

Lubbock Youth Softball (LYS) – Constitution & Bylaws

Adopted/Updated: 12/11/2025

ARTICLE I — LEAGUE NAME

Section 1.1 — Legal Name

The official name of this organization is **West Texas Girls Athletic Association, Inc.**, operating under the assumed name **Lubbock Youth Softball (LYS)**.

ARTICLE II — PURPOSE & MISSION

Section 2.1 — Mission

Lubbock Youth Softball exists to provide a safe, inclusive, and development-focused softball league for youth within Lubbock County. Our mission prioritizes teaching fundamentals, promoting sportsmanship, and helping young athletes grow physically, mentally, and socially.

Section 2.2 — Core Values

LYS operates according to the following principles:

- **Player Development:** Skill-building and learning come before competition and winning.
 - **Safety:** All players, coaches, and volunteers will participate in an environment committed to physical and emotional safety.
 - **Positive Citizenship:** The league fosters respect, teamwork, and good sportsmanship in all circumstances.
 - **Inclusivity:** All eligible participants are welcomed regardless of ability or experience.
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ARTICLE III — OFFICES

Section 3.1 — Registered Office

The registered office of the Association shall be in Lubbock, Texas.

Section 3.2 — Additional Offices

The Board of Directors may establish additional offices as required for the operation of the Association.

ARTICLE IV — MEMBERSHIP

Section 4.1 — Eligibility

Membership is open to individuals who support the mission and purpose of the Association.

Section 4.2 — Voting Membership

Voting members include:

- Parents or guardians of players registered during the previous league year
 - Elected officers and Board members
 - Managers, head coaches, and official team sponsors
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ARTICLE V — MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Section 5.1 — Annual Meeting

An annual meeting of the voting membership shall be held within forty-five (45) days following the completion of the fall season. Elections for Board positions and other official business shall occur at this meeting.

Section 5.2 — Notice of Elections

At least **14 calendar days** prior to the annual meeting, LYS shall publicly post:

- A list of Executive Director positions up for election
- Instructions for submitting candidacy

Section 5.3 — Candidacy Requirements

Individuals wishing to run for office must submit their intent to run by email to **lbkyouthsoftball@wtgaa.com** by the published deadline. Late submissions will not be considered.

Section 5.4 — Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or at least one-third (1/3) of eligible voting members.

Section 5.5 — Meeting Notice

Notice of annual or special meetings shall be provided to voting members no fewer than ten (10) and no more than fifteen (15) days before the meeting.

Section 5.6 — Voting Requirements

Unless otherwise required by these Bylaws, decisions shall be determined by a majority of voting members present.

ARTICLE VI — BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 6.1 — Authority

The Board of Directors is the governing body responsible for oversight, policy-making, and strategic direction of the Association. The Board may take any lawful action necessary for the operation, safety, and success of the league.

Section 6.2 — Composition

The Board shall consist of the following positions:

- President (League Director)
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Umpire-in-Chief (UIC) & Director of Field Maintenance and Safety
- Director of Sponsors & Public Relations
- Commissioners for each division (6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, Junior Girls, Select)
- Immediate Past President (non-voting advisory member)
- Additional commissioners or directors as deemed necessary

Section 6.3 — Eligibility

Individuals with outstanding financial obligations to the Association may not serve on the Board until such obligations are satisfied.

Section 6.4 — Elections & Terms

Board members are elected annually by the voting membership and shall serve until their successors are elected.

Section 6.5 — Vacancies

Vacancies may be filled by presidential appointment with Board approval, serving the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 6.6 — Removal

A Board member may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of voting members present at a duly called meeting.

Section 6.7 — Attendance Requirements

Board members missing two (2) consecutive meetings without just cause may be subject to removal.

ARTICLE VII — OFFICERS & DUTIES

Section 7.1 — Officers

The officers of the Association include:

- President

- Vice President
- Executive Secretary
- Treasurer

Section 7.2 — General Responsibilities

All officers shall perform duties consistent with nonprofit governance best practices and any responsibilities delegated by the Board.

Section 7.3 — Officer Descriptions

A. President

Responsible for overall leadership and administration of the Association, including:

- Presiding over all meetings
- Oversight of Board decisions and league operations
- Acting as the Association's representative to the City of Lubbock, USSSA, and other organizations
- Coordinating with administrative officers
- Managing equipment procurement and field access
- Supervising league commissioners

B. Vice President

Assists the President and performs duties in their absence:

- Presides over meetings in the President's absence
- Appoints committees as necessary
- Breaks tie votes
- Oversees designated projects

C. Executive Secretary

- Records and maintains minutes and official records
- Manages correspondence
- Maintains rosters and administrative records

D. Treasurer

- Manages all finances, banking, and disbursements
- Maintains accurate financial records
- Provides monthly and annual statements to the Board

ARTICLE VIII — LEAGUE OPERATIONS

Section 8.1 — Player Eligibility & Registration

A child becomes eligible to participate upon completing the online registration and agreeing to the LYS Player/Parent Contract.

Section 8.2 — Minimum Playing Time

All players shall participate in at least one (1) continuous inning (six outs). Violations may result in game forfeiture or coach discipline.

Section 8.3 — Season Participation Requirements

Players must participate in at least two (2) regular-season games to qualify for postseason play.

Section 8.4 — League Structure

Recreational League

Players ages 4–18 residing within Lubbock County are eligible based on the age cutoff dates established by the Board.

Select League

Teams designated as Select (three or more travel-ball players) are governed by LYS rules and applicable sanctioning body rules.

Section 8.5 — Protests

- Protests must be declared at the time of occurrence and submitted in writing within 36 hours.
- A \$15 fee must accompany each protest.
- Judgment calls are not eligible for protest.
- Protests will be resolved within (14) days by the Board.

Section 8.6 — Rules of Play

The Board shall adopt official playing rules annually and distribute them to managers, coaches, umpires, and officials.

Section 8.7 — Uniform Requirements

LYS will provide uniform shirts/jerseys. Teams are responsible for providing uniform pants of similar style and color.

ARTICLE IX — COACHES, TEAMS, & PLAYER ALLOCATION

Section 9.1 — Coaches

- A list of coaching candidates must be submitted before player allocation.
- Each team must have at least one female adult present.
- The Board may remove a coach by two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Section 9.2 — Team Formation & Draft Procedures

- Returning teams in 14U and Junior Girls may remain intact.
- Teams in 6U–12U must participate in the player tryout and draft.
- Teams may freeze up to three (3) players from the previous season.
- The draft shall follow a snake-format selection order.
- Players who miss tryouts will be placed via blind draw.
- Roster maximum of 12 players per team

Section 9.3 — Siblings

Siblings in the same age division will be placed on the same team unless the family requests otherwise.

Section 9.4 — Disbanded Teams

Players from disbanded teams will enter tryouts or, if missed, will be placed via blind draw.

Section 9.5 — Postseason Roster Freezes

No players may be added to a roster after the regular season in preparation for postseason play. Illegal additions may result in team disqualification and coach suspension.

ARTICLE X — SCHEDULING & GAME MANAGEMENT

Section 10.1 — Game Schedules

The Board shall determine the number of games, divisions, and scheduling.

Section 10.2 — Weather-Shortened Games

Games shall be considered complete after at least 30 minutes of play in the event of weather-related cancellation.

Section 10.3 — Mercy Rule

A game shall end if a team leads by:

- 15 runs after 3 innings (2.5 if home team leads)
 - 10 runs after 5 innings (4.5 if home team leads)
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ARTICLE XI — CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

Section 11.1 — Expectations

All players, coaches, volunteers, and spectators must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the mission and values of LYS.

Section 11.2 — Disciplinary Actions

The Board may discipline or remove individuals for:

- Unsportsmanlike behavior
- Violations of league rules
- Failure to perform assigned duties
- Conduct detrimental to the league

A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board is required for removal.

Section 11.3 — Criminal Matters

Incidents involving criminal behavior by coaches or volunteers will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The Board's decision on eligibility is final.

ARTICLE XII — ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE

Section 12.1 — Parliamentary Authority

Unless otherwise provided, meetings shall be governed by **Robert's Rules of Order (Revised)**.

Section 12.2 — Financial Practices

- A petty cash fund of up to \$100 may be maintained.

- All expenditures require authorization as defined by Board policy.

Section 12.3 — Records & Transparency

The Association shall maintain:

- Accurate financial records
- Meeting minutes
- Membership and voting records

Section 12.4 — Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by majority vote at any membership meeting, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been given at least 72 hours in advance.

ARTICLE XIII — DIRECTOR LIABILITY & INDEMNIFICATION

The President and Directors shall not be personally liable for monetary damages except in cases involving:

- Breach of loyalty
- Bad faith or intentional misconduct
- Legal violations
- Financial benefit received improperly
- Situations explicitly defined by statute

Certification

These Bylaws were adopted by the voting membership on the date indicated below.

Adopted on: 12/15/25

President: Edward Ursua

Vice President: Logan Lopez