North Waterloo Constitution

1.(a) Softball Canada rules, plus OASA, ORSA, and NWRMSL amendments adopted.

1. (b) The NWRMSL does not provide any liability or accident insurance for their affiliated teams. All affiliated teams are responsible for acquiring their own insurance. Team insurance is necessary for play in the NWRMSL. Proof of insurance to be given at time of affiliation/registration.

2. Game time: see divisional schedules.

3. Age limit: (As of January 1st of current year)

Atom	under 10	Bantam	under 16
Squirt	under 12	Midget	under 19
Peewee	under 14		

4 (a) Number of Players:
Bantam, Midget, Junior - 17
Atom, Squirt, Peewee - 20

4 (b) It is the expectation that all coaches, managers and adult volunteers of teams will have had current police checks. It is the responsibility of the affiliated centres to ensure that this policy is enforced.

5 (a) Umpires:
No coach shall umpire his/her own game.
Home team supplies both umpires. Plate umpire must be Softball Ontario or WOAA carded. Base umpire may be an umpire in training for Atom, Squirt division. For Peewee, Bantam and Midget divisions base umpire must be carded.
If both teams agree to play with one umpire that game will become a regulation game. If both teams do not agree then the game will be rescheduled by the home team.
Playoff tournament: Any player, coach, convenor participating in the tournament cannot umpire in the same tournament.

5 (b) Umpires in Training
A 12-16 year old is accepted by the league as an Umpire in Training on the condition that they attend an umpire clinic prior to the season and only be allowed to do games in divisions younger than their own age.

6. Reporting Scores:
The home team is responsible for recording official game score and keeping said copy as official records until season's end. Home team must report final score and any special issues to appropriate NW convenor within 24 h of game's completion. Official game sheet shall be the home team's score book and is to include first and last names of only the players participating in that particular game.

7. Postponed Games:
No game may be cancelled with less than 24 h notice except for weather conditions. The team not complying forfeits the game. Holidays or games in another league will not be

accepted as an excuse. All postponed games must be reported to the Divisional Convenor within seven (7) days, along with a date for playing the game. Any team refusing to play on two reasonable rescheduled dates forfeits the points.

8. Players' List:

a) Players' lists will be submitted by June 15th to the Divisional Convenor by the Centre Reps after the lists are completed and certified by the manager and coach. Any additions to the list after June 15th must be approved by the executive.

b) No player will be allowed to play for any team who has not been a continuous resident of the city, town or district in which he/she is registered from March 1 to July 1 of the current year.

c) All players to be eligible for the playoffs must have participated in four (4) regular scheduled games with the team they are registered and have played a minimum of 3 innings per game played.

9. Movement of Players:

a) Any player may play any number of games in a higher division providing they have the coach's consent from their own age group. A player may play only for a team in the association he/she is signed with and must be signed with the NWRMSL.

b) Teams are allowed to draw from a lower division to bolster the team roster to a maximum of 12 players in the higher division provided all players are signed with the NW in their respective centres. An exception to add a catcher or pitcher (as a 13th player) may be granted by agreement of coaches at pregame home plate meeting.

c) An affiliated centre may make a special request to associate with another centre in order to draw emergency call ups from a lower division provided original centre does not have its own lower division and the associated centre does not have its own higher division.

10. Release Rule:

a) players must sign in their own centre first.

b) A player cannot register with another centre unless player has proof of registration (copy of registration form) from Home Centre or release from Centre Rep.

c) If there is no appropriate team to play on in the home centre player must sign with the closest nearby centre that has his division of play unless he gets a release from that nearest centre. The release is for one year only. The player would then be free to sign with any NW centre. However once a player has played two consecutive seasons with his new centre he then becomes the property of that centre. He would need a release from that centre if he wished to play in any other centre but his original home centre. The player may return to his own original home centre if he wished and a release would not be required. All releases should be filed with the NW executive (convenor, president).

d) When a new team affiliates with the NW any players that have been with that team for two years would not need a release from any established NW centre.

11. Equipment: Batting helmets to be worn all the way around the bases and until the player

leaves the field of play. Chin straps are mandatory for Bantam and lower divisions. As in accordance with OA and OR policies all minor team players' batting helmets must include attached face guard protection. All catchers must wear protective helmet and mask and attached throat protectors, body pads, shin guards and athletic support. (S.C. Rule 3-6). U10/12 division players when pitching must wear protective face protection. Shoes with metal spikes, detachable spikes or hard spikes are not allowed for any division except Midget and above. Use of double bag at first is mandatory for all divisions.

12. Lead Off:
Atom base runners may leave the base when the ball crosses home plate. Squirt and up may leave the base when the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. The batter is out on third strike whether the ball is caught or not , only in the Atom division.
13. Substitution:
a) All Divisions: All players at the game are to be on the players' list and must be put on the batting list and allowed to bat. Players coming late are to be added to the bottom of the batting list. However, no additional players are to be added once the initial batting order has been gone through. If playing with nine, and a player is ejected the game may continue with the ejected player's position being an automatic out. There is unlimited defensive substitution for all divisions.

b) All divisions: An injured player can be re-entered when deemed to be fit and in the same batting order and is not an out.

c) All Divisions: If there are two outs and the catcher is on base, the catcher may be substituted for the last out player. This must be declared at time of ground rules.

14. Mercy Rule
Five (5) runs per inning with 6th and 7th inning open if you get to those innings for all divisions. Peewee, Bantam and Midget divisions will have the further additional mercy of twelve (12) runs after 5 or 6 innings. Mercy rule shall apply to all league and play off tournament play.

15. Curfew
No new inning is to start after one and three quarter hours. If necessary there may be a further diamond curfew of one and a half hours. (ie. because of a later scheduled game on that diamond)

16. Supply of Balls:
a) The home team must supply a new ball and a used ball in good condition for each game.

b) All balls must be of a type approved by the executive.

c) Use of optic balls are optional to the home centre. However, all balls throughout the game must be of the same colour. The optic ball will become the official NW game ball starting in the 2018 season.

17. Playing Distances:
Playing distances will be approved in current year to match OASA and PWSA.

North Waterloo By-Laws

1. Amendments to By-Laws and Rules:
Any changes, additions or deletions to the By-Laws or Playing Rules can be brought up at the monthly general meetings and a simple majority of the voting members present will pass the change, addition or deletion. No advance notice is required. All general amendments in this article passed after the February (or first meeting of the new calendar year) general meeting will take effect the following year.

2. Rules of Order:
Parliamentary procedure shall be followed during all NWRMSL meetings. A copy of the parliamentary procedures shall be kept by the secretary.

3. Entry Fee:
a) League entry fees shall be set at a general meeting at the same time the budget is set.
b) All teams playing in the League shall be registered by the April meeting. (If applicable) All large centres, as determined by the executive, must play on the North side.
c) All participating centres must post a $100 Performance Bond, which is in effect from May 1 until the following April 30 annually, at which time it may be returned minus fines incurred, or the remainder may be applied towards the next year's Performance Bond.

4. Schedules:
a) The League schedule shall commence and be completed on the dates as determined by the Divisional Convenor and the Member Centres.
b) All teams must make every effort possible to play all their scheduled games.

5. Length of Games:
All games in the NWRMSL shall be 7 innings in length unless called by the umpire. During the regular season a tie remains a tie at the end for the regulation innings. No extra innings are played. The umpire is empowered to call a game at any time due to darkness, rain, fire, panic, or other cause which puts the patrons or players in peril. Four and a half (or five) innings can constitute a complete game.

6. Batting Roster:
Teams will be allowed to play with 8 players. However the ninth batter will be an automatic out until the ninth player shows up and can be added to the bottom of the list. Late players may be added to the bottom of the batting order as long as the team has not batted once through the original order, with the exception of the ninth player arriving late. If playing with only nine and a player is ejected, the game may continue with the ejected player's position being an automatic out.

7. Unlimited substitution applies throughout the regular schedule and tournaments for all divisions.

8. Final Standings:
The cut-off date for games to be reflected in the final standings will be determined by the divisional convenor.

The final standings will be arrived at as follows:

a) total number of points.
b) most wins.
c) win/loss record between/among teams tied.
d) runs average of a team determined by dividing runs for and against into the runs for, for the teams involved, with the team having the higher percentage winning the position.

9. Playoff Structure:
The league playoff format shall be determined by the league vice-president or divisional convenors and approved by the Member Centres.

10. Performance Bond Fines:
No show - any team not showing for a regular season or play off game will be fined $75, which will be reimbursed to the home team. A team showing at a diamond where the home team does not have sufficient players to field a team the visiting team shall receive the win by forfeit. The "no show" rule shall not be levied if the reason for "no show" was a result of Convenor error.
Withdrawing teams from league schedule or playoffs for reasons other than progressing in OASA, PWSA. ORSA championship play - $75. Failing to have a Centre Rep at General League Meetings - $10 (one meeting grace). A team may withdraw from NW final tournament without penalty to play in a major tournament if notice is given to the convenor/president within 10 days of their OA Elimination tournament.

11. Player/Coach Ejections
Players/coaches may be ejected from a game at the determination of the umpire for verbal abuse, physical abuse, excessive profanity, excessive arguing with umpires or fighting. This will be a standard ejection from the game being played.
Players/coaches may be suspended a further one to three games or more based on (written) report from the umpire to the executive. Members of the executive (minimum of two) will further investigate and determine length of any further suspension.
Home team is responsible and must contact convenor immediately (that night) at conclusion of game with details of particular game ejections. (This is also stipulated by Constitution 6. Reporting Scores).

Tournament Rules

All regular season rules apply unless specified differently below.
1. All tournaments with 5 teams or more to be a double knockout format. There will be one championship final game (no what if).
2. Home team determined by the final league standings during the regular season. The higher standing team will be the home team throughout the tournament.
3. All games to be seven (7) innings or 90 min long. Championship games will be 7 innings with no time limits, except Mites. Any inning started, must be completed. If the winning team is leading they do not bat the bottom half of the last inning.
4. Regular season mercy rules remain in effect. Mites have a 90 min time limit in their championship game.
5. A game tied after seven (7) innings or 90 min is to be played out until a winner is decided. The International Tie Breaker Rule will be used at the start of the 8th inning or the inning immediately after the 90 min time limit.
6. All umpire judgment decisions are final. However, consideration may be made on misinterpretation or misapplication of playing rules. Any protest must be presented

immediately to the Convenor or his designate at the time of the calls.
7. A coach, manager or player ejected from any game for the following reason will be out of the tournament; swearing, intent to injure, fighting, using abusive language or being abusive to an umpire.
8. A coach or player asked to leave (by the umpire) the playing area (including the bleachers) will immediately do so or the game will be forfeited to the opposing team.
9. The host community is to supply umpires Umpires must hold a valid umpire card.
10. The host community may not charge spectators at the gate or take a silver collection during games.
11. All games will start with a new ball and a good used ball.
12. Rain dates will be announced at the time of the rain out by the Convenor.
13. The game batting roster procedure remains the same as regular season. (By-law 6)
14. Unlimited substitution rule the same as regular season. (By-law 7, Constitution 13)
15. A team caught using an illegal player will forfeit the remaining games.
16. Teams should be prepared to play fifteen (15) minutes before game time.
17. Team Lists and Game Reports:
Official team lists shall be available to each tournament chairperson throughout the tournament. Only Official NW team player list players are eligible to play in year end tournament.

NWRMSL Policies

1. NWRMSL will provide the following to the Host Centre at year end tournament
    - Umpire Fees will be paid to reflect the current season rates.
    - One new game ball for each game played.
    - Trophies and gold, silver and bronze medallions

2. Over age Player Policy
A team may request at the start of the season to include up to 2 over age players on their roster only if their roster has fewer than 12 players. In most cases players should be no more than 1 year over age and the players would not be used as pitchers or catchers. In order to pitch overage player must be approved at preseason coaches' meeting or at pre game home plate conference. Request for additional overage players under special circumstances may be put forth at affiliation or coaches meeting. Requests can be considered but not necessarily granted.

3. Diamond fees for yearend NW tournaments will be covered by each participating team paying their equal share to the host. Payment must be made before start of tournament play.

Revised April 15, 2018