

APPLE VALLEY SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS - POLICIES - RULES

ARTICLE I

NAME OF THE ORGANIZATION

The name of this organization shall be “APPLE VALLEY SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION”(AVSA). The term AVSA, when used in these bylaws, policies and rules, shall refer to softball leagues and include the different leagues and their teams, which have been accepted into this organization or formed from within this organization.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

1. To form a larger body of people from within our community to unite its members in the closest bonds of good fellowship, sportsmanship, and social union among them without any reference or discrimination due to race, color, or religion.
2. To create and foster a spirit of sportsmanship in the advancement of amateur softball.
3. To promote the theory and practice of unified rules for the playing of organized softball.
4. To encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in the play or amateur softball.
5. To take an active interest in any way practical for the further development of AVSA softball and it's softball facilities within our communities.
6. Shall be exclusively prohibited from any political affiliation, lobbying, direct, or indirect participation in any political activity.
7. To provide an environment of uniform and consistent procedures and rules for all organized softball leagues.

ARTICLE III

DEFINITIONS

1. **SANCTIONING BODY:** All AVSA Leagues must be sanctioned and insured by a sanctioning body, such as, but not limited to: USSSA, NSA, ASA, etc. Leagues are not requires to be sanctioned by the same body, it is up to each League to decide what is best for them.
2. **AVSA EXECUTIVE BOARD:** The AVSA Executive Board shall be comprised of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Field Scheduler. Members of the Executive

Board must be a member of a Qualified Team or Board Member, from any League, and in good standing.

3. **AVSA BOARD:** The AVSA Board shall be comprised of the Executive Board and Board Members from each AVSA League. Each Executive Board member and each League only receives one vote on all decisions.
4. **AVSA LEAGUES:** Men's League, Women's League, Jack and Jill League, Church League, Wenatchee Senior League, and Greater Wenatchee Girls Softball Association (GWGSA).
5. **LEAGUE BOARDS:** Each AVSA League shall have their own Board, which shall have a minimum of three members and no more than five members. Each League Board shall be comprised of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Game Scheduler, with members holding no more than two position titles. Members of these Boards must be in good standing with their League, AVSA and their sanctioning body.
6. **LEAGUE FEES:** Money paid by players or sponsors to finance each league. Each league, at the start of the season, sets these fees.
7. **PLAYER FEES:** An annual, per player, fee collected by the AVSA, at the end of each season via the AVSA Leagues.
8. **QUALIFIED TEAMS:** Teams shall be considered qualified if they pay the current year's team fee or were a Qualified Team of AVSA the previous year and have/will have paid the current team fee(s) by the due date for the current year and have no outstanding fines or fees assessed against the team or players of that team. Teams not qualified are not eligible to participate in any AVSA activities, League games or functions.
 - A. Qualified Teams may be limited by the Executive Board or League Board only for the purpose of protecting Association solvency and maintaining an organized schedule of league play.
9. **PLAYER MEMBERSHIP:** Any player who is registered and on a roster of a Qualified Team or a parent/guardian of a GWGSA member is considered to be a Member of AVSA.
 - A. Members must be in good standing in order to hold any type of board position or participate in voting on any level.
10. **PLAYER REGISTRATION:** All Members must complete and sign all paperwork required by each League, including rosters and player registrations forms. Players who do not sign the required forms are not eligible to participate or play in any league games, functions or AVSA activities.
11. **FACILITIES:** Facilities are defined as any softball field or complex that is utilized by any AVSA League for league games.

- 12. AIR QUALITY MONITORING:** The Washington Air Monitoring Network, fortress.wa.gov, shall be the website used to monitor the air quality. 201 PPM is considered Very Unhealthy, so air quality that reads 201 PPM or higher will be considered too dangerous to play in for adults.

**ARTICLE IV
FEES AND DUES**

- 1. LEAGUE FEES:** Each League shall set and collect Player Fees and/or Sponsor Fees, based on an annual preliminary budget, listing all fees and projected numbers. This budget will be presented at the first AVSA meeting of each year and a Profit/Loss Statement shall be provided at the end of each year. The Executive Board will give final approval to all budgets and fee proposals.
- 2. PURPOSE OF LEAGUE FEES:** The League Fees shall be used for the purpose of providing funds for administrative costs, equipment, insurance premiums and any other use deemed appropriate by the League Board, which is consistent with the purpose of the AVSA.
- 3. PLAYER FEES:** An annual fee, collected by AVSA, will be assessed to all members of the AVSA Leagues, regardless of when they register or how many games they play in their respective leagues.
 - A. The Player Fees, collected by AVSA, are as follows:

1. Men's League	\$5.00
2. Women's League	\$5.00
3. Jack & Jill League	\$5.00
4. Church League	\$5.00
5. Wenatchee Senior League	\$5.00
6. GWGSA	\$5.00
 - B. Each League reserves the right to increase their Player Fees to help offset the cost of their League, however, that will not affect the Player Fee amount that is collected by AVSA.
 - C. In order to change the established Player Fees, collected by AVSA, the motion must be presented at the first AVSA meeting of the year and approved by a 2/3 vote of the AVSA Board.
 - D. Executive Board Members, League Board members, and registered members of the Apple Valley Umpire Association shall have their Player Fees waived.
 - E. AVSA Funds will be restricted to the following uses:
 1. Pay fees charged by any outside business that is used in order to maintain the functioning of the AVSA. These businesses must be approved by the Executive Board by a 2/3 vote.
 2. Pay fees for facility usage or damage caused by the AVSA.
 3. Pay cost to improve field conditions and related equipment used at the Facilities.

4. Donations to help improve fields or purchase new fences or equipment at the Facilities.
5. Cost of liability insurance coverage.
6. Any use of funds deemed appropriate to accomplish the "Purpose of the AVSA," as listed in Article II, and approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the AVSA Board.

ARTICLE V VOTING POWERS, NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The voting powers of this association shall be divided as follows:

1. **LEAGUE MEETINGS:** Shall consist of at least one Member from each Qualified Team. Each qualified team shall have one vote on all decisions being made by the League, provided that a Qualified Team Member is present and voting. League Board Members shall also have one vote each on all decisions being made by the League, provided that they are present. There shall be no proxy voting.
2. **AVSA BOARD MEETINGS:** Shall consist of at least one Board Member from each League, plus the Executive AVSA Board members. Each Executive Board member has one vote and each league shall have one vote on all decisions being made by the AVSA Board.
3. **NOMINATIONS:** Any Member of a Qualified Team may be nominated or nominate themselves for any position within their League or AVSA, provided that the Member is in good standing. All incumbent officers are automatically nominated for the league office they currently hold, provided that they still qualify. All new candidates wishing to be nominated must be present at the elections.
4. **ELECTIONS:** There shall be an annual election of League and AVSA Board Members, with the date being set at a prior meeting.
 - A. League Board Members will be elected at a League Meeting with the candidate receiving the most votes, being the winner. There shall be no voting by proxy at any elections.
 - B. AVSA Executive Board Members will be elected by the AVSA Board, with the candidate receiving the most votes, being the winner. There shall be no voting by proxy at any elections.
5. **VACANCIES:** The Boards, at their discretion, shall appoint any position, which is not filled at the annual election or becomes vacant during the course of the year.
6. **ASSUMING OFFICE:** Newly elected league officers shall assume office no later than the beginning of the season they were elected for. A Board meeting will be held with the outgoing officers for the purpose of transferring materials.

ARTICLE VI BOARD COMPOSITIONS

- 1. EXECUTIVE BOARD FUNCTION:** The primary function of the Executive Board is to make the necessary decisions to operate AVSA fairly and efficiently. The Board shall interpret the bylaws, establish policy, and direct AVSA based upon these principles. The Board shall enforce all bylaws, rules, and policies of the AVSA and levy any fines, forfeits, and suspensions that may be required to aid in enforcing the above. The Executive Board is also authorized to employ personnel to ensure that the activities of the association are carried out in sound and effective business manners as best as possible and complies with all applicable laws.
 - A. The Executive Board may, at its discretion, assign its duties or responsibilities to any other body or board that it deems necessary or in the best interest of this Association.
- 2. LEAGUE BOARD FUNCTIONS:** The primary function of a League Board is to make necessary decisions to operate the league fairly and efficiently within the boundaries of the bylaws, policies, and rules of AVSA. The League Board shall enforce all bylaws, rules and policies of AVSA as they affect their respective leagues.

ARTICLE VII FINES, FORFEITS, AND SUSPENSIONS

- 1.** Any team(s) or player(s) who fail to abide by the AVSA bylaws, policies, rules of play and/or affiliated rules of play will be subject to a fine and/or forfeit and/or suspension.
- 2.** Fines, forfeits, and suspensions will be assessed by the League Board and/or Executive Board in response to:
 - A. Protest or report of a rule violation(s).
 - B. Acts of unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - C. Any act by an individual or team that results in negative exposure of the AVSA.
- 3.** Fines must be paid within 24 hours of notification. Failure to pay the fine prior to the deadline may result in a suspension and/or forfeiture of all league games, including kick-off and play-off tournament games, until the fine is paid. The Executive Board may increase any unpaid fines as they see fit.
- 4.** Forfeits will be assessed by the Executive Board according to the guidelines of the bylaws, rules, and policies of the AVSA.
- 5.** Suspensions that cannot be served due to the end of the season will be translated into a fine of \$20 per game, which must be paid before the player or team will be reinstated. This suspension will be carried onto the next year if necessary.
- 6. APPEALS:** Qualified Teams and/or Members may appeal to their respective League Board regarding fines, forfeits, or suspensions issued by the League Board. The appeal must be made within 48 hours of notification of action by their League Board. The appeal must be in writing,

requesting an appeals hearing, and be accompanied by a \$25 appeals deposit. All of the above conditions must be met for the appeal to be valid.

ARTICLE VIII MEETINGS, QUORUMS, AND VOTING

1. AVSA or League meetings may be called at any time by:
 - A. The President or Vice President, if there is not a current President.
 - B. Two Members of the respective Board.
 - C. Any four Members of different Qualified Teams by written petition through the Executive Board or League Board.
2. All League or AVSA meetings will be announced, at least one week in advance, via the AVSA website and email to all team representatives.
3. The established quorum for the AVSA Executive Board and any League Board shall be a minimum of three of the Board Members.
4. The established quorum for all League or AVSA Board meetings shall be 25% of the Qualified Teams or Board Members that make up that League or the AVSA Board.
 - A. Unless otherwise stated, a vote of a simple majority of those present and voting shall determine the issue. Representatives not in attendance are considered to have abstained on all voting that occurred at the meeting. There shall be no proxy voting allowed.
5. Each Board may have one vote on the issue that is being presented to that particular Board. If a Board Member is also representing a team or a league, they may choose to vote as that representative or vote with that specific Board. They will not be allowed two votes.
6. There shall be at least two annual AVSA meetings for the purpose of electing officers, to perform corporate business and to elect, appoint, and approve a registered agent for our corporate status for the upcoming year and to receive current financial status of the AVSA and its Leagues.

ARTICLE IX LEAGUES

1. **COMPOSITION:** The AVSA will consist of those leagues which request and have been approved by the AVSA and those leagues, which have been formed from within the AVSA
2. **DUTIES:** All leagues will have elected officers who may sit on the Executive Board. All leagues will follow all bylaws and will operate under the direction of their league board and the Executive Board.

3. **LEAGUE TOURNAMENTS:** Any league that wishes to host or operate an invitational tournament or any other non-league tournament must:
 - A. Ensure that all monies received are routed through the League Treasurer, and deposited into the League Account.
 - B. Ensure that all expenditures are paid.

ARTICLE X LEAGUE PLAY

1. League play structure shall be determined by each independent league and submitted to the AVSA Executive Board for approval, if requested.
2. **Air Quality Monitoring:** League Boards will monitor the air quality, when there is smoke in the air. If the air quality reaches 201 PPM or higher, by 3:30pm, league games will be canceled. It is up to each League Board to contact the appropriate people about these cancellations.

ARTICLE XI BYLAW AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

1. All proposed amendments must be in writing and may be proposed by the following methods:
 - A. Any League Board Member may submit a proposed amendment, to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will review the amendment and add it on the agenda to present it at the next general meeting.
 - B. The Executive Board or any League Board Member may present a written amendment for addition to the agenda prior to a general meeting.
 - C. Once a bylaw amendment has been proposed at a general meeting and discussed, it must then be tabled until the next AVSA Board Meeting. The motion for the bylaws amendment must be brought back up at the next meeting, discussed and then voted upon. A vote of 2/3 majorities of the AVSA Board present and voting must be received in order for the amendment to pass and become a bylaw.

ARTICLE XII PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICES

1. The proceedings of this Association shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's "Rules of Order, Newly Revised". The Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised edition shall prevail whenever an issue occurs that is not covered by these bylaws.

ARTICLE XIII

INTERPRETATION

1. The Executive Board shall interpret the bylaws and provide final judgment on questionable issues.

ARTICLE XV TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership shall be terminated by written resignation presented to the AVSA Secretary, or by vote of a majority of the Executive Board for any of the following causes:
 - A. Nonpayment of player fees or honorary member fees.
 - B. Conduct directly and seriously detrimental to the welfare of the organization as such, provided that before termination of a membership for such a cause, the offending member shall be given an opportunity to be heard before an Executive Board meeting.
 - C. The offending member will be given an opportunity to resign voluntarily.