



CONSTITUTION OF THE RENAISSANCE CITY SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Updated December 31, 2025

We the members of the Renaissance City Softball League, in order to provide a normal structure for the continuation of a softball league in the Greater Providence area, free from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, creed, sex, national origin, sexual preference or gender identity, with special emphasis on participation from within the LGBTQ+ community, hereby adopt this Constitution in order to formalize our objectives of fellowship and friendly competition.

Our Mission is to foster and coordinate local and national amateur competition, to promote sportsmanlike conduct, and to provide positive social activities for the LGBTQ+ community and our Allies. We strive to create a safe environment for all.

ARTICLE I

Membership – Players, Non-Players, Teams, Officers

Section I – League Membership

- A. League Membership will be open upon availability to any person who in good faith wishes to participate on an established Team as either a Player or Non-Player.
 1. To maintain good faith, League Members must be Registered, adhere to the League Code of Conduct, Rules of Play, and pay all Fees in full by the date set by the Board of Directors (the Board).

Section II – League Teams:

- A. League Teams:
 1. Shall consist of at least thirteen (13) but no more than twenty (20) Players of whom at minimum 50% identify as LGBTQ+.
 2. May have an unlimited number of Non-Playing Members.
 3. May be sponsored by a person, business association, or other organization without limitation.
 4. Shall pay a non-refundable Team Fee determined by the Board prior to each season.
 5. Shall submit their Team Roster and Player Ratings by the date set by the Board.
 6. May for good cause shown, apply to the Board for authorization to make Roster changes.
 7. Shall participate in League Fundraising as determined by the Board.
 8. Shall be represented by one (1) officially team-sanctioned representative at any League meeting called by the Board.
 9. May conduct its internal affairs as deemed reasonable and consistent with this Constitution, Rules of Play, and Code of Conduct.

Section III – Officers

- A. The Board shall consist of the following officials: Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Director, Events & Marketing Director, and IT Director.
- B. Officers shall be entitled to the following:
 1. All benefits, rights, and privileges as defined by this Constitution.
 2. Be listed as a member of International Pride Softball (iPRIDE Softball), a division of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) and be afforded all the privileges of iPRIDE Softball and NAGAAA memberships.

ARTICLE II

Board of Directors (Board)

A. Board officials shall have the following roles and responsibilities:

1. The Commissioner Shall:

- a. Identify as LGBTQ+ and be chief administrator, representative, and spokesperson for the League, and as such, be responsible for the efficient conduct of all League business.
- b. Be responsible for obtaining Field Permits, Insurance, Umpires, Equipment and Supplies, and maintaining iPRIDE Softball and USA Memberships.
- c. Settle any disputes pursuant to the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules of Play, Code of Conduct, and Mission Statement.
- d. In conjunction with the Assistant Commissioner, be responsible for determining the quality of field conditions, the setting up and breaking down of fields, the establishment and oversight of Committees, collecting and determining Player and Team Ratings, and ensuring adherence to the Rules of Play and Code of Conduct.
- e. To the review and approval of the Board, replace and/or appoint iPRIDE Softball delegates as necessary and appoint qualified League Members to any vacant Board position that may arise.
- f. Provide Agendas for and preside over all League Meetings and appoint an acting Secretary for any Meeting at which the Secretary is absent.

2. The Assistant Commissioner Shall:

- a. Assume the duties of the Commissioner in the event of a temporary absence, or if identifies as LGBTQ+, a permanent mid-term Commissioner vacancy.
- b. Responsible for Player and Team Registration, Scheduling, obtaining Scores, and maintaining Standings.
- c. Act as the liaison between the Umpire in Chief (UIC) and the Board and provides the UIC with Field Schedules, Rules of Play, and Code of Conduct as needed.
- d. In conjunction with the Commissioner, be responsible for determining the quality of field conditions, the setting up and breaking down of fields, the establishment and oversight of Committees, collecting and determining Player and Team Ratings, and ensuring adherence to the Rules of Play and Code of Conduct.

3. The Treasurer Shall:

- a. In accordance with Article V of this Constitution, be responsible for the payment, collection and custody of League funds which shall be accurately maintained in the name of the League.
- b. Prepare an Annual Budget, identify and recommend opportunities to reduce costs and raise funds, and provide the Board with Budget Forecasts throughout the Year.
- c. Prepare and submit all necessary State and Federal Tax Forms and paperwork to maintain non-profit status.
- d. Upon request and within reason, provide an update of League financial status to any Board official or League Member in good standing.
- e. Submit a Financial Report to League Membership at the conclusion of each year.
- f. In conjunction with the Events & Marketing Director, seek to generate revenue through the sale of special event tickets and League merchandise as well as corporate sponsorships.
- g. If identifies as LGBTQ+ and the Assistant Commissioner does not, assume the duties of the Commissioner in the event of a permanent mid-term vacancy.

4. The Secretary Shall:

- a. Keep Meeting Minutes including the recording of all votes at League and Board Meetings.
- b. Update, maintain, and make available within reason to any member of the Board or League Member in good standing, all League Documents, including but not limited to our Constitution, Rules of Play, Code of Conduct, Meeting Minutes, Election Results, Player and Team Ratings, Team Rosters, and League Correspondence.
- c. Be responsible for monitoring and maintaining the League PO box, email account, and social media platforms to ensure timely responses.
- d. Be responsible for correspondence to League Members and Coaches as needed.
- e. With assistance from the IT Director and the Events & Marketing Director, be responsible for the planning, promotion, and coordination of our annual League Election.
- f. If identifies as LGBTQ+ and both the Assistant Commissioner and Treasurer do not, assume the duties of the Commissioner in the event of a permanent mid-term vacancy.

5. The Membership Director Shall:

- a. Be responsible for the recruitment and retention of players, emphasizing participation from within the LGBTQ+ Community.
- b. Maintain a roster of available players, assist with their team placement and registration, and when possible, create new teams.
- c. Monitor Team Rosters to ensure adherence to our Constitution and Rules of Play.
- d. Be responsible for settling disputes among League Members.
- e. Be responsible for communicating Member concerns, complaints, ideas, and comments to the Board.
- f. Assist Players and Coaches with any Player and/or Team Ratings challenges to be brought to the Board.

6. The Events & Marketing Director Shall:

- a. Be responsible for the planning, coordination, and promotion of all League Events including but not limited to Fundraisers, Opening Day activities, RI Pride participation, and the end of season Awards Ceremonies and Field Day.
- b. Upon Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner approval, create and oversee committees as needed and collaborate with the Treasurer to create necessary budgets.
- c. Be responsible for researching and promoting LGBTQ+ and other Community events throughout the year to drive League visibility and engagement with current and prospective League Members.
- d. In conjunction with the Treasurer, seek to generate revenue through the sale of special event tickets and League merchandise as well as corporate sponsorships.
- e. As needed, assist the Secretary with the planning, promotion, and coordination of our annual League Election.

7. The IT Director Shall:

- a. Be responsible for the user-friendly design and maintenance of our League website and other systems and be readily available to make time-sensitive updates.
- b. Ensure all updated League Documents and information, including but not limited to our Constitution, Rules of Play, Code of Conduct, Meeting Minutes, Team & Player Ratings, Financial Statements, Sponsor logos and links, and Hall of Fame inductees are posted on our League website in a timely manner.
- c. Ensure that League information is up to date within iPRIDE Softball's website and Player Ratings Database including but not limited to Officer names and contacts, League Teams & Sponsors, and if applicable, our League Tournament.
- d. Assist League Members and Officers with issues, concerns, and/or use of websites and systems pertaining but not limited to Registration, Scheduling, Voting & Elections, Player Ratings, and iPRIDE Softball tournaments.
- e. Research and implement, upon Board approval, new systems including but not limited to Registration and Scheduling, Communication Platforms, Voting & Election Systems, and Data Management.

- B. Each member of the Board shall serve a two (2) year term with the terms of the Commissioner, Treasurer, and Membership Director expiring one (1) year after the expired terms of the Assistant Commissioner, Secretary, Events & Marketing Director, and IT Director.
- C. Should a Board position other than Commissioner become vacant in between elections, the Commissioner shall, with Board approval, appoint a League Member in good standing to fill the vacancy.
- D. All Board officials, except for the Commissioner, shall be voting members. The Commissioner shall only vote to break a tie.
- E. The Board shall approve all expenditures of League funds in accordance with ARTICLE V of this Constitution.
- F. As necessary, the Board shall adopt Amendments and Rules of Play that are consistent with both the provisions of this Constitution and our Mission Statement allowing for the smooth and efficient administration of the League.
- G. In addition to the powers and duties aforementioned, the Board shall have any authority necessary that is consistent with this Constitution and our Mission Statement to properly conduct other League business.
- H. Amendments to the Constitution, Appeals of Board rulings, special Financial Levies, and Referendums brought by League Members that are consistent with this Constitution and our Mission Statement, shall be voted on by the General Membership and are binding upon majority vote.

ARTICLE III

Meetings

- A. A meeting of the Board may be called by the Commissioner or a majority of the Board.
- B. At least one (1) Coaches Meeting must be held prior to the start of Player Registration each season.
- C. Additional Coaches Meetings may be called by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of Coaches.
- D. A General Membership meeting may be called by a three-fourths (3/4) majority of the Board or by an absolute majority of League Membership. However, a General Membership Meeting for the purpose of impeaching an Officer can only be called by a three-fourths majority (3/4) of League Membership.
- E. Quorum and voting requirements for Meetings shall be as follows:
 - 1. Board Meetings:**
 - a) A two-thirds (2/3) quorum shall be required for all Board Meetings.
 - b) A majority vote shall rule in any case.
 - 2. Coaches Meetings:**
 - a) Proper notice containing the date, time, place, and proposed Agenda shall be given to all Coaches.
 - b) A two-thirds (2/3) quorum shall be required for all Coaches Meetings, and a majority vote shall rule in any item brought to the Teams for a vote (1 vote per team).
 - 3. General Membership Meetings:**
 - a) Proper notice, containing the date, time, place, and proposed Agenda, shall be given to all League Members.
 - b) There shall be no quorum requirement for General Membership Meetings.
 - c) Any matter brought to a vote, other than the impeachment of an officer, will pass upon majority vote.
 - i. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is required to impeach an Officer and an Officer so impeached shall be removed from Office immediately.

ARTICLE IV

League Elections

- A. The League Election shall be held by secret ballot by the last day of the Regular Season.
- B. Board positions, Amendments to this Constitution, and any other voting items approved by the Board shall be determined by League Membership on Election day.

- C. Any qualified League Member in good standing as defined by this Constitution may run for a Board position by notifying the Secretary by the deadline date set forth by the Board.
- D. Winning candidates must receive a majority vote, otherwise a run-off election will be conducted between the two (2) candidates with the most votes for that position.
- E. Terms of the elected Officers and approved Constitutional Amendments shall commence at the conclusion of the year-end Awards Ceremony.
- F. Other approved election items shall commence according to the language of the item.
- G. The Board may establish new procedures for the conduct of elections that are consistent with this Constitution.

ARTICLE V

Finances

- A. All league finances, by way of a budget proposal by the Treasurer, must be approved by the Board.
- B. Expenditures for Umpires, Equipment and Supplies, Insurance, Field Permits, and iPRIDE Softball Fees shall have priority over all other expenditures.
- C. A majority vote of the Board is required to authorize any large, unanticipated expenditure of League funds.

ARTICLE VI

Committees

- A. The Commissioner, in conjunction with the Assistant Commissioner, may establish and abolish committees as necessary (subject to approval by the Board).
- B. Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner, and Assistant Committee Chairs and committee members shall be appointed by the Committee Chairs.
- C. Such Committees, to the extent provided by the Board, shall function separately from the Board.
- D. All recommendations, decisions, and actions of the Committee shall be forwarded to the Commissioner and/or Assistant Commissioner and are subject to review and approval by the Board.
- E. The Board may overrule a Committee's decision or action by majority vote.

ARTICLE VII

Amendments

- A. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed to the Board by any Officer or League Member in good standing.
- B. Amendments consistent with our Mission Statement shall be brought to the General Membership upon majority approval by the Board.
- C. Amendments to this Constitution shall be ratified upon the affirmative vote in favor by an absolute majority of League Members as defined by this Constitution.
- D. The Board reserves the right to make adjustments to this Constitution that do not affect the original intent of our Mission or any of the aforementioned Articles, Sections, and/or Paragraphs.