***Ratings Review Committee***

**I. Classification Responsibility.**

1. **General.** Every RCSL player has a numerical rating using NAGAAA’s player rating guidelines.
2. **Commissioner.** The Commissioner is responsible for approving and reporting such ratings as required by and to NAGAAA, to other League Commissioners, to Tournament Directors, and to the League’s Head Coaches/Team Managers. The Commissioner, with assistance from the Ratings Review Committee (RRC), has a continuing responsibility to observe and review player ratings to ensure that player and team ratings continue to be accurate and current.
3. **Team Manager/Head Coach.** A Team Manager/Head Coach who fails to properly monitor and update the ratings for players on his/her team, may be subject to penalties.
4. **Ratings Changes.** A player’s numerical rating may only be changed by using the Ratings Review Request Form and only in these circumstances:
	* To correct a clerical error;
	* To adjust skill points if a Player feels he or she was rated incorrectly.
	* To adjust skill points if a Team Manager/Head Coach feels a player’s rating has changed or was previously rated incorrectly.
	* For a Team Manager/Head Coach to protest an opposing player’s rating through the Ratings Review Process described below.

**II. Ratings Review Committee Purpose.**

The RRC shall serve from year-to-year as a standing committee to ensure the proper rating of RCSL players while simultaneously promoting player safety. The RRC will:

* Observe new players with no prior NAGAAA rating at the annual preseason Clinic and based upon grading, place each player into either the C or D division grouping.
* Upon request, Assist Team Managers/Head Coaches in calculating Player Ratings
* Initiate, Review, Affirm and/or Deny Rating Review Requests

**III. Ratings Review Committee Membership.**

The RRC will be comprised of a Head Chair and two (2) Assistant Chairs (1 each from the C & D Divisions). The Head Chair will be appointed by the Commissioner and the Assistant Chairs will be appointed jointly by the Commissioner and RRC Head Chair. The Assistant Chairs are voting members of the RCC, while the Head Chair serves as a tie-breaking vote. An additional two (2) non-voting members from each division may be appointed by the Assistant Chairs.

**IV. Ratings Review Committee Meetings.**

As deemed necessary, meetings of the RRC shall be established by the RRC Head Chair. The RRC Head Chair will preside and only members of the RRC may participate in the discussions unless the RRC Head Chair requests information from an attending RCSL member.

**V. Requesting a Ratings Review**

1. Requests for a Ratings Review can only be made as follows:
	* By the Commissioner
	* By RRC Head/Assistant Chairs
	* By a Team Manager/Head Coach
	* By a Player for his/her own rating change
2. All requests must be submitted using the *Ratings Review Request Form* on the website and emailed to RCSL.RatingsCommittee@gmail.com .
3. Each season, every Team Manager/Head Coach may submit a *Ratings Review Request* to challenge **one (1) Rating Question** on up to **three (3) opposing Players** within their Division for **Free**. Any successful challenge will be rewarded with an additional *Ratings Review Request* for free.
4. Any *Ratings Review Request* by a Team Manager/Head Coach for more than one (1) Rating Question on a Player or additional Player Challenges after their allowance has been exhausted, **requires a $25 bond** per *Ratings Review Request* made payable to the RCSL.
5. Each season, every player may challenge one (1) of their own Rating Questions for Free. Any additional challenges **will require a $25 bond** per Ratings Question.
6. **All bonds are** **refundable if a challenge is successful**.

**VI. Process for Changing a Rating.**

Upon receiving a Ratings Review Request, the RRC Head Chair shall forward the Request to the RRC Assistant Chairs, Commissioner, and Player Liaison within five (5) calendar days. The following steps outline the process by both the RRC and Executive Board Members:

1. The RRC will review the Request and as necessary, observe the player in question during League games/Practices and/or Tournament play.
2. After the player has been observed, The RRC shall conduct a full review of **ALL** NAGAAA Player Rating Questions.
3. Any changes to existing Rating Questions will be voted on by the voting members of the RRC.
4. Once a vote has taken place that changes a player’s rating, that rating change takes effect immediately.
5. The RRC Head Chair or Assistant Chairs shall report the findings of the RRC on the Ratings Review Request, ensure all three (3) RRC chairs have signed the report, and forward to the Commissioner.
6. The Commissioner and Player Liaison will affirm the findings of the RRC and send the completed Ratings Review Request Form to the Secretary.
7. The Player Liaison will notify a Player of his/her Rating Review Ruling while the Commissioner will notify a Team Manager/Head Coach of their Rating Review Rulings. All parties shall be made aware of their right to an appeal (see Section VIII).

**VII. Conflict of Interest.**

All RRC members must abstain from voting if there may be a conflict of interest. The following shall constitute a conflict of interest with a Player if a RRC Member is:

1. On the Same Team
2. A Romantic Partner
3. A Roommate
4. A Co-Worker
5. A Family Member or Close Friend
6. Involved in a Financial Connection
7. Involved in any other situation deemed relevant by the RRC Head Chair and/or Assistant Chair

**VIII. Appeals.**

All RRC rulings are subject to appeal to the Executive Board, however such rulings will remain in effect until a ruling is overturned.

The following steps of an appeal are required by all parties:

1. A Team Manager/Head Coach or Player must notify the Commissioner in writing that they wish to appeal a RRC ruling and submit **new evidence** within **five (5)** calendar **days** of the RRC ruling.
2. The Commissioner will schedule an appeal hearing as soon as possible and notify the Team Manager/Head Coach or Player, RRC Head Chair, and remaining members of the Executive Board of the date, time and location.
3. The RRC Head Chair will notify the RRC Assistant Chairs and gather the necessary back-up documentation in support of the RRC’s decision on the affected player.
4. A decision by the Executive Board to overturn a ruling made by the RRC shall be justified in writing at the next Executive Board meeting and entered into the minutes.

**IX. Appeal Hearing.**

During the appeal hearing the following will take place:

1. The Commissioner will preside and keep professional order during the hearing.
2. The RRC Head Chair will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes to submit the summary of the RRC decision including any back-up information available to the Executive Board.
3. The Team Manager/Head Coach or Player will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes to submit new documentation to the Executive Board.
4. The Executive Board will recess to privately discuss all the information provided at the hearing by both parties along with the general knowledge they may have regarding the player in question and vote to uphold or overturn the RRC ruling.
5. The Commissioner will call the hearing back to order and report the ruling of the Executive Board to Uphold or Reverse the RRC Ruling.
6. The Executive Board Ruling is considered Final.

**X. Timing of Official Rating Change.**

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

1. Upon a ruling of the RRC that changes an existing point, the change is effective immediately.
2. Any Ratings changes that results in a division change, the player will be assigned to a new team immediately (team to be determined by Executive Board).
3. Upon a ruling by the Executive Board that overturns a RRC ruling, the change is effective immediately.
4. If a rating point(s) is added to a player as a result of a protest during a RCSL game, the following will apply:
* If there is no appeal of a RRC ruling or an appeal is heard and denied by the Executive Board, the rating change will be considered retroactive ONLY for the games where that point was protested.
* If the resulting change creates a situation where the player and/or team was ineligible for the protested game, the result of that game shall be changed to a forfeit. Other games played after the protest and before the final ratings change will not be affected unless protests were filed for those games.