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NORTH YORK FASTBALL LEAGUE **CONSTITUTION - 2019 SEASON**

April 16, 2019

Mission Statement

“The mission of the North York Fastball League is to provide an opportunity for fastball players to play in a competitive yet fun environment, where sportsmanship and respect are encouraged.”

NORTH YORK FASTBALL LEAGUE EXECUTIVE FOR THE 2019 SEASON

Dave Northern

President & Webmaster
905-420-0628 / 905-706-7873 (c)
dave.northern1@gmail.com

Kileen Tucker Scott

Vice President
416-488-8954 / 416-885-1651 (c)
ktscott1@bell.net

Seymour Cohen

Treasurer
416-661-5291
scohens@sympatico.ca

Paul Rosen

Executive Committee Member
647-669-6857
info@paulrosen.ca

Bob Head

Executive Committee Member
905-591-1699
rehead@rogers.com

NYFL Website:

www.eteamz.com/nysl

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Mission Statement

“The mission of the North York Fastball League is to provide an opportunity for fastball players to play in a competitive yet fun environment, where sportsmanship and respect are encouraged.”

Organizational Structure

The North York Fastball League is a not for profit fastball league. It is organized and administered by a group of volunteers that are not compensated in any means other than for out of pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the league to organize and run the league for the benefit of the teams and players who participate in it.

1) Minimum Age

- 1.1 Players must be a minimum of 18 years of age as of January 1st in order to be eligible to play in the league. Players under 18 are eligible to play only if their parent(s) / guardian(s) provide permission and a waiver in writing to the league.

2) Number of players per game

- 2.1 The **minimum** number of players allowed will be **8**. A team fielding 8 players can play but an out is recorded in the ninth spot in the batting order. The ninth spot in the order will not be the 3rd out in the inning. Instead the next inning will start with 1 out.
- 2.2 A roster (to a maximum of 25 players) must be submitted to the league prior to the start of the regular season. Team rosters will be posted on the league website. The roster can be modified as required throughout the season, but **will be frozen on July 15th**. Players must play a minimum of 1/3 (6 of 18) regular season games with their own team to be eligible for the playoffs. Players who are injured for a portion of the season and do not play the minimum number of games to qualify for the playoffs may only be allowed to play in the playoffs if they receive explicit written permission from the League prior to the start of the playoffs.
- 2.3 A team with fewer than 8 players will default the game 15 minutes beyond the scheduled start time. A score of 7 – 0 against the defaulted team will be recorded.
- 2.4 Players who arrive after the start of the game can be added to the bottom of the batting order and may take a defensive position as soon as they arrive no matter what inning the game is in.
- 2.5 Any player removed from the game due to injury, will be removed from the line-up and will **not** be recorded as an automatic out when his/her turn to bat comes up. If a player leaves during the game for whatever reason other than injury, that player's turn at bat will be recorded as an out.

- 2.6** If a player is ejected during his/her turn at bat, an out will be recorded for that at bat and all subsequent at bats for that game.
- 2.7** When a player is removed from the game due to injury, ejection or leaves, the game will continue only if the injured player's team has enough players to do so.
- 2.8** Intra-league call-ups from other League teams are not permitted. Players that play a game for a team prior to July 15th will be added to that team's roster for the remainder of the season. Players who play a game for a team after July 15th will not be permanently added to that team's roster.
- 2.9** **Batting Order:** Teams may have a minimum of 8 up to a maximum of 18 players in the batting order. Players who are not in the batting order may enter and exit the game twice (as pinch hitter, pinch runner or a defensive player) without any change to the starting batting order. A player entering the game for the 2nd time cannot pinch hit until 8 players have batted. If a player enters the game for a 3rd time they must either remain in the game for the player they replaced or they are finished for that game.
Teams may use the Designated Player / Flex rule.
- 2.10** **Pinch Runners:** Teams are allowed to identify up to 2 players in their batting order each game that will be allowed to have pinch runners for them. The pinch runners must be either:
a. a player not in the batting order making 1 of their 3 appearances, or
b. the player farthest from coming up in the batting order.
The 2 out catcher rule is also in play.
- 2.11** **Eligible Pitchers:** All pitchers must be approved by the executive prior to pitching in any regular season or playoff game. Teams must submit potential pitchers names to the executive at least one week prior to the date they are planning to pitch to allow the executive adequate time to make their decision. The executive will conduct their due diligence including consulting with team reps.
- 2.12** **Eligible Position Players:** There are no restrictions on position players.

3) Discrimination and Harassment

- 3.1** The League will not tolerate gender, race, ethnicity, religious or any other form of Human Rights discrimination or harassment.

4) Rescheduling of games

- 4.1** It is acknowledged that on occasion for valid unforeseen situations a team may know in advance that they will not have the minimum of 8 their own teams players required for a game. Therefore, the following guidelines apply:

- 4.1.1 A minimum of 48 hours notice must be provided, but if a Coach knows further in advance, please provide the Scheduler with the maximum amount of notice possible.
- 4.1.2 Only one game per team may be rescheduled per season (including playoffs) for the reason of insufficient numbers of players. Beyond this, the NYFL reserves the right to award a default win to the opposing team, with a recorded score of 7-0.
- 4.1.3 Notice of inability to field a team of less than 48 hours will result in an umpire charge of \$100 and an additional grounds fee of \$10 to the defaulting team. The game will be registered as a defaulted game with a score of 7-0 against the defaulting team. The defaulting team will be required to pay the \$100 umpire fee and \$10 grounds fee **within 1 week of the defaulted game**. Until these fees are paid all subsequent games, scheduled and / or played, will be registered as a loss for that team. If the game is played and the offending team wins or ties the game, it will be recorded as a loss. The team that loses or ties the game to the offending team will have the actual result (win, loss or tie) be recorded.
- 4.1.4 Rained out games will be rescheduled to the best of the League's ability.
- 4.1.5 Teams will be notified 2 weeks in advanced of any rescheduled rained out games. No other date will be given for that game. If a team is unable to field a team on the rescheduled night it will be recorded as a defaulted game.
- 4.1.6 Disciplinary action against the team may apply if they are found to be abusing or not following the prescribed notification and rescheduling guidelines.

5) Softball Canada Rule Book

5.1 The following ball, pitching distance, base distance, and lead off rule for the League will be used. These are the same as used by the OASA.

Division	Ball Size	Pitching Dist.	Base Dist.	Lead Off Rule
Men's	12"	46'	60'	Out of Hand

- 5.2 The NYFL uses the Softball Canada rulebook, unless otherwise indicated. The exceptions are noted below:
- 5.2.1 Teams will bat anywhere from 9 to 18 players in each game as they decide. Substitutions will be as outlined previously in the Constitution.
 - 5.2.2 The OASA pitching rules will be used and strictly enforced.
 - 5.2.3 A player will not be allowed to pitch for the balance of the game, after they have hit a batter for the third time. The player may continue to play any other position.
 - 5.2.4 An OASA approved double base at 1st base for safety purposes will be used.
 - 5.2.5 Shin pads, chest protector, helmet, mask and protective athletic cup are mandatory for catchers. For safety reasons, catchers are encouraged to wear a mask during warm-up.
 - 5.2.6 The 1st & 3rd base foul lines shall be lined by the League before the first game each night.
 - 5.2.7 The Infield Fly Rule and the Dropped Third Strike Rule are in effect.

- 5.2.8 Intentional Walks do not require pitches to be physically delivered. Teams can verbally indicate that the batter is intentionally walked.
- 5.2.9 Jewellery, including Medic Alert bracelets, are allowed as per Softball Canada's current rules. Players must remove any jewellery if requested by the umpire. Failure to do so will result in the batter/runner being called out and ejected from the game or the defensive player being ejected from the game.
- 5.2.10 The OASA and Softball Canada rules regarding bats will be used. Only approved bats will be allowed. Use of an illegal bat will result in the batter being called out, all players returning to their original bases at the start of the at bat, and the batter being ejected for the remainder of that game. Bat stickers will be affixed to legal bats prior to them being used in any game.
- 5.2.11 Wearing of chin straps are optional, however, for safety reasons all players are strongly encouraged to wear them.
- 5.2.12 All batters/runners must wear a batting helmet at all times. If in the umpires opinion a player deliberately removes his helmet while the game is in play the batter/runner will be called out and play ruled dead.
- 5.2.13 The league will allow a maximum of 2 defensive conferences (called Pace of Play Rule or "Charged Defensive Delay" in the Softball Canada rulebook) per inning per team. If teams have more than 2 defensive conferences the penalty will be that a ball is added to the batter for each additional conference.

6) Regular Season Format

- 6.1 The 2019 Regular Season will start on Monday, May 13th and end on Wednesday, August 14th (tbd). The Regular Season will consist of 18 games.
- 6.2 Mondays, Wednesdays and some Tuesdays will be the nights of play during the regular season, with the possible exception of rainouts.
- 6.3 **On Monday & Tuesday**, all games start at 8:45 p.m. with no new inning to start after 10:30 p.m. **NO PITCH AFTER 10:45 P.M.** If a game ends at 10:45 p.m. and it is not the conclusion of an inning (or half-inning if the home team is leading), the final score of the game will revert back to the last inning completed.

On Wednesday (and possibly on some Mondays), 1st game starts at 7:15 p.m., with no new inning to start after 8:45 p.m. **NO PITCH AFTER 9:00 P.M.**
2nd game starts at 9:15 p.m., with no new inning to start after 10:45 p.m. **NO PITCH AFTER 11:00 P.M.**
If either game on Wednesday (or Mondays where doubleheaders are scheduled) reaches the time limit and it is not the conclusion of an inning (or half-inning if the home team is leading), the final score of the game will revert back to the last inning completed.
- 6.4 Games will be a maximum of 7 innings. A game is considered complete if 4 innings are played, or 3.5 innings if the home team is winning or if the mercy rule is reached after 3 complete innings. Incomplete games will be rescheduled and started over

as a new game. Exception: If a regular season game is tied at the end of 7 full innings and it is before the time limit, one extra inning will be played using the Tie Breaker rule (runner on 2nd none out).

- 6.5 Any rescheduling will be done through the Scheduler only. (See section 4 for details regarding rescheduled games.)
- 6.6 All teams should provide their own scorekeeper for each game, however, the home team will keep the official score for all games. It is suggested that the scorekeepers from each team confer after each half-inning to ensure both teams have the correct score. In the case of discrepancy, it is suggested that the home plate umpire be consulted to assist in determining the correct score. The coaches of the teams may be called upon to assist with the determination of the correct score as well.
- 6.7 Each team should retain all of their score sheets in case they are required to confirm playoff eligibility for players.
- 6.8 Each team will complete a lineup card prior to the start of each game that includes each player's number and full name. One copy will be provided to the opposing team and one copy will be provided to plate umpire to be submitted to the League to be able to track player participation throughout the season.
- 6.9 The home team is responsible for picking up the bases at the end of each game and returning them to the equipment room. If this is not done and the bases disappear, that team will be responsible for replacing (incurring the cost of) the bases with a new set.

7) Tie-breaking formula

- 7.1 Two or more teams may be tied in points at the end of the regular season. Since the final standings have a bearing on what teams meet in the playoffs, rules for establishing the order of teams have been established as follows.
 - Head-to-head record.
 - Run differential for all regular season games (not just the games the two teams played against each other). The maximum run differential per game awarded to a team will be 10, regardless of the final score.
 - Least runs allowed for all regular season games (not just the games the two teams played against each other).
 - Coin toss.

8) Playoff Format and Details

- 8.1 If 10 teams: The 1st round, the 7th through 10th place teams will play a 1 game playoff (7th vs 10th and 8th vs 9th). All other playoff rounds will be a best 2 out of 3 series. Teams will be reseeded after each round with the regular season standings being the determining factor.

If 9 teams: The 1st round will be a 1 game playoff between the 8th and 9th place teams. The winner will be seeded 8th for the playoffs. The quarterfinals, semifinals and finals will be a best 2 out of 3 series. Teams will be reseeded after each round based on the regular season standings.

- 8.2** All playoff games will be a full 7 innings.
- 8.3** Games stopped before the full 7 innings or mercy rule due to inclement weather, power outage, etc. will be deemed to be a suspended game and be continued at 8:15 p.m. on the next night the next game in the series is scheduled.
- 8.4** The minimum number of regular season games a player must play in order to be eligible for the playoffs is 1/3 of the games that his team plays (complete games or games that are started but not completed). Defaulted games and games that are cancelled before the 1st pitch is thrown are not counted. Lineup cards as submitted to the League will be the basis for calculating player participation.
- 8.5** In each playoff series the team that finished higher in the regular season standings will be the home team in the 1st and 3rd game, if necessary. The team that finished lower in the regular season standings will be the home team in the 2nd game.
- 8.6** Playoff games that are tied at 10:50 p.m. will have play suspended at the end of the full inning. Play will be resumed at 8:15 p.m. on the next scheduled playoff game night. Teams will start with a runner on 2nd base and none out (Tiebreaker rule). Batting orders will remain the same as they were in the suspended game. Players who are not available for the subsequent game will be deleted from the lineup without any penalty. New players can be added to the lineup at the end of the batting order. The continued game will be played until such time as there is a winner. The next scheduled playoff game will be started 15 minutes after the completion of the first game or at 8:45 p.m..

9) Trophies and Awards

- 9.1** There will be a team trophy for the Regular Season Champions (insert name here) and the Playoff Champions (Michael J Scott Memorial trophy).
- 9.2** There will be an individual trophy for the regular season MVP of the league (Gary Barnartt MVP Award). The player with the most points based on league wide voting will receive the award.
Teams are not permitted to vote for players on their own team.

10) Mercy Rules

- 10.1** 15 runs after 3 innings. 10 runs after 4 innings. 7 runs after 5 innings.

11) Miscellaneous Items

- 11.1** The League executive will determine the annual Team Fee based on the current year's budget and advise team reps by March 15th. Team fees are due each year on or before June 1st. Teams who do not pay their team fees in full by June 1st will forfeit all regular season games scheduled after June 1st until such time as team fees are paid in full.
- 11.2** Official team shirts, hats and pants are the expected uniform. Full uniforms are expected by the third regular season game. Coaches are expected to wear full uniforms for all games. Rubber or metal cleats will be allowed but are not mandatory. Pitchers may wear a steel toe, but only when pitching. The steel toe must be removed when batting or when fielding any other position.
- 11.3** Two umpires will be provided by the NYFL for all Regular Season and Playoff games. The NYFL may choose to use three umpire for the final playoff series. League fees will cover umpire costs, user/permit fees, bases, game balls, diamond lining, miscellaneous equipment/maintenance costs and the cost of regular season and playoff trophies and awards. In the event that user/permit fees are changed by the City and charged to the NYFL, each team will be advised and required to pay their portion of the fee increase to cover this cost. League fees will be reviewed and discussed with each team in the preseason meetings that each team will be advised of and expected to attend.
- 11.4** An e-mail message to the Webmaster, (Dave Northern at dave.northern1@gmail.com), must be sent by a representative of the winning team to provide the final score, the winning and losing pitchers and players who hit a homerun. Scores should be reported within 24 hours of completion of each game to allow for updating of the website with all game results.
- 11.5** Two new game balls will be supplied by the NYFL for each game. The League will use Softball Canada approved 12" softballs (Core 47 only).
- 11.6** The safety of all players is a priority of the NYFL. Accordingly all bats must be in good condition with proper grips and fit through the approved ring. All bats must be 'legal' according to Softball Canada's current rules. No illegal or altered bats are allowed.
- 11.7** Each team should have a first aid kit. It is recommended that each team have at least one member of the team / coaching staff with emergency first aid training.
- 11.8** The League will be responsible for obtaining liability and accident insurance for all teams prior to the start of each season.
- 11.9** Umpire, player / coach, League executive or spectator abuse will not be tolerated.
- 11.10** Discrepancies or any other concerns between teams or contravention of the constitution by teams and / or individual players will be reported to the League executive within 24 hours of the infraction / concern by email. Refer to Section 13.

12) NYFL Executive

12.1 The NYFL executive shall consist of the following positions:

- 12.1.2 President
- 12.1.3 Vice President
- 12.1.4 Treasurer
- 12.1.5 Executive Committee Member(s)
- 12.1.6 Umpire Coordinator (tbd)
- 12.1.7 Webmaster

12.2 The **President** will:

- recruit and appoint all positions on the NYFL executive,
- have authority to solicit and recommend new teams to be considered for participation in the league,
- organize and chair all meetings,
- work with the Executive to update the league constitution annually,
- produce the regular season and playoff schedules,
- obtain and verify each team roster submitted,
- track player participation to determine playoff roster eligibility,
- convene executive members to settle all disputes and protests as necessary, and
- provide oversight and direction to promote the positive development and operation of the league.

12.3 The **Vice President** will:

- act on behalf of the President in his absence or as requested to by the President,
- ensure that all team coaches or representatives receive a copy of the current constitution each year prior to the start of the season,
- ensure that all day to day operations of the league are completed (i.e. grounds keeping, equipment purchases, trophies, awards, liaison with the City, etc.),
- schedule all rained out or rescheduled games,
- oversee the MVP voting each year, and
- provide support and promote the positive development and operation of the league.

12.4 The **Treasurer** will:

- manage the finances of the league,
- obtain all diamond permits required by the league,
- provide an annual accounting of the revenues and expenses of the league,
- obtain insurance for all teams,
- draft an annual budget for executive review and planning purposes, and
- provide support and promote the positive development and operation of the league.

12.5 **Executive Committee Member(s)** will:

- sit on discipline or protest committees as requested,
- sit on other committees as may be required from time to time to oversee the operations of the league,

- provide support as requested in the drafting or updating of schedules, constitution, rules, or any other organizational or administrative aspects of the operations of the league, and
- provide support and promote the positive development and operation of the league.

12.6 The Umpire Coordinator will:

- be the primary liaison between the North York Fastball League and the Umpires' organization,
- maintain an agreement that outlines the working relationship between the league and the umpires,
- ensure that qualified umpires are scheduled for all regular season and playoff games,
- ensure that all rescheduled games are advised to the umpires as soon as they are confirmed,
- ensure that all umpires are provided with a copy of the NYFL constitution and rules prior to the start of each season,
- ensure that any rule changes or interpretations as approved by the NYFL executive are immediately passed along to all umpires to enforce,
- ensure that all ejections and any other incidents that occur during regular season or playoff games are formally reported to the President and Vice President within 24 hours of the game in which they occur,
- ensure that all umpires are aware of and follow the guidelines for the conduct of umpires as outlined in Appendix C of the constitution, and
- provide support and promote the positive development and operation of the league.

12.7 The Webmaster will:

- ensure that the league website is maintained and updated on a regular basis to reflect the current information related to the operations of the league,
- ensure that regular season and playoff schedules are posted in a timely manner,
- ensure that the current constitution is posted to the website prior to the start of each season,
- collect scores for all games played,
- post game results to the website within 48 hours of receiving them,
- produce and distribute standings at regular intervals throughout the regular season,
- scores and standings will be posted on the website, www.eteamz.com/nysl, and
- provide support and promote the positive development and operation of the league.

12.8 While not members of the NYFL Executive, each team coach or representative is expected to:

- attend league meetings as may be scheduled from time to time throughout the full year,
- provide input and suggestions into the development and annual update to the league constitution and rules,
- participate on committees as requested by the league executive on occasion,
- submit team rosters prior to the first game of the season and any updates that may occur throughout the season,
- pay league fees by the due date as determined by the NYFL Executive each year,

- pay any default fees by the due date requested that may be levied against the team throughout the season, and
- provide support and promote the positive development and operation of the league.

- 12.9** The current NYFL Executive will determine eligibility of people who are being considered for membership on the NYFL Executive. Individuals that are interested in joining the executive are asked to contact any of the current Executive to express their interest and to understand the expectations, requirements and commitment that may be required for any of the positions they may be interested in.
- 12.10** The League will hold periodic Executive and Team Rep meetings as deemed necessary in order to manage the League. The League will produce minutes of all meetings to capture topics discussed, decisions made and key information shared. Where motions, Constitutional changes or rule changes are proposed, a simple majority of the members in attendance or who respond via email votes will be required to approve them. For Executive meetings a minimum of 3 members of the current Executive are required to constitute a quorum.
- 12.11** The Executive are empowered to enter into agreements (i.e. Umpires, City Permits) on behalf of the League to ensure its operations run smoothly. Each agreement will be reviewed by the current Executive to ensure that the appropriate level of due diligence is taken and they do not put the League in an unfavourable financial or operational risk position.
- 12.12** The Treasurer will ensure that the League bank account is actively managed. All cheques will require 2 signatures. The Treasurer will sign all cheques. The President or Vice President will be the second signature on each cheque.

13) Game Ejections and Suspensions

- 13.1** In order to provide Coaches, Managers and Players with an idea of how seriously the NYFL takes providing a safe, fun and respectful environment in which our games should be played, the following guidelines have been put into place to provide a greater degree of responsibility for actions taken. The situations provided below do not cover all situations that can arise during a ball game; however, these are examples of some of the more serious situations. Note also that these are recommended minimums, and actual suspensions may be greater depending on the situation. Also, please note that players and team officials can be suspended for reasons other than those listed below.
- 13.2** Recommended minimum suspensions (in addition to the remainder of the game that the incident takes place in):
- 13.2.1 Physical violence (e.g., pushing, shoving, running catcher) - 1 game
 - 13.2.2 Any pitcher who hits a batter with a pitch, deemed by the Umpire to be deliberate and wilful - 1 game

- 13.2.3 Abusive or profane language or “trash talk” directed towards a player or Coach of the opposing team - 1 game
- 13.2.4 Throwing of equipment (i.e. bat or helmet) - 1 game
- 13.2.5 Abusive or profane language directed towards an Umpire - 2 games
- 13.2.6 Spitting at an opposing player or coach - 2 games
- 13.2.7 Spitting at an Umpire – considered physical abuse of an Umpire – see below
- 13.2.8 Obscene gesture directed towards an opposing player or coach or any fan - 2 games
- 13.2.9 Obscene gesture directed towards an Umpire - 2 games
- 13.2.10 Discriminatory comment or racial slur made toward an opposing player or coach – serious offence – league review
- 13.2.11 Discriminatory comment or racial slur made toward an Umpire - serious offence – league review
- 13.2.12 Fighting - serious offence – league review
- 13.2.13 Threatening an Umpire with physical abuse or retribution - serious offence – league review
- 13.2.14 Deliberate attempt to injure a player - indefinite, pending appeal
- 13.2.15 Physical abuse of an Umpire - indefinite, pending appeal

13.3 All player or coach ejections are to be formally reported (by email or in writing) by the plate or base umpire to the President and Vice President before 12 noon (or as soon as possible) the day after the ejection takes place.

13.4 All game ejections, whether covered by the section(s) above or not, will be reviewed by the League Executive Disciplinary Committee. The committee will be chaired by a member of the current NYFL Executive that is appointed by the President. The chair of the committee will solicit input and opinion from at least 2 non-executive members of teams that were not involved in the game in which the incident occurred. The committee will consider input from the umpires, coaches or team representatives of the teams involved in the incident prior to making their recommendation to the President on the length of any suspension to be imposed. The decision regarding the severity and length of the suspension is to be advised to the individuals involved by the President within 72 hours of the incident or as soon as possible after the committee has made their recommendation. If a team uses a suspended player in any game, that game will be forfeited and awarded to the non-offending team by a score of 7 - 0.

13.5 Appeals Process: Suspensions for one game are not eligible to be appealed. Suspensions for two or more games are eligible to be appealed.

Note: It is recommended that the Appeals Process be used only in the event that additional information is available that would not have been considered in handing out the original suspension. There is little point in reviewing the situation in the absence of new information.

The guidelines for appeals of suspensions are as follows:

- 13.5.1 Appeals must be lodged within 7 days of the suspension being handed down and before the next scheduled game,
 - 13.5.2 Appeals must be made in writing to the President or the Vice President of the league (see page 1 for contact info),
 - 13.5.3 The appeal should contain the reason for the appeal,
 - 13.5.4 If applicable, the appeal should include any information that might tend to refute any information/evidence that was thought to be factual at the time the suspension was handed out, and
 - 13.5.5 The appeal should include any additional information that may be useful to assessing the appropriateness of the length of the original suspension.
- 13.6** The league will keep a record of all suspensions for at least one year to assist in the review of future incidents.

Appendix A - Guidelines of conduct for team officials (coaches, managers)

Team coaches, assistant coaches and managers must recognize that the disposition of their players flow largely from their attitude towards the game, including their attitude toward Umpires, opposing players and coaches/managers, and fans for both teams. A team official with a positive and respectful attitude will be influencing those around him/her to act in the same manner. The result will be a much greater likelihood of a game that all involved can participate in a positive and fun manner. Team officials represent the League and are expected to conduct themselves accordingly. To this end, the following list has been developed as guidelines of conduct for team officials.

- Demonstrate respect for the game of fastball.
- Be prepared for each and every game. Organize pre-game warm-ups, opening fielding line-ups, batting orders, and have game sheets prepared prior to the start-time of the game.
- Demonstrate respect for one's own players, team officials and supporters
- Demonstrate respect for the opponent's players, team officials and supporters
- Demonstrate respect for Umpires.
- Conduct oneself with integrity, which garners respect from players, team officials, Umpires and supporters of both teams.
- Ensure one's players, other team officials and supporters conduct themselves in a manner which is positive in its support for one's own team, while not exhibiting any negative or disrespectful behaviour towards players, team officials and supporters of the opposing team, or towards the umpires.
- Have enough assistance, e.g., assistant coaches.
- Team officials should be dressed in an appropriate manner. They are encouraged to wear team uniforms. Team officials should be presentable – in keeping with the fact that they are representing their team.

Appendix B - Guidelines of conduct for players

The disposition of players as they arrive for a NYFL game can have a large influence on the manner in which the game is played. Therefore it is important for players to come to the park expecting to have a competitive, yet fun, experience. Players represent their team and the League. The following is a set of guidelines that can put players in the right frame of mind for the game.

- Have respect for the game of football.
- Play with integrity.
- Play with the utmost of sportsmanship.
- Encourage teammates to play with the utmost of sportsmanship
- Give every effort to contribute to his/her team's chances of winning, regardless of the score.
- Show respect for him / herself, teammates, his / her team officials (coaches and managers) and supporters of his / her team.
- Show respect for players, team officials and supporters of the opposing team.
- Show respect for Umpires.
- Wear team uniforms properly. That is,
 - Full uniform.
 - Hats worn properly (with the bill facing forward).
 - Shirts tucked in.
 - No distracting accessories (headbands, armbands, towels, handkerchiefs, etc.).
- Treat other players, coaches and fans, as well as the Umpires, in the same manner that you would like to be treated; that is, with respect.

Appendix C - Guidelines of conduct for Umpires

Just like team officials and players, it is important for Umpires to come to the game in a proper frame of mind. Basically, an Umpire who arrives on time and well-prepared for the game, with an open and clear mind about his/her role in the game will enhance the prospects of influencing all coaches and players to compete in a positive and respectful manner. If the Umpire has had difficulties with any player, coach, or other team official in the past it is best to avoid having past incidents spill over in the new game. In some cases, it may be appropriate to speak with the individual(s) with whom past difficulties have occurred to set expectations for the upcoming match. If handled in a positive and respectful manner, such an informal pre-game chat can establish a channel of communication, which may be used in a constructive manner during the game.

The following guidelines have been established for Umpires of NYFL games, to increase the prospects of a positive and respectful experience for all involved.

- Demonstrate respect for the game of fastball
- Demonstrate respect for players, team officials and supporters of both teams.
- Umpires should be fully certified in the rules of fast-pitch softball.
- Be prepared for each and every game. Be in full uniform; ready to begin each game a minimum of 10 minutes prior to the published start time of each game.
- Be prepared to impart all necessary instructions to team representatives at the coaches and captains' conference, a minimum of 5 minutes prior to the published start time of each game.
- Ensure that the diamond is safe for the game to commence, properly groomed with bases (including safety base at 1st), baselines, pitching rubbers and pitching circles in place.
- Call the game in a manner that does not demonstrate bias/prejudicial behaviour towards/against one team or the other.
- Conduct oneself with integrity, which garners respect from players, team officials and supporters of both teams.
- Encourage players, team officials and supporters to conduct themselves in a manner that is positive in its support for one's own team, while not exhibiting any negative or disrespectful behaviour towards players, team officials and supporters of the opposing team, or towards the umpires.
- A conference after a confrontational situation, to give warnings to "coaches and captains" that game ejections can/will take place if negative, disrespectful or dangerous behaviour commences or continues, can go a long way towards creating a renewed sense of responsibility in all Coaches and Players.
- Ensure that all lineup cards are submitted to the League after each game to facilitate tracking of player participation for the playoffs.

Please direct any questions, comments or concerns about the NYFL Constitution to any member of the NYFL Executive as listed on the first page of this document.

Have a great 2019 NYFL Season!

NYFL Executive Committee