Softball League (CGSL), I understand that I play a vital role in supporting the positive development of all players. My behavior and attitude contribute directly to the environment in which our children grow and compete. Therefore, I commit to upholding the following Code of Conduct:

Support and Encouragement

- I will encourage my child and other players to do their best, regardless of the outcome of the game.
- I will promote good sportsmanship by being a positive role model and showing respect for all participants.

Respect for All Participants

- I will treat coaches, officials, board members, players, and other parents with respect and dignity at all times.
- I will refrain from criticizing, yelling at, or using inappropriate language toward anyone involved in the league.

Positive Communication

- I will communicate concerns respectfully and through the appropriate channels within the league.
- I will support open, honest, and constructive communication with coaches and league personnel.

Game and Practice Conduct

- I will not coach or instruct players during games or practices unless asked to do so by a coach.
- I will refrain from entering the field or dugout during games unless given permission by a league official.

Commitment to a Safe and Fun Environment

- I will ensure that my child arrives on time, prepared, and with the proper equipment for practices and games.

Encouraging Team Values

- I will teach my child to value teamwork, effort, and improvement over winning.
- I will help foster a community of encouragement, inclusion, and fun within CGSL.

Violations and Disciplinary Action

I understand that failure to follow this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action by the CGSL Board of Directors, which could include verbal warnings, removal from fields, suspension from attendance at games, or permanent removal from league activities.