



Bylaws

(Version 1: 12/02/2025)

Northbridge Youth Softball League

Bylaws

Article I – Name and Purpose

1. The organization shall be known as the **Northbridge Youth Softball League (NYSL)**.
 2. The purpose of NYSL is to:
 - Provide a safe, fun, and instructional environment for youth to learn and play softball.
 - Promote teamwork, sportsmanship, and personal growth.
 - Organize and oversee seasonal games, tournaments, clinics, and community events.
 - Ensure all players have equal opportunity regardless of skill level.
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Article II – Membership

1. **Eligibility:** Membership is open to all girls residing in Northbridge, as well as girls from surrounding towns which cannot field a team during any season may be eligible to play for Northbridge pending Board approval. If however the player has the ability to play for their town team and meets qualifications to do so during the season they wish to play for Northbridge, they must play for their own town and not for Northbridge.
 2. **Good Standing:** Members (players, families, coaches, volunteers) must adhere to league rules, demonstrate sportsmanship, and remain current on registration fees. In accordance with the NYSL mission, the league desires that no player be prevented from participation solely based on inability to pay/financial hardship. Upon request to the board, a confidential review will be conducted and if deemed appropriate, the league will cover the cost for said player.
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Article III – Governance

1. **Board of Directors:**

- The league shall be governed by a Board consisting of at least 5 members.
- Board members serve **2-year terms**. If a successor is not available at the end of a term, a member may elect to extend their service for an additional year.

2. **Positions:**

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Field Maintenance/Safety Officer
- Social Media Manager
- Equipment/Uniform Manager
- Sponsorship/Fundraising Manager
- Player/Coach Development Manager
- Snack Shack Coordinator
- Town Liaison
- Skills Competition/Celebrations Manager
- Umpire Coordinator

3. **Duties of Officers:**

- **President:** Chief executive officer; presides over meetings; represents the league publicly. Oversees registration, verifies player eligibility, and works with the Vice President to manage team selection **subject to Board approval**.
- **Vice President:** Assists the President and assumes duties in their absence. Works jointly with the President to oversee team selection **subject to Board**

approval.

- **Treasurer:** Manages finances, prepares budgets, reports on league funds.
- **Secretary:** Keeps minutes of all meetings and maintains official league records, including bylaws. Maintains the league website and social media platforms unless a Social Media Manager is appointed, in which case the responsibility may be delegated.
- **Field Maintenance/Safety Officer:** Oversees field preparation and maintenance. Ensures safety procedures and compliance with league guidelines.
- **Social Media Manager:** Oversees communications and engagement through league social platforms.
- **Equipment/Uniform Manager:** Purchases, maintains, and distributes league equipment and uniforms.
- **Sponsorship/Fundraising Manager:** Secures sponsorships and coordinates fundraising events.
- **Player/Coach Development Manager:** Organizes clinics, skills training, and leadership development.
- **Snack Shack Coordinator:** Manages concession operations and volunteers.
- **Town Liaison:** Serves as liaison between NYSL and town/other leagues.
- **Skills Competition/Celebrations Manager:** Plans and runs skills competitions, awards, and celebration events.
- **Umpire Coordinator:** Schedules umpires, ensures training, and oversees fair play.
- Other officers perform duties as assigned by the Board.

4. Elections:

- Elections shall be held annually at the fall meeting.
- Candidates must be nominated and approved by a simple majority vote of the Board.

5. Meetings:

- The Board shall meet monthly during the season and as needed in the off-season.
 - A quorum shall consist of a majority of Board members.
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Article IV – Coaches, Players, and Teams

1. Coaches:

- Must apply annually and be approved by the Board.
- Must pass background checks and comply with league training requirements.
- Shall promote fair play, safety, and respect.

2. Players:

- Shall play in divisions determined by age and skill level.
- Shall demonstrate good sportsmanship and respect toward teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials.

3. Team Selection:

- The President and Vice President oversee registration, verify player eligibility, and propose team assignments.
 - i. Authority of the Board:
 - 1. Any request for a player to participate (“play up”) in a division above their age-appropriate level shall be subject to review and approval by the Northbridge Youth Softball League Board of Directors. No player may advance to a higher division without formal Board approval.
 - ii. Evaluation Criteria:
 - 1. In considering a request for advancement, the Board shall review:
 - a. Performance Data: End-of-season evaluations submitted by coaches (if available), as well as any additional assessments deemed relevant.

b. Roster Capacity: Availability of space on the team within the higher division, as determined by registration numbers and roster limits.

c. League Impact: The overall effect on player development, competitive balance, and player safety.

- The Board of Directors retains full discretion to approve or deny any request for a player to participate in an older division.
- **Final team approval must be made by a majority vote of the Board.**

Article V – Finances

1. The league shall be funded through player registration fees, fundraising, sponsorships, and donations.
2. All funds shall be used solely for league operations.
3. The Treasurer shall maintain accurate financial records and present reports at Board meetings.
4. The league's earnings shall solely benefit the NYSL. Any project/equipment order over \$1,000 shall require board approval.

Article VI – Discipline and Grievances

1. Any coach, player, or parent who violates league rules or the code of conduct may face disciplinary action, including suspension, removal or a fine.
 2. Grievances may be submitted in writing to the Board for review.
 3. The Board's decision shall be final.
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Article VII – Amendments

1. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of Board members present at a duly called meeting.
 2. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing at least two weeks prior to the vote.
 3. These bylaws, once agreed upon by a majority of the board, will stay in place for two consecutive seasons. At the end of the second season, the bylaws will be reviewed and open to revisions.
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Article VIII – Dissolution

In the event of dissolution, all assets shall be distributed to a nonprofit youth sports or community organization within Northbridge.