

# **WESA Appendices**

## **As of February 2, 2016**

### **APPENDIX A: FEES**

In accordance with Section 3 of the Association By-laws, the Commission has set the following annual fees:

#### **MEMBERSHIP FEES:**

- A1. Full Member:
  - (a) Member of the Association/League;
  - (b) Entitled to one (1) vote during Annual General Meeting and Special General Meetings;
  - (c) Actively playing participant in league games; and
  - (d) Fees:
    - \$140.00 early bird rate
    - \$170.00 regular rate
  
    - \$145.00 after May 15th
    - \$120.00 after June 15th.
  
- A2. Associate Member:
  - (a) Member of the Association/League;
  - (b) Entitled to one (1) vote during Annual General Meeting and Special General Meetings;
  - (c) Non-playing participant in league games; and
  - (d) Fees:
    - \$80.00 regardless as to the registration date.
  
- A3. Lifetime Member:
  - (a) Member of the Association/League;
  - (b) Entitled to one (1) vote during Annual General Meeting and Special General Meetings;
  - (c) Actively playing or non-playing participant in league games;
  - (d) Appointed by Commission based on criteria which may include person's considerable contributions to the league over time, length of membership, merit, etc.; and
  - (e) Fees: Waived.

#### **SPONSORSHIP FEES:**

- A4. Diamond Sponsor:
  - \$3,200.00 early bird rate;
  - \$3,500.00 regular rate.
  
- A5. Gold Sponsor:
  - \$1,000.00 early bird rate;
  - \$1,100.00 regular rate.
  
- A6. Silver Sponsor:
  - \$300.00 early bird rate;
  - \$400.00 regular rate.

- A7. Levels of sponsorship will be determined by the Commission based on sponsorship fees, in-kind donations, promotional value, etc. as required.

**SPARE PLAYER FEES:**

- A8. Non-WESA Member – Per Player, per game .....\$10.00
- A9. WESA Member .....no charge

**APPENDIX B: RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMISSIONERS**

**B1. LEAGUE COMMISSIONER**

- (a) Chief Officer of the Association, responsible for the League’s operations;
- (b) Solicit and liaise with WESA Sponsors as approved by Commission;
- (c) Plan and stage the League's Annual Awards Celebration;
- (d) Responsible for ordering League jerseys;
- (e) Primary NAGAAA delegate representing Vancouver;
- (f) Is responsible for maintaining the Vancouver account of the NAGAAA database including player ratings;
- (g) Is responsible for maintaining the WESA account of the Slo-Pitch National (SPN) database;
- (h) One (1) of three (3) signing authorities on cheques; and
- (i) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.

**B2. VICE-COMMISSIONER**

- (a) Plan and stage the association's Annual Pacific Cup International Softball Tournament;
- (b) in the absence of the League Commissioner, assume the duties of the League Commissioner and when so acting, shall have all the powers and be subject to all the responsibility hereby given or imposed upon the League Commissioner;
- (c) One (1) of three (3) signing authorities on cheques; and
- (d) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.

**B3. TECHNOLOGY COMMISSIONER**

- (a) Maintain and administer the league’s website and all technical services (i.e. SMS, email, domain, etc.); and
- (b) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.

**B4. SECRETARY/COMMUNICATIONS**

- (a) Maintain an accurate record of all proceedings of the Commission, General, and Special Meetings;
- (b) Maintain the Constitution, By-Laws, and Appendices;
- (c) Handle general correspondence;
- (d) Facilitate posting details for league happenings including events, news, etc. via various social media vehicles;
- (e) Maintain a list of Lifetime Members;
- (f) Maintain annual list of Commissioners and Team Coaches/Managers;
- (g) Archives the history of WESA; and

- (h) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.
- B5. **TREASURER**
  - (a) Maintain accurate records of all monies received and dispersed by the League;
  - (b) Prepare annual Budgets and Financial Statements;
  - (c) Prepare Monthly Financial Statement for Commission;
  - (d) Prepare a Financial Report for all General Meetings;
  - (e) One (1) of three (3) signing authorities on cheques; and
  - (f) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.
- B6. **RULES AND REGULATIONS COMMISSIONER**
  - (a) Enforce the SPN League laws;
  - (b) Maintain a Team Coach's/Manager's Manual;
  - (c) Set the Schedule of Regular and Play-off Games;
  - (d) Arrange for umpires for all Regular and Play-off games;
  - (e) Obtain field permits for all Regular and Play-off games;
  - (f) Solicit and train Scorekeepers;
  - (g) Maintain league statistics;
  - (h) Responsible for game cancellation advisements to the membership; and
  - (i) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.
- B7. **MEMBERSHIP COMMISSIONER**
  - (a) Solicit Association members and new people to become members;
  - (b) Keep an accurate and up-to-date Membership List;
  - (c) Organize the Player Draft and any Supplemental Player Drafts;
  - (d) Maintain the Spare Player List and the Waiting List; and
  - (e) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.
- B8. **SPECIAL EVENTS COMMISSIONER**
  - (a) Plan and stage fundraising activities and social events for the Association; and
  - (b) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.
- B9. **MEMBER-AT-LARGE – C DIVISION**
  - (a) Assist in facilitating communications within the Association;
  - (b) Act as divisional liaison;
  - (c) Control and maintain all Association equipment; and
  - (d) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.
- B10. **MEMBER-AT-LARGE – D DIVISION**
  - (a) Assist in facilitating communications within the Association
  - (b) Act as divisional liaison;
  - (c) Control and maintain all Association equipment; and
  - (d) Provide assistance to other Commissioners as required.

## **APPENDIX C: TEAM FORMATION AND MANAGEMENT**

- C1. The Commission will determine the number of teams and the minimum number of players on each team based on the number of people registered prior to the Player Draft.
- C2.
  - (a) For the Player Draft, registrants are permitted to register with one (1) "Buddy" (i.e. friend, co-worker, partner, etc.).
  - (b) Each "Buddy" must register in the same division and indicate the other person's name on the registration form.
  - (c) Prior to the Player Draft, the Membership Commissioner and Team Coaches/Managers will rank the number of rounds between each set of registered Buddies; and assign a draft round pick number to themselves as a Team Coach/Manager and their Buddy (if applicable).
  - (d) After the Player Draft, registrants who have not been drafted onto a team will be placed on a Waiting List by division. Buddy requests will no longer be accepted or in effect following the Player Draft.
- C3.
  - (a) A Universal Player Draft will be used to form each team.
  - (b) The drafting procedure used by Team Coaches/Managers will be first to last and last to first, as randomly assigned.
  - (c) All persons who have registered and are in good standing, must be selected in the open Player Draft.
- C4. There will be no trading of players during or after the Player Draft.
- C5. If a Team Coach/Manager wishes to remove or replace a player from his or her team, permission to do so must be requested to the Commission, in writing/email.  
  
It is the Team Coach/Manager's responsibility to keep the current "official team roster" updated with the Commission.
- C6. Teams may be comprised of Full Members; and up to two (2) Associate Members who are not part of the Player Draft.
- C7. All Full Members drafted to a team, or placed on a team prior to the beginning of the Regular Season, must play a minimum of five (5) full regular season games, both offensively and defensively. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a penalty.
- C8. Full Members must be on a team roster three (3) weeks prior to the end of the regular season and must have played a minimum of two (2) games in order to be eligible to play in the Play-offs.
- C9. Any regular season games played by a Spare Player will not count towards NAGAAA qualifications, Play-off qualification, awards, statistics, etc.

### **WAITING LIST**

- C10. Once the player quota in each division has reached its maximum, persons wishing to join the League as Full Members must complete a registration form and submit this to the Membership Commissioner. These registrants will be added to the Wait List by division.
- C11. Buddy registrations are not permitted for those on the Waiting List, single registration only.

- C12. Any person(s) placed on the Waiting List will be assigned to a team based on waitlist seniority. Teams who are below the minimum number of members required will receive the next available Wait Listed registrant. If multiple teams are below the minimum number of members required then waitlisted registrants will be placed on a team in the drafting order randomly assigned at the Player Draft, see C3. (b).

### **DEFINITIONS**

- C13. Substitute Player: A Full Member in good standing assigned to a team who is named in the batting order.
- C14. Spare Player: A person who is playing on a team for a regular season game that they are not assigned to. This can be:
- (a) a person who is not a Full or Lifetime Member; or
  - (b) a person who is a Full Member from the opposite division or a Lifetime Member.
- See Rules D24 and D25 for further regulations.

### **LEAGUE SCHEDULE**

- C15. There will be no rescheduling of games except those cancelled due to weather conditions.

## **APPENDIX D: RULES OF PLAY**

### **GENERAL**

- D1. In general we will be abiding by Slo-Pitch National (SPN) Rules – a copy is given to all Coaches/Managers. Any questions can be directed to the Rules and Regulations Commissioner. All conversations with the Umpire of any given game are through the Team Coach/Manager only.
- D2. SPN playing rules, where not consistent with the League's Rules of Play: the League's Rules of Play shall prevail.

### **GAME STRUCTURE**

- D3. Scheduled games will be seventy-five (75) minutes long. There is no on-diamond warm up, grace period or extensions given for the start of games. Start time is game time. A team must have a minimum of seven (7) Full Members ready to start a game at its scheduled time. Failure to comply will result in forfeiting the game 15-0.

No new inning may start after seventy (70) minutes have elapsed from the scheduled start of a game. The first inning after sixty (60) minutes have elapsed from the scheduled start of a game shall be declared open. No open inning is required.

- D4. Cancellations of games due to unsafe field conditions will be called by 3:00 p.m. for weekday games, and on an individual game basis on weekends.
- D5. All Full Members will play a minimum of three (3) innings per game, both offensively and defensively, and must enter the game by the top of the fourth inning. Failure of a Team Coach/Manager to comply may result in a penalty being imposed by the Commission.
- D6. Any player who is present fifteen (15) minutes prior to game start time and deemed ready to play by his/her coach/manager will be included in the line-up sheet before the start of the game and entered into the game at the discretion of the team coach/manager;
- D7. Each team will be allowed only one (1) courtesy runner per inning, that being the last available player whose at bat has been completed.
- D8. Maximum Runs:

- (a) D Division - A maximum of five (5) runs per inning will be allowed per team, except for the open inning.
  - (b) C Division - A maximum of eight (8) runs per inning will be allowed per team, except for the open inning.
- D9. The Mercy Rule will be set at a fifteen (15) run lead after six (6) innings.
- D10. The Flip-Flop Rule will become active if at the start of the final and open inning the visiting team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs. The teams will then flip the inning around. The home team will bat during the top of the inning. If the home team makes up the run differential and ties or takes the lead, then the visiting team will bat during the bottom of the inning.

### **WESA-SPECIFIC RULES**

- D11. "Peel" or "Slide Rule" is in effect. This means that the runner must make an attempt to slide into Second or Third Base or peel off giving way to the defensive player and allowing the defensive player to make a play. Runners cannot intentionally impede the defensive player's attempt to throw to a base by standing/running in the line of the play. Umpires will use their judgment to make this call.
- D12. No bunting.
- D13. No stealing of bases. No lead offs – automatic out.
- D14. Bats are not to be thrown ever.
- D15. The orange side at First Base is for safety; the runner can run through the base touching the orange side of the base while avoiding collisions and not be tagged "Out" as long as they stay outside of the baseline.
- D16. A Scoring Line shall be used, the Home Plate shall not be active for a runner. Home Plate is for the sole use of the catcher. If the runner touches the Home Plate, the Umpire shall call the runner out.
- D17. The commitment line is the point of no return; once it is crossed, the player cannot go back to Third Base, the player must continue to the Scoring Line at Home.
- D18. All pitches must have an arc (not less than 6', not more than 12').
- D19. D Division: Fielders cannot play inside the fielder's encroachment line (140') on any given batter.
- D20. A player, who is bleeding, must immediately be removed from the field to have the bleeding controlled, cleaned up, and the wound completely covered.
- D21. The "on deck" batter must be present.
- D22. Players cannot wear shoes with steel cleats.
- D23. All Members must wear the current team jersey on field.

### **SPARE PLAYERS**

- D24.
- (a) Full Members shall be able to participate as a Spare Player in the alternate division, to a maximum of six (6) games total per regular season. Once a Full Member has played the maximum of six (6) games total as a Spare Player in the alternate division, they are no longer eligible to spare. The penalty for violation will be a default of that game to the opposing team.
  - (b) A Spare Player that is not a Full Member of the Association is entitled to play up to a maximum of six (6) games total per regular season regardless of division. The Spare Fee shall apply. Once a Spare who is not a Full Member of the Association has played the maximum of six (6) games total, they are no longer

eligible to spare. The penalty for violation is a default of that game to the opposing team.

- (c) A Lifetime Member who is not assigned to a team may spare up to a maximum of six (6) games per regular season regardless of division. The spare fee shall not apply.
- (d) Spare Players in Play-off games are not allowed, unless under extraneous circumstance and pre-approved by the Commission at least one (1) week prior to the Play-offs. The number of regular season games already played by a Spare Player will not count towards their eligibility to spare in Play-off games.

D25.

- (a) A Team Coach/Manager may select a maximum of two (2) Spare Players to bring the playing roster up to ten (10) players for a game
- (b) A Spare Player may not be removed from a game once started, except in the case of injury.
- (c) This "Gentlemen's Agreement" for spare selection should be honoured: Coaches should make every effort possible to select skill level appropriate spare players and notify opposing coaches of their selection before the game starts.

#### **REPLACEMENT OF INJURED PLAYERS**

D26.

- (a) If a starting player from a team is injured, any Substitute Player may be inserted into the game provided that they are listed in the line-up, even if this Substitute Player has already been replaced by a previous substitution.
- (b) Offensively, the Substitute Player must occupy the place in the batting order vacated by the injured player.
- (c) Defensively, the Substitute Player may occupy any position.

D27.

Once an injured player has left the game, and a Substitute Player has been recorded as officially entering the game in his/her place, the injured player may not return for the remainder of the game.

### **APPENDIX E: NORTH AMERICAN GAY ATHLETIC AMATEUR ALLIANCE (NAGAAA)**

- E1. NAGAAA is the host of the Gay Softball World Series (GSWS) – the largest annual predominantly gay sporting event in the world. Created in 1977, NAGAAA is a non-profit international sports organization comprised of men and women dedicated to promoting organized "softball" or "slo-pitch" competition for the gay and lesbian community.
- E2. Annual NAGAAA commitments are:
  - (a) Membership dues;
  - (b) Minimum of one (1) representative from the Commission to attend Winter meeting;
  - (c) Minimum of one (1) representative from the Commission to attend Summer meeting;
- E3. Any costs associated with these NAGAAA commitments are budgeted annually;
- E4. Teams winning the opportunity to go to the GSWS will need to pay their entry fee and travel costs for themselves or through external sponsor donations. General WESA

revenue will not be used to fund travel costs/expenses for teams and teams should coordinate their own fundraising to offset their expenses to go to the GSWS.

### **GSWS ROSTERS**

- E5. All players on a GSWS roster are required to have met the minimum NAGAAA eligibility requirements.
- E6. All players on a GSWS roster must have an official NAGAAA Player Rating.

### **PLAYER RATINGS**

- E7. The NAGAAA Ratings Committee will be appointed by the Commissioner in consultation with the Commission. The Committee is to be filled from, but not limited to:
  - (a) WESA Team Coaches/Managers;
  - (b) WESA Full Members, Associate Members, and or Lifetime Members; and
  - (c) WESA Commissioners;with the goal of having a mix of experience and new perspective from Team Coaches/Manager, non-coaches, players in the C and D Divisions.
- E8. Objective: to review NAGAAA ratings as submitted by Team Coaches/Managers. This will be completed by a meeting of all Committee members and observing games/practices of teams and players.
- E9. The Team Coach/Manager of each team will submit NAGAAA ratings for each player by working with their Assistant Coach(es).
- E10. Ratings are due to the Commissioner by June 15th.
- E11. The NAGAAA Ratings Committee will meet between June 15th and June 20th to finalize all NAGAAA ratings for WESA players.
- E12. Ratings will be published to Team Coaches/Managers before June 21st.
- E13. Any player who wishes to protest their rating, can do so by:
  - (a) Emailing the Commissioner by July 1st;
  - (b) Specify the question(s) that are being protested; and
  - (c) Give specific examples, documentation, & statistics.
- E14. The NAGAAA Ratings Committee will review any protest and give a ruling by July 10th.

### **SPONSORSHIP / TEAM NAMES**

- E15. Teams attending the GSWS will be representing WESA and are encouraged to wear their WESA jerseys for all games at the GSWS.

### **SOFTBALL EQUIPMENT**

- E16. Borrowing of WESA equipment will be permitted for GSWS Team(s) as arranged by the Rules and Regulations Commissioner. WESA equipment that is lost and or damaged must be replaced by the team.

### **WHY WESA JOINED NAGAAA**

- E17. In becoming a member of NAGAAA, WESA joins a larger organization which helps expose WESA to other softball leagues.
- E18. When players attend and experience out-of-town tournaments, including the GSWS, their love of the game can only increase.
- E19. The enjoyment of softball by all players will help keep players active in WESA and will help maintain and grow WESA for years to come.



- E20. WESA also gains the strength of NAGAAA, which helps in the pursuit of larger sponsorships for our league and tournaments.
- E21. The Pac Cup Tournament will also provide extra exposure through the NAGAAA network of cities, thus attracting more teams from farther destinations.
- E22. The player rating system will also help direct players to the proper position in future years, which again, helps ensure all players of WESA enjoy their time on the field.

### **SELECTION OF TEAMS TO ATTEND GSWS**

- E23. The 1st and 2nd place teams in each of the C and D Divisions after the first ten (10) games will earn the right to send their team to the GSWS. There is also an opportunity to send an Open Masters level team to the GSWS.
- E24. The regular season play schedule will be as balanced as possible in an attempt to allow all teams to play each other an equal number of times.
- E25. Upon being notified each eligible team will have to confirm to the Commission their intention to attend the GSWS.
- E26. Each eligible team will then have three (3) days to show payment of the tournament registration fee, insurance, and hotel deposit.
- E27. In the event that the 1st or 2nd place teams in a Division are unable to send their team, then the team in 3rd place of that division after the first ten (10) games will have the option to send their team. This descending process will be followed allowing for two (2) teams from each division to attend the GSWS.
- E28. Should none of these teams across divisions meet the requirements to attend, then one (1) All Open Roster Team from WESA will be sent where the:
  - (a) D Division will have the preference to send one (1) Open Roster Team in EVEN calendar years; and
  - (b) C Division will have the preference to send one (1) Open Roster Team in ODD calendar years.
  - (c) The process for selecting an Open Roster Team, in either C division, D division, or the Masters division will be determined by the Commission.

## **APPENDIX F: WESA LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA**

- F1. The intent of this designation is to recognize a person who is or has been associated with WESA providing substantially to it and has made a significant contribution to the softball association. Lifetime Membership is the highest Award available to recognise the exceptional contribution of individuals to the sports club. It is therefore only to be awarded in exceptional circumstances.
- F2. In considering the award of Lifetime Membership an individual should have demonstrated significant, sustained, and high quality service enhancing the reputation and future of WESA.
- F3. The nomination should be prepared so as to set out the achievements and activities of the nominee and at a minimum must meet the award criteria as set out below. Nominations must be received by the current Commission no later than the 1st of [month] in the year which the nomination is to be considered.
- F4. The following rules govern consideration for the WESA Lifetime Award:
  - (a) The nominee's length of service to WESA in either or both an:
    - i. on field (i.e. coaching / managing); or

- ii. off field (i.e. WESA Commission, association supporter / sponsorship, etc.) roles;  
with such service in either role being taken concurrently;
  - (b) The nominee must have made a substantial contribution to WESA and meet the following criteria:
    - i. Been an outstanding leader in the association through coaching/managing a team;
    - ii. Volunteered significantly to WESA in other areas other than coaching or serving on the Commission; and or
    - iii. Provided useful experience / knowledge / support / sponsorship to guide WESA's operations / evolution / progression;
  - (c) The nominee will have demonstrated a commitment to the principals of fair play & good sportsmanship;
  - (d) The general attitude and overall demeanour of the nominee to ensure that the attitude is one that reflects a dedication to the values of WESA;
  - (e) The nominee will have provided valued leadership and / or been an outstanding role model to the members in general;
  - (f) The nominees' service must reflect favourably on and brought credit to WESA;
  - (g) The nomination must be submitted by any current WESA member in good standing;
  - (h) The person may not nominate himself or herself;
  - (i) No elected officer or officer by acclamation or appointment of the Association may be a nominee during an active term of office;
  - (j) The WESA Commission has the right to forego a designation in a given year;
  - (k) The selection shall be made by the current WESA Commission;
- F5. These points apply in whatever role the nominee has participated in during their service in WESA (on or off the field). Achieving the minimum service levels will not in any way automatically guarantee the award of Lifetime Membership.

#### **BENEFITS OF WESA LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**

- F6. In addition to the status of membership of a select group within WESA, WESA Lifetime Members will be recognised by:
- (a) Award of the WESA Lifetime Membership at the WESA Annual Awards Celebration Event or Annual General meeting;
  - (b) Exemption from regular league membership fees associated with WESA (Registration fees to cover WESA operational costs would apply for on field activities); and
  - (c) Invitations to attend all official WESA functions (i.e. Annual Awards Celebration Events).

#### **RETRACTION OF A WESA LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP**

- F7. Retraction of a WESA Lifetime Membership Award may occur where the recipient has conducted him/herself in a manner that reflects directly and adversely on the image or activities of WESA generally or on a specific code. This provision will only be exercised in exceptional circumstances and will require the unanimous agreement of the current Commission to be enacted. As part of the deliberations, the WESA Lifetime Member in

question is to be given an opportunity to present their case for retention of their Lifetime Membership status.

**WESA LIFETIME MEMBERS (in no particular order)**

1. Fraser Biggs\* Founder / Member
2. Terry Wallace\* Sponsor (Deceased)
3. Dan Robertson (1998) Member
4. Rick Vandebeld (1998) Member
5. Gary Penny (2000) Sponsor
6. Art Gullett (2007) Member
7. Daryl Quick (2007) Member
8. Mike FitzGerald (2013) Member
9. Don Parker (2013) Member
10. Phil Moon (2015) Sponsor
11. Vince Marino (2015) Sponsor
12. Stephen Bauer (2015) Sponsor
13. Dennis Dahl (2015) Sponsor
14. Vince Connors (2015) Sponsor

\*NB: The years that the Lifetime Membership was awarded is not available.