

## **MARS AREA GIRLS SOFTBALL**

P O Box 1055

Mars, PA 16046

[www.marsareasoftball.com](http://www.marsareasoftball.com)

### **MARS AREA GIRLS SOFTBALL BY-LAWS NOVEMBER 2005**

#### **1. NAME**

The name of the organization shall be "Mars Area Girls Softball League"

#### **2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of the league shall be:

1. To provide fun and recreation for girls in an organized sports environment.
2. To install in the girls a healthy, competitive spirit and to teach them to win, lose and play gracefully.

#### **3. COMPOSITION**

The league shall be divided into three divisions as follows:

1. **Instructional Division** shall include girls who are 5 years old before January 1<sup>st</sup> and will not have reached their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1<sup>st</sup>. Exception: *For 9 year-olds only* it is at the parents' discretion to sign their child up for either the Instructional Division or the Junior Division. This must be done at registration.
2. **Junior Division** shall include girls who are 9 years old before January 1<sup>st</sup> and will not have reached their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. **Senior Division** shall include girls who are 13 years old before January 1<sup>st</sup> and will not have reached their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday before January 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **4. ADMINISTRATION**

The league will be governed by a Board of Directors elected by majority vote by eligible members. Eligible members include board members, each head coach, one named assistant coach, and parents of the MAGS organization provided the parent attends two full consecutive meetings. Voting privileges begin after two full meetings have been attended (at the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive meeting). If two full consecutive meetings are missed, the parent loses voting privileges until he/she attends two full consecutive meetings. The board shall be composed of:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Treasurer
- d. Secretary
- e. Equipment Manager

**\*\* THIS IS ALSO THE ORDER OF SUCCESSION IN CASE OF RESIGNATION OR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE \*\***

## MARS AREA GIRLS SOFTBALL BYLAWS

Their duties shall be:

1. **President:** Preside at all meetings, delegate authority to others and assume responsibility for the efficient operation of the league. They shall vote at board meetings, but cannot vote at all other meetings except to break a tie.
2. **Vice President:** Substitute for the President in his/her absence and to assist the President as needed. They shall be responsible for the operation of the concession stands.
3. **Treasurer:** Shall be responsible for keeping of all of the financial records of the league, for making insurance recommendations to the board of directors, and for keeping the board informed on the financial status of the league. Their records will be reviewed annually before November 1<sup>st</sup> by a person designated by the board. They will be responsible for keeping records of all transactions of the league separate. Two board member signatures are required for all checking and savings account transactions.
4. **Secretary:** Shall do all the correspondence of the league. Shall keep the minutes and attendance of all meetings.
5. **Equipment Manager:** Shall be responsible for maintaining and purchasing all necessary equipment including uniforms for all teams and information on trophies (which shall be approved by the Board). Shall be responsible for maintaining all fields, assigning fields for canceled games and for seeing that games have Umpires. Shall be responsible for decisions whether to play or not play because of weather. He/She shall update the phone line at least one hour in advance of game time due to cancellation and also notify the head umpire of game cancellations.

### 5. ELECTIONS

- a. Elections will be held during the October open meeting. The following officers shall be elected in odd years: President, Treasurer and Equipment Manager. The following officers shall be elected in even years: Vice President and Secretary.
- b. New officers shall take affect as of November 1<sup>st</sup> following elections in October of that year.
- c. President shall oversee elections and vote only in the case of a tie.
- d. There will be no proxy voting.

All board members will be elected for two years. In case a board member resigns or is removed from office, a replacement will be appointed by the board for the duration of the term. The position will first be filled with an existing board member, in order of succession. If no board member wants the position, an appointee will be made from the general membership.

The board, by majority vote, will set regulation fees for all divisions, purchase insurance, determine the sponsor fee and make changes it deems necessary for the betterment of the league.

The board will have as many meetings as deemed necessary. A quorum of at least four members must be present to conduct business. The time and place of each meeting shall be determined by the President.

## **MARS AREA GIRLS SOFTBALL BYLAWS**

A board member may be removed from office if not present at 80% of the meetings in a six month period (November 1<sup>st</sup>-April 30<sup>th</sup>; May 1<sup>st</sup>-October 31<sup>st</sup>).

### **6. RESIGNATION**

Any board member resigning from their respective board position must provide a written letter of resignation to the board.

### **7. MEMBERSHIP**

All girls ages 5 through 18 are eligible to join the league. Any team outside the Mars Area may participate in the appropriate division upon approve of the Board of Directors. **They must agree to abide by all the rules of the league.**

Any team from outside Mars Area participating in MAGS softball must supply MAGS all and any information such as birth certificates, photo ID of each player, rosters of each team, team photo, etc. to MAGS prior to the start of the season and/or game.

### **8. UMPIRES**

An official ASA umpire must officiate all junior and senior division games. All instructional games must be officiated by a senior division player or by a junior division coach.

### **9. CONDUCT OF PLAY**

The rulebook chosen by the board of directors shall govern the conduct of play during the regular season. There will be no smoking or consumption of alcohol by the players, coaches, scorekeepers, or umpires during the game. There will be no abusive language or action, or fighting directed at other players, coaches or umpires by any person whether a participant or spectator.

Any violation will result in ejection (by the umpire or a non-participating board member) of the violator from the area and if the violation persists, will result in forfeiture of the game. Serious infractions can result in the banishment of the person from further league participation by the Board.

### **10. PROTEST AND COMMITTEE**

Within 48 hours, the protest must be written according to the rulebook and handed in to the President in person.

The President shall pick a protest committee consisting of three people knowledgeable in the rules of softball. If the President is coaching, involved in the protest or out of town, then the next ranking officer not involved shall pick the committee.

The protest will be decided and the coaches will be notified within one week after the protest is filed with the President.

### **11. TIES**

All ties for 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place must be broken by a playoff game as scheduled. All other ties will be determined by standings from league play. In case of a 3-way tie for 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place, a drawing will be held by the Board members and coaches involved to determine who plays first game. Odd team shall play the winner of the first game.

## **MARS AREA GIRLS SOFTBALL BYLAWS**

### **12. CANCELLATIONS**

- a. Games may be canceled because of weather up to one hour before game time. Decisions to play or cancel rests with the Board approved person(s).
- b. Coaches are not permitted to reschedule games.
- c. A rainout schedule will be set up before the start of the season by the Board. A weekly rainout site and time will be designated on the league schedule. When a rainout occurs, the makeups will be played in sequential order. Failure to play the schedule will result in forfeiture. If a sequential make up game is canceled, it will be scheduled at the next available make up date.
- d. Home team is responsible for notifying a board member of need to reschedule within 24 hours.
- e. If more than 2 games are canceled at different fields, the sequential order will be determined by the flip of a coin.

### **13. TROPHIES**

The following trophies shall be purchased by the Board Members and shall be presented at the banquet/picnic:

Winning Team: Individual trophies will be presented to the players of the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Junior and Senior Divisions. In order for a player to be eligible to receive a trophy, they must have participated in at least 75% of the scheduled games; unless the player is medically unable to compete. A team trophy or plaque will be presented to the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place team in all divisions. They, in turn, will give the trophy/plaque to the team sponsor.

Sportsman of the Year: 1 individual trophy or plaque per team will be presented to the player who demonstrated a positive role model, positive attitude and required attendance at games.

All sponsors will receive a team plaque.

### **14. COACHES**

- a. The Board shall approve all voting coaches.
- b. There shall be one coach and one named assistant per team (a new assistant cannot be named until after the draft). Each coach and named assistant shall take their daughter with the team if they so desire. If changing named assistant coach, a letter of resignation stating reason for resignation must be given to the Board prior to naming a new assistant coach.
- c. Coach and one named assistant have voting privileges and are required to attend the regular scheduled meetings and all elections. If two full consecutive meetings are missed, the coach loses voting privileges until he/she attends two full consecutive meetings. Voting privileges begin after two full meetings have been attended (at third consecutive meeting).
- d. Head coach and named assistant coach must pass Act 34 (Criminal) and Act 151 (Abuse) clearances.

## MARS AREA GIRLS SOFTBALL BYLAWS

- e. Head coach and named assistant coach must be CPR certified and have attended first aid training.
- f. Anyone interested in coaching must write a letter to the Board.

### 15. **DRAFTING SYSTEM: MARS TEAMS ONLY**

#### Junior/Senior Division:

The coaches will draft all girls. Procedure will go as follows: last place team will have 1<sup>st</sup> round draft pick through to the 1<sup>st</sup> place team. This procedure will continue in this order until all girls are selected or until a team fills up its roster.

Sisters moving up to a new division will be placed on her sister's team. Sisters/daughters will be considered last round draft picks.

Once drafting is completed and there is a late registration, the Board will assign that player to a team.

Number of players on a team will be finalized after the last scheduled registration date but before the draft.

#### Instructional Division:

The Board forms all teams.

Draft procedures may be changed at any time by the Board if it deems necessary for the betterment of MAGS.

### 16. **NEW TEAMS**

In the event a new team is being formed, the Board shall select the first seven players (by age and experience) to be placed on the team. The new team shall be considered last in the standings and shall have the first round draft pick.

### 17. **TOURNAMENTS**

The Board will approve all tournament coaches. They will be chosen from a list of qualified, interested persons in the MAGS league. Each coach shall pick their own assistant coach and select girls to play on the tournament team. Tournament teams must be submitted to the Board for approval by May 31<sup>st</sup>. The Board will have final approval of the members of the tournament teams and decide which tournaments each team attends.

### 18. **SCHOLARSHIPS**

In the Senior Division, a girl who is unable to play softball the following year due to age will be allowed to submit an application for the scholarship given by MAGS. After careful review of all applications, the Board will vote to give one girl a scholarship of \$500. This will be given yearly until the league is financially unable to do so. The recipient will be chosen on the following point system:

- 1) Leadership Ability – 10 Points
- 2) Sportsmanship – 15 Points
- 3) Furthering Education – 5 Points (must show proof of attending school)
- 4) Team Spirit – 5 Points
- 5) Dedication – 10 Points

## **MARS AREA GIRLS SOFTBALL BYLAWS**

- 6) Skill – 15 Points
- 7) Essay – 30 Points

The recipient will be chosen by the following process: all senior division head coaches and named assistant coaches will be given a list of eligible players and a copy of each essay written. They will then grade each player on the criteria listed above. The Board will provide a form. All forms must be handed to a Board member by a designated date for final approval.

### **19. COMPLAINTS**

All written complaints must be to the attention of a Board member. They will then be brought to the attention of the Board either on or before the next board meeting. These can be mailed to the league at:

Mars Area Girls Softball  
P O Box 1055  
Mars, PA 16046

### **20. MEETINGS**

All coaches meetings are open to the public. There will be a coaches' meeting every month. Other meetings shall be called as deemed necessary by the board.