

Softball League Code of The Greater Los Angeles Softball Association

Website: <http://glasasoftball.org>

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ARTICLE 1: NAGAAA AFFILIATION

1.01 General

The Greater Los Angeles Softball Association maintains an affiliation with the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance. In regards to additional clarification for players and teams participating in the Gay Softball World Series, the NAGAAA Instruments of Governance should be reviewed. A copy of this document is maintained on the league's website. This document will provide further clarification in terms of team rosters, player ratings, team entries, player eligibility and eligibility of a NAGAAA defined returning team.

ARTICLE 2: INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

2.01 Requirements

An Individual Member is eligible to play in the League provided that he or she:

- a. has properly and accurately registered and paid all applicable membership fees;
- b. maintains sportsmanlike conduct, follows the GLASA Code of Conduct, and respects and complies with all rules of the League;
- c. is not currently suspended from GLASA or NAGAAA competition;
- d. does not receive professional consideration as either a softball or baseball player, especially by accepting money (or merchandise that is easily converted into cash) when such payments are based primarily on the individual's performance or participation in softball competition;
- e. is at least 18 years of age at the time of registration.

2.02 GLASA Code of Conduct

To maintain membership in GLASA, members must follow the following GLASA Code of Conduct. Failing to adhere to these standards may result in suspension or termination of membership or team management rights. Team Managers must, to the best of their ability, assure that members of their team follow the GLASA Code of Conduct.

A. When Code is in Effect.

The GLASA Code of Conduct is expected to be followed:

1. At the fields of play during game days, whether as a participant or spectator;
2. While participating in any GLASA event;
3. When posting on social media sites (such as Facebook pages) controlled and managed by GLASA, NAGAAA, or other organizations/leagues associated with NAGAAA;
4. Whenever a member is participating in any NAGAAA event;
5. Whenever a member is participating in any event of other organizations/leagues associated with NAGAAA, including tournaments.

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B. GLASA Code of Conduct for All Members.

GLASA Members must:

1. Maintain sportsmanlike conduct at all times, especially immediately before, during, and immediately after games;
2. Treat all members, opposing teams, and umpires with respect;
3. Promote GLASA's mission to provide a fun, competitive, safe, and welcoming environment for softball competition;
4. Learn the rules of the game;
5. Respect the judgment, decisions, and strategy of the team's manager;
6. Accept both victory and defeat with pride and composure; never be boastful nor bitter;
7. Congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat;
8. Show respect for an injured player who is removed from a game;
9. Not engage in verbal or physical confrontations with umpires, coaches, managers, players, league officials, members, or NAGAAA officials;
10. Not engage in destruction of property, abusive behavior, or violation of federal, state, and local laws;
11. Respect all rules related to equipment, in particular the use of approved bats only;
12. Pay all fees, dues, and debts promptly to the League and to the member's team;
13. Not commit fraud or theft against GLASA, NAGAAA, a team or a member of the League;
14. Not play under an assumed name, or falsify any other information to GLASA or NAGAAA officials;
15. Not use GLASA or NAGAAA trademarks, rights, or 501(c)(3) status without permission from the league;
16. Not use illicit drugs at the fields;
17. Not be on the field of play while under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs;
18. Encourage other members to follow the Code of Conduct and censure those who don't; and
19. Respect the rules of parks and venues while being used by GLASA.

C. GLASA Code of Conduct for Team Managers.

GLASA Managers must:

1. Set an example by always following GLASA Code of Conduct for All Members;
2. Treat members of your team with dignity and respect;
3. Encourage members of your team to exhibit good sportsmanship at all times;
4. Assure that you or a designee attend all required league meetings;
5. Assure that team funds are handled appropriately;
6. Always engage fellow managers, umpires and league officials respectfully;
7. Follow all rules of the GLASA Softball League Code;
8. Stay in contact with the appropriate GLASA Division Representative as necessary.

2.03 Member Participation Restrictions.

A member of one GLASA team may not coach (including base coach) for another team within the same division of play.

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2.04 Umpire Participation Restrictions.

If an umpire is to participate as a ballplayer and/or coach on a team, he or she may not officiate any game within the same division of play that he or she plays or coaches.

2.05 Other Restrictions.

The Executive Board reserves the right to limit participation of an Individual Member or Umpire if there is a potential conflict of interest not defined above.

ARTICLE 3: TEAM ELIGIBILITY

3.01 Maintaining Eligibility.

In addition to the team membership requirements specified in the GLASA Bylaws (especially Article 5), in order to maintain eligibility, a team shall:

- a. Be responsible for requiring all individuals on their team to properly register as an Individual Member on the League website.
- b. Be responsible for following the requirements of GLASA Softball League Code Article 4 - Team Registration And Roster Procedures;
- c. Not compete with ineligible players;
- d. Designate a commission representative as required by the GLASA Bylaws;
- e. Provide an official scorekeeper at each game;
- f. Have a manager;
- g. Not compete with players on the field at any time who have not paid their membership dues and properly registered as an Individual Member
- h. Have a Manager (or Manager's designee) attend a player ratings workshop prior to the start of the team's first league game. A Manager's designee must be a member of the team. Returning managers do not need to attend a ratings workshop in the Fall

3.02 Reimbursements.

A team or individual members of a team may receive reimbursement for actual softball-related expenses incurred, as long as the amount of reimbursement is not dependent on the team's or individual's performance in the softball competition.

3.03 Inducements.

Inducements, whether financial or otherwise, by any person/s in any form to any player to play for any team are strictly prohibited.

3.04 Sponsor Restrictions.

A team sponsor may not instruct a manager as to who will be on a team, who will play or who will start a game.

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3.05 Non-LGBT Players.

The roster of a team registered in the A or B division may not include more than five (5) non-LGBT players. The roster of a team registered in other divisions, other than A or B, may not include more than three (3) non-LGBT players. "Non-LGBT" - (also referred to as straight, non-GLBT, non-LGBT or non-gay) means not gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender.

3.06 Change in Individual Member Status.

An Individual Member's playing status (LGBT or Non-LGBT) is determined by his/her declaration at the beginning of the season when he/she registers as an Individual Member. After an Individual Member has declared his/her status at registration, that status may not be changed for the duration of that season. Additionally, an Individual Member may only change his/her status if they have declared the same status for the same season (Spring or Fall) for 2 consecutive years immediately preceding the current season. For instance, a member may not play as LGBT in Spring 2010, Non-LGBT in Spring 2011, and LGBT in Spring 2012.

ARTICLE 4: TEAM REGISTRATION AND ROSTER PROCEDURES

4.01 Official Team Rosters.

Official team rosters shall be due no less than two weeks prior to the start of the season either at a regularly scheduled or during a Special Commission Meeting convened for this purpose.

- a. Rosters will be submitted to the Commissioner or designated Board Member no later than the designated meeting and must be completed in full;
- b. The GLASA-approved numerical rating must be used for all players who have had a rating in the past. The GLASA-approved numerical rating is the most recent rating given the player by GLASA, NAGAAA, or any NAGAAA-affiliated league. A manager should check with their Division Representative to find a player's rating if necessary;
- c. In the case of a new player (a player who has never had a GLASA-approved numerical rating), the manager shall assign a rating. For this initial rating, the manager is required to assign at least one point for each major rating section (throwing, fielding, running, and hitting) or provide an explanation. A manager must assign an initial rating even if he or she has not seen the player play. In these cases, a manager may update this player's rating during the season as appropriate (see Article 5.01);
- d. If a manager wants to adjust a player's previously assigned rating, they must follow the procedures in Article 5 before the changes take effect;
- e. The roster must be completed in its entirety in accordance with the instructions on the form;
- f. The roster must meet the Division guidelines for team and player ratings as defined by NAGAAA for the next Gay Softball World Series (except for guidelines adopted within 30 days of the GLASA registration deadline). See exceptions for Masters teams below.

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- g. Team rosters shall have a minimum of ten (10) and a maximum of eighteen (20) active players, and up to four (4) non-playing members, except that Masters teams may have up to twenty (20) active players. Additionally, Masters teams must have at least five players that are not in any other roster.
- h. No more than the maximum number of non-LGBT players as defined in Article 3.05 may be included on the roster;
- i. The Commissioner or designated Board Member shall distribute a copy of all team rosters to each team manager prior to the first week of play; and
- j. The Team Manager and/or Team Commission Representative must be registered as either a playing member or non-playing member of GLASA
- k. A player may not be listed on the roster of more than one team. See exceptions for Masters teams below.

4.02 Team Registration Requirements.

The completed roster shall be accompanied by full payment of league membership dues and bonds including individual membership fees. In addition to fees, a signed membership application and release of liability form for each active player and non-playing member shall accompany the roster indicating commitment to said team. Only fully paid members shall be listed on the official roster submitted during the Commission Meeting and only paid rostered players who are members of GLASA may participate in a league game.

4.03 Player Rating Adjustments.

If a player's numerical rating is increased above the limit for his or her division, he or she is automatically dropped from the team's roster.

4.04 Early Season Roster Changes.

Following the initial roster submission and prior to a team beginning play of the game that would constitute completion of greater than 50% of the season's regularly scheduled games, roster additions and deletions can be made under the guidelines detailed in Article 4.05. For the Fall Season, these changes may be made at any time during the season. Such roster changes shall be distributed to all team managers before their next regularly scheduled game by the Commissioner or designated Board Member.

4.05 Player Addition and Drop Procedures

- a. **Drop Procedures.** A team manager may request to drop a player from a roster by using the Roster Change Request Form on the league website. The form must include the reason why the player is being dropped. Permission to drop a player will be given after the Commissioner is satisfied the change is in the best interest of both the player and the team. A player may not be dropped just for the sake of making room for another player on the roster.
- b. **Add Procedures.** A manager may add a player to a roster by using the Roster Change Request Form on the league website. This written communication must be delivered to the appropriate persons listed on the form by Wednesday at 9:00 P.M. prior to the next regularly scheduled game. Additionally, the player must properly register and pay his or her player fee by Wednesday at midnight in order to play that coming Sunday.

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- c. **Commissioner's Duties.** The Commissioner will review requests for all roster changes. If the request is denied, the Commissioner must inform the requesting manager by 9:00 p.m. on the Friday before the next scheduled game. If the request is approved, all managers within the requesting manager's division must be informed of the roster additions. Only the requesting manager will be informed in the event the request is denied.

4.06 Late Season Roster Changes.

Once a team begins play of the game that constitutes completion of greater than 50% of the season's regularly scheduled games, the following roster rules apply:

- a. No player shall be dropped from the roster except for extenuating circumstances to be reviewed in a case by case basis by the Commissioner or as a result of a player's rating adjustment as described in 4.03 above;
- b. No new roster additions will be allowed unless the team's roster is below 12 active players except in the case of 4.06.c and 4.06d below;
- c. A player who is automatically dropped from a roster due to a ratings adjustment as described in 4.03 above may be picked up by any team in a higher division;
- d. A player who is dropped from a roster by a team because the team's rating increased above their division's limits may be picked up by any team; and
- e. A player will only be eligible for play-off competition if they have played 50% of the scheduled games on the team that he will participate with in the playoffs.

4.07 At-Large Teams.

The Executive Board may form an At-Large team for a season if there are enough players who want to play but do not have a team. For At-Large teams, the following special rules will apply:

- a. At the discretion of the Board, At-Large teams will be exempt from some or all of the roster rules in this section of the Softball League Code, except as they relate to changing an existing player's rating.
- b. The Board may waive the Team Membership Fee, but team members must pay the Individual Membership Fee.
- c. At-Large teams will play against teams in divisions that the board deems appropriate, but their games will not affect the division record of the teams they play and they will not be considered part of any division.
- d. At-Large teams will not be eligible for league playoffs or Gay Softball World Series (GSWS) berths, however the players will be eligible to be picked up by GSWS-bound teams following all GLASA/NAGAAA rules for GSWS pick-up players. An exception to this rule is that if there is an open berth that no other GLASA team is available or willing to take, an At-Large team may use that berth if they are qualified according to all NAGAAA rules. In this case, if the At-Large team has not paid a Team Membership Fee, they will be required to pay an equivalent amount to the league; and they would be required to advance the GSWS hotel deposit to NAGAAA.

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- e. Players on At-Large teams will be encouraged to find a regular team during the season. Therefore, At-Large teams may utilize the Fall Season "Pick-up" player rule (see the GLASA Rules of Play) during the Spring Season.

4.08 Fall Season and Inter-League Game Roster Rule Exceptions.

See the GLASA Rules of Play for Fall Season and inter-league game exceptions.

4.09 Masters Teams.

A Masters team is a team that consists of players who are at least 50 years old. For Masters teams, the following special rules will apply:

- a. All players on the roster must be at least 50 years of age by December 31st of the year of the next Gay Softball World Series.
- b. Players may be on a Masters roster and on the roster of another team. However, a player may not be listed on the roster of more than one Masters team.
- c. At the discretion of the Board, Masters teams may have rosters that deviate from the ratings specifications for the next Gay Softball World Series.
- d. There are no territory restrictions for Masters teams.
- e. Masters teams will play against teams in divisions that the board deems appropriate, but their games will not affect the division record of the teams they play and they will not be considered part of any division.
- f. The Manager of a Masters team is the Manager of record for players who are not on other rosters, but they are not the Manager of record for players who are on the rosters of other teams.

Article 5: PLAYER AND TEAM CLASSIFICATION

5.01 Classification Responsibility.

- a. **General.** Every GLASA player has a numerical rating using NAGAAA's player rating guidelines. See Article 4 for roster guidelines related to player ratings.
- b. **Commissioner.** The Commissioner is responsible for approving and reporting such ratings as required by and to NAGAAA, to other League Commissioners, to Tournament Directors, and to the League's team managers. The Commissioner, with assistance from the Division Representatives, has a continuing responsibility to observe and review player ratings to insure that player and team ratings continue to be accurate and current.
- c. **Manager.** A Manager who fails to properly monitor and update the ratings for players on his/her team, may be subject to penalties as defined in the GLASA Bylaws.
- d. **Ratings Changes.** A player's numerical rating may only be changed by using the Ratings Change Request Form and only in these circumstances:
 - o To correct a clerical error;
 - o By a majority vote of the Executive Board;

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- By agreement between the player's team's manager and the Executive Board
- For adding skill points only, by agreement between a player and his team manager;
- For new players only, by a team manager at any time before 9pm on the Wednesday before the final regular season Sunday, except that if a player is protested by an opposing team during a GLASA league game in which case that player's rating is frozen until the RRC process (not including the appeals process) is completed This applies only to players who did not have a GLASA-approved numerical rating before the season;
- Through the Ratings Review Process described below.

5.02 Ratings Review Committee Purpose.

The Ratings Review Committee (RRC) shall serve from year-to-year as a standing committee. The RRC will review and affirm or deny requests for player rating reductions and increases.

5.03 Ratings Review Committee Membership.

The RRC will be comprised of seven voting members, plus Executive Board Members as assigned by the Commissioner. The Chairperson will be appointed by the Commissioner and the six additional voting members may be nominated by any GLASA member and will be elected by the Executive Board. Executive Board Members may only serve as non-voting members of the RRC and are not included in the voting member count.

5.04 Requesting a Ratings Review

- a. Requests for a ratings review can only be made as follows:
 1. By the Commissioner
 2. By the appropriate Division Representative with the approval of the Commissioner
 3. By a majority vote of the Executive Board
 4. By the team representative for members of that team
 5. By a player for his own rating
 6. As a result of a protest by an opposing team during a GLASA League game. Procedures for filing a ratings protest are found in the GLASA Rules of Play, Article 12.
 7. As a result of a successful protest by a non-GLASA team at a tournament sponsored by a NAGAAA-affiliated league. The Commissioner shall request a rating review automatically in this case.
- b. All requests must be submitted using the Ratings Review Request Form, and in the method described on the form. If the request is from the player or the team representative, a brief explanation must be given on the form.
- c. Every season, each team may request one ratings point for one player to be reviewed for free.
- d. Except for the free review above, any request by a team or player for a ratings review, requires a \$25 bond per ratings point, paid to GLASA. This bond is refundable if the requested ratings change is upheld by the RRC (regardless of any subsequent appeal vote by the Executive Board), or if the ratings change is removed from the ratings review list as described in 5.08 below.
- e. The review of a player's rating point may be removed from the Ratings Review List by the person or persons who requested/initiated the ratings review any time before a final RRC vote on that point is taken. In this case, if a \$25 bond was paid for that point, it will be refunded.

5.05 Ratings Review Committee Notifications.

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- a. **Commissioner.** Upon receiving a ratings review request, the Commissioner shall forward all pertinent information to the RRC Chairperson within five calendar days.
- b. **RRC Chairperson.** The RRC Chairperson will notify the RRC of the request in writing and arrange for a quorum of the RRC to review the player. The RRC Chairperson will notify the Executive Board, RRC and the GLASA coaches and managers at least five days prior to the voting meeting including the date, time, location and reason for the meeting.

5.06 Ratings Review Committee Meetings.

As deemed necessary, monthly meetings of the RRC shall be established by the RRC Chairperson. The notification will list the date, time, location, and purpose of the meeting. Four voting members are required for a quorum. The Chairperson will preside and keep professional order during RRC meetings. Only members of the RRC may participate in the discussions unless the Chairperson requests information from an attending GLASA member. The Chairperson will be responsible for maintaining official minutes of each RRC meeting and its subsequent decisions. The minutes will be submitted to the GLASA Secretary to be distributed to the Executive Board and team representatives.

5.07 Ratings Review Committee Voting.

- a. Each member will have one vote during RRC meetings, creating seven potential votes.
- b. There must be at least four RRC members ready to vote on a player's rating point before a vote may be taken on that point, except as described in 5.08(f) below.
- c. Each player under review will be reviewed a minimum of two different games before a vote on their rating will take place.
- d. In determining how to vote, RRC members may use knowledge of a player's skills based on observations made prior to the member being on the RRC.

5.08 Ratings Review Committee Voting Meeting.

During a voting meeting the following steps will take place:

- a. The RRC shall review any documentation submitted in support of a change in a player's rating by the team representative, Commissioner, or appropriate Division Representative who submitted the request for review.
- b. The RRC shall discuss and share their observations and review notes for the specific player in question for ONLY the question(s) currently under review. If a quorum of the RRC has observed the player and is ready to vote, the RRC Committee will then vote. If a majority of the RRC quorum votes yes, the player is deemed to have that skill point. If a majority of the RRC quorum votes no, the player is deemed not to have that skill point. If the vote ends in a tie, those votes will be recorded according to 5.08(f) below and the decision on that point will be deferred.
- c. Once a vote has taken place that changes a rating, that ratings change is immediate.
- d. If the RRC needs additional time to observe the player under review, the date, time, and location (if known) for the next vote on the player will be communicated to the team representative of the player under review. This meeting must occur within one month of the current meeting.
- e. If a player is discussed at two consecutive meetings and not voted upon, the minutes must reflect why that person has not been voted upon.

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- f. If, at the end of a season, a quorum of the RRC is unable to vote on a player's rating point, or the vote ends in a tie, the following will apply:
 1. If the review was not a result of a player ratings protest that may result in a forfeit, a vote will be taken despite the lack of a quorum and those votes will be recorded and kept in the possession of the RRC Chairperson. The player will remain on the RRC review list for the following season. If the player remains on the review list for the following season, when additional RRC members are able to vote, the prior season's votes will be included in the vote. If a member's vote was recorded from a previous season, they may not vote again on the same ratings point, but they may change their vote based on new information.
 2. If the review is a result of a player ratings protest that may result in a forfeit, the review will be removed from the RRC review list and the Executive Board will vote on the review within three (3) calendar days after the end of the regular season.

5.09 Ratings Review Committee Conflicts of Interest.

Any RRC member must abstain from a vote if there's a conflict of interest. The vote shall still take place without the RRC member with the conflict of interest voting as long as there is a quorum of the RRC present and able to vote. A conflict of interest is defined as the following:

- a. The affected player is on the same team
- b. Romantic partner
- c. Roommate
- d. Co-worker
- e. In a dating relationship
- f. Family member
- g. Financial connection
- h. Any other conflict of interest deemed relevant by the RRC Chairperson or GLASA Commissioner

During the review process RRC members will not accept gifts, cash, discounts, or entertainment from other players, coaches and/or manager that could be interpreted as given to influence an RRC member's decision.

5.10 Ratings Review Committee Player Assessment Days.

A player or the player's current manager may request that a player on the RRC Review List be assessed at an RRC Player Assessment Day. RRC Player Assessment Days will be scheduled as needed by the Executive Board. The process will be as follows.

- a. Players being reviewed will be put through drills specifically designed to assess the skills under review.
- b. A quorum of the RRC as defined in SLC 5.06 and an Effort Assessment Committee (see below must be present.
- c. The RRC will evaluate the skills based on the performance during these drills.
- d. The Effort Assessment Committee will assess whether players are giving full and complete effort.
- e. The Effort Assessment Committee will be comprised of representatives from at least 10% of the teams in each division (A/B will be considered one division), rounded up, and a quorum of the Executive Board. The team representatives for this committee will be chosen by the Executive Board.

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- f. After the drills, an RRC member may call for additional individual player drills if they feel more review of that player is required.
- g. Upon completion of the drills, the procedure for voting on the players' skills will be as follows:
 1. The RRC will vote on each point. Each member must vote; there may be no abstentions except for conflicts of interest defined in SLC 5.09. The player will then be removed from the RRC Review List.
 2. If, due to conflicts of interest, there are less than 4 RRC members who are able to vote on a point, they will vote anyway. Those votes will be turned over to the Executive Board for reference only. The Executive Board will then vote on the point.
 3. For any NO vote, if any Effort Assessment Committee member feels that the player did not give full and complete effort, they may call for a vote of the Effort Assessment Committee. If a majority feels that full effort was not given, the player will be placed back on the RRC Review List. Or, the Executive Board may take an immediate vote on the player's skill point.

5.11 Appeals.

An appeal of the RRC decision can be made by the team manager to the GLASA Executive Board by submitting significant new evidence in writing within five calendar days of being notified in writing of the RRC decision. Any ruling of the RRC shall remain in effect until a successful appeal is made to the GLASA Executive Board. Any decision by the Executive Board to overturn a ruling made by the RRC shall be justified in writing at the next commission meeting and entered into the minutes. The following outlines the steps required by both the Board and the RRC.

- a. The Team Representative must notify the Executive Board in writing that they wish to appeal the RRC ruling and submit significant new evidence within five calendar days of the RRC ruling.
- b. The GLASA Commissioner will schedule an appeal hearing as soon as it is possible to gather all of the Executive Board or at least a quorum.
- c. The GLASA Commissioner will notify the team representatives for the team filing the appeal and the RRC Chairperson of the date, time, and location for the appeal hearing.
- d. The RRC Chairperson will notify the RRC and gather the necessary back-up documentation in support of the RRC's decision on the affected player.

5.12 Appeal Hearing.

During the appeal hearing the following will take place:

- a. The RRC Chairperson will be given a maximum of 10 minutes to submit the summary of the RRC decision including any back-up information available to the Executive Board.
- b. The team representative will be given a maximum of 10 minutes to submit any supporting documentation to the Executive Board they have in support of their appeal to the RRC ruling.
- c. The Executive Board will vote to uphold or overturn the RRC ruling based on the information presented by the RRC Chair person, the team representative and the knowledge they also have regarding the player in question.
- d. Any decision to overturn the RRC ruling by the Executive Board must be justified in writing at the next commission meeting and entered into the minutes.

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5.13 Timing of Official Rating Change.

When any skill point for a player is changed through the RRC process, the timing of the official change will be as follows:

- a. Upon a decision of the RRC that changes an existing point, the change is effective immediately.
- b. Upon a decision of the Executive Board (because of an appeal) that overturns an RRC decision, the change is effective immediately.
- c. Additionally, if a point is added to a player as a result of a protest during a GLASA game, the following will apply. If there is no appeal of the RRC decision or an appeal is heard and denied by the Executive Board, the rating change will be considered retro-active ONLY for the games where that point was protested. NOTE: if the resulting change creates a situation where the player and/or team was ineligible for the protested game, the result of that game shall be changed to a forfeit. Other games played after the protest and before the final ratings change will not be affected unless protests were filed for those games (see Rules of Play 12.02).

ARTICLE 6: TEAM MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

6.01 General.

A copy of the league's Bylaws, League Code, and Rules of Play shall be published on the league's website. At the start of each season, the league will provide a softball and line-up card for each scheduled game along with a scorebook, ASA Official Rules of Softball and ASA membership card to each team.

ARTICLE 7: PLAYING SEASON

7.01 General.

The term "season" used throughout this League Code shall refer to the spring and fall seasons, unless otherwise specified. The spring season shall be held during the months of January through August and the fall season shall be held during the months of September through December.

ARTICLE 8: POSTPONEMENTS

8.01 General.

For the spring season only, in the event a game is postponed (for any reason) the game will be rescheduled. Fall season postponed and rained-out games may or may not be re-scheduled at the discretion of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 9: EQUIPMENT

9.01 General.

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Each team must provide its own bats, warm-up balls, and other equipment. Each team shall provide a new league-provided softball at the start of each game.

9.02 Equipment Ownership.

Unless other arrangements have been made, the uniforms and equipment purchased by a team belong to that team. Each player is responsible for his or her team-purchased uniform and equipment, and its return to the team upon request. However, the League will only penalize members, as described below, for not returning jerseys. In the event a player drops, is dropped, or completes a playing season, and fails to return their team-purchased jersey upon request, the Executive Board may deem the player ineligible to play. To deem a player ineligible, the League Commissioner or Board Member must receive and acknowledge a written or electronic notification from the team regarding the player in question. After an investigation, and if the Board agrees the jersey was not returned, the player will then be deemed ineligible for league play. The player will remain ineligible until the jersey is returned or payments and/or other arrangements are made to the satisfaction of the team, and/or the Board.

9.03 Altered Bats.

The use of Altered Bats is strictly prohibited and may lead to loss of eligibility (see GLASA Bylaws, Article 9).

9.04 Bat Testing.

GLASA reserves the right to test bats and prohibit the use of bats that do not pass. Current GLASA rules on bat testing can be found in the GLASA Rules of Play, Article 9.

ARTICLE 10: PARK ETIQUETTE

10.01 General.

At the conclusion of each game, each team is responsible for the cleanup of the dugout and the immediate surrounding area (including the field stands). Smoking is not permitted in the dugouts or on the playing field. Drinking of alcoholic beverages is not permitted for league members on park grounds. Violations of these rules could result in suspension from the league.

ARTICLE 11: PLAYOFF ELIGIBILITY AND FORMATS

11.01 Gay Softball World Series (GSWS) Berths.

- a. In divisions that are allowed 2 GSWS berths, the first place team of the division will be awarded the first berth and the second berth will be decided by playoff. In divisions that are allowed 3 GSWS berths, the first and second place teams will be awarded the first and second berths and the third berth will be decided by playoff.
- b. If a team already qualified or is not eligible to qualify for the GSWS through NAGAAA rules and/or competition, they are excluded from the standings referenced above for the purpose of GSWS berths. Example: a division has three GSWS berths and the division's standings are Team 1, Team 2, Team 3, Team 4 and Team 5. Team 2 already qualified for the GSWS through NAGAAA rules, and

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the division is still allowed its regular 3 berths. Then, Team 1 and Team 3 would get the first two berths and the third berth would be decided by playoff.

- c. If a team is allotted a berth and does not or cannot accept the berth, the following will apply:
 1. If a team that qualifies for the GSWS based on the GLASA final regular season division standings does not or cannot accept the GSWS berth, the next highest placing team, in the final regular season division standings, is awarded the GSWS berth. This process will continue until the next highest placing team accepts the berth. (i.e. 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc).
 2. If a team wins a GSWS berth during the GLASA playoff and does not or cannot accept the berth, the berth will be offered to the next highest finishing playoff team. This process will continue until a team accepts the berth. (i.e. 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc). If there is a tie in the playoff finishing rankings, the GSWS berth will be decided by the team that finished the highest in the final regular season standings among the tied teams.

11.02 Playoff Eligibility.

1. **Player.** A player must be present at the game and legally on the line-up card for one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the team's scheduled games to be eligible for playoff games. The Commissioner shall make such determination of eligibility.
2. **Team.** A team is eligible for the playoffs if it has at least 9 players that have played 50 percent of the scheduled teams for the team on which they are presently rostered.

11.03 Playoff formats.

- a. Playoffs will be held as a double-elimination tournament with teams seeded according to their regular season standings.
- b. All game rules will follow GLASA's rules of play, except for the coin flip to determine home and away teams.
- c. The higher seeded team chooses home or away through the first championship game.
- d. If there is a second championship game (if-game), home and away teams will be decided by a coin flip.

11.04 Standings.

For the purpose of GSWS and playoff consideration, the official standings for each division will include only those games played within the division, excluding inter-league games. If at the end of the regular season, two or more teams finish with identical won-lost-tied percentages, then the following will be used to determine final standings:

- a. **Two Teams**
 1. Head-to-head (best won-lost-tied percentage in games between the teams).
 2. Runs allowed – the team that allowed the fewest runs in games between the tied teams.
 3. Runs allowed – the team that allowed the fewest average runs per game of all games played.
 4. For Division Championship only, a one-game playoff.
 5. Coin toss.
- b. **Three or More Teams**

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(Note: If two teams remain tied after third or other teams are eliminated during any step, tie breaker reverts to step 1 of the two-team format).

1. Head-to-head (best won-lost-tied percentage in games among the teams).
2. Runs allowed – the team that allowed the fewest average runs per game among the tied teams.
3. Runs allowed – the team that allowed the fewest average runs per game of all games played.
4. Coin toss.

ARTICLE 12: INJURIES

12.01 Procedures.

The League is not responsible for injuries to members. Members must utilize their own insurance if a claim is filed. The League maintains an insurance policy for members who don't have insurance or as a secondary insurance if needed. Members should know how to file a claim with the League insurance. Members should also contact their respective Division Representative when an injury occurs.

ARTICLE 13: HALL OF FAME PROCEDURES

13.01 Committee.

The Chairman of this Committee shall be appointed by the GLASA Commissioner. The Committee shall consist of no more than nine (9) good standing and active members as appointed by the Chairman and Commissioner of GLASA. GLASA Hall of Fame Committee members are requested to serve a minimum of one full year starting September 1st through the Spring season ending banquet. The Chairman will assign duties to members of the Committee. Any good standing member with a minimum of five years within the League can be considered for the GLASA Hall of Fame Committee.

13.02 Procedures.

Any 10-year individual member, whether living or deceased, or a team that has been in good standing for a minimum of ten (10) years in GLASA, can be nominated for the Hall of Fame. The nominees should have made significant contributions to their teams and/or GLASA. The living members of the GLASA Hall of Fame (HOF) and the Hall of Fame Committee vote on the nominees each year, based on the credentials presented with the applications. The candidates who receive at least two-thirds of the votes cast are inducted into the GLASA Hall of Fame at the Spring season ending awards banquet.

Nominations will be accepted beginning September 1st (Fiscal Year). Nominations will close on the first Sunday of April. Voting meeting will take place within two week after the closing of nominations. Round 2 of voting, if necessary, will start within one week after the first voting meeting. Voting for Round 2 will close 1 month after the start date of Round 2 voting. Round 2 voting meeting will take place within two weeks after voting for round 2 is closed. The applications may be submitted by any active GLASA member and/or Hall of Fame member who are familiar with the candidate. The Committee strongly recommends

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that the application include a photograph of the nominee. The reason for the photo is that names do not always convey the person nominated. The photo will become the property of the GLASA Hall of Fame.

Teams nominated must have met the same required criteria to meet eligibility. No individuals are recognized amongst any team nominations. Any teams successfully inducted into the Hall of Fame will have their team name retired, thus no other team can take this name within GLASA moving forward.

Round 1 Voting: If a nominee receives a 'yes' vote on at least two-thirds of the votes cast then the nominee will be inducted into the GLASA Hall of Fame. A nominee who receives a 'yes' vote on at least fifty percent votes cast will be eligible for consideration in round 2. A nominee who receives a 'yes' vote on less than fifty percent of votes cast will be rolled over for consideration during the next fiscal year provided it's not their second and final year of consideration.

Round 2 Voting: If a nominee receives a 'yes' vote on at least two-thirds of the votes cast then the nominee will be inducted into the GLASA Hall of Fame. A nominee who receives a 'yes' vote on less than two-thirds of votes cast will be rolled over for consideration during the next fiscal year provided it's not their second and final year of consideration.

13.03 Voting Members.

The voting members consist of the living elected members of the GLASA Hall of Fame and the current GLASA Hall of Fame Committee members.

13.04 Membership.

The selected inductees will be invited as a guest of the League to attend the end of the season Spring banquet to receive their GLASA Hall of Fame award. Their name, bio, and photo will appear on the GLASA website (with their consent), and he/she will become eligible to vote on the selection of future Hall of Fame inductees.

ARTICLE 14: AMENDMENTS TO SOFTBALL LEAGUE CODE

14.01 Method.

The method by which the League Code may be altered, amended, or repealed and a new League Code adopted is by a majority vote of the Commission.

14.02 Effective Date.

Amendments shall be effective immediately upon adoption, unless otherwise specified in the amendment.