

CHATFIELD YOUTH FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION (CYFA) FIREBALLS

BY-LAWS as of 6/27/2023

ARTICLE I – NAME

- A. The name of this organization shall be Chatfield Youth Fastpitch Association (CYFA). More commonly referred to as “Fireballs”
- B. It is a non-profit organization and member of the Chatfield Youth Sports Association (CYSA)

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

Section 1: CYFA is a youth athletic organization dedicated to the promotion and development of girls’ softball in the Chatfield, MN School District serving the community of Chatfield, Minnesota. This program is intended to be a feeder program for our Chatfield High School varsity program. Participation is restricted to students attending Chatfield schools as long as participation numbers allow for the completion of teams. If it is discovered additional players are needed to fill teams and positions completely, the CYFA board will vote to add players outside the Chatfield school district to round out team numbers.

Section 2: The organization shall operate exclusively as a non-profit educational organization. No part of the net earnings shall benefit any individual officer, coach, manager or board member; no part of the activities is participating in or intervening in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE III – CYFA Board

Section 1: The CYFA Board shall be the governing body of the Chatfield Youth Fastpitch Association (CYFA). Comprised of 7-9 individuals, including the presiding Varsity Softball Coach.

Section 2: The officers shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Board members shall head organizational categories including equipment/inventory, fundraising, tournament planning, and social activities.

Section 3: Upon Resignation of a Board member or officer, by death, resignation or other words, the vacancy will be filled with a recommendation of the President, and carrying vote by remaining board members.

Section 4: All members of the Board shall have a vote.

Section 5: Officers shall complete their duties as listed below.

- A) President – Shall conduct the affairs of the organization and execute the policies established by the Board. The President shall preside at all CYFA meetings. The President shall be empowered to interpret the by-laws and rules of the CYFA so as not to interrupt the daily operations of the organization and to review and audit the annual Treasures’ Report. President will be the tie breaker vote.
- B) Vice President – Shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence or disability.
- C) Secretary – Shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President and Vice President. Shall keep accurate and official records of all meetings of the organization and of the Board. Shall handle all Association correspondence and notify members of meetings and events.
- D) Treasurer – The Treasurer shall maintain a checking account in the name of the CYFA. Shall have charge of the funds of the organization and pay all the bills for expenditures approved by the board. Shall coordinate all information requests from the Chatfield Youth Sports Association in conjunction with the shared non-profit status.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS

Section 1: Board meetings shall be held at the discretion of the board. Board members are expected to attend three-fourths of the yearly meetings. Attendance in less than this will result in suspension from the board. The secretary will record all minutes, distribute to the board, and maintain in the organization’s google drive for posterity.

ARTICLE VI – MANAGERS AND COACHES

Section 1: The managers and coaches shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the board. Managers and coaches must have Child Abuse Clearances and clean Criminal Records and Concussion training.

Section 2: Managers and coaches shall attend required organizational meetings as determined by the board.

Section 3: Managers and coaches shall participate in all fundraising events.

Section 4: Managers and coaches shall participate in a satisfactory amount of Association activities as determined by the board.

Section 5: Managers and coaches must conduct themselves in a responsible manner so as not to tarnish the image of the Association. Managers and coaches will exercise good behavior, there by setting a proper example for players to follow in achieving the goals of the organization. All coaches must sign a Code of Conduct.

Section 6: Managers and coaches will uphold the training techniques demonstrated by the Varsity Coach at the yearly training session.

Section 7: The officers shall have the authority to discipline, suspend, or terminate any members when the conduct of such person is considered detrimental to the best interest of the organization. The member involved shall be informed of the general nature of all charges and given the opportunity to answer such charges. After the involved member has answered the charges, disciplinary action, if any, will be decided on by a majority ballot vote of all officers.

ARTICLE VII – FEES

Section 1: Each player will be assessed a registration fee which will be determined on an annual basis.

Section 2: Payment of fees is due at registration. No refunds will be given once practice begins unless a special circumstance arises and is approved by the board.

Section 3: Players may participate in the Scholarship program to assist in full payment of registration. Scholarship approval is granted if the player can demonstrate prior receipt of assistance (reduced lunch, etc.). The scholarship recipient's family must pledge to participate in volunteer and fundraising efforts. If the family does not uphold the requirements, a future scholarship may be denied by the board.

Section 4 : Players are expected to participate in the yearly fundraising efforts set forth by the association including concessions, home tournament and cash raffle ticket selling.

ARTICLE VIII– FINANCIAL

Section 1: The board shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the organization.

Section 2: The officers shall not permit the disbursement of the organization funds for other than the conduct of the organization's activities, or in support of endeavors that benefit its players such as improvements, scholarships or assistance to other youth-minded organizations. Large purchases over \$500 will be a discussion of the board. Day to day expenses do not specifically require board approval. Each meeting, the treasurer will review expenses, and a yearly summary will be presented to the board and the parents in the yearly parent meeting.

Section 3: No member shall receive directly or indirectly any salary, compensation or remuneration for the services rendered as a member.

Section 4: In the event of dissolution of the organization and after all outstanding debts and claims have been satisfied, the members shall distribute all assets to one or more non-profit organizations with similar goals and purpose.

ARTICLE IX- FIELD USAGE

Section 1: The CYFA is granted by the Chatfield High School exclusive use of the Chatfield High School Varsity and Junior Varsity fields, unless the usage conflicts with the Chatfield School program usage.

ARTICLE X- PLAYERS

Section 1: All players must electronically agree to the Code of Conduct presented at the time of electronic registration.

Section 2: All players will be officially registered on the ASA roster and insured through the CYFA insurance plan. Players can be included on multiple rosters, and can play up in age category, but not down. Players can only participate in one age-level state tournament.

Section 3: Borrowing players amongst teams is at the complete discretion of the coaches based on need, and is ultimately overseen by the CYFA board. Coaches will notify the CYFA of any decisions to add players, including scenarios mentioned below in Section 5..

Section 4: League participation is for development and competition, tournament participation is competitive. All players participate in league game opportunities in various capacities. At no age or level is there a guarantee of equal play time. Position placement and strategy is at the sole discretion of the coach. Tournament participation is competitive and not guaranteed to all players due to issues like Hoffman rule requirements that mandate batting of the entire roster.

Section 5: All players must currently be enrolled in Chatfield, or intend to enroll in the Chatfield school district in the following year in order to register for the season. An exception to this requirement will include if team participation numbers dictate the acceptance of players outside the school district to fill teams and/or critical positions such as pitcher, catcher or shortstop. The CYFA Board will review participation numbers/team divisions after registration each year to determine any potential need for players outside of the school district to be added permanently to a team. In addition, throughout the season, if a team becomes short in numbers or positions due to injury or availability, etc., the coach shall notify the board via email at chatfieldfireballs@gmail.com of their desire to add additional players for the remainder of the season or specific tournaments/events. The first option for adding players to round out a team during season will be to pull within our Chatfield program, but if that is not an option due to safety, ability, positional need or number constraints, then the coach and board reserve the right to add players to complete a competitive team. When a player is added from outside the program to complete a team, the expectation will be that the player will be an active part of the roster, and consistently play innings as a teammate. The first year Chatfield students will be eligible to participate in the CYFA is after completing their third grade year in the Chatfield School. A student moving to the district will be considered for an exception to the registration deadline by the board.

Section 6: Teams- All team divisions will be at the discretion of the board each season, no try-outs will be held. All registration will be considered with the attempt to establish competitive, balanced teams, filling out the oldest team first, always “pushing up” (first to fill the Chatfield Varsity roster in the spring). Yearly player evaluations will be reviewed from coaches after the season to assist in future team divisions. The board will attempt to maintain manageable team sizes no larger than 15-16 players, unless a special situation arises. Teams will be divided based on the following criteria:

1. Age requirement mandatorily set by the ASA
2. Varsity Coach Discretion-if a player or position is identified by the current Chatfield High School Varsity coach, that direction will be honored first and foremost.
3. Positional need –pitchers and catchers, etc.
4. Safety/skill (based on coaching evaluations and input)
5. School grade

Section 7: Players must be participants in the Chatfield High School Softball program when entering the summer after their freshman year in order to participate in the summer CYFA program. Players may explore spring Chatfield High School spring track or golf in the spring of their seventh and eighth grade seasons, and still be allowed to participate in the CYFA’s summer program after their seventh and eighth grade summer seasons. However, once the summer after freshman year is reached, if the player didn’t participate in the high school spring program or intend to in the following season, they will not be allowed to participate in the CYFA summer program. The intention of this is to be consistent in establishing the CYFA as a feeder program to our Chatfield varsity softball program.

ARTICLE XI- PARENTS

Section 1: All parents must sign a Code of Conduct electronically presented at the time of electronic registration.

Section 2: All parent/player issues or complaints will be expected to be addressed directly with the coach. Only if the issue cannot be resolved directly shall the CYFA board become involved. The President and Vice President will review the issue and respond or present to the board, depending upon the situation. The board has authority to enact the Code of Conduct including and up to suspending a parent or player from future participation.

ARTICLE XII-AMENDMENT

The by-laws may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote of the board. These by-laws last updated 6/27/2023

Chain of command

EB Allen (President)

Randina Harvey-Springer (Vice President)

Randina-Harvey Springer (Secretary)

Nicole Johnson (Treasurer)

Board Members: Carmen Berge, Allison Allen, Tami Goetzinger, Jerry Chase (Head Chatfield Varsity Coach),