



CABBAGETOWN GROUP SOFTBALL LEAGUE

MANAGER'S HANDBOOK 2018 EDITION

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MANAGER'S HANDBOOK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page	
3	Purpose of Document
4	Important Dates and Deadlines
5	Contact information
6	House Rules
11	Team Information
17	Player Information
20	League Information and Responsibilities
30	Player and Team Rating Guidelines
40	Historical Background of CGSL
	CGSL Regulations – Refer to CGSL Website - Governance

2018 EDITION – MANAGER’S HANDBOOK

Purpose of Document

This document has been prepared to assist in your role as a league officer/team manager within the organization. It includes information on the following:

- League contact information
- Team information
- Player information
- Important dates and deadlines
- Your responsibilities
- Player Ratings Guide
- Pertinent information that you will need to know as team manager
- Regulatory documents (Refer to CGSL Website:
www.cgslsoftball.com)
- Historical background

Always consult your respective league representatives for further information/clarification.

If any information needs to be added/modified, please let your league representative know so that we can make this an evolving document to help new managers in the future.

This document does not replace the league’s Constitution, by-laws, ethics policy or any other rules and regulations. It is meant as a guide for managers to support them in their role.

If you have any suggestions to improve this document, please forward this to the Commissioner. Best practices as determined by team managers over the course of 2018 will be developed and will be added in the 2019 edition of this Handbook.

2018 IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Event	Date
Team Registration Date	April 7, 2018
Player Registration Event The Drink, Church St. - 3 to 5 pm	April 7, 2018
Player Rating Clinic McCleary Field - 11 am to 1 pm	April 29, 2018
New Player Draft 3:00 to 5:00 pm Keating Channel Pub, 2 Villiers St.	April 29, 2018
Season Opening Games on Fri. evening + Saturday McCleary Field	May 4/5, 2018
Opening Pitch Event 6:00 p.m. Woody's, Church St.	May 5, 2018
Game Scores	<i>Due within two days after each game</i>
Player Ratings Due & Gay World Series Commitment Fee & Hotel Deposit	June 15, 2018
Pride Weekend - No Games - HAVE FUN!	June 22 - 24, 2018
League Fundraiser - Team prize \$50 due + Team Ticket Sales Due Today	July 15, 2018
2018 Annual Fundraiser O'Grady's, Church St. - Time TBA	July 21, 2018
Northern Classic Tournament - Toronto	August 3 - 5, 2018
Annual General Meeting (AGM)	August 2018 (TBA)
Playoffs	Expected to be Sept 14-16 + 21-23/18
Banquet ticket purchasing	During playoffs
Gay Softball World Series - Tampa, FL	September 3 - 8, 2018
CGSL Awards Banquet Courtyard Marriott, Yonge/College Sts.	October 13, 2018

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address:

Cabbagetown Group Softball League (CGSL)
617 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 25
Toronto ON
M4Y 1Z5

CGSL web site:

www.cgslsoftball.com

2018 C.G.S.L. Executive

Commissioner	Kevin Sun	commissioner@cgslsoftball.com
Asst. Commissioner	Ken Tedford	assistantcommissioner@cgslsoftball.com
Treasurer	Robert Tanguay	treasurer@cgslsoftball.com
Secretary	Mark Hamilton	mhamilton@osgoode.yorku.ca
Field Operations	Ryan Webb	field@cgslsoftball.com
Membership Chair	Chad Simon	membership@cgslsoftball.com
League Rep/Events Chair	Kate Fudge	leaguerep@cgslsoftball.com

Other contact information:

Website	Jim Rebstock	admin@cgslsoftball.com
Umpire in Chief	John Hunking	uic@cgslsoftball.com
Player Ratings Chair	Ken Tedford	assistantcommissioner@cgslsoftball.com



House Rules

Appendix A – OFFICIATING AND CGSL MANDATED RULES OF PLAY

12.1 **Officiating:** The league will adopt USA Softball and Softball Canada rules. The Umpire in Chief (UIC) will ensure that all umpires are accredited each year by Softball Canada.

12.2 **Sportsmanship** – All Players, Managers, Coaches, Umpires, Fans and Executive members are expected to conduct themselves in the spirit in which the CGSL was formed – an inclusive safe place for all individuals to play without fear of ridicule and persecution.

Any unsportsmanlike conduct or conduct unbecoming a member of the CGSL, and/or violating the Constitution, Bylaws or Ethics Policy of the CGSL may have their membership status reviewed and may result in suspension or termination from the league.

12.3 **CGSL Mandated Rules of Play:** The CGSL uses the USA Softball and Softball Canada rulebook in addition to the following:

a) Only CGSL registered players can play.

Note: Teams are allowed to register new players up until mid-season – July 1st.

b) Games are 70 minutes or 7 innings in length – whatever comes first.

Note: Courtesy start – teams are allowed 10 minutes grace time to allow a team to fill their team roster. This is only to be utilized if a team is short players and the 10 minutes is part of the 70 minute game time.

c) No new inning will start after 60 minutes.

- d) The last inning will be an open inning – whether it is the 3rd or 6th inning.
- e) Run Differential Rule (Mercy Rule) is 5 runs per inning and 15 Runs after 5 innings (4.5 innings if home team is ahead).

Further Run Differential Rule for playoffs:

An umpire will end a game if one team leads in runs batted in by either:

- i) 15 runs at the end of 3 innings of play,
- ii) 10 runs at the end of 4 innings of play,
- iii) 5 runs after 5 innings of play.

- f) There shall be two extra hitters permitted (teams may bat 12 players);

Managers have the option of batting all rostered players on the line up in the game. These players should be listed on the line-up cards provided to the opposing manager and umpire prior to the start of the game. If at any time during the game, a player becomes injured and is unable to continue play, that player may be removed from the batting order without penalty.

Exception: If a player is ejected, the player may be substituted from the listed substitutes only. Ejected players will be counted as an out when it comes to that player's turn to bat, if there is no substitute.

Substitutions are still allowed without penalty; however, the player must be on the lineup card as a substitution.

- g) Injured players can be replaced without penalty. If a team roster has only 9 or 10 players and a player is unable to continue play due to injury, the roster can diminish and there is no penalty.
- h) Number of Players:
 - i. Teams can start with 8 players (use opposing team player as a person to return ball to pitcher) – Players can be added anytime to the batting order up to 10 (but must be added to the bottom).
 - ii. Teams can play with 9 players -- Players can be added anytime to the batting order up to 10 (but must be added to the bottom).
 - iii. Teams can play with 10 players -- Players can be added up to 12 before going through the batting order. After going through the order, the player would then need to be substituted.
 - iv. Any additions to the batting order must be reported to the umpire and opposing score keeper.

- v. Line up sheets must contain first and surname initial and player number.
- i) Pick Up Rule: A team that only has 7 or 8 original team players available for a game and is at risk of defaulting may opt to use the pick up rule:
- i. Only CGSL registered playing members may be used as pick up players.
 - ii. A list of pre-registered pick-up players will be handed out to each manager at the beginning of the season. Players may be picked up same day if required.
 - iii. No more than three (3) pick up players may be used during any one game.
 - iv. Pick up players are subject and limited to play within the same level of player ratings and as such a C rated player cannot play in a D division game.
 - v. A team using pick up players must notify the manager of the opposing team and the Umpire prior to the start of the game.
 - vi. Upon consent from the opposing manager if the team has 8 players and to avoid a forfeit, they may request the use of the opposing teams Catcher. The Catcher would not be involved in any plays made at home plate.
 - vii. With 8 Regular players and using Catcher from opposing team, this is where the automatic 9th batter would classify as an automatic out.
 - viii. Pick up players must be used for the entire game.
 - ix. If you have eight (8) original team players, you are allowed to call up two (2) pick up players.
 - x. If you have seven (7) original team players, you are allowed to call up three (3) pick up players.
 - xi. Pick up players are not necessary, if you can field nine (9) original team players. Teams may pick up one (1) player, or play with 9 and the 10th batter is not an out.
 - xii. New in 2018 – Pick up players can play any position; however must be listed at the bottom of the batting order. Manager must identify all pick up players to the opposing manager and umpire at pre-game conference.
 - xiii. New in 2018 – Part-time players can play any position and may be listed anywhere in the batting order. Managers must identify the part-time player within the miscellaneous section when reporting game scores.
 - xiv. Pick up rules do not apply during playoffs. A team must field a minimum of 9 rostered players.
- j) Each team must have their own field equipment – bats, gloves, protective safety equipment – catcher’s mask, etc.
New in 2018 - It is recommended that all catchers wear a face mask. Face masks are allowed to be utilized by any defensive player.
- k) New game balls are supplied by the league and umpires/managers will bring to the field.

- l) Both teams will prepare the field for play before each game and upon final game of day; both teams will remove the bases, equipment and return to storage.
- m) All bases must be double spiked, except 1st base, which should have three.
- n) All players must wear a uniform with identifiable numbers on their jersey, no two persons can have the same number (except for pick up players) and all players must wear their uniform when on the field of play.
- o) All rosters must identify players by given names along with their number (no nicknames permitted).
- p) Maximum/minimum rosters to be determined by the Executive Committee prior to the start of the season.
- q) Field bases are set up at 70 feet apart and the pitcher's mound is 50 feet from home plate.
- r) Pylons will be utilized in the outfield to designate the foul lines.
- s) Home and Away will be determined by a double flip of a coin at the pre-game conference by the umpire.
- t) Any inning started must be finished unless deemed unsafe to play by umpire.
- u) A game is a minimum of 5 complete innings – depending on game time limit (70 minutes).
- v) Teams will be allowed a maximum of 5 runs batted in per inning. If the maximum of 5 runs is reached by a team at bat prior to the opposing team making the third out, play for that half of the inning will cease, regardless if players are left on base.
- w) Teams playing the last game on Friday evening where the game goes past 11:10 pm and/or the lights go out: If 4 complete innings have been played; the game is ruled complete and is an official game. If only 3 innings have been played, the game must be rescheduled. The UIC/Umpire will determine.
- x) Games will be played if it is raining. Games will be put on hold if lightning is seen and games will be held down for 20 minutes after lightning, before the game may

proceed. If lightning is seen again during the down time, the 20 minute minimum limit restarts from the last lightning strike. The UIC/Umpire will determine.

- y) Courtesy runners – Each team may use a maximum of 6 courtesy runners per game, with a maximum of 2 courtesy runners per inning per team.
- z) Umpires to check bats of teams prior to start of game to ensure they are in compliance with the banned bats list. The league will allow bats stamped with USSSA, ASA 2000, ASA 2004, ASA 2008 and ASA 2012 stamps.
- aa) Portable countdown timer to be kept behind home plate and be visible to all players.
- bb) Score board will be kept behind home plate or next to home team dugout. Home team is responsible in keeping the score updated.
- cc) Reporting of game scores must be submitted/posted by Team Managers on the CGSL Website within 72 hours.
- dd) Teams must provide at least 24 hours' notice of forfeit of games.
- ee) Jewellery Rule – No exposed items (including jewellery) judged by the umpire to be distracting may be worn or displayed. The item must be removed or covered upon direction of the umpire. Medical alert bracelets are exempt.
- ff) New in 2018 – Catchers must be mindful of obstruction at home plate. To enhance safety for both the catcher and runner, Catchers must provide a clear path or lane to home plate when fielding the ball and making a play at home. Catchers are not allowed to block the path to home plate.
- gg) New in 2018 - Foot Wear – As per Softball Canada and USA Softball, players must wear closed toe shoes. No sandals or flip flops are allowed. Rubber Cleats, Trail runners and turf shoes are allowed. No metal cleats are allowed.

TEAM INFORMATION



CABBAGETOWN GROUP SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Team Fees

Each team is required to pay a team fee as determined by the Executive Committee each year before being recognized as an official CGSL team. The cost for 2018 is \$500 including insurance.

Payment must be paid in full by April 7, 2018. Payments may be made via Cash, Cheque or Money Transfer. Managers may use cheques from their sponsors as payment but are responsible for any NSF cheques (see Team Sponsor section for further information).

Team Entitlements

Each team that has paid their annual team fee in full shall be entitled to the following:

- Recognition as a CGSL team
- Have their team manager or delegate represented on the Manager's Council
- Register players on their team (up to a maximum number as determined by the Executive Committee)
- Register an unlimited number of non-players to their team
- Receive team manager support from the Executive Committee or their designates
- Have their team sponsor logo on the CGSL website (if the business/company is approved by the league).

Player Ratings

Each season, team managers must rate or update the ratings for every one of their team members. The ratings and guidelines are provided within this document. For assistance assessing your players, please contact a member of the Player Ratings Committee. Completed player ratings are due by June 15, 2018.

CGSL players are ranked against the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) guidelines; the cumulative top ten player ratings cannot exceed the overall team rating. Ratings are as follows:

Division	Player Rating	Overall Team Rating (not to exceed)
A	1 - 27	270
B	1 - 19	185
C	1 - 14	135
D	1 - 10	95

Our league has provided a further description of the NAGAAA ratings.

League Structure

The 2018 season will consist of a promotion/relegation format based on 4 pools – two of 7 teams and two of 6 teams. There will be an adjustment of teams between pools during the regular season mid way through the season.

Team Selection

As manager, you need to determine whether you are going to have a Beginner, Intermediate or Skilled team. This will determine the skill level of the players you select.

As manager you may recruit players and sign them at a New Player Draft (held in April) or at your leisure each year. The team is a group of voluntary participants and once signed to the team's roster they will belong to that roster for one playing season. Every member has to re-register each year. In the rare instance where a player needs to be moved to another team, please consult with your League Representative.

The Membership Chair will keep a list of players that have been signed as members but are not yet on a team roster. Working with the membership committee is very useful in filling out a roster that needs only a player or two more to meet league requirements as to team size. If you recruit someone new to the league, you should have some idea of what skills he or she has before you commit to having him/her on your roster. Every new player or returning player that has been out of the CGSL for 5 years or more must attend the New Player Rating Clinic.

Please inform your players that the CGSL is committed to providing sport and recreational opportunities that are as inclusive as possible. Sometimes however, you may not be able to play with your friend in order that we may protect the safety of our members.

Team Sponsors

Teams are encouraged to obtain team sponsors to financially support their team for the following expenses:

- Team uniforms
- Team registration
- Tournament registration
- Equipment
- Other items deemed appropriate

All negotiations take place solely between the team manager and local business.

Please consult the Executive Committee before negotiating to confirm whether the business will be approved. If the Executive Committee supports the place of business, their logo will be placed on the CGSL web site under the "Team Sponsors" section.

Uniforms

- Teams must have "like" jerseys with a minimum of 6 inch numbers on the back by the first game of the season
- **New in 2018 - Foot Wear – As per Softball Canada and USA Softball, players must wear closed toe shoes. No sandals or flip flops are allowed.**

Rubber Cleats, Trail runners and turf shoes are allowed. No metal cleats are allowed.

Jewellery Rule – Enforced by UIC and Umpires

No exposed items (including jewellery) judged by the umpire to be distracting may be worn or displayed. The item must be removed or covered upon direction of the umpire. Medical alert bracelets are exempt.

Equipment/Setting Bases

Each Manager will receive a Key for the shed at McCleary Diamonds where the Equipment will be stored. Both teams are responsible for setup/tear down at the beginning and end of play on both Friday and Saturday. The Director of Field Operations will ensure that there are at least 4 Sets of Complete Bases in the shed at all times. The rake and shovel will also be housed in the shed in the event of rain. Pylons must also be placed in the outfield down the 1st and 3rd base lines at the beginning of the day. These must also be picked up at the end of the day. Please ensure that all equipment is put back into the shed including hammers and tape measures.

Equipment must consist of the following:

- 1 standard home plate
- 1 first-base safety bag (white & orange combined bag)
- 2 standard bases to be used for second and third base
- 1 standard pitching rubber
- 8 steel pegs (2 pegs per base and 4 for safety bag)
- 1 measuring tape
- 1 hammer/small mallet
- 1 new or slightly used ball in good condition ball for all home games
- 1 used but in good condition ball for all visitor games.

Practices

Practices are optional. Be advised that skill development is an integral part of any sport. Just as individuals can get better with practice so can teams. Each team will decide what their needs are in this regard.

Teams are required to find their own diamonds on which to practice.

Training and Coaching

A team manager may be the coach for the team or you may delegate this responsibility to someone else. Clinics will be held throughout the season.

Finance/Budgeting

As the team manager, you can delegate a team treasurer (optional). The team manager will determine the treasurer's duties and responsibilities. The purpose of

this position is to create a “check and balance” within the team for all financing. The team manager is ultimately responsible for all team finances.

If requested, provide a complete and accurate budget to any member of his/her team. The team manager has one week to provide the information. Under the bylaws established in 2006, all managers are required to submit a budget that includes all income (such as: sponsorship, fundraising activities) and expenses (such as: equipment, uniforms, fees). If the team manager fails to provide the requested information, the team member can submit notification to his/her divisional representative in writing or by electronic mail (e-mail) after one week has passed.

In the event that a team member(s) writes to the league representative with a specific issue regarding team finances, the team manager may be required to provide updated budget and bank account information to the Executive Committee.

Failure to do so within one week of formal notice from the team member will result in an automatic removal from position, unless otherwise stated by the Commissioner.

Outstanding Debt to League/Team

A player or non-player that owes a financial or in-kind debt to the league or team will have his/her membership suspended. Outstanding team and league debt records will exist for a minimum of five years until the debt has been repaid. A player/non-player has the right to appeal their suspension to the Arbitration Committee.

Team Debt Process

The team manager is responsible to notify their respective divisional representative of any debts incurred by a player/non-player in writing or by electronic mail (e-mail) after notice has been provided to the team member.

Notification must include:

- Type of debt
- Approximate/actual value of debt
- Circumstances of how debt was incurred
- The date the member was notified of the debt and method of communication (verbal/e-mail).

A player will have their membership suspension removed once the debt has been fully paid back to the team, or to the satisfaction of the team manager.

League Debt Process

The Treasurer/Membership Chair is responsible to notify a player/non-player of any debt owed to the league (e.g. NSF cheque) in writing or by electronic mail (e-mail). Their respective team manager will also be notified.

A player will have their membership suspension removed once the debt has been fully paid back to the league, or to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee.

Team Removal from the League

A team which forfeits three instances (defined as one to two games per day) in one season will be placed on notice and will be referred to the Arbitration Committee. The Arbitration Committee will review the forfeitures and submit a decision to the CGSL Executive for review and may result in possible dismissal from the league.

Teams forfeiting five instances in one season will not be subject to review but will no longer be entitled to participate in the league for the remainder of the season.

Players from a team that is no longer entitled to play in the league may change teams subject to approval by the Treasurer/Membership Chair.

All players from such dissolved teams retain all league privileges and entitlements regardless of whether they join another team.

When a team forfeits during the regular season, the Executive Committee will determine whether all/or some games will be eliminated from the standings and possibly determine a new win/loss record.

Team Manager Resignations

A team manager may resign from a team by writing to the League Rep/Events Chair.

The team will be responsible to elect another team manager and notify the Open Division Representative before the next scheduled league game. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit of each game until a manager is declared.

The Executive Committee must approve the new team manager once declared.

EXCEPTION: In the event that a manager resigns his/her position on the same day that a regular league game has been scheduled, the team will not be required to declare a team manager that day, but will be required to do so before the next scheduled game.

Team Manager Removal

A team manager can be removed from his/her position in one of two ways:

- Removal by the Executive Committee for not following the rules outlined within the Constitution, By-laws, Rules of Play and Ethics Policy. The Executive Committee reserves the right to remove a team manager for other reasons not identified within these documents.
- Removal by a two-thirds majority vote by the players and non-players on the team manager's respective team.



CABBAGETOWN GROUP SOFTBALL LEAGUE

PLAYER INFORMATION

Player Membership Eligibility

Membership in the CGSL shall be open to all individuals who wish to participate in the activities of the organization provided that they:

- Agree to abide by the Constitution, By-laws and Ethics Policy; and
- Agree to abide by the rules of competition; and
- Pay any applicable fees; and
- Are in good standing; and
- Are 18 years of age or older.

Definition of a player in “Good Standing”

“Good standing” is defined as someone who:

- Has paid all pertinent fees for the current season;
- Observes continuous compliance with all provisions set forth in the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules of Play and Ethics Policy;
- Has no outstanding debt to the league or team; and,
- Has not had their membership suspended or previously terminated.

NSF Cheques

All members and/or teams that submit “Non-Sufficient Funds” (NSF) cheques to the league will be automatically suspended until full payment of dues are received.

If an NSF cheque is received, the member or team will be required to make fee payments in cash and pay for any financial costs that the league incurred.

In 2013, the league moved to On-line and cash payments.

Trades

A player, who wishes to be moved or traded to another team, requires their team manager’s approval.

If team manager approval is not forthcoming, the team member must notify the Arbitration Committee in writing or by electronic mail (e-mail).

The Arbitration Committee will seek representation from all parties concerned and render a decision. The matter is to be resolved within one week.

NOTE: The Treasurer/Membership Chair must approve all trades.

Removal of a Team Member

A player may be relegated to the status of “non-player” on written recommendation from the respective team manager to the League Rep/Events Chair under the following circumstances:

- A player who does not give just cause, after three consecutive weeks without contact to the team manager and/or coach for reasons of not being able to play, according to the published league schedule
- Inappropriate behaviour or actions, as defined in the Ethics Policy.

The player has the right to appeal this recommendation to the Arbitration Committee in writing or by electronic mail (e-mail). The issue is to be resolved within a week.

Suspension/Termination

Any member whose name has been brought forward to the attention of the divisional representative on charges of unsportsmanlike conduct or conduct unbecoming a member of the CGSL, and/or violating the Constitution, Bylaws or Ethics Policy of the CGSL may have his/her membership status reviewed by the Arbitration Committee (see “Section 6 – Committees” in Bylaws for further information).

The Arbitration Committee will seek representation from all parties concerned. As a result of the review, the committee may recommend that a member may have his/her membership suspended or terminated for a specific period of time, and includes the forfeiting all dues, fees paid and the right to participate in future activities for the balance of the calendar year.

** See Ethics Policy on page 24 and in Bylaws (on Website) for further information on suspensions and terminations **

Individual Resignations from the Team

A team member may resign from a team in writing or by electronic mail (e-mail) to their respective team manager and/or Secretary/Membership Chair at any point after paying their annual dues. The team member will still retain their rights and privileges within the league.

Individual Resignations from the League

A team member may resign from a team in writing or by electronic mail (e-mail) to their respective manager or Secretary/Membership Chair at any point after paying their annual dues. All rights and privileges will be forfeited once the Secretary/Membership Chair has received the written documentation.



CABBAGETOWN GROUP SOFTBALL LEAGUE

LEAGUE INFORMATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Future Goals to achieve by 2018

- Stabilized membership of 350
- Stabilized sponsorship of \$30,000/annually (monetary or in-kind)
- Strong volunteer base
- Effective league communications to membership
- Stabilized base of relationships with local community and continue to develop new relationships
- Fiscally balanced between 2017-2018
- Reserve fund of \$25,000

Future Goals to achieve

- To join the MIST tournament rotation by 2020 (now confirmed)

Leadership Role of Managers

The duties, responsibilities and obligations of the team manager shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

Actively promote a positive environment of:

- Camaraderie
- Sportsmanship
- Teamwork
- Developing relationships among its members and the community
- Promote participation by its members in such athletic, social, cultural, or charitable activities.

Promote the growth of leadership, coaching and playing skills within the team and the league.

Conduct yourself in a professional and courteous manner.

Managers are expected to attempt to resolve any issues that may arise for the betterment of their team with the focus of playing softball. For example, if the opposing team happens to forget to bring their equipment as home team, (one-time instance only) then please try to resolve the issue by finding equipment to play. Ultimately, the team should forfeit, although this action leads to hard feelings and all players that came to play ball are sent home for the day.

Manager Approval by the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee must approve all team managers. The Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse an individual from being the manager of a team.

Manager Council Meetings

As an official league officer, the role of the team manager is critical to the success of the organization. A Manager's Council has been created to facilitate the exchange of ideas to continuously improve the organization. Specifically, the Manager's Council will:

- 1) Provide support to the Executive Committee through consultation regarding:
 - League policies, procedures and rules
 - Organizational development
 - Succession planning
 - Awards
 - Nomination of volunteers for league activities and initiatives.
- 2) Provide a forum to present/suggest ideas to the Executive Committee.
- 3) Provide a forum for the Executive Committee to share and exchange ideas/suggestions to strengthen the organization.
- 4) Learn best practices.
- 5) Identify existing issues or potential issues within the organization.
- 6) Act as an advisory body on an 'as-needed' basis for the Executive Committee.
- 7) Identify improvements that can be made within the organization.
- 8) Network with other team managers.

Player Ratings Committee

The Player Ratings Committee is responsible for:

- Assisting team managers with the completion of player ratings
- Reviewing completed player rankings
- Determining accurate and up-to-date player rankings
- Maintaining accurate and up-to-date ratings for all players
- Providing complete information during any player rating appeals.

The Commissioner may Appoint/Designate a chair of the Player Rating Committee.

The PRC consists of up to seven members in good standing (including the Chair).

PRC members should have at least three year's experience in determining player ratings.

Only team managers may request a review of a player's ratings.

During the season, an email must be sent to the PRC chair to identify the person, the team he/she plays on and his/her jersey number.

The respective team manager/player will be notified of player(s) that are questioned by the PRC.

PRC will report findings to the Executive Committee with recommendations that either the player and or team move to a higher division.

PRC chair or a PRC member will contact the protesting team manager, team manager of the player in question and the player in question to inform them of the player's rating.

The team manager and/or player have the right to appeal the decision to the PRC by outlining the specific ratings they disagree with.

The PRC Chair will oversee the process for player rating appeals.

The PRC chair will select PRC members (preferably members that have not assessed this player) to adjudicate on the appeal.

PRC members that have made assessments must provide information as to why a player was assigned a particular rating.

The PRC committee's decision on an appeal is final.

NOTE: Player ratings can be reviewed again if the player experiences an event that affects his/her performance (i.e. an injury limits playing ability).

Protest Procedure

The following information explains the protest procedure:

An Executive Officer (team manager, coach or Executive Committee member) can submit a protest for the Arbitration Committee for review at any time.

During game play, only a team manager can submit a protest for the Arbitration Committee for review.

A protest must be issued before the end of the game. It must be made to the umpire with the following information:

- The player name
- The player jersey number
- Explanation of protest.

The game continues. No discussion is required. The umpire records the protest and provides to the Director of Field Operations.

Within one week of the protest being filed an Arbitration Committee will convene to review the protest. The two team managers and player being protested may be called to provide information. The player may continue to play until the Arbitration Committee renders a decision.

All player ratings are subject to appeal and penalties (if assessed).

The Arbitration Committee will recommend its findings to the Executive Committee for final approval (if necessary).

Gay Softball World Series (GSWS)

The Gay Softball World Series (GSWS) is hosted annually. It is usually held in the first week of September in a different member city each year and is the opportunity to showcase our softball and socialize with other gays and lesbians from the US and Canada. A week full of softball and other social events is an eagerly anticipated event every year, for participants and local host city visitors as well.

Tampa, Florida is hosting World Series 2018 during the week of September 3 to 8, 2018.

Fundraising - 2018 LEAGUE FUNDRAISER

Goal:

To provide Money back to CGSL teams (to pay for tournament and equipment costs for example); and to ensure the CGSL recoups its costs for Printing of Tickets and Purchasing Prizes and possibly to minimize member fees and provide better quality events.

Objectives:

To develop a system where the **league AND teams** can raise money in the absence of a major league sponsor.

Part 1: Ticket Sales – Prizes TBD

Ticket sales – 70% (or more) to Teams; 30% (or less) to CGSL to cover Costs (Printing/Prizes)

Examples of ticket sales and funds returned to teams: Tickets at \$5 each

- 250 tickets sold = \$1,250 = \$875 back to the team (\$375 back to league)
- 350 tickets sold = \$1,750 = \$1,225 back to the team (\$525 back to league)
- 550 tickets sold = \$2,750 = \$1,925 back to the team (\$825 back to league)

Part 2: League Fundraiser / Social – July 21, 2018

A league social will be held on July 21, 2018 with entertainment and a fundraising component. The Executive will request each team to provide at least one prize of a \$50 in value to support this event.

More information on this event will be provided in the future.

Important Dates:

Late May 2018– Tickets become available to all teams

July 15, 2018 - Team Prize \$50 value due

July 15, 2018 – All tickets and money due back to league

July 21, 2018 – League Fundraiser/Social

Inform team members of the following:

- All monies raised for **league** go back to you in some form – minimized member fees, better diamonds, benefits and incentives for members, better banquet including reduced drink prices).
- All monies raised for **team** go back to you in some form (out-of-tournament cost reductions, team party, equipment, registration costs, etc.).
- In order to qualify for league benefits, a team must sell tickets
- No team expenses/no fundraiser to co-ordinate/tickets provided by Executive
- Purchase tickets yourself, and/or sell to friends, co-workers, Northern Classic, bar sponsor nights, Pride weekend and family members.

Best practices/suggestions for ticket sales:

- Set a goal for your team; outline the amount that can be raised; identify how that money will directly benefit them. Do not settle for the minimum # of tickets; aim higher.
- Try to set a minimum number to be sold per person, for your team.
- Concentrate your efforts on the “ticket sellers” on your team – perhaps develop your own system to reward them.
- Create a competition within the team for who sells the most tickets.
- Be creative – set up team fundraising days on Church Street or through your team sponsor’s business.
- Recognize that not all players are going to be a strong “ticket seller”. Perhaps these individuals can assist in other ways such as:
 - Securing prizes for our main fundraiser
 - VolunteeringPurchasing tickets themselves in lieu of feeling obligated to attend other fundraisers
- Do not force anyone to buy tickets – some people do not have the cash flow to do so.
- Use soft skills to get team members to sell tickets – reinforce the benefits to your team members.
- Do not force people on your team to sell tickets – some people are not “natural ticket sellers”. Perhaps they can perform a different function at a team fundraiser to support the team instead.

Ethics Policy Complaints

The Ethics Policy identifies the behaviour/actions that has been defined as unacceptable and which can be reported and investigated as a possible ethics violation. It also defines the associated penalties should an offending member be found to be in violation of this Ethics Policy.

The Ethics Policy governs the behaviour and actions of all:

- Players
- Non-players
- Coaches
- Managers
- Executive Committee members
- Spectators
- Scorekeepers
- Umpires
- Members Emeritus.

Any league member can report an ethics violation as defined in this policy. When practical, a league member should report an ethics violation within 72 hours after becoming aware of the incident.

Reported violations shall be done in either written (paper) or electronic (e-mail) format that include:

- Name of individual(s) writing the complaint
- Name of the individual(s) that have violated this policy
- Team manager's name of the individual that has violated this policy
- Circumstances of the situation.

The violation should address the type of ethics violation and the supporting facts that are available at the time the violation is reported.

The violation can be reported to any Executive Officer or team manager. If the report is brought to the team manager, they are to contact their respective divisional representative immediately.

The Arbitration Committee shall make every effort to review the incident and if determined to be a violation as defined by this policy, complete the investigation in a timely manner, not to exceed seven business days.

If circumstances such as the NAGAAA Gay World Series prevent the committee from completing their review within that time, the chairperson will notify the involved parties within 24 hours.

Reporting members should only describe the facts related to the reported violation and should not attempt to sway or influence any member of the Arbitration.

Banquet Information

At the end of every softball season, the league comes together to celebrate our achievements. This includes recognizing our top players, people that have made contributions to the league, our best umpire, coach and manager.

There is usually a cost associated with the banquet that is determined by the Executive Committee each year based on fundraising achievements (minimum: a deposit of \$5). Non-league members pay for their own costs as determined by the Executive Committee.

Awards

Teams and players are recognized at the year-end banquet. For the 2018 Season, teams are recognized for: (list may not be complete)

- Best Overall Team in the CGSL
- First and Second Place Teams in Playoffs by Division

Individual recognition is awarded for:

- Most Valuable Player (MVP)
- Most Improved Player
- Best Outfielder
- Best Infielder
- Best Pitcher
- Spirit/Sportsmanship
- Rookie of the Year

League recognition is also awarded to:

- Best Umpire – Claude Avon Award
- Best Coach – Don Kezima Award
- Knowledge of the Game – Bob Lamp Award
- Best Manager
- Geoff da Silva Commissioner's Cup
- Member(s) Emeritus (Where applicable)
- Warren Sheppell Volunteer of the Year Award

Coaching Clinics – Upon Request

The CGSL hosts a Coaching Clinic in order to develop players that want to play a leadership role within the organization. Please pass this information on to your team members for interest and contact your league representative for further information.

Arbitration Committee

The purpose of the Arbitration Committee is to arbitrate and resolve all disputes arising from:

- Player or non-player appeals
- Team manager appeals
- Ethics violations
- Any disputes that the Executive Committee deems as requiring arbitration.

Please read the By-laws on the CGSL Website for further information.

Succession Planning

Throughout the year, please identify/recommend appropriate individuals for the following positions to the Commissioner:

- Executive Officer
- Committee Chair
- Committee Member
- Volunteer position for league events/activities.

Game Score Recording

Each weekend, you have 2 days to enter the scores from your games played on the website. Failure to do so would result in the incorrect score put into the website. As home team, it is your responsibility to ensure that the scores are put into the system. As visiting team, it is your responsibility to ensure that the scores put in by the home team are accurate. If no scores are put into the system the umpire's scores will take precedence and may result in incorrect points awarded.

League Sponsors

The league expects to enter into agreements with various community businesses to generate more support for the league. For example, Eagle Beaver Sports offers benefits to all members when they register with the CGSL.

All managers are strongly encouraged to explain the importance of our league (and team) sponsors. All members are strongly encouraged to use the services of our sponsors moving forward to generate continued interest/support of the CGSL.

Charitable Donations

Please let your respective league representative know about any charitable donations your team has provided. The information will be published on the CGSL web site to highlight the contributions of our teams and the league overall. The CGSL and affiliated teams are proud supporters and contributors to many charities in the community.

Web Site

The CGSL has a web site at www.cgslsoftball.com

Managers may post news & announcements through the CGSL League Representative.

The CGSL web site also offers ad space for league members at a nominal fee.

Facebook

Follow us on Facebook at CGSL Softball

Twitter

Follow us on Twitter at @CGSLSoftball



CABBAGETOWN GROUP SOFTBALL LEAGUE

PLAYER AND TEAM RATING GUIDELINES

CGSL PLAYER AND TEAM RATING GUIDELINES

1. As a guide to those who assign ratings or those who wish to learn more about ratings, please read the following:

Statement of Purpose:

This form is intended to be used as a tool to assist those responsible for rating players so ratings may be fair and consistent across all levels of play and across all leagues in NAGAAA. All questions are intended to determine if a player possesses a skill or skills necessary for softball.

CGSL: As a member of NAGAAA it is our duty and responsibility to rate all our league players and report these ratings, when applicable, to NAGAAA. The purpose of the ratings is to ensure all players are eligible to play in the appropriate NAGAAA division (A, B, C or D) should they attend a NAGAAA World Series or any other sanctioned NAGAAA slo-pitch, softball tournament. The ratings are not intended to forcibly move players into a higher division. Proper ratings protect players and teams - from penalty or expulsion from NAGAAA sanctioned tournaments - by fairly placing them into the division of their true calibre where they may compete against their peers.

2. Circle a YES or NO answer for each question.

3. Many questions have multiple parts. A YES to ANY one part is a YES to the entire question.

4. ALL questions will begin with the phrase: "Does the player have the ability to..."

5. Questions will be followed by a standardized CGSL interpretation. See Appendices for examples, breakdown of divisional ratings, definitions and case studies.

DEFINITIONS FOR ALL QUESTIONS:

OCCASIONALLY: to be able to perform the particular skill without regularity. This means the skill can be performed **3** out of 5 times.

CONSISTENTLY: to be able to perform the particular skill with regularity or more often than not. This means the skill can be performed **4** out of 5 times.

Consider the field conditions and weather to be normal when answering these questions. You are not factoring bad field or weather conditions.

Core Questions: ALL players should be rated "YES" for questions 1, 6, 7, 15 and 19, without exception

CGSL: Determining the rating of a player frequently involves more than simply answering "yes" or "no" to the twenty-seven questions which follow. Managers, coaches and anyone else who rates players are well served by observing all facets of a player's game: fielding (catching, throwing, positioning, discipline, knowledge, intuition), base running (speed, style, discipline, knowledge, intuition) and hitting (average, power, discipline, knowledge, intuition) - then developing a "feel" for the overall skill level presented.

For example, a "D" player is unlikely to be able to hit a ball over a 280 foot fence. Why? Hitting for such power makes it likely the player is a very good hitter. Logically, he would score several "yes" answers on the Hitting questions - there are nine (9) of them: let's say he totals six (6) - and this would elevate his overall total, meaning he would need to score only six "yes" questions from the other 18 fielding and base running questions to be rated a "C" player and only nine "yes" questions from the other 18 fielding and base running questions to be rated a "B" player. Note the difference between a high rated "D" player and a low rated "B" player is a total of four responses!

NAGAAA
Division

Player Rating

Overall Team Rating (cannot exceed total below)

A	1 - 27	270
B	1 - 19	185
C	1 - 14	135
D	1 - 10	95



Introduction

Historically, the CGSL has always rated its members higher than our US counterparts. Having said that, we are asking that you be truthful in your responses. You are required to complete the 27 ratings questions for each player on your roster to the best of your ability and knowledge. This submission will be due **June 15, 2018**. Please consider that, player ratings serve as guidelines for team rankings in the CGSL, but have more of an impact on teams attending NAGAAA sanctioned tournaments and the GSWS. NAGAAA uses a 2 pronged approach to assigning teams to divisions: (a) Individual player ratings; and (b) a composite rating based on the top 10 players on each team.

Rating Guidelines

Effective for the 2016 season NAGAAA team ratings were as follows:

- C Division – no individual player rated higher than 14 and team rating no greater than 135; and
- D Division – no individual player rated higher than 10 and team rating no greater than 95.

(There is no restriction on the minimum level of individual rating. IE D rated players can play on a C level team, but not vice versa.)

The player rating **DOES NOT** impact the structure adopted by the CGSL in 2010. Ratings should be carefully reviewed by teams who plan on attending NAGAAA sanctioned tournaments (particularly the GSWS) to ensure that their **June 2018** roster rating submissions are in compliance with NAGAAA requirements. For further details please refer to the [NAGAAA Instruments of Governance February 2016](#) – “Softball Code 5.5 GSWS Division Guidelines.”

CGSL Rating Guidance

Based on observations of ratings reviewed by NAGAAA and for consistency we recommend that managers respond **NO** to the following questions:

- **QUESTION 5** – consistently through without a rainbow arc to the proper place turning accurate infield plays against aggressive runners with above average speed or consistently make long throws without a rainbow arc from outfield directly and accurately to the proper base completing proper plays against aggressive runners with above average speed? (**Rationale – there would be no opportunity to consistently display this skill based on the running skill sets in CGSL**)
- **QUESTION 10** – (Applies only to infielders) occasionally on purpose field medium hit balls that are in the hole?(**Rationale - infielders fielding medium hit balls in the hole is considered a routine play and will go unnoticed unless the infielder is consistently diving for balls or making spectacular plays therefore drawing attention to them**)

North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance

(Appendix 2 – Player Rating Guidelines)

Directions:

1. Read the following Statement of Purpose: *This form is intended to be used as a tool to assist those responsible for rating players so ratings may be fair and consistent across all levels of play and across all leagues in the Open Division. All questions are intended to determine if a player possesses a skill or skills necessary for softball*
2. Answer YES or NO for each question.
3. Many questions have multiple parts. A YES to ANY one part is a YES to the question.
4. Questions: All questions will begin with the phrase: DOES THE PLAYER HAVE THE ABILITY TO...

DEFINITIONS

Definitions For Throwing and Fielding

<p>OCCASIONALLY: to be able to perform the particular skill with some regularity or more often than not. (i.e. the skill can be performed 3 out of 5 times)</p>	<p>CONSISTENTLY: to be able to perform the particular skill with great regularity. (i.e. the skill can be performed 4 out of 5 times)</p>
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Definitions for Base Running

<p>OCCASIONALLY: to be able to perform the particular skill with some regularity or more often than not. (i.e. the skill can be performed 3 out of 5 times)</p>
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Definitions for Hitting

<p>OCCASIONALLY: to be able to perform the particular skill, but without regularity. (i.e. the skill can be performed 2 out of 5 times)</p>	<p>CONSISTENTLY: to be able to perform the particular skill with some regularity or more often than not. (i.e. the skill can be performed 3 out of 5 times)</p>
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Modified Batting Average – The percentage resulting from the sum of a player’s: 1) hits and 2) base safely reached on error divided by the player’s at-bats.

THROWING

<p><i>Questions #1-5 are intended to identify THROWING ability, and have nothing to do with the player’s ability to field the ball.</i></p>	<p><i>Questions #1-5 are linked. A player who gets Question #4, for example, automatically gets #1-3.</i></p>
<p>Question 1 – occasionally throw a ball through the air 65 feet or better in the vicinity of another player?</p>	
<p>Question 2 – consistently throw a ball through the air 90 feet or better in the vicinity of another player? OR occasionally throw to the proper place turning accurate infield plays against runners with average base running speed?</p>	
<p>Question 3 – occasionally throw a ball through the air 90 feet or better without a rainbow arc in the vicinity of another player? OR consistently throw to the proper place turning accurate infield plays against runner with average base running speed?</p>	
<p>Question 4 – consistently throw a ball through the air 90 feet or better without a rainbow arc in the vicinity of another player?</p>	

Question 5 – consistently throw without a rainbow arc to the proper place turning accurate infield plays against aggressive runners with above average speed? **OR** consistently make long throws without a rainbow arc from the outfield directly and accurately to the proper base completing proper plays against aggressive runners with above average speed?

FIELDING

Questions #6-14 are intended to identify FIELDING ability, and have nothing to do with the player's ability to throw the ball

Questions #6-13 are linked. A player who gets Question #11, for example, automatically gets #6-10.

Question #14 is not automatically linked to any other question.

Question 6 – occasionally on purpose catch balls that are thrown to the player with a rainbow arc?

Question 7 – occasionally on purpose catch balls that are thrown to the player without a rainbow arc?

Question 8 – consistently on purpose field slow hit balls that are within a few steps? **OR** consistently on purpose catch fly balls that are within 15 feet?

Question 9 – consistently on purpose field medium hit balls that are within a few steps? **OR** consistently on purpose catch fly balls that are more than 15 feet away?

Question 10 – occasionally on purpose field medium hit balls that are in the hole? **OR** occasionally on purpose catch fly balls that are more than 30 feet away?

Question 11 – consistently on purpose field medium hit balls that are in the hole? **OR** consistently on purpose catch fly balls that are more than 30 feet away?

Question 12 – occasionally on purpose field hard hit balls that are in the hole? **OR** occasionally on purposes top line drives in the gaps from getting by the outfielders?

Question 13 – consistently on purpose field hard hit balls that are in the hole? **OR** consistently on purpose stop line drives in the gaps from getting by the outfielders?

Question 14 – occasionally on purpose make spectacular catches?

BASE RUNNING

Questions #15-18 are linked. A player who gets Question #17, for example, automatically gets #15 & #16.

Question 15 – below average speed (can run 70 ft in greater than 5 seconds). Runs past first base. Does not slide.

Question 16 – average speed (can run 70 ft in between 4-5 seconds). Anticipates plays (tags up, goes half way etc.) and sometimes slide to avoid an out.

Question 17 – above average speed (can run 70 ft in 3-4 seconds). Runs aggressively can take an extra base on a bobbled ball. Slides to avoid tags can slide to break-up double plays.

Question 18 – exceptional speed (can run 70 ft in less than 3 seconds). Can turn a routinely hot ball into a double. Slides to avoid tags, can break-up double plays (greater success than above average).

HITTING

Questions #19-27 are intended to be answered based on the outcome – not counting walks – of each completed at bat (whether the batter reaches base or is out on the final pitch of the at bat), not based on the outcome of each swing during an at bat.

Questions #19-22 are linked. A player who gets Question #22, for example, automatically gets #19-21.

Questions #23-26 are linked. A player who gets Question #26, for example, automatically gets #23-25.

Question #27 is not automatically linked to any other question.

Question 19 – occasionally hit a fair ball?

Question 20 – consistently hit a fair ball?

Question 21 – occasionally hit a fair ball with at least medium velocity?

Question 22 – consistently hit a fair ball with at least medium velocity?

Question 23 – modified batting average – D (.800 or better); C (.600 or better)

Question 24 – modified batting average – D (.900 or better); C (.700 or better)

Question 25 – modified batting average – D (.975 or better); C (.800 or better)

Question 26 – modified batting average – D (1.000 or better); C (.875 or better)

Question 27 – occasionally hit a ball over a 300' fence?

SOFTBALL CODE (DEFINITIONS)

- 1.01 Additional Player - a player added to a team's regular season roster for purposes of GSWS play. Such a player must be from the regular season roster of another team within the same Association.
- 1.02 Altered bat – a bat that has been modified in any way from the manufacturer's original specifications or design.
- 1.03 Amateur - a softball player who engages in the sport solely for pleasure and/or the physical, mental or social benefits derived there from.
- 1.04 Association - a member of the Open Division as defined in Bylaws Article One.
- 1.05 Athletic Director (AD) – the person in charge of running the GSWS.
- 1.06 Average/Above Average speed – Below Average Speed – a batter, at the point of contact, being able to run home to first in 5 + seconds or slower. Average Speed – a batter, at the point of contact being able to run home to first in 4-5 seconds. Above Average Speed – a batter, at the point of contact being able to run home to first in less than 4 seconds or faster.
- 1.07 Cash Prize - a prize or prizes in cash or merchandise that is easily converted to cash that are awarded to players, teams, or sponsors based on the final standings of a tournament or other competition. A player or team may receive reimbursement for actual expenses incurred as long as the amount of the reimbursement is not dependent on the standings of the event.
- 1.08 Code – the Open Division's Softball Code that is part of the Instruments of Governance and governs the administration and playing of the GSWS.
- 1.09 Council - the governing body of the Open Division.
- 1.10 Council Member or Member of Council – a) a person named by an Association to represent that Association on the Council (assumed to be the Association's commissioner if another person has not been named), or b) a member of the Open Division Board of Directors.
- 1.11 Defense definitions: a) A limited level of defense is a theoretical set of players having the following skills: 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8; b) An intermediate level of defense is a theoretical set of players having skills greater than a limited level of defense but less than an exceptional level of defense. c) An exceptional level of defense is a theoretical set of players having greater skills than: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
- 1.12 Director – a member of the Open Division Board of Directors.
- 1.13 Disqualified Player - a person who has been disqualified from play in events conducted, sanctioned, or promoted by the Open Division.
- 1.14 Fly Ball – any batted ball that is higher than a line drive but is in the air less than five (5) seconds.
- 1.15 Gay – includes gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GBLT or LGBT) individuals
- 1.16 GSWS – The Gay Softball World Series hosted annually by the Open Division.

- 1.17 Hard Hit Ball – described as a ball hit at a minimum of 80 mph or greater than 250 feet in the air.
- 1.18 Non-LGBT – (also referred to as straight, non-GLBT, non-LGBT or non-gay) means not gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender.
- 1.19 High Fly Ball – Any batted ball that is in the air for five (5) seconds or more.
- 1.20 S/he - shall be read to mean and include all persons.
- 1.21 Host City – the Association(s) and their representatives who work with the Board of Directors to host a GSWS
- 1.22 In the Gap –a ball that is hit at a distance that is more than 30 foot radius from the outfield defender.
- 1.23 In the Hole - a ball that is hit at a distance that is more than 12 foot radius from the infield defender.
- 1.24 Ineligible Player - a person who is not eligible to participate in events conducted, sanctioned, or promoted by the Open Division. A disqualified player is included in this definition as an ineligible player.
- 1.25 Instruments of Governance (IOG) –the document that includes the Open Division’s Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Softball Code and Appendices.
- 1.26 Invitational or Open Tournament – a tournament other than the GSWS.
- 1.27 Line Drive – a ball that from the point of contact rises vertically less than 10% of the total horizontal distance it travels.
- 1.28 Long Fly Ball – any batted ball that travels further than 250 feet in the air
- 1.29 Long Throw – a throw that travels 150 feet or more
- 1.30 Manager – the person designated by an Association to assume responsibility for the actions of a Team and its members.
- 1.31 Medium Hit Ball – a ball hit 55 to 80 mph or hit 150 to 250 feet in the air
- 1.32 Medium Velocity – a ball hit 55 to 80 mph or hit 150 to 250 feet in the air
- 1.33 Member - a member in good standing of an Association.
- 1.34 NAGAAA – the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance.
- 1.35 NAGAAA Official - During the GSWS the following are designated as NAGAAA Officials, the NAGAAA Board of Directors, the GSWS Assistant Athletic Director(s), the UIC, the Assistant UIC(s), and the Protest Chairs.
- 1.36 No Repeat – Back to back GSWS years
- 1.37 Non-Resident Player – a person who, at the beginning of an association’s GSWS qualifying season does not live in the association’s defined NAGAAA territory.
- 1.38 On Purpose – with intent
- 1.39 Open Division – the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance – Open Division,Inc.a)
The division of NAGAAA that is open to men and women.

- 1.40 Open Rostered Team – A team that is exempt from the provisions of Softball Code§5.01b1).
- 1.41 Physical Relocation – is the movement of a resident player's household from one fixed address to another.
- 1.42 Primary City – is the Greater Metropolitan area of that city
- 1.43 Proper Place – appropriate base or fielder
- 1.44 Rainbow Arc – a ball that from the point of release rises vertically 10% or more of the total distance that it travels
- 1.45 Regular Meeting – a Council meeting pursuant to Bylaws §5.01.
- 1.46 Resident player – a person who, at the beginning of an association's GSWS qualifying season resides in the association's defined NAGAAA territory.
- 1.47 Rudimentary Knowledge – no definition required
- 1.48 Shared Territory – Two or more Associations with overlapping or shared geographical boundaries. Players are allowed to be a member of one association within a shared territory See sc5.01b)
- 1.49 Slow Hit Ball – a ball hit up to 55 mph or hit 150 feet or less in the air
- 1.50 Softball – as defined in ASA Rule 3, Equipment E3 12" slow pitch softball
- 1.51 Special Meeting – a Council meeting pursuant to Bylaws §5.06
- 1.52 Spectacular Catch – when a player catches the ball while leaving his center of gravity or is able to overcome obstructions.
- 1.53 Summer Meeting – a Council meeting pursuant to Bylaws §5.04
- 1.54 Take Extra Bases – advance at least one base beyond what the opportunity would typically provide a base runner with average speed.
- 1.55 Team – includes, but is not limited to, the following: players, coaches, managers, trainers, scorekeepers, and sponsors who represent the same group and occupy the same player area during a game.
- 1.56 Umpire-in-Chief (UIC) - an accredited umpire appointed by the AD to coordinate the GSWS umpire staff.
- 1.57 Unsportsmanlike Conduct - action that is detrimental or unbecoming to the purposes and objectives of NAGAAA, the Open Division and/or its Associations.
- 1.58 Vicinity – within a step in any direction laterally of the player receiving the throw
- 1.59 Winter Meeting – a Council meeting pursuant to Bylaws §5.03
- 1.60 Within a few steps – includes balls hit to the player as well as balls hit within a few steps of the player

[CGSL 2018 Player Ratings, Protests and Appeals Process](http://cgslsoftball.com/cgsl/home/index.asp)

<http://cgslsoftball.com/cgsl/home/index.asp>

Cabbagetown Group Softball League (Toronto) player ratings address player safety, and encourage fair play and parity.

Index	
A	Why do player ratings exist?
B	Who provides player ratings?
C	Who may protest player ratings?
D	Why protest player ratings?
E	Protest procedures
F	The Protest Committee and result of protest
G	Appeals

A) Why do player ratings exist?

Before the advent of player ratings in NAGAAA, there was no common formula to determine the skill level of slo-pitch softball players in cities belonging to this organization. Leagues were faced with imbalances: stronger teams facing weaker teams, with predictable results. Additionally, competing cities, without the aid of a player ratings formula, faced similar imbalances.

NAGAAA developed player ratings to level out the playing field, both within member cities, but also for cities competing in the World Series. As a member of NAGAAA, the CGSL conforms to the player rating process.

B) Who provides player ratings?

Historically, team managers have submitted their player ratings – annually - to the CGSL Commissioner, for review and approval. CGSL player ratings were standardized in 2007 when the PRC (Player Rating Committee) rated all league members.

Managers will continue to submit their player ratings – to the CGSL Commissioner - by the CGSL imposed deadline date.

The Commissioner may consult with the PRC Chair to clarify ratings when necessary, and then submit approved ratings to NAGAAA.

C) Who may protest player ratings?

CGSL Executive members, PRC members or team managers in good stead with the CGSL.

D) Why protest player ratings?

A player's rating is protested because the protesting party believes the overall rating of the player is too high or too low. The protester may feel the player is in a division that is below or above the player's skill level. The answers (yes or no) to 27 NAGAAA ratings questions (see Protest Procedures) comprise the player's overall rating.

Although team managers endeavour to provide fair ratings, there may be instances when ratings will be challenged. The potential for having manager player ratings challenged (protested) will likely ensure managers submit ratings that are accurate.

E) Protest Procedures

The protest is based upon the 27 ratings questions of the Player and Team Rating Guidelines as overseen by NAGAAA and followed by the CGSL.

- CGSL Executive members and PRC members may protest an unlimited number of player ratings.
- Team Managers may protest players on any number of teams.
- Team Managers may protest up to a maximum of three players on one team.
- The protest is limited to a maximum of three questions per player protested.
- The manager or her/his team will be charged \$15.00 for each question protested.
- The player protested and his/her manager will be notified about the particulars of the protest.

Player ratings from the previous season are to be used when determining a protest. For example, player ratings from 2017 are to be used for protests during the 2018 season.

The protest must be lodged in written form, by letter or email, and submitted to the CGSL Commissioner. The protest must be lodged before the deadline date specified by the CGSL Commissioner.

The protest request must contain the following information:

- The day and date of the protest
- The protested player's full name
- The team for which he/she plays
- His/her jersey number
- The questions number(s) being protested
- A detailed explanation why each question is being protested
- In the case of a protest by a team manager, a fee of \$15.00 per question must be submitted with the protest.

F) The Protest Committee and result of protest

The Commissioner may create a Protest Committee which will oversee and rule on each protest. The composition of the committee will be determined by the Commissioner. The Committee will have the authorization to interview players from the protested player's division, league officials, umpires and members of the PRC to attain more information about the expertise of the player being protested.

The manager receives a refund for each protested question that is upheld (wins protest). However, for each protested question denied, the \$15.00 is placed into a fund which is managed by a party approved by the CGSL Executive.

The results of a protest may affect the overall rating of a player. In cases where a player's rating rises above the maximum allowed in his/her current division, the CGSL Commissioner will decide upon next steps. Following the protest, the player rating determined will become the player's rating for the following season, barring unforeseen circumstances which could potentially alter a player's rating.

In cases where a rise in a player's rating moves his/her team's overall (top 10 players) rating above the ceiling allowed for the bracket, the CGSL Commissioner may recommend the team is moved into the next highest bracket.

G) Appeals

A protested player may appeal the results of a protest. The Commissioner may create an Appeal Committee which will oversee and rule on each appeal. The composition of the committee will be determined by the Commissioner. The Committee will have the authorization to interview players from the protested player's division, league officials, umpires and members of the PRC to attain more information about the expertise of the player being protested.

Any or all of the protested questions may be appealed. The appealing player must address each individual question being protested. It is in the appealing player's best interests to provide evidence or a convincing argument to deny the protest for any or all questions. The result of the appeal will determine the player's overall rating for the following season.



CABBAGETOWN GROUP SOFTBALL LEAGUE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

History of the CGSL

Gay softball has its roots back in the late 1970s. In 1978, CGSL was one of the five founding members of an international organization called NAGAAA (North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance), formed originally to govern the many leagues participating in gay sports. The previous year, three gay teams from New York traveled to San Francisco to play in the first inter-city competition. Los Angeles, Toronto and Milwaukee joined the competition in 1978 and along with New York and San Francisco are all founding members.

Today, there are 46 cities in the NAGAAA open division with some 12,000 members and growing. The GSWS (Gay Softball World Series) as it is called today was first held in Los Angeles in 1980. Since then, it has grown to a week - long tournament with more than 180 teams and 4,000 players, coaches and officials from cities around the United States and Canada. In the open divisions, skill levels range from seasoned softball veterans to first-time weekend athletes. Toronto was the host city for Series 2000, the Millennium Series. The year 2000 was also the 25th anniversary season for the CGSL.

Cabbagetown Group Softball League

The Cabbagetown Group Softball League (CGSL) is a non-profit organization that was founded in 1975. The CGSL incorporated in 2006. Initially comprised of only 4 teams, the CGSL currently boasts 26 teams with membership of well over 300 women and men. The CGSL often hosts the Canada Cup Tournament in July, which attracts players from across Canada and the United States. In recent years, the Northern Classic Tournament is hosted by the CGSL on the August long weekend – it will be held August 3 to 5, 2018 in Toronto.

In addition to playing softball, the League has become a vibrant force in the Lesbian and Gay international community through its annual events, entertainment spectacles, celebrations, volunteer work and charity. The St. Jamestown community was a recent recipient for the donation of cash and a sleigh full of toys for needy children raised at our annual holiday party. Past beneficiaries have also included The Voices of Positive Women, the PWA Foundation, Gilda Fund, Toronto Hospital for Sick Children and The 519 Community Centre and St. Jamestown Community.

North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA)

Created in 1977, the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) is a non-profit international organization comprised of men and women dedicated to promoting amateur athletics for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) community.

NAGAAA's mission is to organize and promote participation by its member associations in such athletic, social, cultural or charitable activities as may serve the following purposes:

- To be a non-profit alliance dedicated to the promotion of amateur athletics for all persons regardless of age, race, creed, religion, sex, national origin or sexual orientation, with special emphasis on participation of members of the gay community

- To establish uniform athletic rules and regulations for Alliance members
- To encourage the formation of autonomous and unique associations with consistent support such that an active membership in the Alliance may be sustained as deemed desirable for the advancement of Gay amateur athletics
- To promote, encourage and, when appropriate, financially support, Alliance sanctioned and conducted tournaments including an annual gay amateur softball championship to be known as the "Gay Softball World Series".
- To encourage the education and training in proper skills of athletics by promoting, organizing and conducting clinics, seminars and training courses.

NAGAAA's current membership includes 46 cities throughout the United States and Canada. Teams representing these leagues participate annually in NAGAAA's Gay Softball World Series (GSWS), hosted each year by a different member city.

NAGAAA has five divisions of play – A, B, C, D and E. These division designations pertain to the competitive level of play, with "A" being the most skilled, and the "E" supporting the more recreational levels of play.

NAGAAA Hall of Fame

The legacy of NAGAAA is kept and passed down to future generations of softball players by way of our organization's "Hall of Fame". During 1997, NAGAAA initiated a "Hall of Fame" to honour the achievements (both on and off the playing field) of people and member cities in gay softball. The purpose of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance Hall of Fame (NAGAAA Hall of Fame) is to provide an historical perspective and perpetuate the history of gay softball and the Gay Softball World Series.

Any 10-year member of a NAGAAA league or association, whether living or deceased, can be nominated for the Hall. The nominees should have made significant contributions to their league and/or NAGAAA. Anyone familiar with a candidate can make nominations for the Hall at the winter meetings of NAGAAA. The living members of the Hall of Fame and certain at-large members vote on the nominees each year, based on the credentials presented with the applications. The candidates who receive at least two-thirds of the votes cast are inducted into the Hall at the awards ceremony of that year's GSWS.

In 1997, NAGAAA inducted the founding fathers from New York and San Francisco.

There are currently 129 NAGAAA Hall of Fame members, including 10 Toronto members of the NAGAAA Hall of Fame. (Warren Shepell, George Pratt, Jim Downey, Don Kezima, Rob McNair, Geoff da Silva, Ken McNeill, Gary Trudeau, Jack Brannigan and Jim Szakacs).

NAGAAA Web Site: www.nagaaasoftball.org