



LOUISIANA SOFTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION
LSCA BY-LAWS APPROVED REVISIONS OF
September 24, 2014 and November 5, 2014

Major Revisions

1. Updated the definition of a Lifetime member - Article 1 Sec 3.
2. Increased the dues of membership by \$5.00 per type of membership – Article II Sec 1 & 2
3. Revised the duties of all officers. Added duties of other Executive members – Article IV
4. Revised Committees – Article V to eliminate “Nominating of All Star Coaches” Committee and include selection of coaches in wording of Article X Sec 3 – All Star Softball Game.
5. Revised the Objectives & Programs of the LSCA – Article VI
6. Article IX – All State Selection Sec 5 & 6 has been revised to change the due dates of nominating players and the due date from returning votes for All State players.
7. Revised the All Star Softball Game - Article X - to conform to wording in the LHSAA and LHSCA by laws on All Star Games. Also as mentioned in Item 4 the wording in Article X Sec 3 has been revised to further clarify the selection of coaches for the All Star Game.
8. Article XIII – Scholarships Sec 5 has been revised to require the completing of the Application in full, especially the section on “Player and/or Family Member of a LSCA member. The Application form for 2015 has also been revised. Make sure if you have an applicant that they use the correct form.

**THE BYLAWS OF THE
LOUISIANA SOFTBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION**

(Approved by Revision of September 24, 2014 and November 5, 2014)

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

- Sec. 1 Regular membership shall consist of high school coaches.**
- Sec. 2 Associate membership shall consist of former coaches, friends of the LSCA, recreational, middle school, junior high, and college coaches.**
- Sec. 3 Lifetime membership shall be conferred upon the President of the L.S.C.A. at the completion of the term in office. This carries all privileges of regular membership.**
- Sec. 4 Honorary membership may be conferred upon any individual who has made a valuable contribution to the L.S.C.A. or to the sport of Louisiana softball. This membership must be approved by the Executive Board. An honorary member will receive copies of the L.S.C.A. Newsletter for one year. No other special privileges are granted to an honorary member. Honorary members can become an associate member after one year.**
- Sec. 5 Application of membership shall be made to the Chairperson of the Membership Committee. The applicant shall furnish credentials that will determine the class of membership to which he/she is entitled. The application shall be accompanied by the dues; the Chairperson of the Membership Committee will inform the applicant if he/she is approved and the class of membership of which he/she is a member.**
- Sec. 6 Hall of Fame members shall become lifetime members. If a Hall of Fame member is an active coach in the association, he/she shall retain his/her lifetime membership upon retirement from coaching softball.**
- Sec. 7 All members shall have the privileges of the floor at meetings, but only Executive Board Members and regular members may vote.**
- Sec. 8 The L.S.C.A. shall meet semi-annually in conjunction with the Louisiana High School Coaches Association in July and in conjunction with the winter clinic in January.**

ARTICLE II - ANNUAL DUES

- Sec. 1 Regular members shall pay dues of \$45 and \$35 for each additional staff member. This fee includes membership and admission to the Summer and Winter Clinic.**
- Sec. 2 Associate members shall pay dues of \$25.**
- Sec. 3 Lifetime members are exempt from dues.**
- Sec. 4 Honorary members are exempt from dues for one year.**
- Sec. 5 Annual dues are payable at the July meeting of the L.S.C.A. and due by the 1st official playing date as set by the LHSAA to be eligible to vote at the regular business meetings and for the All-State team.**

ARTICLE III - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- Sec. 1** The approval of the Executive Board shall be held at the January meeting of the association.
- Sec. 2** A nominating committee made up of the present officers for the purpose of selecting a slate of candidates for office for the upcoming year shall meet in December.
- Sec. 3** A slate of candidates for offices and the Executive Board shall be presented for approval to the regular membership at the January meeting. If not approved, at this time nominations may be made from the floor by the regular membership.
- Sec. 4** A vacancy during the year shall be filled by a vote of the Executive Board.
- Sec. 5** The term of office for the officers and the Executive Board shall be two years with the term to begin at the July meeting.

ARTICLE IV - DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Sec. 1** The President shall preside at the semi-annual meetings of the L.S.C.A. and other called meetings of the Association, shall be responsible for gathering and selecting materials and distributing the quarterly newsletter (Sept./Dec./March/June), shall represent the L.S.C.A. at meetings of allied organizations and he/her and the Executive Board shall appoint all committee chairpersons.
- Sec. 2** The President-Elect shall assist the President in all of his/her duties and shall train for the office of President. He/Her shall be responsible for setting up all conference calls of the Executive Committee.
- Sec. 3** The Vice-President shall act as President in case of the President's absence, shall assist the President in setting up the Executive Committee meetings, shall assist the president in the distribution of the association's newsletter and shall be in charge of collecting information for the archives.
- Sec. 4** The Secretary shall give notice of the semi-annual meetings and all other meetings of the Executive Board shall keep all records of the organization including an official membership roster and shall assist the president in the publication and distribution of the association's newsletter.
- Sec. 5** The Treasurer in coordination with the Chairperson of the Membership Committee shall collect dues and process membership applications, shall keep an accurate record of all incoming and outgoing funds, shall make disbursements upon approval of the President and shall present a financial statement at all meetings of the Executive Committee.
- Sec 6** Outgoing President shall assist the incoming President with the transition to his/her new position. He/Her should assist the Executive Committee in finding nominations for the President-Elect position. He/Her should give input to the Steering Committee on of items for consideration that promotes and improves the Association along with issues and rule changes that have been before the Executive Committee in the past that might need to be revisited.

Sec 7 At Large Members shall act in an advisory capacity in support and assistance to the other Executive members as needed and especially to the Class Representatives. He/Her shall provide information to the president for the publication of the association's newsletter and information to the Steering Committee of items for consideration that promotes and improves the Association.

Sec 8 Class Representatives with support from the membership chairman shall at the start of each school year update the record of all coaches (members and non-members) from schools in their classification, During the year they should update the record as changes occur and notify the membership chairman. Before the start of each season they should make contact with each District Chairperson in each district to get them solicit membership to the Association. The Class Representatives will support the All Star Game committee in their efforts to make sure the players selected are able to participate and other activities needed by the All Star Game Coordinators.

Sec 9 East/West All Star Coordinators elected by the softball coaches present at the annual business meeting from the east in odd years and the west in even years to serve a one-year alternating term. The senior member of the Coordinators will serve on the Executive Council of the LHSCA. They will be responsible for the planning and coordinating of events for the All Star Game. They should organize the All Star nominating committee which selects the All Star Selection Committee. See Article X, Section 2 for details of selection process for the All Star Selection Committee.

Sec. 10 The Executive Board shall meet immediately preceding and following the semi-annual meetings as the need arises.

Sec. 11 All Executive Board members shall act in an advisory capacity in support and assistance of the present leadership. They shall provide information to the president for the publication of the association's newsletter and information to the Steering Committee of items for consideration that promotes and improves the Association.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

Sec. 1 All committee chairmanships shall be appointed by the President.

Sec. 2 There shall be the following committees:

- a. Steering
- b. All-State Selection
- c. Publicity/Web Site
- d. Hall of Fame/Distinguished Service Award
- e. All-Star Game
- f. Scholarship
- g. Membership and Directory

Sec. 3 The duties of the committees are as follows:

a. **Steering**: To study the need for rule changes or clarifications of rules or revisions to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association, to work for uniformity in the officiating of the game and to make recommendations to the LHSAA, to the LHSCA and to the LSCA as needed.

b. **All-State Selection**: To follow the selection system as outlined in Article IX of the L.S.C.A. Bylaws

c. **Publicity/Web Site**: To promote softball throughout the state, including newspaper, magazine, radio, and television coverage, To be responsible for the maintaining of the LSCA web site and the updating of coaches through the use of email blast.

d. **Hall of Fame/Distinguished Service**: To recognize outstanding achievement and/or contributions of an individual to Louisiana Softball.

e. **All-Star Game**: The East and West Coordinators will be responsible for the planning and coordinating of events for the All Star Game. The All Star Selection Committee shall select the coaches for the All-Star game. The Committee consists of the current president, the president-elect, East coordinator, West coordinator, and a past president. The Class Representatives will support the All Star Game committee in their efforts to make sure the players selected are able to participate and other activities needed by the Game Coordinators.

f. **Scholarship**: To distribute information and applications to all members, to verify that all applications contain the correct information and to secure readers for selection of the scholarship.

g. **Membership**: To process membership applications, shall collect dues and keep an accurate record of dues collected and report deposits to the Treasurer, To maintain an official Membership roster, To make it available to the Secretary and to the Publicity Chairperson. Coordinate the publication of the Membership Directory.

ARTICLE VI – OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS

Section 1 - Objectives of the LSCA:

- a) To empower players through Leadership, Service, competition and Academics
- b) To encourage greater participation of coaches in the association in all areas of the state
- c) To promote harmonious relationships between principals and coaches in their respective schools concerning the administration of softball
- d) To help maintain the highest possible standards in softball and the coaching profession
- e) To secure a better understanding of the problems in softball.
- f) To encourage among coaches a deeper sense of responsibility in developing, maintaining, and conducting the game of high school softball.

- g) To maintain a membership group representative of all sections of the state and all classifications of competition at the middle school, junior high, high school, recreational, and college levels.
- h) To place at the disposal of coaches the sources of athletic information.
- i) To work together for the improvement of conditions in Louisiana high school softball.
- j) To have a representative group of coaches in which problems of general interest may be discussed and to which they may be referred for the friendly interchange of ideas, resulting in better relationship between schools.
- k) To promote good fellowship, sportsmanship and the game of softball
- l) To develop and make recommendation on issues and rules to the LHSAA, LHSCA and LSCA concerning softball

Section 2 - Programs of the LSCA:

- a) Publication of a newsletter which will be the official publication of the L.S.C.A.
- b) Summer Clinic held in coordination with the LA High School Coaches Association
- c) Winter Coaching Clinic held in prior to the season in January for Coaches
- d) Sponsor the High School Softball All-Star Game in association with the LHSAA and the LHSCA
- e) Selection of the annual All Star Team from players nominated by LSCA coaches
- f) Sponsor a LSCA Scholarship Award each year to an outgoing Senior Player
- g) Sponsor selection of members to the LSCA Hall of Fame and the selection of people/organizations for Distinguished Service Awards
- h) Selection of All-State and Coach of the Year for high school softball in each classification from nominations provided by LSCA coaches
- i) Provide information to coaches and media through the use of email blast, Facebook and the LSCA website
- j) Publish a Members Directory

ARTICLE VII - REPORTS

All officers and committee chairpersons shall present typewritten reports to be filed with the secretary at both regular meetings of the L.S.C.A.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE IX - ALL-STATE SELECTION

Sec. 1 Any head coach may nominate a player if they are a member of LSCA.

Sec. 2 A nominee must be a 1st team selection on their respective All-District team for the current year and may be nominated by a head coach other than their head coach.

- Sec. 3** A copy of the All-District team must be included with the Nomination form. It can be the official copy from your district chairperson, a complete list on your school's letterhead with the principal's signature or an official list published in a newspaper article that can be verified online.
- Sec. 4** A head coach may nominate up to, but not more than four players and one Coach of the Year in their classification of players nominated. Members of All Star Team not nominated by their head coach will be added to the list
- Sec. 5** Nomination forms must be postmarked or emailed by the date as set by the Executive Board to correspond to a date that is 5 days after the completion of the State Tournament. This date will be published on the web site and annually in the LSCA Newsletter. The names of all nominated players shall be kept confidential. No coach shall reveal the names of players nominated by other coaches to players, parents or other non-members of the LSCA.
- Sec. 6** The rules for voting are as follows:
- a. Only regular members of the LSCA (members who have paid their dues by the first playing date) may vote.
 - b. Each school that has regular members may send in only two ballots, one by the head coach and one that is a consensus of the other coaches at the school that are members.
 - c. Each ballot must be identified with the coach's name, school and signature.
 - d. The names of all nominated players shall be kept confidential. No coach shall reveal the names of players nominated by other coaches to players, parents or other non-members of the LSCA.
 - e. Each coach may vote for players only in his/her own classification.
 - f. Twenty-six players will be chosen in each class (5A thru C) 4 pitchers, 4 catchers, 6 infielders, 4 outfielders, and 8 Utility Players. The Utility Players are to be selected at-large by the All State Committee based on criteria as determined by the Committee.
 - g. Each coach must vote for 20 players or his/her ballot will be voided.
 - h. The exception being if less than 20 are nominated.
 - i. Each coach may vote for one Coach of the Year in his/her classification. This is not mandatory.
 - j. The completed ballot is to be returned to the committee chairperson on a date to be announced annually in the LSCA newsletter. This date is established by the Executive Board and is set to allow 10 days for ballots to be returned. Announcement of All State team will be sent out prior to June 1 of the school year.

ARTICLE X - ALL STAR SOFTBALL GAME

- Sec. 1** The All Star softball game will be sponsored by the LSCA and played usually on Friday and/or Saturday of the 46th week of the National Federation Calendar or a date designated by the Executive Committee. In the event of a complete rainout, there will not be a makeup date.
- Sec. 2** The LSCA Executive Board will select one head softball coach from each classification to represent this class on the respective East or West All Star selection committee. The Board shall select the committee members assuring that all the areas of the state are represented. Coaches selected to coach an all-star game shall also serve on that team's selection committee. Each coach must be a head coach from a school that is located within the boundaries set forth by the LHSAA. Both committees will meet on a date to be announced by the LHSAA.

- Sec. 3** At a date determined by the Executive Board, the LSCA Executive Board will select a head coach and an assistant coach for the East and West All-Star teams. The two head coaches should be if possible a head coach whose team was the same year's state champion or runner-up in his All Star area. If these coaches in either or both sections are not available, then a coach whose team who participated in the State Tournament in his All Star Area should be selected or the Board has the authority to use its discretion to fill the position(s) but they must be a coach from a school that is located within the respective boundaries. The assistant coach does not have to make the playoffs for consideration but they must be a coach from a school that is located within the respective boundaries.
- Sec. 4** Each squad will consist of two pitchers, two catchers, five infielders, four outfielders, and five utility players, one of which must be a pitcher for a total of 18 players. In order to participate in the LSCA sponsored all-star games, the student-athlete must be classified as a senior and she must meet all the scholastic requirements for eligibility and be on schedule to graduate during her eighth semester of eligibility.
- Sec. 5** The sponsor for the game will be the LSCA and LHSCA.
- Sec. 6** The game will be a two game format consisting of 7 innings. The games maybe played as a double header or on different days and held on the 46th week of the National Federation Calendar or a date designated by the Executive Committee. In the event of a complete rainout, there will not be a makeup date.
- Sec. 7** Each team must have one player from each of the seven classifications. The other eleven players per squad will be at-large selections from any classification. If one class does not nominate any players for an all-star contest, players shall be selected from the next classification either above or below the classification that did not submit nominations. No school can have more than two players including alternates named to one of the All Star teams. Alternates will be the next highest vote getters in selection with position being first taken into consideration.
- Sec. 8** All Star candidates may be nominated to their respective team by their head coach or another member softball head coach, or a member of the All Star selection committee, with the permission of their head coach and provided that a nomination form is filled out at a time prior to the selection date. Position played must be listed on the All Star form. All nominated players must be classified as a senior and she must meet all the scholastic requirements for eligibility and be on schedule to graduate during her eighth semester of eligibility.
- Sec. 9** If any All Star player does not accept her invitation to play in the game, a selection will be made from the respective list of alternates with playing position considered first. When all alternates in one classification are exhausted, the coordinators will then draw from another Classification the position needed to complete the squad. Coaches who do not accept to coach in the all-star event, will be replaced by his/her alternate or another coach selected by the All Star Game Committee. In the event an all-star coach leaves the high school coaching field in good standing, he/she may continue his/her duties until the end of the next annual summer clinic.

- Sec.10** If an All Star player has not reported to the site by the designated time on the date published, she will be replaced unless she has notified the LHSAA of reason for being late. The original player will not be contacted.
- Sec.11** Players who are injured or become ill while at the All Star weekend may be replaced until Friday evening. These players may remain or go home. They will still receive their All Star award as will the player replacing them.
- Sec.12** Players sent home because of disciplinary reasons will not receive/keep their All Star award regardless of the day they are removed.
- Sec.13** The All Star players will receive their all-star award at the banquet, but will not keep them permanently until all keys and equipment (if applicable) are returned to LSCA officials.
- Sec.14** The games shall be 7 complete innings. Starters will play innings 1-3. The remaining 9 will substitute in innings 4-5. Unlimited substitution may occur in innings 6-7. Pitchers play 3 innings each game at least (utility player may get at least one inning of pitching). There will be no free substitution; correct batting order will be followed. The second game will follow the format of the 1st game except Game 1 substitutes will become Game 2 starters. Every player is guaranteed at least 5 innings of playing time if present for two games or 3 innings of playing time if present for one game, except pitchers who will pitch their designated pitching time. The head coach will be allowed to designate his/her starting line-up. Prior to the start of the 1st game, the "home team" will be decided by a flip of a coin. "Home Team" for the 2nd game will reverse. Coordinators will check to guarantee everyone bats at least one time in either Game 1 or Game 2.
- Sec. 15** Except for special All Star rules affecting play, the game will be played under National Federation Softball Playing Rules and officiated by LHSAA registered umpires.
- Sec. 16** Details such as nomination and acceptance deadlines, the meeting dates for the All Star selecting committees, the official announcement date of each squad, reporting times for coaches and players, and workout and pre-game information will be provided by the secretary of the LSCA and LHSAA.
- Sec. 17** Each All Star will bring gear appropriate to their position. EXAMPLES - Catcher's gear, glove, bat, shoes, etc...
- Sec. 18** All Star coaches will report the night before the 1st game.
- Sec. 19** All Stars will report to the site of the game at the time as designated for registration on the Friday of the first game. Uniforms will be issued and each All Star will be given a list of rules for participation and the times for the activities of All Star Week- at registration.
- Sec. 20** Saturday morning an All Star Banquet will be held at a time specified by the LSCA. Players and coaches awards will be given at this time. Others who wish to attend the banquet may do so at a cost to be determined and should buy tickets in advance.
- Sec. 21** Friday and Saturday's schedule will be set by the LSCA.

ARTICLE XI - HALL OF FAME

Sec. 1 The chairman and committee members shall be appointed by the President with approval from the Executive Board.

Sec. 2 The categories for the nominees are as follows:

- a. Competitor
- b. Coach
- c. Administrator
- d. Supporter
- e. Other

Sec. 3 Nominations, with resume, shall be submitted in writing to the chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee. Nominations must be submitted in March on a date specified by the Executive Board.

Sec. 4 Committee members shall select inductees from past nominations (received within the last five years) or from the current year. An on-going file of nominations received will be kept by the President.

Sec. 5 Election to the Hall of Fame is made by the members of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE XII - DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Sec. 1 Each year the LSCA may honor individuals selected by a sub-committee made of Executive Board members.

Sec. 2 The sub-committee shall meet prior to the May Executive Board meeting to select the recipients.

Sec. 3 These individuals must have displayed dedicated service to the LSCA.

Sec. 4 The award(s) shall be presented in at the All-Star Banquet.

ARTICLE XIII - SCHOLARSHIPS

Sec.1 Each year the LSCA will offer two \$1000 scholarships for post-secondary education. The LSCA may offer more scholarships of varying amounts if approved by the Executive Board.

Sec.2 A committee consisting of a chairman and committee members shall be appointed by the President. The chairman shall secure three readers to be part of the selection committee. These readers may not be members of the LSCA. The chairman shall verify that each application contains the information listed in Sec. 5. The chairman will send each reader a copy of the applications with the name and school removed from the application.

Sec.3 These scholarships are available to any graduating senior of a LSCA member's high school softball team or to any child of an LSCA member provided that the coach has been a member of LSCA for at least 3 consecutive years (including the current year of application)

Sec.4 One scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior of a LSCA member's high school softball team. The other scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior or a post-secondary student. This student must be a family member of a LSCA member. This scholarship will be known as the "Anne Marie Burgard Memorial Scholarship". More scholarship(s) may be awarded in each area if approved by the Executive Board.

Sec.5 In order to apply, the student must have a 2.5 GPA and must meet criteria stated in Sec. 3 and Sec. 4 above. The applicant must send in the following: a completed application form, a copy of an official transcript, and 2 letters of recommendation from a principal, coach, athletic director, or teacher. The application form must clearly be marked as to if the student is a Player of a LSCA member school and/or a Family Member of a LSCA member.

Sec.6 If an applicant does not receive one of the scholarships on his/her initial application, the application will remain on file. However, the applicant must re-apply to be considered in the following years.

Sec.7 The deadline for application will be set by the scholarship committee.

Sec.8 The scholarships will be awarded at the All Star Banquet.

ARTICLE XIV - MILEAGE COMPENSATION

Sec.1 The purpose of this article to reimburse our Executive Board Members who must travel long distances to attend Executive Board meeting and other meetings associated with carrying out the duties of the Executive Board.

Sec.2 The criteria for eligibility for compensation shall be set by the Executive Board.