

LOMSL 2025 BYLAWS



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LAKE ORION MEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUE BY-LAWS

Edited date 3/7/25

Article 1 – Membership

Section 1 Eligibility

- A **General** –To be eligible to enter the draft system in the Lake Orion Men's Softball League (LOMSL), a person has to have attained the age of eighteen (18) years at seasons start (game 1) and including one of the following:
- **Graduate** –have graduated from Lake Orion High School; or
 - **Reside** - reside in the Lake Orion School District; or
 - **Past Member** -previously has left the league as a member in good standing and wishes to return.
 - **Umpire** - Would permit any person that umpired at least 8 weeks (playoff or regular season) to enter the following year's draft.
 - **Father/Son-** Any league member in good standing, having been an active member or current member of the league for five (5) or more complete consecutive years, or for the immediately preceding five or more years shall have the right to place the name of his son(s) or father to the draft list. When their son turns 18 they will be placed in the preferred hat if the season has already started. (2019)

Section 2 Members in Good Standing

- A **Debt** - A member shall be considered a member in good standing if he has no outstanding debt with the league,
- B **Disciplinary Action** - is not facing any pending disciplinary issues with the league, and is not serving a suspension.
- C **Master Roster** - To be considered a member in good standing, a player must have signed the required Pre-Registration Documents to include an accurate address and must have paid all appropriate fees if applicable. See Article 3, Section 1 (D)

Section 3 Inactivity and Ineligibility

- A **General** - Each former League member who was a member in good standing upon the completion of the last league function or game in which he participated, who expresses his intent to play in the upcoming season, shall be included in the annual draft if he complies with all pre-registration requirements as set forth in Article 3, Section 1.

Article 2 – Administration

Section 1 Executive Board

- A **General** - The Executive Board of the LOMSL shall consist of the following officers: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and the Player Representative.
- B **Elected Positions** - All officers, except for the Office of President, shall be elected at the annual banquet to be held at the end of the season.
- C **Vice President** - The Vice-President shall ascend to the position of President and shall assume office at the commencement of the annual banquet each year.
- D **Appointed positions** - The Umpire-in-Chief, League webmaster and League statistician shall be appointed by the newly elected Executive Board.

Section 2 Failure to Complete Board Term

A **General** - Any Executive Board Officer or Coach who does not complete his term and/or fulfill the obligations of his elected office, for reasons other than described below, will not be considered a member in good standing, and therefore not be eligible to be drafted again unless, and until, reinstated by the next Executive Board.

1. **Exceptions** - This rule does not apply to the following Executive Board members:

- **Military** - any person who has military obligations that actually prevent him from fulfilling his obligations to the executive board;
- **Work** - any person who, because of bona fide work obligations or relocation, cannot actually fulfill his obligations to the executive board; or
- **Medical / Family** - any person who because of emergency medical or family issues cannot actually fulfill his obligations to the board.

B **Board Decision** - The issue of whether a member is excluded by reasons of Article 2, Section 2 will be reviewed, verified, and decided by the then-current Executive Board.

C **Vacant Position** - In the event a board position becomes vacant, the Executive Board Members will fill the vacant position(s) in accordance with a meeting scheduled and held in accordance with Article 5, Section 1 and Article 4, Section 1

Section 3 Disciplinary Decisions

- A **Player Rep** - During disciplinary meetings only, The Player Representative will not have a vote on disciplinary action; rather he will only act as the player's representative before the board.
- B **Replacement Vote** - As a replacement for the Player Rep., last year's League President will cast a vote on the pending disciplinary action.
- C **Alternate Replacement vote**- If last year's League President is still on the board or isn't available for any reason, a non-involved coach will be chosen out of the hat to fill in.

Section 4 Fees Paid by League

- A **Board Members** - All LOMSL Board Members shall have their League dues, as well as their Non-Resident fee if applicable, paid with LOMSL funds.
- B **Additional Paid Fees** - This includes any person/s so designated by the Executive Board and league statistician and Webmaster. (2017)

Section 5 Coach Eligibility

- A **Member in good standing** - In order to be eligible to be a coach, a player must be a member in good standing and must be a paid player during the year in which he intends to coach.
- B **5 seasons** - In order to coach in the LOMSL, said player must have played at least 5 full seasons in the LOMSL before he will be eligible to coach.
 - 1 **Exception** - This rule can be over-ridden if we don't get 12 volunteer coaches that fill this guideline. In this case we would first consider those with the most playing seniority.
- C **Board Position** - A player can coach and be an Executive Board member in the same season. (2022)
- D. **The four coaches** that do not make the playoff can only be alternates the next year if they want to coach and be placed after all new alternates. (2021)

Section 6 Board Authorization

- A **General** – Refer to Article 4, Section 2

Section 7

Section 8 Statistician

- A **General** - Statistician must have the stats fully updated and distributed to the LOMSL active coaches, Executive Board, and Webmaster by in a timely manner approved by the board.

Article 3 – Registration

Section 1 Pre-Registration System.

- A **Past Member** - Any past member of the LOMSL must pre-register with the League in accordance with this Article 3, Section 1
- B **Fees** - Before becoming a member of the LOMSL, each player must pay all applicable fees.
- C **Fee Modification** - The executive board, however, may for reasonable instances, Return all or part of the fees if notified the Sunday prior to the general meeting [on draft day] that a player cannot play. (2021)
- D **Dates** - The executive board will set-up roughly 2 dates prior to the deadline in which each player may elect to show up in person to pay all applicable fees or mail them in. Other required information and documents to be signed within one week before the first scheduled league game and to register for the upcoming season are shown below:
- A Signed Player Waiver
 - NSA Master League Roster Sheet and Township Rosters as applicable

(Note) The League Treasurer will be responsible for making sure all above documents are completed accurately and completely to include team player minimums are met. Any discrepancies will be noted and forwarded to the Player Representative who will make all necessary calls and get corrections taken care of. (2013)

- E **Eligibility** - If a member of the LOMSL Executive Board has not received the applicable fees before the completion of the final pre-registration date for the upcoming season, regardless of the date such fees were mailed or otherwise delivered, the player will NOT be eligible to be drafted for the upcoming season.
- F **Late Fee** - If a player has not paid the applicable fees to a member of the Executive Board before the start of the final date of registration, a \$20.00 late fee will be assessed to the applicable fees. If a member registers online, no late fee will be assessed. (modified 2017)
- G **Website Notice** - At least two weeks prior to the first Pre-Registration date, the pre-registration dates and player fees will be posted on the LOMSL website (lomsl.com) or Facebook Page until the website can be updated (2025) for all members to view.
- H **Player Responsibility** - It is each player's responsibility to update the league with any changes to email, phone numbers and home mailing addresses prior to posting of the Pre-Registration Date and player fees.
- I **Courtesy Call** - The executive board may attempt to place a courtesy call to any player that completed the prior season as a member in good standing in order to remind him to be registered before the deadline.
- J **Player Responsibility** - It is each player's responsibility to stay informed with current league by-laws and register themselves before the final registration date has expired.
- K **Draftable Player List** - A draftable players list will be completed by the executive board and be supplied to all 12 coaches promptly after the preregistration ends.
- L **Annual Fees** - The elected officers of the league shall set the amount of annual dues, fees, non-resident fees and late fees per player for that season.
- M **All coaches** must have their dues paid before they meet to draw the draft order and coach slotting order.(2016)
- N **On the last day** of registration there will be no on-line registration so there are no technical difficulties that would prevent us from the drawing of hat picks. If they are needed. (2016)

Article 4 – By Laws

Section 1 Amendment of By-Laws

- A **General** - Other than the Annual General Meeting, if the Board determines that a current By-Law should be adjusted or a new By-Law be added, the following would need to take place:
- B **Time and Date** - The time and date of a general meeting or virtual meeting will be determined by the Board.
- C **Website Posting** - A Board member will post the agenda information on the league's website or Facebook Page until the website can be updated (2025) at least 7 days prior to the meeting.
- D **Posting Contents** - The content of the email, website ,or Facebook Page posting will provide the time and date of the meeting as well as provide an agenda of which items are going to be discussed.
- E **Members Present** - In order to create any new by-laws (or modified existing by-laws) under this Article 4, Section 1 there must be at least 4 out of 5 Board members present and at least 10 league members present in order for any changes to be made. Of the 10 league members, 6 of them need to be coaches.

Section 2 Board Authorization

- A **General** - Elected Officers of the League (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Player Representative) have the authorization to make financial and disciplinary decisions of the league, but in no way have the authorization to change by-laws or other general business except as otherwise set forth in these by-laws.

Section 3 Effective Season

- A **General** - New and amended by-laws, which are approved at the annual General Meeting before the season begins, will take effect with-in that upcoming season, unless otherwise noted.

Section 4By-Law Proposals / Change Submission

- A **General** - For any by-law change to be eligible for discussion or vote at the annual General Meeting, the change request must be provided directly to the majority of the executive board and comply with the following:
- The change request must be in writing and submitted **3 weeks prior to the draft (2025)**
 - The change request must include the original rule as applicable and any proposed changes.
 - The change request must include a brief description of why the change is proposed and the relative benefits. (2013)
- B **Annual Proposals** – The executive board (Secretary) will post all submitted annual by-law proposals eligible for discussion on the website **or Facebook Page until the website can be updated (2025)** (in the information only section and or the by-law proposal sub board) **two weeks prior to the general meeting. (2025)**

Article 5 – Meetings

Section 1 General Meeting & Ammending Bylaws

- A **General** - The LOMSL will hold a general meeting at the draft each to conduct league business, including but not limited to, a discussion and vote on properly proposed and submitted by-law/s, change, repeal, addition or amendment. At any time a meeting could be held for emergency decisions only determined by the board members as long as the required amount of members are present including the Annual Banquet.
- B **Notice** - In no event shall any general meeting be held without appropriate notice given to the general membership at least one (1) week prior to the scheduled meeting.
- C **Meetings** - A meeting shall consist of a majority of the Executive Board plus at least ten (10) league members. No business may be conducted without a meeting of the Executive Board present, which must include four (4) officers.
- D **Meeting day** - The only annual scheduled general meeting for each season shall be held on the same day of, and prior to, the annual draft.
- E **Financial Report** – All financial reports must be reviewed at the General Meeting.

Section 2 League decisions

A **General** – Refer to Article 2, Section 7

Section 3 Board Meetings

- A **Meeting Minutes** – All Board Meeting Minutes must be posted to the LOMSL Website or Facebook Page until the website can be updated (2025) by the Secretary (Information Only) within 1 week after meetings are concluded. (2013)

Article 6 – Annual Draft

Section 1 Drafting Order and Coach Slotting

- A **Draft Date is always first Sunday in March**
- B **Draft Order** - The draft selection order will be determined at least one month prior to the draft day, and if a coach refuses to draft or coach a team once the draft order has been established, that coach will not be allowed to play in the league that year but will be eligible for the draft the following year if he is a member in good standing.
- C **Changes to Order** - Once the first pick of the draft has been made, no changes will be allowed to the draft order.

Section 2 Draft Process

- A **General** - After an order has been established for player selection, then each coach shall select one player per pick, from top to bottom and then from bottom to top, back through to the coach who made the first selection.
- B **Number of Players** - Each coach must continue to draft players from the draft able players list until a maximum amount players have been reached.
- C **Coaches Round** - Each coach will be assigned a round that they pick themselves to be determined by the executive board and the other 11 coaches. The two highest and two lowest voted rounds will be thrown out and the average then calculated. A coach shall not draft a player in the round in which the coach has been assigned. The draft pick order will be established first, and then coaches will be voted into a round. (modified 2013)
- D **Vacant Draft Slots** - Once the final pre-registration date has concluded and it is determined how many player participants the league will have during that season; any and all vacant draft slots remaining will be filled as described below:

Section 3 Board Meetings

- A **Meeting Minutes** – All Board Meeting Minutes must be posted to the LOMSL Website or Facebook Page until the website can be updated (2025) by the Secretary (Information Only) within 1 week after meetings are concluded. (2013)

Article 6 – Annual Draft

Section 1 Drafting Order and Coach Slotting

- A **Coaches Meeting / Draft Date** - All elected coaches and alternate coaches shall meet at least once prior to the Annual Draft/General Meeting, on a date to be established by the Executive Board, for the purpose of (among other things) establishing a date for the Annual Draft.
- B **Draft Order** - The draft selection order will be determined at least one month prior to the draft day, and if a coach refuses to draft or coach a team once the draft order has been established, that coach will not be allowed to play in the league that year but will be eligible for the draft the following year if he is a member in good standing.
- C **Changes to Order** - Once the first pick of the draft has been made, no changes will be allowed to the draft order.

Section 2 Draft Process

- A **General** - After an order has been established for player selection, then each coach shall select one player per pick, from top to bottom and then from bottom to top, back through to the coach who made the first selection.
- B **Number of Players** - Each coach must continue to draft players from the draft able players list until a maximum amount players have been reached. If, during the season, a team's roster falls to less than the required amount players for that season, the team will be assign additional players form the “preferred hat”process.
- C **Coaches Round** - Each coach will be assigned a round that they pick themselves to be determined by the executive board and the other 11 coaches. The two highest and two lowest voted rounds will be thrown out and the average then calculated. A coach shall not draft a player in the round in which the coach has been assigned. The draft pick order will be established first, and then coaches will be voted into a round. (modified 2013)
- D **Vacant Draft Slots** - Once the final pre-registration date has concluded and it is determined how many player participants the league will have during that season; any and all vacant draft slots remaining will be filled as described below:

- 1 **Selection Process** - If the draft cannot support 14 rounds of players, additional players will be pulled out of the preferred hat and if necessary, the general hat until the total amount of players needed to conclude the draft is reached. (Note) Depending upon the amount of draft rounds needed each season, and number of players in the preferred and regular hat, the draft rounds needed may fluctuate up or down a round.
- 2 **Eligibility** - Provided the potential player pulled from the hat is eligible to play, is otherwise in compliance with Article 1, Section 1, Article 1, Section 2, and Article 3, Section 1 of the By-Laws and expresses a desire to play, he shall be placed onto the draftable player list provided to each coach and shall be eligible to be drafted.

- E **Pulling from the hat** - Any potential new player pulled from the hat under this Section shall be pulled from the applicable hat per Article 6, Section 3 a minimum of 1 Executive Board Member and or coach must be present of which one must be the Players Representative.

Section 3 **Preferred Hat and General Hat Governing Rules**

- A **General** - There will be 2 hats at all times; they will be called the "Preferred Hat" and the "General Hat"
- B **New Players** - New players that express their desire to play in the LOMSL must give the required information to the LOMSL Player Rep (must meet Article 1, Section 1, Eligibility). The said player will be placed into the "General Hat".
- C **New Player Draw** - New players entering the league can only be drawn from the "Preferred Hat"
- D **Hat Exhaustion** - All players from the "Preferred Hat" must be exhausted into the League before players from the "General Hat" are transferred into the "Preferred Hat".
- E **Transfer** - Once the "Preferred Hat" is empty, all of the players that are in the "General Hat" then get placed into the "Preferred Hat". Once all said players are transferred from "General Hat" to the "Preferred Hat", no other players can be transferred until the "Preferred Hat" is exhausted again.

Section 4 **Pro Rated Dues**

- A **General** - A player selected from the hat during the course of a year, with less than ten (10) games remaining in the season, will pay prorated dues of one-tenth the annual dues times the number of games remaining in the season. Dues will be NO LESS than \$50.00 (for banquet costs).
Person chosen from the hat, must pay and sign required forms and provide to an Executive Board member, before the player steps foot on the field of play. (2017)

Section 5 Teams going to the Hat

- A **11 Man Rule** - If after the 3rd game of the season and before the last game of the season, if any team ever drops below 11.0 players per game on average (without rounding), they will be forced to go to the hat and can not drop any players. (11.0 players on a 13 minimum man roster and 12.00 players on a 14 minimum man roster). 10.25 minimum for 12 man roster. 12.5 min for a 15 man roster. (2018)
- B **Same Week** - No team will be forced to go to the hat twice in the same week.
- C **Restart rule** - Once a coach goes to the hat, his average will restart from that point. (Example: If a team goes to the hat in week 5 because they drop below “said amount of players, in week 6 they must have “said amount of players” or they will be forced to go to the hat again the next week. The average for that team will not include the previous 5 weeks; it will reset starting at week 6).
- If a team has to go to the hat to replace a player that can no longer play, due to a new work schedule, then that team does not have to reset their Average. This provision would also be taken into consideration for a player that is injured, if the injury prevented them from playing another game. (2018)
- D **Roster proof** - No team is allowed to go to the hat unless they can prove they will have less than 9 players for the upcoming week or a current player is injured and needs to be replaced. (This is needed to prevent "playoff bubble" teams from stacking their roster before the play-offs begin).
- E **Eligibility** - In order to have a player count towards their team’s average, the player must play the entire required amount of game play. There are 3 forms of game play that a player must meet in order to count toward the average;
- 1 Full game,
2 Half game,
3 Designated Hitter.
- Minimum** - If a player does not complete the entire $\frac{1}{2}$ game minimum (or DH for full game), regardless of reason (hurt/leave early/suspended), they will NOT count towards their team’s average. (Example, if a player gets hurt in the 3rd inning and can’t complete at least a half game of play, he will NOT count towards the team’s average).
- F **Hat Pick First Week** - Any Teams required to go to the hat per this section and pull hat picks, will not be subjected to the 11 man rule if player/s cannot make that week’s game in which they are contacted. All rules apply after that timeframe has elapsed and in essence player/s are given one week once contacted to play.
- G **Sunday Games** - Sunday make up or rain out games do not apply to the 11 man rule and if you are under the limit but will count if you are over the “said amount players” for that game and will apply towards your team average.
- H. No team shall go to the Hat after the conclusion of the 14th week of the season regardless of the circumstance.” (2017)

Article 7 – Rules Governing Play

Section 1 NSA Rules Applicable

- A **General** - Unless otherwise provided for in the LOMSL by-laws, league play will be governed according to NSA rules and all games are to be played with NSA approved and sanctioned equipment for the upcoming year.

Section 2 Innings-Regular Season

- A **General** -League games will consist of nine (9) innings.
- B **Cancellation** - Regardless of reason, if the umpire calls the game, during the regular season, with the home team winning in 5 innings or later, that game will be considered final.
- C **Reschedule** - Anything less, the game will be rescheduled and replayed from the beginning.

Section 3 Half Game rule

- A **General** - Each paid member will play at least 4½ innings in each game and it is the responsibility of the coaches to rotate their players.
- B **Late Arrival** - If a player arrives after the changes have been made in the 5th inning, and wants to play, he MUST be inserted into the game for a player who has played the entire game until that point.

Section 4 Substitutions

- A **General** - If you have to leave for any reason during the game, except an ejection from the game, you can be replaced by another team mate not in the game.
- B **2 DH Hitters** - A team with at least twelve (12) players may use two (2) Designated Hitters (DH).
- C **DH Substitution** - The DH player can be used just like any position player. DH can be swapped amongst any position player except for half gamers. Once the DH enters the game defensively, that replaced player because becomes a full gamer. (2020).
- D **Extra Inning Re-Substitution** - In the event a game goes into extra innings, the coach can re-substitute players previously taken out of the game.
- E **Replacing Ejected Player** – Refer to Article 11, Section 8

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Section 5 Ineligible Players

- A **Coach Responsibility** - It is the responsibility of each coach to use only eligible players. Any team that knowingly uses an ineligible player shall forfeit the game in which the ineligible player participates.

Section 6 Umpires

- A **Umpire Meeting** - Each season, umpires will be selected by UIC.
- B **Pre Game Meeting** - Prior to each game, the umpire in charge of that game shall explain the ground rules for each playing field to the respective coach.
- C **Certified Umpire** - The Lake Orion Men's Softball League Executive Board Considers umpires designated by the Umpire-in-Chief, as certified umpires and registered by NSA.
- D It is the UIC responsibility to know and have available the current Lake Orion Men's Softball League By-laws for his current umpire team" (2017)

Section 7 Game Times

- A **Day** - All regular season games will be played on Thursday evenings at the following times:
- B **Early Game** - Early games will start at 6:30pm, and forfeit time is 6:30pm.
- C **Late Game** - Late games will start at 8:00pm, unless the early game on the same field runs past 7:45pm. If so, a 15 minute warm up period will be allowed. Forfeit time is 8:00pm or 15 minutes after the final out of the early game on the same field, whichever is later.

Section 8 Season Schedule

- A **General** - There will be sixteen (16) scheduled league games in each season. A position night will be eliminated in favor of an expanded playoff system; however, all teams will still be scheduled to play a minimum sixteen (16) game schedule.

Section 9 Foul Ball Strike

- A **General** - A batter with two (2) strikes is considered out on the first foul ball.

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Section 10 Minimum Number Of Players

- A **General** - A team is required to field at least eight (8) players in order for the game to be official. Under no circumstances can a game be official if less than eight (8) players are used. There is no automatic out for playing with 8 or 9 players.
- B **10 Player Rule:** If you have 10 player at the start of the game you must bat or play all 10 players. (2018)

Section 11 Strike Zone

- A **Mat** - The strike zone shall consist of a mat that is two (2) feet wide and three (3) feet long that extends backwards starting at the front edge of home plate.
- B **Strike Zone** - Any pitch, within legal arc limits, that lands on any portion of the mat, shall be considered a strike.
- C **Home Plate** - Also, the whole mat is considered home plate for the purposes of scoring a run or tagging home.

Section 12 Relaxed Step

- A **General** - A base runner is allowed a relaxed step after the ball crosses home plate / mat.

Section 13 Pitcher Deception

- A **General** - No deception by the pitcher is allowed per NSA rule book.

Section 14 Avoiding Contact –

- A **General** - Base runners must avoid contact with other players.
- B **Ejection-** Any base runner colliding with another player at a base, or home plate, by not sliding or otherwise avoiding intentional contact, shall be called out and ejected from the current game and the next game (including the playoffs).

Section 15 Pinch Runners

- A **General** - One (1) pinch runner each inning will be allowed.
- B **Additional Runners** - Additional pinch runners will be allowed if the opposing Coach's agree.

- C **Refusal of Second Runner** - – If both coaches agreed to a second pinch runner prior to the commencement of the game, that agreement remains in effect until the completion of the game. If there was no agreement to have a second runner each opposing coach may refuse the second pinch runner at any time. (2018)
- D **Permitted Runner** – The permitted pinch runner will be any player on the full-game or half-game roster (2025)

Section 16 Pitching Rubber

- A **General** -In accordance with NSA rules, the pitching rubber will be (53) feet from home plate.

Section 17 Trading Players

- A **General** – You have up to the sixth game to trade a player or players. You cannot trade on the sixth game day. (Revised 4/8/23)
- B **Board Approval** - All trades must be approved or denied by the LOMSL Executive Board – majority vote (3) members. (Revised 4/8/23)
- C **Website Posting** - All trades will be posted on the LOMSL web site or Facebook Page until the website can be updated (2025), for three days from the original date of Board notification, for all coaches to see and to make counter offers.
- D **Phone Call** - Coaches will also be contacted by a Board member by phone and the trade will not be finalized until this time period has passed.
- E **Posting Deadline** - The proposed trade must be posted by 6pm, the Sunday before the sixth (2022) regular scheduled game.
- F **Trade Deadline** - All trades will be finalized by 6pm, the Wednesday before the start of the sixth (2022) regular scheduled season game.

Section 19 Sponsor

- A **General** - All coaches must find an individual or business to sponsor their team, and that sponsor must pay the Sponsor's Fee, which is determined by the Executive Board before the annual General Meeting. Must be paid by the fourth game.

Penalty - Games played after that date, without paid sponsor, will result in a loss of one home game for every game played without it. The LOMSL Executive Board will designate the home games to be lost, if necessary. (2019)

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- B **Shirts** - The sponsor MUST also provide each team with a minimum of fifteen(15) shirts by game 4 .

C **Penalty** - Games played after that date, without shirts, will result in a loss of one home game for every game played without the shirts. The LOMSL Executive Board will designate the home games to be lost, if necessary.

Section 20 No Consumption of Alcohol

General - There will be no drinking of alcoholic beverages by players or coaches on the field of play, or benches, before or during a game.

Article 8 – Interruption of Game

Section 1 Game Cancellation

the make-up game will be rescheduled by the Executive Board based on field availability from the Township.

A**General** - In case of a rainout or cancellation of a game, (i.e. no-show of umpire)

B **Exceptions** - Every effort will be made to have these dates listed on the schedule at the beginning of the season; however, exceptions may be necessary.

Section 2 Umpire Decision

A **General** - In case of bad weather, the umpire has the final decision over the playing of the game. No game will be officially cancelled until the umpire calls that game off at game time, or thereafter.

Section 3 Umpire Requirement

A **General** - The umpire needs to inform the League President of all rainouts, cancelled games and forfeits.

Article 9 – Playoffs

Section 1 Playoffs

A **General** - Playoff teams and format will be determined as follows:

B **Top Four** - The top FOUR teams in each division are determined and seeded based on their overall win- loss records. Tie Breakers after overall record will be as follows:

1. Best record in head-to-head games
2. Best record in divisional games
3. Most runs scored in head to head games

4. In the event that after all 3 tie breakers have been met and there is still a tie, a game shall be played to determine who goes to the playoffs.

5. Coin flip

- The two Divisional #1 seeds get their choice of field and time.
- The higher seeded teams will automatically have their choice to become either home or away team.
- The fourth seeded teams will play the first seeded teams in their respective divisions while the third seeded teams will play the second seeded teams during Week 17.
- The winners of Week 17 playoff games play each other in the Divisional Championship games in Week 18.
- The winners of the Week 18 games advance to a best two-of-three World Series the following week.

C Fields - All playoff games will be played at Friendship park.

- The two Divisional #1 seeds get their choice of field and time, with the highest overall seed (best record, using tie-breakers in Section 1 (B) if necessary getting first choice of field and time.
- The #2 seed with the highest overall seed gets their choice of remaining fields and times.
- Throughout the remainder of the playoffs, the highest seeded team in each Division will get FIRST pick of field and time of the game, using tie-breakers in Section 1 (B) to determine first choice

D Choice Of Home And Away - In the World Series, the Team with the best regular season record will automatically become either the home or away team for games 1 and 3 (if necessary) at their choice. The other team will have choice of either home or away team for the 2nd game of the World Series. (2018)

E Date For Playoffs To Be As Follows -

1. Playoffs: Week 17

- Seeds #4 vs. Seeds #1, Seeds #3 vs. Seeds #2, at Friendship Park, Thursday.

2. Divisional Championships: Week 18

- Playoff Winners at Friendship Park, Thursday
- If different fields are selected for the 2nd round of the playoffs; the higher seeded coaches will have their choice of starting times at either the early (6:30), late (8:00), or, if agreed by both coaches involved, (7:00pm) game time. (2013)

3. World Series: Week 19

- World Series will be played on Mon./Tue./Thurs (Wed. if Rainout occurs). (if necessary) (2018)

F Game Interruption - All Playoff and World Series games will be governed by NSA rule book (per rule 5 section 5e). This rule states:

1. **Cancellation** - During all tournament play (Qualifying, State, Regional, NIT's, World Series, Super World Series), in the event of rain or any other causes which interrupt a game, the game must be resumed at the exact point where it was stopped unless the teams mutually agree to accept the existing score as the final score.
 2. **Players** - NOTE: Players not listed in the lineups, and not available at game time, may be substituted for when the game is resumed.
- G **Make-up Location** - Make-up location will be determined by township availability. The Executive Board must have a rain-out schedule pre-determined before the start of the play-offs. This will eliminate any chance of accused favoritism.

Article 10 – Equipment

Section 1 NSA Rules

- A **General** - All rules on equipment are governed by NSA by laws unless otherwise noted in this Article.

Section 2 Bats

- A **General** - The owner of any bat used in a game, that is deemed to be altered or doctored by the umpire, and later verified by the NSA, will be banned from the LOMSL indefinitely.

Article 11 – Discipline

Disciplinary Decisions

- A **Player Rep** - During disciplinary meetings only, The Player Representative will not have a vote on disciplinary action; rather he will only act as the player's representative before the board.
- B **Replacement Vote** - As a replacement for the Player Rep., last year's League President will cast a vote on the pending disciplinary action.
- C **Alternate Replacement vote**- If last year's League President is still on the board or isn't available for any reason, a non-involved coach will be chosen out of the hat to fill in.

Section 1 Ejections

- A **Game Ejection** - Any player removed/ejected from a game by an umpire will be out for the remainder of that game (including the playoffs) and must remove himself from the park premises immediately. Ejected players not leaving immediately will be suspended indefinitely from all LOMSL functions/activities until a board ruling.

B **Umpires** - Umpires will report all player removals/ejections to the LOMSL Board along with any additional recommendations relative to the incident that took place.

1. The LOMSL Executive Board retains the right to evaluate umpire recommendations and the incident that took place, and extend player suspension periods if necessary.

C **Player** - The player in question shall not return to ANY games while serving his suspension. Any player under suspension or disciplined as a result of a league function, by NSA, the LOMSL Board, or any umpire, is not to attend or be involved with any league function/s. This includes, but is not limited to, the Draft, the Practice Game, Regular Season, Playoffs, and World Series Games, the fields we play on, the parking lots of these fields, end of year Banquet, Pig Roast, Annual Golf Outing, All Star Game, or posting on the LOMSL Web Site, etc...

D **Language** - Any player who is ejected from a game and who uses threatening and/or intimidating language toward an umpire shall be suspended for the rest of that season, plus the next season.

E **Contact** - Any player who touches an umpire intentionally after being ejected from a game or touches an umpire intentionally during an argument shall be removed from the league for a minimum of 2 years, or more at the discretion of the Executive Board.

F **Player Return** - If the player chooses to return to the League after the suspension, they must enter through the annual draft.

Section 2 Additional Ejections

A **Second Ejection** - If a player is ejected from a game twice in the same season, upon the second ejection that player shall be suspended for the next two league games.

B **Third Ejection** - Any player who is ejected three times in the same season shall be ineligible for the remainder of the current season and for the next season's play. No monies or dues shall be refunded as a result of any player being disciplined.

Section 3 Absent Players

A **General** - Any player, who misses three consecutive weeks without having made contact with his coach, shall be contacted by the player representative to determine the player's desire to play.

B **Replacement Player** - If the player cannot be reached or expresses the desire to no longer play to any executive officer, the player will be replaced by a pick from the hat.

C **Ineligible Player** - The player being replaced will be considered an ineligible player for the remainder of the season and placed in the next year's draft if he wishes to play again.

Section 4 Detrimental Behavior

- A **General** - Any player who acts in a manner or demonstrates behavior detrimental to the League may be placed on probation or suspension by a majority vote of the Executive Board.
- B **Reoccurrence** - Any reoccurrence of such behavior by a player while on probation shall result in suspension from the League indefinitely.

Section 5 Game Statistics

- A **Coach Responsibility** - Any coach who does not have his team's complete-game score sheet delivered to the league statistician or the League's score sheet drop box by Midnight of the date the game has been completed will forfeit, at a minimum, the next home field advantage available to his team.

Section 6 LOMSL Website

- A **General** - LOMSL website is property of the LOMSL and is governed by the LOMSL Executive Board.
- B **Misuse** - Any misuse of the website may result in disciplinary action against the offending person and that person's loss of "Member in Good Standing".

Section 7 Executive Board Decisions

- A **General** - Any Executive Board Members involved, or whose team is involved, in a disciplinary action shall remove himself from the decision making process.
- B **Multiple Board Members** - If two or more Executive Board Members are involved in the same incident, non-involved coaches will be randomly selected from a hat draw to replace the involved Executive Board Members.
- C **Board Executed Discipline Decisions** – Any discipline decisions by a current and or past Executive Board cannot be changed in any way for a minimum of 3 years. In the case of a player suspension for more than 5 years, and only after the 3rd year of the suspension, the disciplined player must supply, in writing, his reasons why he should be reinstated to the current board at that time.

Section 8 Replacing Ejected Player

- A **General** - Any player ejected from a game MAY NOT be replaced immediately in the field or in the batting order, resulting in an out each time he is supposed to bat.
- B **Before 5th Inning** - If the player was ejected before the 5th inning changes, he may be replaced by an extra player in the last half of the game.
- C **After 5th Inning** - If the player was ejected after the 5th inning, his team may NOT replace him, even if the game extends into extra innings.
- D **Opposing team** - Also, the opposing team MAY NOT walk the hitter in front of the ejected player's spot in the batting order, to reach the third out. That hitter will continue to bat until he strikes out or puts the ball in play.

Section 9 Disciplinary Decisions

- A **General** – Refer to Article 2, Section 3

Section 10 Probation/Suspension

- A **Player/s Probation/Suspension**– Player/s suspended for less than 1 year but more than 3 games, cannot run for an executive board or coaching position for 2 years. (2013)
- B **Player/s Suspension**– Player/s suspended for a year or more; cannot run for an executive board or coaching position for 5 years. (2013)

Article 12 – Banquet

Section 1 Annual Banquet

- A **General** - At the end of each season, on a date to be set by the Executive Board, the LOMSL shall hold its' annual banquet. All business to be conducted shall commence promptly at the hour to be set by the Executive Board.

Section 2 Banquet Business

- A **General** - The following shall be the only business to be conducted at each banquet

Section 3 Executive Board

- A **Board Elections** - The election of the Executive Board (Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Representative).
- B **Board Eligibility** - In order to be eligible for election to the Executive Board, a player must:
- 1 **5 Seasons** - have played at least 5 full seasons in the LOMSL;
 - 2 **Previous Years** - have played in at least one of the two previous years prior to which he intends to become an Executive Board member;
 - 3 **Member In Good Standing** - be a member in good standing; and
 - 4 **Active Member** - be an active member during the year(s) on which he serves on the Executive Board.

Section 4 Coaches Selection

- A **General** - The naming of coaches for the following year.
- B **World Series Coaches** - In naming the coaches, the two coaches whose teams played in the immediately preceding “World Series” **along with the other six coaches to make the playoffs (2025)** shall be the only coaches to be automatically allowed to coach the following year.
- C **Other Coaches** - All other coaches shall be determined as follows. All other league members who are otherwise eligible to coach the following year who, at the Banquet, express a desire to coach the following year, shall have their names placed into a hat and an adequate number of names randomly will be pulled from that hat to identify all remaining coaches.

Section 5 Awards –

- A **General** - The presentation of the following trophies and awards:
- B **Championships** - World Series and Pig Roast Championship (The Executive Board shall determine awards for World Series and Pig Roast champions).
- C **Batting Average** - The two high individual batting averages, provided that to be eligible for any batting average trophy, a player must have (1) played in at least 14 scheduled league games; or (2) had at least 48 at bats.
- D **Home Runs** - The player with the most home runs; and

- E **Sportsmanship Award** - The “Tim Keenan Sportsmanship Award.”
(2009)
- F **Statistics** - Statistics for the awards are set forth in Article 12, Section 5, above, are to be based on the minimum (16) game schedule covered in Article 7, Section 8.
- G **Sportsmanship Award** - The winner of the Tim Keenan Sportsmanship Award shall be determined by a vote of members in good standing attending the Banquet. Any prior winner of the Tim Keenan Sportsmanship Award is not eligible to be nominated for the award. Per 2018 meeting #15 is eligible to be worn by current players.
- H ~~**On-Base Percentage Award**~~ - Removed 2024
Rookie of the Year Award – First year player added to the draft or pulled from the hat of the current season (2025)
- I **MVP Award-** The most valuable player for the league.
- J All awards will be voted on **by the board and coaches (2025)** at the end of the regular season and announced at the banquet.(2017)
- K If you coach your son, he will be put on your team for their first year in the league. The round will be chosen by the rest of the coaches and board prior to the first pick of the draft.