

Santa Clara PAL Bylaws



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Introduction

The Santa Clara PAL Softball Bylaws are designed to establish the rules and regulations for administrators, managers, coaches, parents and players within Santa Clara PAL Softball and are designed to accommodate both the spirit and values of Santa Clara PAL. These Bylaws are intended to enhance the softball experience for everyone involved.

The name of this organization shall be: Santa Clara PAL Softball, located in the City of Santa Clara. This organization has been organized and deemed a nonprofit organization. The league address is 601 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA., 95051.

Board of Directors

- 1) Santa Clara PAL Softball, (PAL or the League) will elect the Board of Directors (Board) including but not limited to league Executive Members -- Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, Operations Coordinator, Secretary, Umpire in Chief, Division Coordinators (Majors, Minors, Rookie, Farm and T-ball Divisions); as well all other board positions -- Equipment Coordinator, Uniform Coordinator, Snack Shack Coordinator, Team Parent Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, Tony Sanchez

Tournament Director, Sparks Director, and Game Scheduler. The League is directed to hold an official election every year at or prior to September 1.

- a) All duties pertaining to each of the elected Board of Directors can be found on the supplemental part of the Santa Clara PAL Softball Bylaws.
- 2) Prior to anyone being elected, the current Board of Directors, shall screen and approve all prospective Board Members.
- 3) All elected Board Members are required to fulfill their appointed duty for the duration of their tenure, through September 1. Failure to fulfill their Board appointed duties is cause for dismissal from the board, and possible future disciplinary action.
- 4) The Board of Directors shall evaluate everyone who has applied for a team management position and assign those found acceptable to teams as necessary.
- 5) The Santa Clara PAL Softball Board of Directors shall require every adult involved in the League, whether elected, or appointed, and every committee member, all managing personnel, and all on-field personnel to complete a confidential Personal Information Form (background check) and have this form on file with the League, affiliated organization before being allowed to be an active part of the League.
 - a) All Santa Clara PAL Softball personnel shall be fingerprinted by the Santa Clara Police Department, which may be requested from time to time by affiliated organizations before participating in any League function.
- 6) The Board of Directors will establish a 3-5 member Disciplinary Subcommittee and direct it to meet as needed. The committee is required to make decisions regarding any disciplinary action. The Board will establish this committee to aid the timeliness and flexibility with which the Board is able to respond to League disciplinary actions.
- 7) The Santa Clara PAL Softball player database is a league asset. It will not be used for unauthorized communication with parents or players. It will not be used for personal agendas or shared with any person or 3rd party organization outside of Santa Clara PAL. The database, in its entirety, will not be accessible to anyone outside the executive board, however, division rosters may be created for the league's respective commissioners.
- 8) All League business and League decisions shall be determined by a majority of Board members present at any meeting where all Board members have been given at least 48 hours prior notice of the meeting time and place.
- 9) The Board has determined that for the spring playing season, no League boundaries will be used.
- 10) The Board may prevent any player from participating in the League for failure or failure of her parents to:
 - (a) pay properly assessed registration fees
 - (b) return League property

- (c) supply an acceptable copy of her birth record
- (d) conduct deemed to be unacceptable
- (e) adhere to the Code of Conduct

League Operations

- 1) The action of the Board of Directors on any matter concerning League business, both administrative and playing field, shall be considered final, provided such actions and decisions, are never in conflict with Administrative Rules, Field Playing Rules or the League Bylaws.
- 2) Any charge of misconduct will be presented to the League Commissioner (Vice-commissioner when charge relates to the commissioner), who shall act upon said charges as quickly as possible. If the League Commissioner, after a thorough investigation, decides a charge is extremely serious, (s)he shall contact and temporarily relieve such person or persons of their duties pending the outcome of a special closed Board meeting concerning the matter.
- 3) Any adult suspended from any League or any youth program, is ineligible to serve Santa Clara PAL Softball in any capacity.
- 4) A suspended individual, may apply to the Board for reinstatement. If the majority of the Board agrees that the facts warrant the individual suspension being removed, the Board may reinstate the individual. The decision made by the Board shall be final.
- 5) Any individual or any group may be subject to possible suspension or expulsion if found to be in violation of the Bylaws and/or the Santa Clara PAL Softball Code of Conduct.
- 6) The League, with the cooperation and assistance of all League parents, will provide its players with organized practice sessions, an approximately 20 game playing season (fewer games in the Farm and T-ball Divisions), all necessary field equipment, safe fields, approved managing personnel, proper parental supervision of all activities, social activities, individual participation and appropriate team awards.
- 7) Parents will support their team through their volunteer efforts at various official Santa Clara PAL Softball events (Opening Ceremonies, Family Fun Day, etc), and work in the Snack Shack.

Practice/Play Limitations

- 1) Teams in all divisions of play are restricted to a maximum of 4 events per calendar week (Sunday through Saturday).
 - a) An event is defined as either an officially scheduled game or a team practice.
 - b) Teams are not allowed to conduct more than one practice on the same calendar day, nor are teams allowed to schedule a practice on a game day.

- c) Team managers and coaches understand that this limitation is designed to give the children three days of rest in any calendar week. Violators of this rule will be subject to disciplinary action by PAL's Discipline Committee.
- 2) Once team fees and team rosters have been submitted and insurance coverage confirmed, practice may begin.
- 3) Practice games between League teams of the same Divisions may take place prior to the start of the regular season.
- 4) During the regular season the League will schedule no more than three (3) games a week for any one team. Re-scheduled games that are placed in a week (Sunday - Saturday) are not considered in this three game limit.
- 5) Scheduled games should start no earlier than 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and, when school is in session, end no later than 8:00 p.m.
- 6) Team standings are maintained.
 - a) Not for t-ball
- 7) Divisional Playoffs may be utilized at the end of the Spring playing season.
 - a) Teams will be seeded into the tournament at the end of season.
 - b) Not for t-ball
- 8) Inter-League play which is competition among Leagues, will be under the direction of the Board of Directors

Managers and Coaches

- 1) Managers are responsible to only allow adults who have been approved via a PAL background check, Santa Clara Police Department fingerprinting process AND ASA Certified to have regular contact with players and/or to participate at any practice or game. Any adult who is to have any regular contact with PAL players during a practice or a game must go through the required PAL background check and Santa Clara Police Department fingerprinting process AND be ASA Certified before their name will appear on the 'approved coaches list'.
- 2) At least one manager or coach is required to remain at the field after a practice or a game until all players are picked up.
- 3) All managers and coaches are bound by the League's Code of Conduct. The League will not tolerate any conduct unbecoming to the League, such as the use of profanity, striking, verbal or physical threats towards players, coaches, umpires, volunteers and/or members, negative comments about an

opposing player, including comments and conduct on social media. Violators of this rule will be subject to disciplinary action by the League's Discipline Committee.

- 4) Notify the Division Coordinator of any issues involving parents, managers, coaches, or umpires.
- 5) Managers are responsible for the accurate and timely filing of accident forms with the Division Coordinator within 24 hours of an injury.
- 6) In conjunction with the other coaching personnel, the manager will be responsible for the team's equipment and uniforms.
- 7) All managing personnel will have read and studied the Santa Clara PAL Softball Manager's Information Package and will follow its guidance. The League may require signed certification that each member of the managing staff has read the information.
- 8) The manager will accept total responsibility for the actions of their team on and off the field and at all events at which the players are directed to remain together as a team.

Sample League Calendar

August

- 1) Equipment Coordinator reports on results of inventory and makes recommendations to the Board for the coming year
- 2) Combined meeting of incoming and outgoing Board Members
- 3) Establish registration dates and begin planning publicity
- 4) Present League Policy Statement, Duties of Board of Directors, Administrative Rules and Field Playing Rules to new Board for ratification at September meeting
- 5) Refresh Website

September

- 1) Uniform and Equipment Coordinators perform and inventory for the purposes of reporting recommendations to the Board at the October meeting
- 2) Division Coordinators begin to contact prospective coaches and managers
- 3) Establish Registration dates, times, locations
- 4) Complete and approve registration flyer
- 5) Distribute flyer to schools, churches, youth groups, etc

October

- 1) Uniform Coordinator reports on results of inventory and makes recommendations to the Board for the coming year
- 2) Initial order for additional equipment
- 3) Distribute flyer to schools, churches, youth groups, etc

November

- 1) Registration day #1

- 2) Publicize registration and tryout dates

December

- 1) Registration day #2
- 2) Publicize registration and tryout dates
- 3) Schedule Picture Day

January

- 1) Registration day #3
- 2) Division Coordinators identify needed number of coaches and managers
- 3) Player Clinics
- 4) Take inventory and restock Snack Shack

February

- 1) Identify and secure sufficient numbers of qualified umpires for the season
- 2) Prepare and Board approves spring season playing schedule
- 3) Team formation meetings
- 4) Field maintenance days
- 5) Manager and coaches' clinic
- 6) Distribute team equipment
- 7) Final order for uniforms and additional equipment
- 8) Division Coordinator meeting with Manager and coaches regarding rules
- 9) Spring practice season begins

March

- 1) Opening Day Ceremonies
- 2) Spring playing season begins
- 3) Picture day
- 4) Sparks team parent information meeting #1

April

- 1) Selection of Sparks Managers
- 2) Sparks team parent information meeting #2

May

- 1) Division Playoffs
- 2) Sparks teams tryouts and team selections
- 3) Closing Ceremonies
- 4) Family Fun Day
- 5) Summer Sparks Team practice begins
- 6) Tony Sanchez Memorial Tournament hosted by Santa Clara PAL

June - August

- 1) Summer season for Sparks teams.

Player Registration

- 1) When registering, a copy of each player's Certificate of Live Birth, bearing the city, or the county, or the state, or the federal seal will either be on file with the League or will be submitted to the Division Coordinator or other designated Board member.
- 2) Every approved and eligible player who registers prior to tryouts shall be placed on a team for the current Spring season.
- 3) Players who register after tryouts will be placed on a waiting list until they can be assigned to a team. The Board will address on a case by case basis.

Communication

- 1) The League will attempt to have a newsletter, or other type of League publication.

Player Tryouts

- 1) After the final public registration, the Registration Coordinator will report to the Board of Directors, the number of registered players in each Division. The Board will determine to either continue registration by establishing new registration dates and locations, or establish the number of teams in each division to be formed.
- 2) A player's program age is the age that the player will be on January 1st preceding the spring season
 - a) The ages of the playing Divisions will be:

Division classification	Spring season	Summer Season
Majors	14 and under	14U
Minors	12 and under	12U
Rookie	10 and under	10U
Farm	8 and under	8U
T-ball	6 and under, minimum age of 5 by September 1st	---

- 3) Girls must play at their assigned age division unless:
 - a) A request is made by the parents to the Board of Directors AND;
 - b) The girl is within 1 year of playing at the division in which she is trying out AND;
 - c) The player goes through a tryout or readiness evaluation process (for t-ball and Farm) and is deemed to not be a safety concern AND,

- d) Is deemed by the managers at that division, along with the Division Coordinator or other Board member, to be in the upper 2/3s of the division she is attempting to play at.
- 4) A committee comprised of the Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, Operations Coordinator, and Division Coordinator shall be the governing authority for all decisions related to player selection and placement.
- 5) Tryouts will be coordinated and managed by the PAL Director, Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, Operations Coordinator, and Division Coordinator.
- 6) Rookie, Minor and Major tryouts will be conducted in the presence of all managers in the specified divisions of play. Managers who cannot attend a tryout must inform the Division Coordinator prior to the tryout date. Managers must name a proxy.
- 7) All Rookie, Minor and Major players must be at evaluations to be drafted onto balanced teams. To achieve this objective, requests are not considered to play with friends or for carpooling (requests will be taken into account for t-ball and Farm). Only the Manager and one coach's child is guaranteed to be on a given team.
- 8) In extenuating circumstances brought to the attention of the Division Coordinator prior to tryouts, if a player is unable to participate in tryouts they will be placed on a team by random draw at the conclusion of the draft.
- 9) Provided they are in the same Division, sisters will be placed on the same team, unless at least twenty-four hours prior to the Team Draw the Player Agent receives a written request from their parents or guardians that the sisters be placed on different teams.
- 10) After team rosters have been prepared, no player will be reassigned to another team except for extreme circumstances. The board will discuss each situation individually.

Division Regulations

- 1) T-ball teams will be assembled by dividing the number of girls signed up into teams consisting of 7-10 players. The Division Coordinator is responsible for the assembly of teams with review by the Commissioner and Vice Commissioner. The number of teams within the t-ball Division will depend on the number of girls signed up to play.
- 2) Farm Division teams will be assembled by dividing the number of girls signed up into teams consisting of 10-13 players. The Division Coordinator is responsible for the assembly of teams with review by the Commissioner and Vice Commissioner. The number of teams within the Farm Division will depend on the number of girls signed up to play.
 - a) Request to play on a certain team will be taken into account by the division coordinator, but a maximum of 5 requests will be honored.

- 3) Santa Clara PAL Softball understands that the entire premise of the assembling T-ball and Farm teams is to balance player talent so that every team and every player has an equal opportunity to experience a winning season. It is also Santa Clara PAL Softball's intention to promote an enhanced spirit of cooperation and camaraderie amongst its managers and coaches. The Division Coordinator is responsible for conducting the Division's Player Selection System, or Draft, for each division and pursuant to the terms contained herein.

Daughters of Managers and Coaches

If a Rookie, Minor or Major division manager has an eligible daughter, or daughter of an assistant coach, and wishes to draft them, he/she must inform the Division Coordinator prior to the draft. The manager is required to draft his/her daughter, or coach's daughter, prior to the close of the specific draft round depending on the average of the votes of the division managers concerning where they would draft the player (the vote will be facilitated by the Division Coordinator and will take place before the draft).

Rookie, Minor and Major Draft Process

- 1) The Draft Committee shall be comprised of the Division Managers, the Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, Operations Coordinator, and the Division Coordinator. Two additional administrators may be present to help facilitate the draft. These additional administrators should be board members and should be knowledgeable about the draft process.
- 2) Draft order is determined by random draw.
- 3) Prior to the start of the Draft, and prior to the establishment of the draft order, the Division Coordinator will instruct the managers to identify a number of First Round Pitchers equal to the number of teams designated for the upcoming season. First Round Pitchers are defined as those players that the managers unanimously agree represent the highest level of talent at the position of pitcher in the eligible pool of candidates. Managers shall use the first round to select only those players identified as First Round Pitchers.
- 4) The Division Coordinator will conduct the draft order draw to determine each manager's draft position. The draft selection will take place in a serpentine manner (example, 1-2-3-4-5-6, followed by 6-5-4-3-2-1 and then repeat the cycle).
- 5) Following the first round in which the top pitchers will be drafted, all other eligible players will be drafted in any order. The team picking last for First Round Pitchers will have the first pick of the other eligible players.
- 6) Managers will have a maximum of three minutes in which to make a draft selection for the first sixty minutes of the Draft. After sixty minutes has transpired, managers will be limited to a maximum of two minutes in which to make a draft selection.
- 7) No player should ever be told of their draft position or any designation or ranking given during the Draft process. Santa Clara PAL Softball considers it inappropriate for anyone involved in the draft to discuss anything related to the draft process, including the position a player was selected, with anyone

outside of the draft room. Violators of this rule will be subject to disciplinary action by the League's Disciplinary Committee.

Player Trades

- 1) Trades are allowed at the conclusion of the draft with the approval of the Draft Committee (the Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, Operations Coordinator, and the Division Coordinator).
- 2) The Draft Committee shall decide each situation on its own merit. If a trade is not approved, the player remains as previously assigned.
- 3) No trades are permitted once the draft is officially concluded by a member of the Draft Committee.

Replacement Players

- 1) A team who loses a player on the roster during the current season through illness, injury, change of address or for other justifiable reasons, may obtain another player via the waiting list which is established through signups after the draft has concluded and rosters have been filled.
 - a) The waiting list players will be placed on teams when space is available in the order in which they were placed on the waiting list.

T-Ball and Farm Team Formation

- 1) The Division Coordinators are responsible for placing players onto T-ball and Farm teams, but he/she may request help from the Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, or Operations Coordinator,.
- 2) The Division Coordinator shall consider parent/guardian requests, schools attended by players, and other requests, all in an effort to allow players to play on teams with their friends. However, the Division Coordinator must attempt to put together teams in such a way as to make each division as well balanced as possible and may not, therefore, be able to honor all requests.
- 3) The decision(s) of the Division Coordinator are final and refunds will be made to those who are dissatisfied.

Uniforms

All players must wear the PAL provided jersey. If, in the judgment of the umpire or PAL administrator, a player is not properly equipped, that player shall be removed from the current game and the issue must be addressed by the manager so it does not occur in future games.

Dugouts

- 1) For games between two Santa Clara PAL Softball teams, the home team will occupy the 3rd base side dugout and the away team will occupy the 1st base side dugout.

Scorekeeping

- 1) The Home team's scorekeeper keeps the official score of the game.
- 2) Scorekeepers may consult between innings to match scores. If discrepancies arise, the scorekeepers shall attempt to resolve them, but in the event of continued disagreement, the home team scorekeeper shall prevail.
- 3) The winning team must report the game score on the Division Coordinator.

Protests

In the event of a formal protest, there is a protest fee of \$20.00. The manager makes a formal protest to the umpire. The umpire makes the home scorekeeper aware that there is a protest. The scorekeeper writes down the exact time of the protest, what the protest is, the inning, the player at bat, and how many balls and strikes are recorded at the time of the protest. The manager, the umpire, and the scorekeeper must sign a protest form, or the scorebook where the protest details have been written. The game then proceeds. The protest is then forwarded to the protest committee. If the manager wins the protest, the \$20.00 protest fee will be returned.

Internet/Social Media

While the internet is helpful to disseminate a lot of information quickly to a lot of people, it can also be an outlet for misuse and misconduct. At no time will a coach, manager, parent, player, or other individual(s) affiliated with the team be allowed to post messages or comments pertaining to any softball item to online chat rooms, blogs, bulletin boards, etc, deemed to be negative. This includes Facebook, Twitter, YouTube or any other publicly viewed social media. This behavior is unacceptable and may reflect negatively against the reputation and integrity of you, your family and Santa Clara PAL Softball. All negative comments should be reported to your coach or Division Coordinator immediately and appropriate action will be taken and referred to the disciplinary committee.

Code of Conduct

The following are rules and regulations to insure fair and equitable competition. The Santa Clara PAL Softball program requires the adherence of the Code of Conduct by all players, parents, fans, coaches, and administrators. This Code of Conduct applies during the Spring Recreational season, as well as the Summer Tournament season.

No manager, coach, player, parents or other individual(s) affiliated with the team shall commit any of the following:

1. Unsportsmanlike conduct on or off the playing field, including social media. Penalties range from two week suspension to a lifetime ban. All offenses are subject to the Santa Clara PAL Softball Disciplinary Committee.
2. Verbal or physical attack or threat upon a The Santa Clara PAL Softball official, umpire, players, coaches, managers, or parents. Penalties range from two week suspension to a lifetime ban. All offenses are subject to the Santa Clara PAL Softball Disciplinary Committee.
3. Recruitment of a player while he/she is a member of any PAL Spring or Summer team. No coach, manager, parent, player, or other individual(s) affiliated with the team shall entice a player to change teams until that player's team has completed championship play. Penalty for recruiting can result in immediate expulsion from the league and suspension from further Santa Clara PAL Softball related activities.
4. Destruction of property belonging to another. All offenses are subject to the Santa Clara PAL Softball Disciplinary Committee.
5. Debts owed. Nonpayment of team incurred debts owed to Santa Clara PAL Softball. Penalty: Restitution plus any additional charges. If payment is not made, responsible party is suspended until restitution is made.
6. Falsifying an official Santa Clara PAL Softball document. Playing under an assumed name or falsifying an official Santa Clara PAL Softball document. Penalty: If discovered while participating during the spring recreational season or in a championship tournament, forfeiture of game(s), possible team or player removal from tournament and/or suspension of individual at fault.
7. Santa Clara PAL Softball logos or trademarks. Use of any Santa Clara PAL Softball logos or trademarks without expressed permission of the Board of Directors.
8. Commission of any acts that are contrary to the objectives and purposes of Santa Clara PAL Softball.
9. Comply with all ASA Codes of Conduct and rules as stated in Junior Olympic Handbook for Pacific Region 14.

Hearing: Prior to disciplinary action, the accused must be given an opportunity for a hearing before the Board of Directors and the Santa Clara PAL Executive Director.

Santa Clara Sparks Summer Program Overview

- 1) Royal Blue, Gold and White are the established colors for all Santa Clara Sparks summer tournament teams.
- 2) The League may authorize multiple travel teams in each playing division depending on the number of girls who tryout AND the amount of talent needed to field competitive teams.

- 3) Since there are several Tournaments in which Santa Clara Sparks Teams can participate, the League will provide the entry fee for three (3) Tournaments. The entry fee will also be waived for participation in the Tony Sanchez Memorial Tournament which is hosted by Santa Clara PAL. All other tournament entry fees will be paid through individual team budgets.
 - a) If no 14U division of the tournament is coordinated, a 4th tournament will be paid for by PAL if the 14U team and parents volunteer at the Tony Sanchez Memorial Tournament
- 4) Budgeted amounts will be allocated to Sparks Teams once players are selected, parents have signed their consents and rosters are submitted to the Sparks Director, a Santa Clara PAL Softball Board of Director elected position.
- 5) An initial deposit per player will be collected to cover the uniform costs.
- 6) The Tony Sanchez Memorial tournament hosted by Santa Clara PAL Softball is a league fundraiser. The profits raised from these tournaments help offset the costs of entry fees, uniforms, equipment, etc. for each Santa Clara PAL Sparks travel team.
- 7) Each team is required to volunteer during The Tony Sanchez Memorial Tournament in order to receive Santa Clara PAL Softball financial assistance.
- 8) All financial obligations of any Sparks team are under the direction of the Sparks Director.
- 9) The Sparks Director is responsible to update Sparks team rosters in the possession of the League and immediately report all changes which occur on any Sparks team entered in any Tournament to the Board. The Board will approve all traveling team schedules of tournaments and practice.
- 10) Summer season player registration fees are established by the Board of Directors.
- 11) Parents and players must attend the Sparks Team meeting conducted by the Sparks Director, Commissioner and/or appointed Board of Directors. The primary objective of this meeting is to appraise the parents and players of the extreme differences between Spring Recreational play and Sparks Team play. Major differences include:
 - a) Amount of monetary commitment to the team
 - b) Significant personal commitment of summer and weekend time
 - c) No requirement for minimum playing time
 - d) Requirement for travel
 - e) Highly competitive nature of tournament play
 - f) Emphasis on winning effort

- 12) Parents and players not aware of or not willing to accept these differences are likely to be disruptive to the smooth operation of any Sparks Team and will be referred to the disciplinary committee.

Sparks Manager and Team Selection Process

- 1) Each prospective Sparks Manager must submit an application to the Board of Directors by a predetermined and publicized date. The Board will consider all the information in the applications, including prior experience as a Sparks Manager, philosophy, and current standing within the Santa Clara PAL Softball organization. A Manager must be free of any disciplinary action.
- 2) If more than one person applies for the Manager position for the same age group, a majority vote by the Board of Directors will determine the Manager.
- 3) The Board will interview each prospective candidate in person to have a fair and balanced understanding of the candidate (if there are multiple applications submitted for the same age level.). At the interview process, there shall be a set time limit, and limited questions, decided by the Board before the process begins. In regards to nepotism, no Board member's relative (i.e. wife, husband, sister, brother, cousin, romantically involved person) shall be involved in any process in which said Manager is to be chosen. If a Board member is running for the manager position, they too will be excused from the process, so that a fair and impartial discussion can be held.
- 4) One manager will be selected for each team in all divisions and that manager will be allowed to select the rest of his coaching staff from a pool of approved applicants.
- 5) In order to qualify for a Sparks Team players must have been registered in the League during the Spring season.
- 6) Santa Clara PAL Softball will allow girls from leagues which we compete against via interleague play to fill a Sparks roster spot if the sister league is unable to field a team or the girl gets cut from the sister league's travel team.
- 7) If Santa Clara PAL Softball does not have enough girls to field a Sparks team at their age level, then Santa Clara PAL Softball players will become eligible to play on a traveling team within our sister league.
- 8) Sparks players will be selected through a combination of observance through the Spring season as well as a team tryout.
- 9) Tryouts will take place during the 1st week of May as decided by the Board of Directors and publicized for a minimum of four weeks.
- 10) Tryouts will be evaluated by Managers, Coaches and Board Members. A ranked list of players will be provided to the Sparks Manager and Sparks Director. The final roster will be submitted by the Sparks Manager and reviewed and approved Sparks Director for approval or edit.

- a) If in the determination of the Evaluators, Managers, Board Members, and Sparks Director that there are enough players talented enough to fill multiple teams, the Managers, Board and Sparks Director will for additional teams and work to ensure all teams at that level will be competitive.
- 11) No player is to be contacted regarding participation with a Sparks Team until after the selection meeting. The only individuals allowed to contact players regarding their team placement is the Sparks Manager or Sparks Director.

Rules for Spectators

- 1) Spectators will never be allowed to heckle the umpires. If the umpire makes a mistake in rule interpretation, the team has the right to have the error corrected prior to the next pitch.
- 2) Spectators will never belittle the efforts of the players. Spectators are urged to support the players' efforts by making encouraging remarks and applauding enthusiastically.
- 3) Spectators will stay away from the team dugouts and will not talk to players or managing personnel involved in the game.
- 4) Spectators will remain behind fences and "out of play" lines to prevent possible spectator interference and player injury.
- 5) Any spectator(s) that commits an outward act of unsportsmanlike conduct or participates in an atmosphere of negativity will be asked to leave the premises by the umpire or Board Member and the game will not proceed until the offending spectator is "out of sound." Failure to leave will result in the umpire declaring the game a forfeit. Offending parties are subject to suspension from the League and will be referred to the disciplinary committee.

Approved September 13, 2016