

Semmes Girls' Softball

# Constitution and Bylaws

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# Table of Contents

Constitution.....	3
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## **By-Laws**

Article 1: Meetings.....	4
Article II: Elected Officials and Elections.....	5
Article III: Duties of Elected Officials .....	6
Article IV: Duties of Concession Manager .....	11
Article V: Duties of Coaches .....	12
Article VI: Coaching a Team .....	14
Article VII: Registration .....	14
Article VIII: Teams and Players .....	15
Article IX: Evaluations and Drafting of Players .....	17
Article X: Equipment and Safety Rules .....	17
Article XI: General League Rules .....	18
Article XII: Seniority .....	19
Article XIII: Umpires .....	20
Article XIV: Trophies and Awards .....	20
Article XV: All-Star Teams .....	21

# **Semmes Girls Softball**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **I**

The purpose of this organization shall be to operate a sound softball program for children, ages 4 through 18. It shall promote any form of program which will boost the principles of the league and endeavor to develop a true sportsmanship among those concerned in its organization.

### **II**

The organization shall operate on democratic principles with each member having an equal voice and the will of the majority to rule.

### **III**

The affairs of the League shall be administered by the Executive Board, which will be composed of the Elected Officials and the Head Coaches of each team. No other person shall have the right of vote, except in the case where a Head Coach cannot attend a meeting; he/she may delegate to his/her Assistant Coach his/her right of vote at that particular meeting.

### **IV**

The league shall hold meetings for the transaction of its business, and these meetings shall be called as prescribed by the By-Laws.

### **V**

Approval of the President or a majority vote of Elected Officials will be considered authority for the Treasurer to make disbursements from League funds.

### **VI**

Any matter of contention which may arise during the course of League activities and which no ruling is provided in the League Constitution and By-Laws shall be decided by a majority vote of the Elected Officials at a regular or called meeting by the President.

### **VII**

All Semmes Girls Softball Rules and the Constitution and By-Laws of Semmes Girls' Softball will be adhered to by this organization.

### **VIII**

The League; through its Executive Board, shall work closely with all levels of this program such as the current governing body District Director, State Director, Board Members, and Elected Officials.

### **IX**

The Semmes Girls Softball Constitution may be amended during the annual By-Laws meeting or a special called meeting of the Executive Board. Any proposed changes to the Constitution require approval by the Incorporate Board.

# **SEMMES GIRLS**

## **SOFTBALL BY-LAWS**

### **Definitions:**

1. **Executive Board** shall consist of the elected Board of Semmes Girls Softball and the Manager/Head Coach of each team.
2. **Majority** shall be defined as 75% of the Executive Board.
3. **Majority Vote** shall be defined as at least 51%.
4. **Semmes Athletic Association** is also commonly referred to as the Incorporate Board.
5. **Elected Officials** refers to the slate of Officers elected annually by the parents and coaches of Semmes Girls Softball.

### **Article I: Meetings**

1. All meetings shall be held at a place designated by the President.
2. An Annual meeting is a meeting in which the current and incoming elected officials, coaches, and parents/legal guardians of players, who have participated in the Semmes Girls Softball program within the past year, are invited to attend. The purpose of this meeting is for the installation of elected officials and to discuss and vote on policies and procedures in which this league will operate. This meeting shall be held on the Friday following the last spring game at 6:30 p.m. A notice of this meeting will be posted in a prominent location at the Park at least two weeks prior to the Annual meeting. The following items must also be discussed and voted on at this meeting.
  - A. Financial Statements- Financial Statements should show the past two years' profit, income, and expenses.
  - B. Registration Fees
  - C. Sponsorship Fees
  - D. Proposed changes in By-Laws
  - E. Any issue of concern or Major Park improvements
3. All other meetings; regular or special; shall be called as needed by the President, or a majority of the Executive Board Members. No other business may be discussed at a special meeting other than the topic for which the meeting was called.
4. The Semmes Girls Softball Constitution and By-Laws shall be amended at the Annual meeting or a special called meeting of the Executive Board.

Note: Executive Board meetings must be attended by at least 75% or more of the current Head Coaches or from the most recent season if a meeting is called during the offseason.

5. A meeting will be held within one week of registration for the purpose of drafting players as prescribed in Article VIII of the By-Laws.

## **Article II: Elected Officials and Elections**

1. An election will be held the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May for the purpose of electing new Elected Officials. Anyone wishing to run for a position should submit their name by May 1<sup>st</sup> and it will be posted at the park. Parents or Legal Guardians of players currently participating as a Player, Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and Elected Officials are eligible to vote and must cast their vote in person. No more than two votes per family will be allowed (mother/father). The results will be posted by the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday following the third week of May. The election will be held two nights during the second week from 6:30p.m. until 8:00p.m. with at least two members of the Semmes Athletic Association (Incorporate Board) presiding and tallying results. If the Semmes Athletic Association is unable or unwilling to preside over the election and tally results, the current President and current board members shall run the election and tally results. In such an event, there must be a minimum of three current board members present in addition to the president, but all board members can witness the votes being tallied.
2. A person can only run for two positions on the ballot. In the event that a person is nominated for more than two; he/she must choose the two that will remain on the ballot.
3. Election of Officers for Semmes Girls Softball will be open to Parents or Legal Guardians of current season Players, Coaches and Elected Officials of Semmes Girls Softball.
4. Presidential , Secretary, and Treasure elected Officials will be elected for a two-year term. League Vice President officials will serve a one- year Term. Term will be from July 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year until July 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year.
5. Election of Officers will be by Secret Ballot. Nominations may begin two weeks prior to the Election meeting.
6. No person shall be elected to two positions on the Board. If a person is elected to two positions; they will choose the position in which they will serve and the runner-up will take the other elected position by default. Additionally, two members from the same family and/or household cannot both sign checks.
7. Any elected Official may be removed from office by a majority vote of the Executive Board for not fulfilling his/her duties as stated in Article III: Duties of Elected Officials.

In the event of resignation or death of the President, a special meeting of the Executive Board shall be called for the election of a new President. New President shall be one of the Vice Presidents

and will be elected by the Executive Board. The replacement of any other Elected Official will be selected by a majority vote of the Elected Officials. If an Elected Official is removed from office; he/she will not be eligible to hold an elected position for a period of five (5) years from the date of removal.

8. The Elected Officials shall be elected in order as follows with League authority as listed below:
  - a. President
  - b. 15/18 and under League Vice President
  - c. 10/12 and under League Vice President
  - d. 8 and under League Vice President
  - e. 6U/Tball League Vice President
  - f. Secretary
  - g. Treasurer
  - h. Scheduling Coordinator
  - i. Equipment Manager
  - j. Uniform Coordinator
9. Nominees for President must have served as an Elected Official for one calendar year at Semmes Girls Softball within the past two years to become eligible for office.
10. Nominees for all other offices shall have served as a Head Coach or Assistant Coach at Semmes Girls Softball or had at least one (1) child that has participated in this organization as a player for a minimum of two (2) seasons within the past twenty-four months to become eligible for office.
11. A majority vote of the Elected Officials shall override any decision made by the President.
12. A majority vote of the Executive Board shall override any decision made by the Elected Officials. Note: Executive Board meetings must consist of at least 75% or more of current Head Coaches.
13. Board Members must have Background check done and any findings will be discussed by the Executive Officers of Semmes Athletic Association.
14. Parents/Legal Guardian must have paid all fees in order to vote in any meeting or election, or in order to run for any Elected Official position.

### **Article III: Duties of Elected Officials**

1. President:

- A. Will be a member of the Executive Board and shall act as its presiding Chief Executive Officer.
- B. Will be a member of the Incorporate Board.
- C. Will preside at all meetings of the League and be familiar with Roberts Rules of Order.
- D. Will sign any necessary documents or correspondence for League operation.
- E. Will be authorized to do all things necessary to discharge the duties of his/her office.
- F. Will be authorized to appoint any committees deemed necessary by the Elected Officials.
- G. Will be the ultimate arbitrator in any dispute or protest concerning By-Laws and Local League Rules.
- H. Will work closely with the local community government and Presidents of other sports (Baseball, Football, Babe Ruth) for better harmony.
- I. Will be the presiding Elected Official over all activities sponsored by the League. (Such as Fall league, etc.)
- J. Will be the principal signer on all financial accounts.
- K. Will ensure that the proper documents are filed with any other agencies applicable.
- L. Will ensure that the proper insurance is in force at all times.
- M. Will abide by Semmes Girls Softball Constitution and By-Laws and ensure that all amendments are properly recorded. Will also make sure Secretary sends copy of changes to the Semmes Athletic Association.
- N. Will be in charge of all registrations or shall assign a player agent.
- O. Will maintain proper records and documentation and will turn over the same to the League within 15 days of the Annual Meeting.
- P. Will have vast knowledge of Semmes Girls Softball Rules and the Semmes Girls Softball Constitution and By-Laws.

Q. Will ensure that all financial statements (General Fund, Concession, Fall Ball, Fund Raisers, and All-Star teams etc.) are prepared and presented at the Annual Meeting, as well as to the Semmes Athletic Association at the end of the year.

R. Will be in charge of hiring Umpires.

2. League Vice Presidents:

A. Will perform any duties that might be assigned to him/her by the President.

B. Will be a member of the Executive Board.

C. Will be in attendance during all scheduled tournaments held at Semmes Girls Softball Park. He/she may not leave for the day until all of his/her league games are complete.

D. Will attend all meetings.

E. Will attend all registrations and work days.

F. Will assist the President and Scheduling Coordinator in making of League schedules.

G. Will be responsible for maintaining their League field and the surrounding areas.

H. Will maintain accurate and correct records and documentation and will turn over to his/her successor within 15 days of the Annual Meeting.

I. Will be responsible for scheduling meetings with Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches to discuss Local League Rules and will be responsible for notifying Head Coaches and President of such meetings. Any changes must be presented and approved by the President and all League Vice Presidents.

J. Will ensure that Head Coaches, President, and Secretary have latest copies of Local League Rules adopted by Coaches.

3. Secretary:

A. Will perform any duties that might be assigned to him/her by the President.

B. Will be a member of the Executive Board.

C. Prior to registration; will contact all coaches from previous year to verify their intent to coach in the upcoming season.

- D. Will attend all meetings.
  - E. Will attend all registrations.
  - F. Will keep an orderly minute book, which must be kept up to date with all minutes of League meetings in good order. This book and all related League records shall be turned over to his/her successor within 15 days of the Annual Meeting.
  - G. Will notify all Elected Officials and Executive Board members of meetings.
  - H. Will keep up to date copy of the Constitution and By-Laws, and shall see that any amendments of the said By-Laws are recorded in the proper place and a copy of same sent to the Semmes Athletic Association.
  - I. Will ensure that all Executive Board members receive an up to date copy of the Constitution and By-Laws.
  - J. Will ensure that all documentation as required by the League and any other applicable agency is approved by the President and properly submitted.
  - K. Will submit all required information to Semmes Athletic Association in order to obtain alcohol and tobacco tax funds by deadline.
  - L. Will submit an inventory list of all equipment/items worth \$100 or more in value that has been purchased or donated to Semmes Girls' Softball at the Annual meeting and to the Incorporate Board Secretary.
  - M. Will keep up-to-date list of seniority of Coaches. This document should be passed on to their successor.
  - N. Will ensure that all team sponsors receive Sponsorship plaques.
4. Treasurer:
- A. Will perform any duties that might be assigned to him/her by the President.
  - B. Will be a member of the Executive Board.
  - C. Will attend all meetings.
  - D. Will attend all registrations.

- E. Will receive all money due to the League and make all payments from the League funds with approval of the President.
- F. Will counter sign all checks from the General Fund. \* Two people from the same family and/or household cannot both sign checks.
- G. Will keep accurate and up-to-date accounting records which show all receipts and disbursements.
- H. Will present a summarized, itemized financial statement at least once a month to the Board at its regular meeting.
- I. Will make yearly reports in writing of all League finance to be approved by Elected Officials and shall turn over to his/her successor all records in his/her possession within 15 days of the Annual Meeting.

5. Scheduling Coordinator:

- A. Will be a member of the Executive Board.
- B. Will perform any duties that might be assigned to him/her by the President.
- C. Will attend all meetings.
- D. Will attend all registration and work days.
- E. Will prepare all League practice and game schedules for approval of the President and League Vice Presidents.
- F. Will assist the President in hiring of Umpires.

6. Equipment Manager:

- A. Will perform any duties that might be assigned to him/her by the President.
- B. Will be a member of the Executive Board.
- C. Will attend all meetings.
- D. Will attend all registration and work days.

- E. Will be responsible for purchasing equipment for League play with the approval of the President and Treasurer.
  - F. Will keep an inventory of any equipment issued to a team.
  - G. Will be responsible for seeing that all teams receive proper equipment as prescribed by Semmes Girls Softball at the beginning of the season and that all teams return equipment at the end of the season.
7. Uniform Coordinator:
- A. Will perform any duties that might be assigned to him/her by the President.
  - B. Will be a member of the Executive Board.
  - C. Will attend all meetings.
  - D. Will attend all registrations and will be responsible for having sample jerseys for proper fitting of players.
  - E. Will be responsible for ordering uniforms for all teams in Semmes Girls Softball and will oversee delivery to each team.
  - F. Will have color selections available for coaches' approval if and when possible.
  - G. Will prepare bid request and specifications for uniforms with Presidents' approval and will seek to obtain 3 sealed bids. Bids will be presented to Elected Officials for opening and approval.
  - H. Will prepare bid request and specifications for medals and trophies with Presidents' approval and will seek to obtain 3 sealed bids. Bids will be presented to Elected Officials for opening and approval.

#### **Article IV: Duties of Concession Coordinator**

Prior to the Fall season; the Elected Officials shall appoint a Concession

Coordinator. The duties of the Concession Coordinator are as follows:

1. Will be responsible for concession operations to include purchasing and stocking inventory and hiring of concession workers.
2. Will report directly to the Board for accountability.

3. Will maintain accurate financial records and prepare a monthly financial statement to the Board. At the conclusion of each season; the Concession Coordinator will also provide a season-end financial statement.

### **Article V: Duties of Head Coaches**

1. Will be members of the Executive Board.
2. Must attend all meetings set up by the President or League Vice President(s), or send his/her assistant.
3. Will at all times conduct him/her in a sportsmanship manner and seek the same conduct from his/her players and assistant coaches.
4. Must know and abide by Semmes Girls' Softball rules, local league rules, and Semmes Girls' Softball Constitution and By-Laws.
5. Will refrain from the use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco/tobacco products (including e-cigarettes and vapes) and drugs before/during practice and League games or anywhere on the premises of Semmes Girls' Softball. Violations in any manner will be subject to disciplinary action by Elected Officials; up to and including dismissal from the League. All final decisions will be permanent and binding for future administration of Semmes Girls' Softball.
6. Will refrain from profane language, abusive tactics and any other unsportsmanlike actions.
7. Will stress to his/her players, coaches, and parents that none of the above or other rough-house actions will be tolerated on the field or within the limits of the park and that violations in any manner will be subject to disciplinary action by Elected Officials, up to and including dismissal from the league. All final decisions will be permanent and binding for future administrations of Semmes Girls Softball.
8. Should select or have a volunteer for a team mother and provide information to the Secretary.
9. Will submit a list of all coaches to the League Secretary by the deadline.
10. Coaches should adhere to the following safety rules and all rules under the guidelines of Semmes Girls' Softball:
  - A. Responsible for the safety of his/her players.
  - B. Maintain all equipment

- C. Ensure that all pitchers and catchers wear protective gear, at all times as prescribed by Semmes Girls Softball
  - D. Ensure that Assistant Coach attends all scheduled Coaches' meetings as scheduled by the League Vice President(s)
11. Shall participate in scheduled work days and will assist in field maintenance and surrounding area as appointed by League Vice President(s). Should a returning Head Coach (or representative) participate in one (1) scheduled work day; He/she will receive a \$20.00 discount on one (1) player/child registration fee. Coaches who do not have a child participating in Semmes Girls' Softball will receive four (4) practice balls. Returning Head Coaches failing to participate in one (1) full scheduled work day before league games begin, will forfeit his/her first -round draft pick.  
Note: Scheduled work days will be offered on all official Registration dates.
  12. All Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches shall submit an application and background check for approval by the President and Background Check Committee.
  13. Will turn in all equipment to the Equipment manager at the end of his/her season games, or will be ineligible to coach a team until equipment is returned or full replacement value of comparable new equipment is paid.
  14. Both teams for the first game of the day shall be responsible for preparing the field. Both teams playing the last game should get the field back in playing condition.
  15. All coaches will give full cooperation in official fund-raising projects.
  16. Head coaches are to obtain equipment from the Equipment Manager as needed.
  17. Coaches who do not follow the above rules will not be allowed to manage a team next year without Board approval.
  18. All coaches are to have certification or other online certification as prescribed by the governing body.
  19. Should a Coach be selected as an All-Star Head Coach; he/she will adhere to all rules as stated in Article XV: All-Star Teams and Tournaments.
  20. The Head Coach is required to obtain a team Sponsor. Should the Head Coach be unable to obtain one; he/she may divide the fee between team parents/legal guardians. The Head Coach may also elect to pay said fee out of his/her own pocket. If the lowest tier of sponsorship is not paid by the deadline set by the President for all coaches or within 10 days of the draft, whichever is later; the Head Coach will be removed from coaching, will

be ineligible to run or vote for Elected Official positions, and will not be approved to coach the following season.

21. All Coaches shall endeavor to make all games and practices. In an instance when the Head coach is unavailable to make a game or practice; he/she will have adult supervision for these activities in the Coaches' absence. The adult must have proper certification as required by the Elected Officials. The Elected Officials may take disciplinary action against any coach or manager who has extensive absences or written complaints.

#### **Article VI: Coaching a Team**

1. Anyone wishing to coach a team should complete an application and pass a background check during Registration. Coaches must also be compliant with the safe sport act.
2. The opportunity to coach a team will be given to returning coaches and is subject to the approval of the Elected Officials. Eligibility is contingent upon submission of a completed coach application by the second scheduled date of season registration.
3. If any individual is awarded a team and chooses to drop his/her claimed team prior to draft; his/her replacement will be decided by the Elected Officials.
4. In the event that the number of coaching applicants exceeds the number of available teams, the Elected Officials will determine which individuals are assigned teams and establish the order in which they may select from the available teams. No league division may conduct a draft until a head coach has been appointed for each team.
5. Should a reduction in the number of teams in any league become necessary, the following shall be considered:
  - A. Current Returning Head Coach
  - B. Teams with no returning Head or Assistant Coach
  - C. Number of teams in each division
  - D. Written complaint forms on file

#### **Article VII: Registration**

1. Registration days for players wishing to participate will be designated by the Elected Officials. These registration dates shall be set and proper notice of said days shall be made public through proper communication methods no later than January 15<sup>th</sup> for the Spring Season and July 15<sup>th</sup> for the Fall Season.
2. Registration fee will be paid as determined at each yearly Annual meeting.

3. All players wishing to participate in League play will be required to register at the prescribed registration periods.
4. At the end of each registration day; Treasurer and at least one Elected Official should reconcile the receipt book(s), registration forms and cash on hand; prepare deposit and sign verification sheet.
5. Each registration day will also serve as a work day for Elected Officials, coaches and parents to ready the Park for the upcoming season.
6. All leagues will draft new players each season.
7. Registration should not be accepted after teams have been drafted, except with Board approval. This may be based on the following:
  - A. A player moving into the Semmes Community
  - B. A player with sufficient proof of having had a medical problem
  - C. Lack of sufficient number of players to fill a team, as needed.

Note: No late registrant is guaranteed to be placed on a team. If late registrants are being considered, registration will be reopened for a period of time set by the Elected Officials to allow enough entries to fill the teams or to ensure that each late registrant cannot be guaranteed to be placed on a specific team. Registration forms must be completed and the registration fee must be collected before the deadline passes, before they are placed on a team, and before they know the team to which they are assigned. Names of players eligible for League(s) needing players will be placed in a hat, randomly drawn out and awarded to teams in a continuation of the originally established draft order of that league, until all eligible players have been drawn. Team(s) with a lower number of players will pick first to catch up to teams with more players and once teams are even, they will continue to select the remaining players using the continuation of the originally established draft order.

Example: Team 1 has 9 players. Team 2 has 10. Team 3 has 9. If there are 4 late registrants and the original draft left off at Team 3 (moving forward), Team 3 will select the first player giving them 10. Team 3 will then get skipped on the draft snake (123-321) because Team 1 still only has 9 players. Team 2 would get skipped because they have 10. Team 1 would select the 2nd player (on the downward snake) giving them 10. Now that all, teams are even, the snake would wrap back around and Team 1 would select the 3rd player and Team 2 would select the 4th player.

8. Sponsorship fee shall be on a scale as follows:

#### **Spring 6u-18u**

- \$350.00- Sponsor gets a plaque and sign
- \$225.00- Plaque

#### **Fall Sponsorship**

- \$125.00-Business name on jersey
- \$200.00-Plaque only

Note: The second sponsor, after the first initial required sponsor, will be split 60% going to the Park General Account and 40% going to the Team Account. Any other sponsors will be split 60% to the Team account and 40% to the Park General Account

**Article VIII: Teams and Players**

1. The team composition of each League shall be determined by the League Vice President(s) and President.
2. A team roster shall consist of no more than the legal number specified and allowed by the governing authority at any time. The maximum age specifications as prescribed below shall be adhered to at all times. Players shall not exceed respective age as of September 1 of the respective year.
 

18 and under	15 and under	12 and under
10 and under	8 and under	T-ball-4,5 and 6
3. All Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches will be approved by the President and League Vice President(s) as will resignations and replacements of each.
4. Each team shall have five (5) protected players. Protected players must include:
  - A. Assistant Coach's Child
  - B. Maximum of 1 Pitcher
  - C. Maximum of 1 Catcher

NOTE: No team may start the draft with more than 6 players. If any siblings or ride-alongs are protected; they must ALL be included within the 6 protected players.

5. The draft system shall be used a medium of selection of players by the league as prescribed in Article IX of the By-Laws.
6. All teams shall have up to three (3) Coaches; Head Coach and two (2) Assistant Coaches. A team may have additional Coaches but they are not official.
7. A Head Coach or Assistant Coach can only participate as an Official Coach on one (1) team, unless that league is short of coaches.

8. A uniform is to be provided to all registered players by the League and shall consist of a basic jersey. Teams may choose to upgrade to a nicer jersey in place of the basic jersey and pay the difference between that and the jersey the park would provide. Funds for the upgrade must be paid by each team.
9. During League games, players will be in uniform at all times and shall wear it in a proper manner. Shirt tails must be tucked in. Only the uniform issued to players by Semmes Girls Softball will be recognized. All girls in Divisions 8u and above must wear pants.
10. In the event of an illness, injury, or medical condition of a player that requires Doctor's care, a written release from said Doctor must be given to team Manager and passed on to League Vice President prior to player participating in team practices or League activity.
  - A. No refund of any monies paid will be refunded without documented medical issue(s) from a licensed Physician.
  - B. If a refund is due; the amount will be prorated based on balance of games and fees paid.
11. Player cannot be transferred, traded, or otherwise moved to another team once drafted to a team.

### **Article IX: Evaluations/Draft**

Within one week of the last registration; evaluations will be held for each league. Any player who cannot attend evaluations will have their form placed faced down and coaches will draw names from these forms after the rest of the players have been drafted.

The draft system shall be used a medium for selection of players by the Leagues. The following guidelines will be used:

1. Draft Procedure:
  - a. Protection Forms must be turned in before evaluations begin.
  - b. Protected Players who participate in evaluations will lose their protected status.
  - c. Each team shall have six (6) protected players. Protected players must include:
    - i. Assistant Coach's Child
    - ii. Maximum of 1 Pitcher
    - iii. Maximum of 1 Catcher
  - d. Head Coaches Draw a Number
  - e. If protections are uneven, least protections will select until even with team of next least protections. Will draw in order of chip number drawn.

Example:

Chip Number – 1 2 3 4 5

Protection Count – 5 1 3 2 5

\*\*Chip 4 will pick to reach Chip 3's protections

\*\*Chips 3 and 4 will pick two more in draft order until both have reached 5 protections

\*\*Chips 1, 3, 4, and 5 will each pick in draft order until all teams have 7 starting players. Draft will then start for all teams in order of Chip/Number drawn.

2. The order of selection shall be determined by drawing numbers by the Head Coach before the draft.
3. Elected Officials shall run any/all draft sessions.
4. Each sibling placed in the same draft will each be considered a draft pick. If two siblings are picked, then that manager will be skipped during the next round.
5. Elected Officials shall set a pre-determined number of players as to when each team should stop drafting.
6. Draft will go in order of 1,2,3,4,4,3,2,1 and continue until all registered players are placed on a team. Primary pitchers and catchers for 10U and up must have separate drafts.
7. Only official coaches will be allowed to attend the draft meeting.

### **Article X: Equipment and Safety Rules**

1. All softballs and necessary equipment used in league play shall be as prescribed by the governing body.
2. Batting helmets with facemasks and chin straps shall be worn by all batters and base runners in all Leagues during league play, practice games and practices.
3. No person other than players, coaches, and a team parent who has had a background check will be allowed in the dugout. Team parents are selected by the head coach. Any adults that are not listed as official coach on record and any children not registered for play during current season, MUST have a signed waiver of liability. These will be placed on file in the office and are good for a period of one season only. All personnel in uniform shall remain in the dugout at all times when not on the field of play; whether they are participating in the game or not.
4. All safety rules of Semmes Girls Softball shall be adhered to at all times.
5. Head Coaches shall be responsible for acquiring all catchers' equipment from the Equipment Manager and to ensure that all equipment is in good condition.
6. All players in T-ball, 8 and under and 10 and under must wear protective equipment (i.e face mask) while playing any position. In the 12 and under, 15 and under and 18 and under age divisions, protective equipment (i.e facemask) must be worn when the player is occupying the pitcher position.
7. Any player warming up a pitcher must wear a Catchers helmet and chest plate.

## Article XI: General League Rules

1. Umpires' judgement cannot be protested; only rule violations.
2. In the event of a protest situation, the Head Coach shall notify the Umpire that he/she is protesting the game before another pitch is thrown. After completion of the game, no protests can be filed except for the eligibility or failure to comply with participation requirements. In this case; the protesting coach has fifteen (15) minutes after the completion of the game to notify League Vice President or an on duty Elected Official. All protests must be submitted in writing within forty-eight hours after the completion of the game and must be in the hands of the League Vice President in the stipulated time or no consideration will be given. President and League Vice President will decide based on Semmes Girls Softball By-Laws.
3. Any team failing to field nine players at game time may pick up no more than three (3) players to field a minimum of eight (8) players and a maximum of ten (10) players in  
6U/8U or a maximum of nine (9) players in 10U and up. These "pick-up" players must play as follows: **6U and 8U must play the outfield and bat last in the line-up.** 10U and up may play where needed and bat anywhere in the line-up. Pick-up player(s) cannot exceed the age limit.  
If a team needs to borrow a player from the opposing team to play the outfield; that player will be the one who made the last out with the exception of that team's current pitcher or catcher. If it is the top of the first inning then it will be the player who is batting last.
4. All weekday games are scheduled to start at 6:00pm and/or 7:15pm. If a team fails to field a playable team within fifteen (15) minutes after the start time of their game, the game shall be forfeited, and a win shall be given to the opposing team with a score of 1-0. No inning will start after time has expired, except for an international tie-breaker. Please see Local League Rules for details. The second game shall start as soon as possible but shall start no later than twenty (20) minutes after the completion of the first game or at scheduled game time.
5. Home team will occupy first base dugout and the visiting team shall occupy the third base dugout to coordinate with the scoreboard.
6. All league players will bat in rotating order.
7. All players are to be played at least two (2) complete defensive innings if time permits. All substitutes must enter the game by the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) inning. Failure to do so will cause a forfeit, opposing manager has 15 minutes after the game to file protest.

8. No mandatory games or practices will be conducted on Wednesdays or Sundays except during All-Star practice/play.
9. If a game has to stop due to weather, power failure, etc., prior to becoming a legal game as per Semmes Girls Softball rules, the said game will begin at the point of termination. Continued games will be scheduled and played as designated by the League Vice President.
10. Time limits for League games shall be discussed and voted on at the Local League Rule meetings held by the League Vice President(s) and the Head Coaches.
11. League Champions will be determined after season games have been completed. The Champions will be determined first by winning percentage in all league games, excluding interleague and tournament games. We will take the number of wins; add a ½ point for each tie, then divide the number of games to determine a team's winning percentage. An exception to this rule will be made when the top 2 or more teams have an equal number of league losses, but have a different number of league wins because the teams did not play an equal number of league games. The teams shall be considered tied in the standings and shall proceed to the Tie Breaker system described in Article XI #12 to determine the league champion.
12. When 2 or more teams are tied in Win-Loss % in league play (excluding inter-league and tournament games), the following tiebreaker system shall be used to determine the league champion. If teams are still tied after the first layer, they shall proceed to the next layer(s) in sequence until the champion is determined:
  - a. Head to Head Win-Loss Record vs the tied teams (2 teams) or Overall Win-Loss% in games vs the tied teams (3+ teams).
  - b. Fewest Runs allowed per game vs the tied teams excluding tournament games.
  - c. Highest Runs scored per game vs the tied teams excluding tournament games.
  - d. Fewest Runs allowed per game vs all league opponents, excluding inter-league and tournament games.
  - e. Playoff Game (2 teams) or Single Elimination Tournament with seed # drawn from a hat (3+ teams)

\*\*\* If it is determined that any team involved in the tiebreaker had a win or loss via a forfeit and that the resulting forfeit score of 1-0 had any effect on the outcome in determining the league champion by manipulating either the records or the runs allowed or scored, the forfeited game(s) must be rescheduled and played.

## **Article XII: Seniority**

### 1. Establishing Seniority:

2025 Bylaw meeting- vote passed to do away with the points system

***(Notes below kept for reference for future changes - The below notes are not honored at this time)***

- A. By being a Head Coach during a regular season, or a summer all-star season (effective Summer 2020), a person shall receive one (1) full year of seniority.
  - B. By being an Assistant Coach during a regular season, or a summer all-star season (effective Summer 2020), a person shall receive a half (.5) year of seniority.
2. Losing Seniority
- A. Resignation in writing
  - B. Removal by the Executive Board
  - C. Once you sit out two years, you lose your seniority.
  - D. Written complaints on file with Semmes Girls Softball could cause the Head Coach to lose Seniority for one season.

Note: Any Coach serving as an Elected Official will retain all points earned while he/she is serving on the Board of Semmes Girls' Softball Association.

### **Article XIII: Umpires**

1. The President of the League shall hire all Umpires
2. Before the beginning season play; the President shall provide Umpires with a copy of Semmes Girls' Softball By-Laws, General Rules, all Local League rules and the Season game schedules. All Umpires are expected to familiarize themselves with these rules.
3. All Umpires will be expected to exercise their control over all games, the conduct of players on the field and the enforcement of all rules pertaining to the game.
4. Umpires shall be in charge of all games once the game starts.
5. Umpires shall wear the proper uniform and protective equipment as determined by the Umpires Association and shall be neat and clean at all times.
6. The League shall provide one umpire for all regular season games and all play-off games. During All-Stars; two (2) Umpires will be provided.
7. Umpires shall have the authority to disqualify any player, coach or substitute player and to eject such person from the game or playing field if necessary and shall file a written report with the Semmes Softball President. All ejections of coaches or players will be reviewed by the Elected Officials and disciplinary action may or may not be taken.
8. Umpires shall use all possible means to keep games going at a fast pace and allow no players or coaches to take excessive drag along time.

9. No Head Coach or Assistant Coach will be allowed to umpire games in their prospective Leagues without opposing coaches' approval.

#### **Article XIV: Trophies and Awards**

1. Trophies and Awards will be presented during Spring season to the teams and players at the Closing Ceremonies as prescribed below whenever sufficient funds are available or when they can be obtained through other visible means.
2. Awards will be presented for the following accomplishments (no coach's awards will be given) as determined by the board:
  - A. Team Sponsors
  - B. Participation medals or trophies to each player that completes the full Spring season in the park
  - C. 1<sup>st</sup> place teams will receive 1<sup>st</sup> place trophies
3. The Secretary will prepare three bid request and specifications for trophies with the President's approval and will seek to obtain three (3) sealed bids. Bids will be presented to Elected Officials for opening and approval. Per article III.7.G. Trophies and Awards will be the responsibility of the Uniform Coordinator.

#### **Article XV: All-Star Teams and Tournaments**

1. An All-Star team shall represent this league in all levels of all-star play in accordance with the rules of Semmes Girls' Softball. The number of All-Star teams per age division will be decided by the Elected board on a case by case basis. Each All-Star team will be managed by the Head Coach of the division-winning Team after ALL of the season games have been completed or 1<sup>st</sup> place in the league has been mathematically secured. He/she must select assistant coaches from the regular season head or assistant coaches in any division. In the event the winning Head Coach cannot serve; his/her replacement will fall to the next available Head Coach in order of their standing in the league.
2. The All-Star Head Coach has the option of drafting his/her team or holding an All-Star tryout.
3. Parents, players and coaches that are selected for All-Stars, shall be required to sign a contract of commitment to the team. This contract outlines the park's expectations of them regarding attendance. Breach of this contract will result in loss of eligibility to play/coach for the next Spring/Summer All-Star season.

4. The Head Coach of the All-Star team shall be in charge of the cash advance money he/she receives for out of town tournaments as determined by the Board. A record shall be kept of all expenditures and at the completion of the tournament; a written report, including receipts, shall be turned over to the Treasurer for accounting purposes.
5. Players that are selected to All-Star teams will be required to pay an amount as determined and approved by Elected Officials to help pay for the cost of uniforms, tournament entry fees, balls, insurance and other expenses related to participating in these tournaments. This fee is to be paid prior to All-Star uniforms being ordered.
6. All monies raised by an All-Star team must be turned into the Treasurer. Any monies in account as of July 31<sup>st</sup> of current year will roll over into the General Fund. No monies are allowed to carry over.
7. Any disbursement of funds not related to uniforms, tournament entry fees or insurance must be voted on and approved by parents.