



***Softball
Newfoundland
Labrador***

By-Laws

Revised: AGM - May 31, 2009

Article 1 DEFINITIONS

- Sec. 1 In these By-Laws unless the context otherwise requires:
- a. “Administrative Regions” means those regions and boundaries established by Article 5 of the Constitution of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
 - b. “Appoint” means includes elect and vice versa.
 - c. “Articles” means the articles of continuance of the corporation as they may be from time to time amended or restated.
 - d. “Association” means the Association of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Incorporated.
 - e. “Board” means the Board of Directors of the Association.
 - f. “By-Laws” means this by-law and all other by-laws of the Association from time to time in force and effect.
 - g. “Director” means a member of the Board of Directors.
 - h. “League” means a conference of three (3) or more softball teams that have agreed to associate for competitive purposes and that are duly registered with and recognized by the Association.
 - i. “Meeting of members” an annual meeting or special meeting of members of this Association.
 - j. “Member” includes a softball team, league or officials association affiliated as a member.
 - k. “President” means the President of the Board of Directors elected in accordance with the Articles of this Association.
 - l. “Province” means the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.
 - m. “Rules and Regulations” means those rules and regulations passed by the Board and the general membership and shall include the Associations’ general operating rules.
 - n. “Slo-pitch” means all slo-pitch softball in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.
 - o. “Softball” all levels and leagues of softball both fast pitch and slo-pitch.
 - p. “Summary Ruling” means a ruling made by the Technical Director of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador in carrying out the daily operation of the Association.
 - q. “Voting Delegate” means those individuals appointed by the members of the Association to attend meetings of members.
- Sec. 2 Except as otherwise provided in Article 1, Section 1, words and expressions defined in these by-laws are to have the same meanings when used herein, and words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa; words importing gender include masculine and feminine; words importing persons include individuals, bodies, corporate partnerships, trusts and unincorporated organizations.

Article 2 POLITICAL NEUTRALITY

- Sec. 1 The Association shall not engage in political activity nor will it affiliate in any way with any political party or group.
- Sec. 2 The Association shall not use, vote or allot any funds for the purpose of supporting any political party or candidate.
- Sec. 3 The Association in awarding members shall not show preference for or discriminate against any individual or group of individuals based on political affiliation, sex, race or religion.

Article 3 MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

- Sec. 1 Applications for membership shall be made to the Provincial Office of the Association and the Board may, in its absolute discretion, approve or refuse the application of any team, league or officials’ association for membership in the Association unless all teams in such leagues are members of the Association.
- Sec. 2 The membership of the Association shall be subject to the conditions stated in Article 4 of the Articles of the Association of Softball Newfoundland and shall consist of:
- a. Team members – being amateur softball teams that have agreed to comply with and aided by the By-Laws, the Rules and Regulations of the Association, as amended from time to time, and whose applications for membership have received the approval of the Board.

- b. League members – being amateur softball leagues, all the other teams in which are members of the Association and which leagues have agreed to comply with an aide by the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Association and whose applications for membership have received the approval of the Board.
- c. Officials’ Association members – being amateur softball officials’ associations interested in furthering the aims and objectives of the Association and which have agreed to comply with and abide by the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Association and whose application for membership have received the approval of the Board.

Sec. 3 Members shall be required to submit membership fees and dues which shall be prescribed by the By-Laws of the Association.

Article 4 MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DUES

Sec. 1 Membership fees and dues shall be payable on an annual basis by a specified time and in such amounts as shall from time to time be fixed for an annual period by the voting delegates at the Annual Meeting. Membership fees and dues for different age groups and categories may vary.

Sec. 2 The fees payable for membership in the Association shall be set at each Annual Meeting and shall be decided by a simply majority of the voting delegates. The fee structure shall be reviewed at each Annual Meeting.

Sec. 3 The fiscal year of the Association shall start on January 1st and end on December 31st of the following calendar year.

Sec. 4 The Association’s books shall be submitted for an independent audit at the conclusion of each fiscal year. The conclusion of this audit shall be presented to the delegates at each Annual Meeting.

Sec. 5 The membership fees of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall be assessed as follows:

A. Minor Affiliation Fees

Number of Members	Cost Per Association
50 or Less	\$350.00
51 – 100	\$500.00
101 – 150	\$650.00
151 – 200	\$800.00
201 – 250	\$950.00
251 – 300	\$1100.00
301 – 350	\$1200.00
350+	\$1300.00
Affiliation Only	\$200.00 Per Team

NOTE:

- i. For a Community or a Team looking to participate in a Provincial Tournament, they are to be assessed an association fee of \$200.00 per tournament.
- ii. When a community or team affiliates in two provincial tournaments the above table shall apply.
- iii. The Maximum Association Fee is Not to exceed \$1300.00
- iv. Each Association is to be invoiced annually based on the previous year’s registration.

B. Adult Affiliation Fee

Fast Pitch	\$200.00 Per Team
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C. Insurance Coverage Only \$100.00 Per Team Minor Only

D. Tournament Fees

- i. Minor Tournaments \$200.00
- ii. Adult Tournaments \$250.00

Sec. 6 Clinic fees for umpires and coaches clinics shall be set on an annual basis.

Article 5 BORROWING POWER

- Sec. 1 Upon resolution passed by the Board of the Association may from time to time:
- a. Borrow money upon the credit of the Association.
 - b. Issue, reissue, sell or pledge bonds, debentures, notes or other evidence of indebtedness or guarantee of the Association whether secure or insecure.
 - c. Mortgage, pledge or otherwise create an interest in or charge upon all of any property of the Association owned or subsequently acquired by way of mortgages, pledges or otherwise to secure payment of any such evidence or indebtedness or guarantee of the Association.
- Sec. 2 The personal liability of any member of the Association shall not exceed \$3.00.

Article 6 REGISTRATION

- Sec. 1 Every player, coach, manager or team official competing or participating in games provided by the Association shall be a member of a club or team or league which is a member of the Association and shall, prior to competing in any exhibition, league or championship game be duly registered in accordance with the By-Laws of Softball Canada.
- Sec. 2 All registered personnel must sign a registration form and must pay all fees and dues assessed by Softball Newfoundland and Labrador in accordance with By-Law 4.
- Sec. 3 A player shall be permitted to register with one fast pitch, one slo-pitch and one co-ed league, exception in case of leagues (fast/slo and co-ed) that want to take a team or an all-star team from their own league and go into another league. This applies to teams not individual players.
- Sec. 4 A player shall be permitted to play in only one Softball Newfoundland and Labrador provincial tournament during a given year. The following exceptions to this by-law shall apply:
- a. A midget age player may play in an adult provincial tournament and one midget tournament provided that the player is registered member of that midget team.
- Sec. 5 All senior and junior divisions and categories of softball, both slo-pitch and fast pitch, shall come under the jurisdiction of the senior division of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador. All categories and divisions of softball from midget to mite shall come under the jurisdiction of the minor division of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador member of another team in a non-registered league.
- Sec. 6 All officials and officials' associations wishing to officiate at any games, league or tournament sanctioned by Softball Newfoundland and Labrador must be registered according to the By-Laws of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador and Softball Canada.
- Sec. 7 All persons registered as members of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador must pay an insurance fee as assessed by Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Sec. 8 Registration
- a. The registration deadlines in all senior and junior division and categories shall be July 1st and no registration will be accepted after that date.
 - b. The registration deadline for all minor divisions shall be July 15th and no registration will be accepted after that date.

Article 7 TRANSFERS

- Sec. 1 Any player denied a release at the team or league level may appeal that decision to the President of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador who shall have the power to overrule any team or league refusing to release a player duly registered with the Association.
- Sec. 2 A player may be granted only one release per season.
- Sec. 3 The transfer of a player from one league or team to another may have the affect of changing the category of grading of the league or team from a lower to a higher category for Softball Newfoundland and Labrador tournaments. This shall be determined by the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Membership Services Director whose decision shall be final.

Article 8 DISCIPLINE

- Sec. 1 The President may appoint a committee of Board members to investigate disciplinary action against any member of the Association and to make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding disciplinary matters.
- Sec. 2 The Board may reprimand, fire, suspend, remove from office, or expel any member who it rules has committed a breach of the standards conduct for membership.
- Sec. 3 The Board shall deliver to the member its findings in writing and must provide, in writing, reasons for its findings.
- Sec. 4 Any notice of disciplinary action taken against any member of the Association shall be considered valid if given by registered mail to the last known address of the member.
- Sec. 5 Any member subjected to disciplinary action by the Board of Directors shall have:
 - a. The right to appeal that decision provided that a written notice of appeal is received by the office within thirty (30) days of receiving notice of the decisions.
 - b. The right to appear in person to present arguments in support of his/her case.
 - c. Seven (7) days notice of the time and place of the appeal hearing.

Article 9 APPEAL PROCEDURE

- Sec. 1 The President shall appoint a committee to hear appeals of disciplinary action against any member(s) under the following conditions:
 - a. The appeal shall be made to the Technical Director within thirty (30) days of receiving notice of this disciplinary action. A member of the Board of Directors, however, must appeal within fourteen (14) days.
 - b. Persons making appeals shall have the right to appear in person on behalf of themselves, the league or teams that they represent, subject to the conditions stated in By-Law 8:05 a.
 - c. The Appeals Committee shall meet to hear the appeal within thirty (30) days of receiving notice of the appeal.
 - d. The President, on behalf of the Board of Directors, shall deliver a ruling not more than seven (7) days after the conclusion of the hearing and shall notify all affected parties by registered mail.

Article 10 SUSPENSIONS

- Sec. 1 Players, coaches, managers, clubs, officials or officials' associations may be temporarily or permanently suspended from membership in the Association.
- Sec. 2 Notice of suspension must be communicated in writing via registered mail not more than seventy-two (72) hours after the decision.
- Sec. 3 In case of suspension of a team member, the team management shall also be notified.
- Sec. 4 A notice of suspension must state just cause for such suspension.
- Sec. 5 All suspensions must be made by the President upon the recommendation of this discipline committee which shall be appointed by the President in accordance with Article 12, Section A or the Articles of Association.
- Sec. 6 An individual, team, league or officials' association may be suspended for conduct detrimental to the Association or failure to comply with the Constitution, By-Laws or Operating Rules of the Association.
- Sec. 7 A suspension may be issued for actions detrimental to the Association which are not included in the By-Laws or Operating Rules of the Association.
- Sec. 8 The President of the Association shall hold the power to temporarily suspend a member until such time as consent may be received from the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 9 A suspension shall require the consent of a simply majority of the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 10 A player, manager coach, teams or league official may be suspended for:
 - a. Striking, threatening or verbally abusing a game official or opponent on or near the playing field.

- b. Throwing a softball bat, helmet or ball in a manner to deliberately injure a game official, opposing or team player, or spectator.
 - c. Playing with or against a player or club currently under suspension by the Association.
 - d. Playing an unregistered or ineligible player.
 - e. Defaulting a provincial tournament or playoff game.
 - f. Defaulting or refusing to play or continue a game when ordered to do so.
 - g. Conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the game or the Association.
- Sec. 11 An umpire, game official, officials' association may be suspended for:
- a. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - b. The use of vulgar or offensive language.
 - c. Striking, threatening or otherwise abusing a team member or another official.
 - d. Conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the Association.

Article 11 MEETINGS

- Sec. 1 The President shall call an Annual General Meeting of all members as provided for in the Articles of Association.
- Sec. 2 The Annual Meeting shall be held by the first weekend in May each year and dates will be set by the Technical Director.
- Sec. 3 The site of the annual meeting shall be on a rotating basis with St. John's being the Host Centre for two consecutive years; the third year being a centre outside St. John's to be determined by open bids at the annual meeting.
- Sec. 4 Special meetings of members may be held at such times and places as may be determined by the President. All business transacted at a special meeting of members or at an annual meeting of members other than:
- a. Consideration of financial matter.
 - b. Consideration of Auditor's report.
 - c. The election of directors.
 - d. The consideration of By-Laws submitted by the delegates or directors.
- Sec. 5 The notice of the time and place of each meeting of members shall be given in such manner as may be reasonable directed by the Board not less than 30 days before the date of each annual meeting or 21 days before the date of a special meeting. Notice of a meeting at which special business is transacted shall state:
- a. the nature of the business in sufficient detail to permit the members to form a reasonable judgment thereon.
 - b. the text of any special resolution is to be submitted to the meeting.
- Sec. 6 The President shall call an annual meeting of the Board of Directors as providing for in the Articles of the Association. The notice of time and place of such meeting shall be given in a manner as shall be reasonable directed by the Board not less than 30 days before the date of such meeting.
- Sec. 7 The President may at any time call a special meeting of the Board of Directors upon providing 14 days notice to the directors and stating cause for such a meeting.
- Sec. 8 The President shall call a special meeting of the Board of Directors upon the request of a simply majority of the voting membership of the Board provided that:
- a. such a request is made in writing.
 - b. matters to be discussed are stated in the request.
- Sec. 9 Fifty percent (50%) + one (1) of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board.
- Sec. 10 The presence of fifty percent (50%) + one (1) voting delegates at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.
- Sec. 11 All voucher travel and accommodation expenses and a per diem rate for meals shall be paid to the Board of Directors by the Association for all meetings that are called by the President. The per diem rate shall be approved at the annual meeting.
- Sec. 12 A registration fee shall be collected from all delegates registering for a Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Annual Meeting. This amount will be used to offset the cost of the annual Awards Banquet.

Article 12 DELEGATES TO MEETINGS

Sec. 1 Voting Delegates

- a. Each member league or association shall be entitled to appoint one of their members as a voting delegate to attend meetings of members and only the voting delegate as appointed shall attend a meeting of members. A member league or association may appoint an alternate delegate who may attend meetings but is without voting privileges unless designated to do so by the official delegate who then forfeits the right to vote. Member leagues or associations may only appoint a voting delegate from their respective team rosters or executive members, or any person designated in writing by the secretary of that league.
- b. A league with a minimum of twelve (12) teams shall be entitled to send two voting delegates to meetings of members.
- c. All registered minor associations will be eligible to have one (1) voting delegate for every fifty (50) players up to a maximum of three (3).

Sec. 2 In addition to the voting delegates described in Article 12, Section 1, the following shall be entitled to be present and exercise in person one vote at any meeting of the members: Each member of the Board.

Sec. 3 An individual delegate shall be entitled to represent different leagues and vote on matters pertaining to the leagues in committee meetings.

Sec. 4 All voting delegates must file credentials with the Registrar in order to vote.

Sec. 5 No member or any other person entitled to vote at a meeting of members shall be entitled to vote by proxy.

Sec. 6 The President shall chair all meetings, or in the absence of the President the Vice-President or any other member of the Board of Directors appointed by the President.

Sec. 7 The President shall appoint members of the Board to chair any or all committee sessions of meetings of members.

Sec. 8 Every question raised at any meeting of the members, shall unless otherwise required by these By-Laws, be determined by the majority of votes cast on the question. In case of equality of votes, either upon a show of hands or upon a ballot, the chairperson of the meeting shall be entitled to a second or casting vote.

Sec. 9 Any question at a meeting of members shall be decided by a show of hands except that:

- a. The election of directors shall be made by a secret ballot.
- b. Tournament bids shall be decided by a secret ballot.
- c. A secret ballot shall be held upon the request of five (5) voting delegates.

Sec. 10 Order of Business at the Annual Meeting

- a. First Plenary Session
 1. Roll Call and presentation of credentials.
 2. Minutes of previous meeting.
 3. Business arising from the minutes.
 4. Presentation of resolutions.
 5. Review of Constitution and By-Laws.
 6. Tabling of reports of office.
- b. Second Plenary Session
 1. Roll Call.
 2. Business Arising from the Reports.
 3. Correspondence.
 4. Introduction of Guests.
- c. First Committee Session
- d. Third Plenary Session
 1. Election of Officers.
- e. Second Committee Session
- f. Fourth Plenary Session
 1. Reports of committees.
 2. New Business.
 3. Date of next AGM.
 4. General Discussion.
 5. Adjournment.

Sec. 11 Credentials of Delegates

- a. For an individual to be permitted to vote on behalf of a given member league or minor association he/she must be:
 1. President or secretary of the member league (or minor association) in question OR
 2. An approved delegate as witnessed by a signed letter from the applicable member league (or minor association), President or secretary.
- b. To be eligible to qualify as an approved delegate (Section A2) above an individual must either:
 1. Be another executive member from the member league (or minor association) in question OR
 2. Be a registered player, coach or manager from the member league (or minor association) in question OR
 3. In special and unusual cases by an individual who does not meet the above criteria but who, in the opinion of the Association's Secretary is a bonafide representative of the member league (or minor association) in question.

Article 13 TOURNAMENTS

- Sec. 1 Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall provide tournaments in all divisions and categories of softball where it is reasonable to do so.
- Sec. 2 All provincial tournaments or playoffs will be conducted in accordance with the By-Laws of the Association, the official Softball Canada Rule Book and the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador tournament regulations.
- Sec. 3 The following rules and regulations shall be in effect for all provincial playoffs:
 - a. Softball Newfoundland and Labrador President shall be responsible for appointing a Softball Newfoundland and Labrador representative to act as a Tournament Director for each tournament.
 - b. The Tournament Director shall meet with a representative of each team (coach, manager) before the team's first game at which time the Director will check each team's registration list. Any players not on the official registration list shall be ruled ineligible.
 - c. Each member adult team shall be entitled to one voting delegate towards the election of a Board of Directors and all matters pertaining to the Association.
 - d. All games shall be regulation seven innings. The seven run rule shall apply to all fast pitch games including playoffs. The ten run rule will apply in slo-pitch including playoffs.
 - e. In fast pitch divisions no junior or senior team is permitted to host a game with less than nine (9) registered players and must be able to field nine players in order to be able to continue a game. In slo-pitch divisions a team must be able to field a minimum of ten (10) players or must also default the game.
 - f. Teams must be ready to play their games at the official posted time. A team not ready to play at that time will lose by default.
 - g. Any team in a provincial championship which defaults two (2) games will automatically be dropped from the tournament and may be subject to further penalty by the Association.
 - h. An official scorekeeper shall be assigned for each game. The score sheet maintained by the official scorekeeper is to be signed by the umpire in charge after each game. The official score sheet is the only one that will be considered by the Tournament Director as being a record of that game. All score sheets are to be turned over to the Tournament Director following the tournament.
 - i. Team managers shall provide the official scorekeeper with a game line-up at least five minutes before game time. The line-up must show the full name of the players listed and must also show full name of possible substitute players.
 - j. The umpire(s) assigned to the game will check all equipment before each game. Unacceptable equipment shall be placed in charge of the Tournament Director for the duration of the playoff.

- k. During play, all teams are to be dressed in regulation team uniform. Team members include managers and coaches. Only members in uniform will be allowed on the field, or the player's benches or dugout areas. Softball Newfoundland and Labrador encourage all teams in all classification to be dressed properly including caps and sanitary socks. Female players are not required to wear ball caps, but those choosing to wear caps must wear ball caps that match their uniform. The minimum acceptable uniform for minor teams is matching tops.
- l. Smoking will not be allowed on the field while the game is in progress. The game is considered in progress once team members enter the field to prepare to start their warm-up.
- m. A five-minute infield practice will be allowed each team prior to their first game. Away teams are to take their infield practice first and home team second.
- n. The managers and coaches will be held responsible for the conduct of the teams and players at all times. Managers, coaches and team captains are to be identified to the umpires prior to each game and will be the only people authorized to discuss the game or decision with the umpires or officials, once the game is underway. The playoff officials and umpires will have the full support of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador in controlling and discouraging displays of poor sportsmanship or unacceptable conduct. Player or team suspensions will be considered in enforcing proper participation.
- o. Alternate types of playoff draws will be available in the event of delays or cancellations due to rain or other uncontrollable circumstances. Succeeding games may be boosted or rescheduled into other times, or onto other available diamonds. Competing teams must be available to play and are expected to co-operate to the fullest extent in attempting to complete their respective playoffs.
- p. One umpire should be named umpire-in-chief for the tournament and that person should hold a pre-tournament meeting with all assigned officials. The umpire-in-chief will be named by the zone umpire-in-chief, the provincial umpire-in-chief or, if necessary, the tournament chairperson.
- q. The umpire-in-chief shall go over any ground rules applicable to the diamonds, which are to be used for a tournament, and shall clarify any rule interpretations as required.
- r. In all provincial gold medal games in the adult fast pitch division, three umpires must be used.

Sec. 4 Coaching qualifications for provincial tournaments shall be as follows:

- a. Adult Fastpitch must be fully certified Level II.
- b. Minor Fastpitch must be fully certified Level II.

Article 14 TOURNAMENT AWARDS

Sec. 1 Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall be responsible for providing and presenting the following awards at all Softball Newfoundland and Labrador tournaments:

- a. A championship plaque which will be awarded to the winning team. The team will be given a replica award and the official plaque shall remain the property of and in the care of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
- b. Eighteen (18) individual awards to be presented to the members of the championship team.
- c. Eighteen (18) individual awards to be presented to the members of the second place.
- d. An individual award to the person attaining the highest batting average in a provincial playoff or championship. The manner of determining this individual award shall be outlined in the tournament operating rules.
- e. An individual award to the person judged to be the most valuable to his/her team during the tournament or playoff. The committee to select the winner shall be appointed by the Tournament Director prior to the start of the tournament.
- f. An individual award presented to the person judged by the selection committee to be the most spirited and sports minded individual in the tournament playoff.
- g. No other awards may be presented without the express written permission of the Association.

Article 15 HOST RESPONSIBILITIES

- Sec. 15 It shall be the responsibility of the Host Centre to provide the following for all Softball Newfoundland and Labrador tournaments or playoffs:
- a. Appoint a host committee including a working chairperson.
 - b. Suitable playing fields approved by Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
 - c. Scorekeepers and statistician.
 - d. Registered umpires from a local umpire's association.
 - e. Lists of possible accommodations to traveling teams (hotels, motels, parks, campsites, etc.).
 - f. Groundskeepers and personnel to maintain fields to a suitable playing standard.
 - g. To provide only sponsors products in the canteen or beer garden.
 - h. To provide a suitably equipped first aid kit at all playing fields.

Article 16 TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES

- Sec. 1 The Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Tournament Director shall be responsible for the following:
- a. Hold a pre-tournament meeting with all coaches/managers of teams participating in the tournament.
 - b. Ensure that the hosting area is fully prepared including inspection of playing facilities.
 - c. Checking team registrations to ensure as far as possible that ineligible players are not used.
 - d. Ensure that all necessary information and equipment are available.
 - e. Ensure that sufficient umpires are available and that a protest committee is in place.
 - f. He/she must reschedule games if for any reason games have to be delayed, postponed or cancelled.
 - g. Represent Softball Newfoundland and Labrador at post tournament ceremonies, present awards, etc.
 - h. Ensure that all media is contacted regarding scores, awards, tournament results, etc.
 - i. To write the Tournament Director's Report at the conclusion of each tournament and to forward it to the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador office within 48 hours of the conclusion of the tournament.
- Sec. 2 The Tournament Director at any Softball Newfoundland and Labrador tournament may, at any time, demand proof of status and identification from any player registering with a team competing in a Softball Newfoundland and Labrador tournament.

Article 17 TOURNAMENT BIDS

- Sec. 1 Leagues or teams wishing to host Softball Newfoundland and Labrador provincial tournaments must satisfy the following criteria:
- a. A league or team bidding on a Softball Newfoundland and Labrador tournament must be a registered member of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
 - b. Must submit the bid in writing to the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador office or at the annual meeting at a time specified by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Must have a representative present to present the bid orally at the time of bidding and to answer any questions pertaining to the bid.
- Sec. 2 No league or team may be awarded a tournament that was not represented at the previous annual meeting unless no other bids are submitted.
- Sec. 3 In order to be awarded a Softball Newfoundland and Labrador tournament the bidder must provide evidence of:
- a. Suitable playing facilities.
 - b. Sufficient numbers of interested persons to form an organizing committee.
 - c. Available accommodations.
 - d. Availability of registered umpires and other game officials.

Softball Newfoundland Labrador

- Sec. 4 All bids for tournaments will be done in committee. In the event of a tie at the committee level, the bid will be decided by the delegates at the general session, no bids will be decided by the Board of Directors.
- Sec. 5 In order to host a tournament the host centre must ensure that all playing facilities are accessible by medical emergency vehicles. Accessibility being defined as the ability to get the medical emergency vehicle onto the playing surface without obstruction by locks or other barriers.

Article 18 NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

- Sec. 1 Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall reserve the right to bid on all and any Softball Canada tournaments and the right to host any such tournaments.
- Sec. 2 It shall be the prerogative of the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors to determine the host location of a national tournament within the province.
- Sec. 3 The Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors shall reserve the right to appoint chairpersons and organizing committees for National Tournaments.
- Sec. 4 Concessions shall be awarded to interested groups on a bidding basis provided that they can satisfy the criteria as outlined by Softball Newfoundland and Labrador or the organizing committee, for that concession.
- Sec. 5 The Board of Directors of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall be responsible for determining the category and time of bids on Softball Canada tournaments.
- Sec. 6 That money allotted to teams traveling to National and Eastern Canadian Championships both adult and minor are to be discontinued.

Article 19 EASTERN CANADIAN TOURNAMENTS

- Sec. 1 As a member of Softball Canada, Softball Newfoundland and Labrador reserves the right to officially represent Newfoundland and Labrador at all Eastern Canadian Championships.
- Sec. 2 It shall be the prerogative of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador to determine the divisions at which Newfoundland and Labrador will be represented in Eastern Canadian Championships.
- Sec. 3 Only the winners of the various divisions or categories in which there are Eastern Canadian Championships shall be entitled to represent Softball Newfoundland and Labrador at Eastern Canadian Championships. In the event that a winning team cannot represent Softball Newfoundland and Labrador at such a championship, Softball Newfoundland and Labrador may (but is not obliged to) ask the second place team to be the official representative of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Sec. 4 Teams winning their divisions who wish to travel to Eastern Canadian Championships must notify Softball Newfoundland and Labrador of their intentions within one (1) week of winning the provincial championship or forfeit the right to participate in which case Softball Newfoundland and Labrador may offer the second place team the opportunity to attend.
- Sec. 5 Any team representing Softball Newfoundland and Labrador at Eastern Canadian Championships must submit their registration form with additional pick-ups to Softball Newfoundland and Labrador not later than two (2) weeks after winning the provincial championships.
- Sec. 6 The Host Centre for Eastern Canadian Championships shall be determined in accordance with the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador procedure for awarding provincial tournaments as stated in By-Law 17 and entitled "Tournament Bids".

Article 20 ALL-STAR TEAMS

- Sec. 1 Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall have the right to designate provincial all-star teams to represent the province at National Championships when in accordance with the By-Laws of Softball Canada.
- Sec. 2 The selection and appointment of managers, coaches, trainers and all other supervisory personnel for provincial all-star teams shall be the sole right and responsibility of the Board of Directors of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.

- Sec. 3 No member of the Board of Directors of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall be permitted or entitled to hold a coaching or management position with a provincial all-star teams.
- Sec. 4 The Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors shall have the right to determine the qualifications required and the suitability of any person to hold a coaching or managerial position with a provincial all-star team.
- Sec. 5 Softball Newfoundland and Labrador reserves the right to solicit commercial sponsorship of any Softball Newfoundland and Labrador all-star team and further reserves the right to accept or reject any commercial sponsorship bid.
- Sec. 6 Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall announce at its annual meeting each year its intentions to be represented by either club team or an all-star team at all National Championships the following year.

Article 21 SKILL DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

- Sec. 1 The Skill Development Director shall receive a clinic fee as determined annually at the members meeting and a per diem expense in accordance with that paid to members of the Board when traveling on Association business.
- Sec. 2 The President may appoint regional skill development coordinators to assist the Skill Development Director in fulfilling the duties of the position.

Article 22 CLINICS

- Sec. 1 It shall be the responsibility of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador to provide skill development and umpiring clinics throughout the province. When offering a skill development or umpiring clinic the Association shall be responsible for the following:
 - a. Providing qualified personnel to conduct a clinic.
 - b. Making all travel arrangements for the clinic co-ordinator.
 - c. Providing all manuals, forms and other such documentation as is required for the successful completion of the clinics.
- 22:02** Any centre requesting a clinic must comply with the following regulations:
 - a. Provide a minimum of seven (7) days notice of request to the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador office.
 - b. Supply a list of names to the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Executive Director assuring that there are at least ten persons wishing to avail of any such clinic.
 - c. Pay all such fees and dues as are assessed by the Association for any such clinic.
 - d. Purchase all manuals and other such documentation as is required for the successful completion of the clinic.
 - e. Provide a suitable location and the necessary equipment required in order to conduct the clinic.

Article 23 MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

- Sec. 1 The Membership Services Director shall grade teams in the various divisions of softball in order to regulate the level of competition at all Softball Newfoundland and Labrador sponsored tournaments and championships.
- Sec. 2 The Membership Services Director shall examine the registration of teams and leagues in order to determine the strengths of that league or team to determine in which level they shall compete at provincial championships.
- Sec. 3 The Membership Services Director shall have the right to grade a league or team to a higher or lower category.
- Sec. 4 Teams winning a provincial championship will automatically move to a higher division in the following year. Teams wishing to appeal this ruling may do so stating in writing the cause for such an appeal.

Softball Newfoundland Labrador

- Sec. 5 Any team(s) finishing last in their division will automatically be dropped to a lower division the following year should a lower division exist. The exception to this ruling shall be the Senior A Men's and Ladies fastpitch where a team will not automatically be dropped to a lower division in the following year.
- Sec. 6 A team winning the Senior B Men's fast pitch shall be allowed to move up to Senior A Men's fast pitch in the same year and may be strengthened by adding unlimited pick-ups from teams competing in the Senior B Men's fast pitch tournament.
- Sec. 7 All teams hold the right to appeal their grading to the President of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador. All appeals must be made in writing within 30 days of the notice of grading being issued. Once an appeal has been received the decision of the President shall be final.

Article 24 AWARDS

- Sec. 1 Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall honor certain individual members of the Association each year for outstanding contributions to the Association or the game of softball either as a player, organizer or executive. The following awards will be bestowed each year subject to the conditions of paragraph 2 of this By-Law:
- a. Senior Player of the Year Adult Male Division
 - b. Senior Player of the Year Adult Female Division
 - c. Minor Player of the Year Male Division
 - d. Minor Player of the Year Female Division
 - e. Minor Executive of the Year (Male or Female) who shall be the recipient of the Bernard Connolly Trophy for outstanding service to minor softball.
 - f. Senior Executive of the Year who may be member of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors or may be a member of any league, team, association, or committee affiliated with Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
 - g. Official of the Year (Awarded by Homerun Sports).
- Sec. 2 Nominations for the above mentioned awards must be received by the Technical Director of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador not later than October 15th of each year. In the event that nominations are not received by October 15th for a particular award then the committee has the right to nominate a candidate.
- Sec. 3 All nominations for Softball Newfoundland and Labrador awards must be accompanied by written documentation attesting to the suitability of the nominee to receive that award.
- Sec. 4 The Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors reserves the right not to present a certain award in any given year even though there may be nominations for that award.
- Sec. 5 Any individual, executive member or member of the Board of Directors may nominate an individual for a special award.

Article 25 HALL OF FAME

- Sec. 1 For the purpose of honoring individuals who have contributed significantly to the game of softball over an extended period of time, the Board of Directors of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador may annually appoint new members to the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Hall of Fame.
- Sec. 2 The Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Hall of Fame shall consist of two categories:
- a. The player category where persons may be inducted for outstanding performances as a player over an extended period of time.
 - b. The builder category which shall include those who have served the sport as executives, organizers, officials or media personnel and have made an outstanding contribution to the sport over an extended period of time.

- Sec. 3 In order to be inducted into the Hall of Fame a nominee must satisfy the following criteria:
- Male nominees must be 40 years of age or over at the time of induction.
 - Female nominees must be 40 years of age or over at the time of induction.
 - Those being inducted in the player category must be retired from competitive fastpitch or slo-pitch softball for at least one (1) year prior to induction.
 - Members of the Board of Directors of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador must be retired for a minimum of two (2) years to be elected in the Builder category.
 - Those inducted in other categories must satisfy the criteria of 25:03 (a and b) but may still be active in the sport at the organization level.
- Sec. 4 A maximum of four (4) persons may be inducted each year except during special anniversary years when a maximum of seven (7) persons may be inducted.
- Sec. 5 The Awards Committee shall be appointed by the President of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador in accordance with the conditions stated in Article 11 (f) of the Constitution of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Sec. 6 Nominations for induction into the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Hall of Fame will only be considered under the following circumstances:
- A nomination is accompanied by written documentation and is received by the chairperson of the Nominating Committee by October 15th each year.
 - The nominee satisfies all the criteria stated in Section :03 of this By-Law.
 - A nominee has been active in softball in Newfoundland and Labrador as a player or builder for a minimum of five (5) years.
- Sec. 7 It shall be the responsibility of the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors to arrange the details of the announcement and presentation of new inductees into the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Hall of Fame.

Article 26 HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

- Sec. 1 The Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors may award Honorary Life Membership to certain individuals who it deems to have contributed an outstanding service to softball in this province over an extended period.
- Sec. 2 Nominations for Honorary Life Membership must be accompanied by written documentation presented at the time of nomination. Nominations for Honorary Life Membership must be presented to the Board of Directors of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador prior to October 15th of each year.
- Sec. 3 The President of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador shall appoint a committee in accordance with Article 11 (f) of the Constitution of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador whose responsibility it will be to nominate Honorary Life Members.
- Sec. 4 Honorary Life Membership entitles an individual to attend all general meetings of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador and admission without charge to any tournament sponsored by Softball Newfoundland and Labrador.
- Sec. 5 In order to be inducted as an Honorary Life Member of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador an individual must satisfy the following criteria:
- Not currently be a member of the Softball Newfoundland and Labrador Board of Directors.
 - Have reached the age of forty (40).
 - Must have been active in softball in this province for a period of at least five years.
 - Be retired as a competitive player for at least two (2) years.
 - Must have contributed significantly to the development of softball in this province as a player, official, organizer or executive.

Article 27 AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

- Sec. 1** In accordance with Articles 19 and 20 of the Articles of Association the Association may make, repeat or amend the By-Laws and operating rules of this Association.
- Sec. 2** Notices of Motion affecting these By-Laws and operating rules of the Association shall be presented at and voted on at the Annual General Meeting of the Association or at a special meeting of the members of the Association.
- Sec. 3** Notices of Motion affecting the By-Laws and operating rules must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director of Softball Newfoundland and Labrador not later than 40 days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting. The Executive Director shall forward such Notices of Motion to the general membership not less than 30 days prior to the date of the annual meeting. Notices of Motion received subsequent to that date shall not be considered at the annual meeting unless acceptance of such a Motion is approved by a two-third majority of the voting membership present at the meeting.
- Sec. 4** The By-Laws of the Association may be repealed or amended by a simply majority of 50% + 1 of the voting membership. In the case of ties the President shall cast the deciding ballot.

Article 28 RATES FOR UMPIRES

Sec. 1 Umpire Rates

Minor Slo Pitch			Minor Fast Pitch		Midget Boys, Ladies and Intermediate Fast Pitch			Senior Mens Fast Pitch	
Level	Plate	Base	Plate	Base	Level	Plate	Base	Plate	Base
IV /V	\$26.00	\$19.00	\$33.00	\$27.00	V	\$36.00	\$29.00	\$38.00	\$30.00
II/III	\$23.00	\$18.00	\$30.00	\$25.00	IV	\$34.00	\$28.00	\$35.00	\$29.00
I	\$20.00	\$17.00	\$27.00	\$23.00	III	\$31.00	\$27.00	\$33.00	\$28.00
					II	\$30.00	\$26.00	\$31.00	\$27.00
					I	\$27.00	\$23.00	N/A	N/A

Per Diem

- \$8.00 Breakfast Occurs after an overnight stay in a hotel
- \$12.00 Lunch Must Umpire 10:00 through to 2:00
- \$16.00 Dinner Must Umpire from 4:00 through to 8:00
- \$0.35 per kilometer / based on travel of more than 60 kms return

3 or 4 Umpire Systems

- 3 Umpire System Fee Additional \$15 per game
- 4 Umpire System Additional \$20 per game

Article 29 TEAMS TRAVELLING TO NATIONALS

- Sec. 1** A deposit of \$1,000.00 is required from teams traveling to nationals in order to protect Softball Newfoundland and Labrador if a team withdraws.