

# **RDBC – Softball**

## **Article 1**

### **Name**

1. This organization shall be known as the RDBC - Softball. The RDBC-Softball is a softball (Class C), Not-for-Profit organization as filed with the Wisconsin Department of State. RDBC - Softball shall have the powers set forth to solicit and receive grants, bequests, and contributions for the league purposes.

## **Article 2**

### **Purposes**

1. The objective of the RDBC - Softball shall be to introduce, establish, teach, and promote youth softball to girls and encourage individual participant's confidence and self-worth, leading to an active, constructive lifestyle.
2. These objectives will be achieved by providing participants with supervised practices and competitive softball games for all girls regardless of league or division. RDBC - Softball will provide instructional clinics and practices during the off-season. They will also provide coaching in regular-season competitions and tournaments
3. Coaches and other involved participants will help develop players in the skills of the game of softball, with a strong emphasis on sportsmanship. A positive learning experience must be obtained win or lose through the competitive spirit of a team. The exhibition of good character and good sportsmanship shall be reflected by the examples and proper attitudes of the coach.
4. We shall strive to advance and grow with appropriate and well-intentioned actions. We will organize, plan, and develop efforts and strategies to enhance all areas of softball, including efforts to improve our fields, facilities, clinics, storage, and other areas connected to RDBC - Softball

## **Article 3**

### **House League Membership**

1. Any girl residing in the Ripon area is eligible for membership.
2. The travel division will be comprised of 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U according to USA guidelines

## **Article 4**

### **Basic Policies**

1. This organization shall be non-commercial, nonsectarian, and non-partisan. The name of the organization or names of any members in their official capacities shall not be used in endorsement of a commercial concern of a partisan interest or for any purpose other than the regular work of the organization.

## **Article 5**

### **Government**

1. The governing body of the RDBC-Softball will be known as the Board of Directors composed of the following: President, Vice President/Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. The Board members will be elected at the annual board meeting to be held after the end of each season. The term of office shall be from September 1<sup>st</sup> through August 31<sup>st</sup>.
3. Each term is 2 years with a limit of 2 consecutive terms.
4. Each member of the board shall have one vote on all official business even if more than one position is held. Should a tie vote occur, the President may cast a second tie-breaking vote to break a deadlock by a quorum. A quorum requires the presence of at least one-half of the board to conduct official business.
5. Any member of the Board may call a meeting by giving notice to all members of the board at least 48 hours in advance of the proposed meeting

## **Article 6**

### **Elections**

1. An annual nomination meeting followed by an annual election shall be held after the end of the season of each year on such date, time, and place as may be fixed by the President. The purpose of the meeting shall be for the election of Officers and Board for the upcoming season and the consideration of such other business as may properly come before it.
2. Officers shall be elected by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board.
3. Nominations to the board are to be presented to the general membership at the end of the season and will be recorded by the Secretary. The Board will then review the nominations for qualified candidates and will select the nominees by majority vote. Candidates seeking a nomination for a specific position will not be eligible to vote.
4. New members to the board will be elected by a majority vote of current board members. When two candidates for a given position are nominated, the vote shall be by written secret ballot. Candidates seeking a specific board position shall not be eligible to vote. If a board position is left vacant after the election, an appointment will be made to fill the position, with approval, by a majority vote of the board.
5. General membership shall be defined as any active adult participant: board, coaches, assistants.

## **Article 7**

### **Travel Policies**

1. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for girls to compete at a higher level.
2. Coach Selection: All coach candidates shall be approved each year by the executive board. Travel coaches will submit to a background check. Travel coaches shall assist the clinics by acting as teachers and instructors for other coaches and all players at league clinics.

3. Travel players are strongly recommended to register and play in the local Rec league. Players are required to participate in a minimum of 75% of reg games to be eligible for travel play. Players not fulfilling this obligation may be suspended from their travel team. Travel coaches should not schedule travel practice to conflict with Rec games.
4. Tryouts for travel teams and team formation will be in late July/early August for the following Fall/Summer season to allow for practice during the winter months.
5. All travel team formation will occur through formal league tryouts as published by the President. Coaches will fill out their rosters from the tryout and turn them in to the board for final approval.
6. Players on a younger team may be used as a temporary "call-up" player for a travel team above their age bracket with the approval of the travel coach.
7. Each team will set their budget based on tournaments entered, league fees, and equipment needs. The final budget must be submitted to the board for final approval. Any equipment purchase should go through the treasurer. If any player leaves the team for any reason, a refund will be used and prorated based on expenses incurred by the team.
8. Travel division or league fundraisers will be subject to approval by the board of directors.
9. All teams looking to create a new team uniform shall gain full approval from the executive board.
10. The travel Head Coach position shall be for one year, per year. During the agreed-upon year, after satisfying the duties of the position, which are clinics, following all by-laws, and adhering to coaching codes of conduct and responsibilities, consideration will be given to extend a renewal year to have that head coach continue with the respective team, promoting continuity amongst players, parents, coaches, as well as the organization.
11. Should circumstances arise where the board feels it needs to address a potential change in the coaching of a travel team, that coach will be addressed before tryouts, and a discussion will be had as the best course of action for the coach and team. A decision will be rendered before tryouts begin.
12. Should a team coach desire something different than the head coach position they currently hold in the upcoming year, either to coach a different team or wish to discontinue his/her coaching responsibilities at the end of a season, he/she shall not disclose to any player or parent before the board. The deadline for this decision is July 10<sup>th</sup> of each year. No travel coach shall simply name his/her successor. The board will then follow the process to search for a replacement coach.