

**LONG ISLAND SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION INC.**

**ORGANIZATIONAL BYLAWS**

**DATE OF INCORPORATION-July 13, 2007**

**Final update 9/1/25**

*Approved: The signatures of the below named Executive Officers state that these Organizational Bylaws have been approved by more than a two-thirds majority of the Voting Members of the LISSA Board of Directors, as described herein.*

PRESIDENT-Joe Pellechi \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT-Rich Coy \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT-Brian Edwards \_\_\_\_\_

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-Mike Callahan \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDING SECRETARY-Jeff Steinberg \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURER-Jimmy Weilmann \_\_\_\_\_

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## **ARTICLE 1**

### **NAME, LOCATION AND PURPOSE**

1. Name: The name of the organization shall be “Long Island Senior Softball Association Inc.” Hereafter referred to as LISSA.
2. Location.
  - a. LISSA will operate and compete on playing facilities within Nassau County and Suffolk County in New York State.
  - b. LISSA will generally use the home address of the President for mailing and other official league purposes.
3. Purpose: To develop, direct and promote the sport of softball for age eligible seniors, to encourage maximum participation and ensure the safety of all members.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. To promote expansion of Senior Softball for all eligible individuals regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin and ancestry. To promote fellowship, pleasure and recreation. To hold social events for all members and their partners.
2. To develop uniform criteria for the enhancement of Senior Softball by establishing fair and safe competitive rules.
3. To provide proper safeguards in accordance with the spirit of true sportsmanship and established principles for ethical behavior on matters relating to conflict of interest, as provided by LISSA’s Executive Board and Board of Directors.
4. To encourage the union of all eligible senior teams with active membership in other amateur softball groups into our organization, as may, from time to time, be deemed best adapted to advance the cause of senior softball in our area.
5. To establish and maintain, by allied membership, union with other non-profit associations or organizations devoted wholly or partially to the promotion and development of sports activities for seniors on a regional or local level.

6. To promote and conduct annual senior activities, such as senior games, tournaments, championships and other desired sporting events.
7. To persuade highly skilled members to assist in the overall development of less talented members, so that enjoyment can be realized by all members.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **MEMBERS**

1. Membership is open to all individuals that meet LISSA's residency and age requirements.
  - a. Members must attain the age of sixty (60) by December 31, of the year in which they join LISSA.
  - b. Members must reside in New York State, as evidenced by a valid New York State driver's license or comparable form of ID at the time they join LISSA. Once an individual becomes a member, there is no requirement that one remain a New York resident in order to remain a member of LISSA.
2. Member responsibilities include:
  - a. Must be signed onto a team's roster at all times.
  - b. Must be physically capable of participating in sports activities without being put in harm's way and sustaining serious injury.
  - c. Must provide their own safety equipment and protective devices.
  - d. With written notice and being in good standing, members may resign from LISSA and rejoin at any time. In such a situation, seniority will not be restored until TWO additional years of membership have passed.
3. Members must abide by LISSA's Code of Conduct at all times. Any member who violates the Code of Conduct shall incur penalties established under the Code.
4. Managers shall retain control of their teams provided that they are acceptable to a majority of team players and maintain good standing status.
5. Membership in LISSA may be terminated, for just cause, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at a regular or special meeting.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **DUES, FEES AND FUNDS**

1. Annual dues and fees will be proposed by the Executive Board and be approved by the Board of Directors.
2. Once established, changes in the annual dues and fees may only be made with the approval of a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
3. All dues and fees collected are for the operations and maintenance of LISSA.
4. Once announced at a regular meeting, all dues and fees are payable by the following regular meeting or by the date specified. The Treasurer may allow a one-month extension in payment of such amounts.
5. Delinquent members are in violation of the Code of Conduct and are not in good standing. They may not participate in LISSA activities until arrear amounts are paid in full.
6. The treasurer shall maintain an account at a convenient bank for deposit of monies collected and payment of valid bills. Such account shall be registered in the name of "Long Island Senior Softball Association Inc."
  - a. There shall be THREE authorized check signers-President, Treasurer and Recording Secretary.
  - b. One authorized signature shall be required for all checks.
  - c. Need for third authorized signature to ensure continuation of LISSA business can be transacted in the event that one of the other two check signers become unavailable.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **NEW TEAMS**

1. New team membership in LISSA must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.
2. Where possible, new teams should apply to join LISSA before the December regular meeting in the year preceding their initial year of membership. New teams must pay their annual dues and fees at this time.
  - a. New teams are not permitted to vote on league matters until they have attended two consecutive regular meetings.

- b. The Board of Directors shall assist new teams with securing a home field including obtaining field permits.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

1. The Board of Directors is the ruling body of LISSA. As such, they shall resolve issues and problems and make decisions on matters affecting the operations of the league.
2. The Board of Directors shall consist of:
  - a. One voting member from each team-generally the team's manager or assistant manager.
    - i. If neither the team's manager or assistant manager can attend a meeting, and they are able to send a team substitute, the President or Recording Secretary should be notified 24 hours in advance.
    - ii. Voting members should express the desires of the majority of their team members when voting on league issues.
  - b. The six (6) elected officers of the Executive Board.
  - c. A seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) member of the Executive Board, the Sergeant At Arms, will be added to the Executive Board, starting in the 2026 year (election taking place in November 2025).
  - d. All votes must be made in person at the meeting. Proxy voting or votes via text, e-mail or telephone are not permitted.
3. Any director or voting member may be removed from office for just cause by a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

1. The six (6) (or seven (7) beginning in 2026) elected officers of LISSA shall comprise the Executive Board.
2. Their primary function is to manage all of LISSA's activities and events, unless specifically excluded, and to plan-prepare-manage all regular and special meetings.
3. They are "ex-officio" members of all committees.

4. They will meet monthly.
5. A quorum shall consist of four (4) members of the six (6) or seven (7) beginning in 2026.
6. The President is responsible for conducting the meetings and will cast a vote as a tiebreaker only.
7. The Executive Board shall be part of the Rules Committee for the purpose of interpreting, but not creating, LISSA Player Rules.
8. The Executive Board is responsible for approving the size of all committees and for selecting volunteers to serve on the committees.
  - a. Committee members should not have a personal interest in their purpose.
  - b. Members selected must be in good standing.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **OFFICERS AND DUTIES**

1. The seven (7) officers (beginning in 2026) of LISSA shall be:
  - a. President
    - i. Responsible for presiding over all meetings, including preparing its agenda and determining its site.
    - ii. Overall accountability for supervision and execution of all LISSA activities as established by Executive Board and Board of Directors to insure proper and efficient operations.
    - iii. Delegate duties and authority to Executive Board members.
    - iv. Appoint committees.
    - v. Coordinate with Executive Board and Board of Directors the negotiations and execution of all LISSA contracts and agreements.
    - vi. Represent LISSA at all related outside functions.
    - vii. Attend meetings with officials of Town and County and other government agencies that may occur.
  - b. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
    - i. 1st Vice President replaces President in the event of President's absence. Succeeds to President if the office is vacated.

- c. Executive Secretary
    - i. Maintains all LISSA records, rosters, rules, bylaws and agendas.
    - ii. Distributes notices and agenda items for all meetings.
    - iii. Handles LISSA's external correspondence.
  - d. Recording Secretary
    - i. Records minutes of LISSA regular meetings.
    - ii. Responsible for counting ballots for all LISSA voting. May select members to assist.
  - e. Treasurer
    - i. Responsible for maintaining all financial records of LISSA.
    - ii. Reports all transactions to the Executive Board.
    - iii. Deposits LISSA funds.
    - iv. Pays valid LISSA bills.
  - f. Sergeant At Arms (becomes officer of LISSA in 2026)
    - i. Assist in maintaining order at LISSA meetings including keeping track of speaker's time and distributes voting ballots.
2. All officer candidates must have completed five (5) years of LISSA membership. An exception may be granted by the Board of Directors.
  3. All officers must be in good standing.
  4. All officers shall serve for a two (2) year term. They are eligible for re-election.
  5. Officer terms begin on January 1 and end on December 31.
  6. All officers must maintain active LISSA membership throughout their term.
  7. All officers shall serve without any compensation.
  8. Candidates for officer positions shall come from members of the Board of Directors. With the approval of the Executive Board, such candidates may come from general membership.
  9. Candidates for officer positions:
    - a. shall announce their intention to seek election at or prior to the October regular meeting.
    - b. will have the opportunity to outline their reason to run and answer questions at the October regular meeting.
    - c. election of Executive Board shall take place at the November regular meeting.

10. Election of the seven (7) officers shall be made by the voting members-one from each team, or their designated representative, who is present at the meeting. The existing Executive Board members (LISSA officers) will not participate in this vote. (If there are 17 teams, there would be a maximum of 17 votes, assuming all teams are present.)
  - a. Voting members will elect the President.
  - b. Immediately thereafter, the Executive Board (seven officers) will then determine the positions of the remainder of the officer positions and duties (six Executive Board positions).
11. Officers may be removed from office, for just cause, by a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors.
12. If the President resigns, dies, retires or is otherwise unable to continue, the vacancy will be filled by the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. If any other officer resigns, dies, retires or is otherwise unable to continue, the vacancy will be filled by an appointment made by President. Alternatively, the Board of Directors may vote to leave any officer position vacant until the next elections are held.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **MEETINGS**

1. All meetings of LISSA will be held at Allen Park Community Center, Motor Avenue, Farmingdale, New York. From time to time, generally when Allen Park Community Center is not available, a meeting may be moved to another location.
2. Executive Board meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of each month.
3. Board of Directors meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month.
4. Meetings will begin at 9:30AM, though starting time may be adjusted, as needed.
5. Committee meetings may be held before or after Executive Board meetings or Board of Directors meetings, or other time determined by the President or meeting chairperson.
6. If regular meeting date falls on a National or other observed holiday, meeting date will either be changed or skipped for that month.
7. A special meeting may be called with at least 3 days' notice.
8. Notice may be given by e-mail, text, or telephone contact.

9. Any change of date, time or meeting location will be announced at the previous meeting, but no later than 24 hours prior to meeting.
10. The President, together with members of the Executive Board, shall establish the agenda of meetings.
11. Parliamentary Procedures shall be followed at all regular and special LISSA meetings.
12. A quorum necessary to conduct LISSA business meetings shall consist of fifty percent (50%) of voting members plus one (1). No business meeting can be conducted without a quorum in attendance.
13. In the event of a tie vote, the President or meeting chairperson, may cast a deciding vote.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **COMMITTEES**

1. The President may assign Executive Board members to chair special or standing committees, including meetings.
2. All committees shall have a minimum of five (5) members that will serve for a period not to exceed one (1) year. They may be re-appointed to such committee.
3. A quorum necessary to conduct committee meetings shall consist of fifty percent (50%) of members plus one (1).
4. Items for discussion should be presented to committee members in advance, where possible.
5. Standing committees include:
  - a. Bylaws-review, maintain and update bylaws and playing rules.
  - b. Hall of Fame-select and honor members for their achievements and service.
  - c. Protest-investigate particulars of member protests.
  - d. Rules-maintains, updates and distributes league playing rules.
  - e. Scores and standings-compiles and prepares scores and standings of games.
  - f. Scheduling-prepares schedules of league games.
  - g. Social-plans annual awards dinner and luncheon, selects facilities.
6. The President, together with the Executive Board, shall establish special purpose committees whenever they are deemed necessary.

**ARTICLE 11**

**GOOD STANDING**

1. All LISSA members, participating in any LISSA approved competition, activities or sponsored events must be in good standing.
2. The following are requirements for members to be in good standing:
  - a. Officers-maintaining confidentiality of executive sessions.
  - b. Supporting the objectives of LISSA and rulings of its Board of Directors.
  - c. Making prompt payment of all dues and fees.
  - d. Participating in and supporting LISSA sponsored competition, activities and sponsored events.
  - e. Abiding by LISSA 's Code of Conduct at all times.
    - i. Members who are found to be in violation of the Code of Conduct may not participate in competition, activities or sponsored events while serving a penalty or suspension.

**ARTICLE 12**

**PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES**

1. Parliamentary procedures shall be followed at LISSA meetings in order to insure that:
  - a. all eligible members get the right to speak and vote.
  - b. to allow business to be taken up one item at a time.
  - c. to promote courtesy, justice and impartiality.
  - d. to ensure that the majority rules while protecting the rights of the minority.
2. Providing that there is no conflict with adopted Bylaws and approved rules, *Robert's Rules of Order, Simplified and Applied*, shall govern all meetings.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **PLAYING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. The playing rules and regulations governing LISSA competition shall be those published in the “Detailed Playing Rules” and the “Official Rules of Softball of USA Softball” (previously known as Amateur Softball Association of America) for the stated year of play.
2. Recommended changes to the playing rules may be proposed and discussed at any regular meeting after the end of the summer playing season and prior to the start of the following summer season (example-September thru April).
  - a. Changes may be voted on at the next regular meeting, after members have had the opportunity to discuss them with their players.
  - b. Once the player rules have been established by a majority of the members, they are subject to review only at the mid-season break. Changes won't be implemented until the end of the season for the following season, subject to c. below.
  - c. With a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors, a change can be implemented for the second half of the current season.
3. Published LISSA playing rules shall be posted on the LISSA website.
4. No competition, activities or sponsored events shall take place on religious holidays.

## **ARTICLE 14**

### **AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS**

Provided that prior notice was given at previous meetings, in writing or as an agenda item, amendments to these Bylaws may be addressed and presented to the Executive Board (to be discussed beforehand) at any meeting of the Executive Board who may then recommend that further discussion take place at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE 15**  
**DISSOLUTION**

With previous notice given to members, and by a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors, LISSA may be dissolved. All valid outstanding bills should be paid and the remaining money is to be returned to the members. Alternatively, the Board of Directors may vote to give the remaining money to a charity of its choice.

**ARTICLE 16**  
**DISCLAIMER**

Under New York Section 402 of the Not-for-profit Corporation Law, the name “Long Island Senior Softball Association” (LISSA) and its Bylaws are registered with the Department of State of the State of New York. Use of these, in whole or in part, without expressed prior written permission of the LISSA Board of Directors is a violation of New York State Incorporation Laws and subject to penalty.

