



## Southern Maryland Hustle Bylaws

### Article I: Name

*Section 1.* The name of this organization is Southern Maryland Hustle (SOMD Hustle); also doing business as but not limited Hughesville Hustle;

*Section 2.* The organization website is "<http://www.hughesvillehustle.com>"

### Article II: Objective

*Section 1.* The goal of Southern Maryland Hustle is to provide eligible young person's an opportunity to develop their athletic skills, play in a competitive environment, and develop a better understanding of teamwork and community service.

*Section 2.* The Southern Maryland Hustle organization encourages values that include: academics, teamwork, hard work, respect, focus, poise, leadership, and communication.

### Article III: Organization

*Section 1.* The Southern Maryland Hustle is established as an independent, multi-sports non-profit organization.

*Section 2.* It is expressly provided that no part of the income, assets or net earnings of the organization shall inure to the personal benefit of its members, directors, officers, or other private persons; however businesses or services rendered by members can be utilized if agreed upon by the board. The organization shall be authorized to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered, to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II hereof, and to return funds directly contributed by its members.

*Section 3.* No substantial part of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation. Nor shall the organization participate in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

*Section 4.* Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

*Section 5.* The Southern Maryland Hustle is not associated with any school.

*Section 6.* The colors of the Southern Maryland Hustle will primarily consist of Navy Blue, Carolina/Columbia Blue and White. The color grey may be used in combination with primary colors, parent or player merchandise and/or uniform.

### Article IV: Membership

*Section 1.* The membership of the Southern Maryland Hustle is defined as players and coaches; parents, grandparents, family members, etc. of the player and approved coaches. Membership is open to all players, parents, coaches, trainers, managers and personnel without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin, to the extent that teams are provided for specific age groups or genders.

*Section 2.* All members of Southern Maryland Hustle are members of the individual tournament youth hosting organizations, primarily associated with USSSA, but not limited to this organization.

*Section 3.* Selection to the team(s) that operates within the Southern Maryland Hustle organization is based on competitive tryouts.

*Section 4.* Any coach, parent volunteers, or other volunteer personnel will be considered a member of the organization during the period of their participation in Southern Maryland Hustle activities.

### Article V: Government

*Section 1.* Southern Maryland Hustle is managed under the direction of its President/Commissioner in



accordance with its Bylaws and these Articles.

*Section 2.* Volunteers serve a variety of roles in support of the President (or Commissioner) in managing the organization. These volunteers are typically parents of team members. Volunteer roles include: scorekeeper, statistician, team contact, social organizer, and other functions directly or indirectly related to the organization.

*Section 3.* The Bylaws allow for the creation of a Board of Directors to assist the President/Commissioner in the operation of the organization.

*Section 4.* All board positions will be initially appointed by the President/Commissioner, after initial appointment, each member will serve a two-year term. After the two-year term, all positions except that of the President/Commissioner, will be voted on for re-election. If that position is opposed for the next term the members of the organization will bring to vote their nomination for the said candidates for the position at hand. President/Commissioners term is for life and can only be voluntarily departed or departed by death, the position can be passed on to another good standing member with board approval in the event of death or voluntary departure.

*Section 5.* A quorum shall be constituted when 4 or more members of the board are present. When a quorum is present, action may be taken by the Board only upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members present.

#### **Article VI: The President**

*Section 1.* The President is a volunteer position responsible for the overall day-to-day management of the Southern Maryland Hustle.

*Section 2.* In the absence of a Board of Directors and in the absence of defined positions, the President serves as the Treasurer and Fund-Raising Coordinator for the organization.

*Section 3.* The President shall perform the following duties as necessary:

- a. Preside over all meetings,
- b. Organize a schedule of events;
- c. Appoint a Treasurer, Fund-Raising Coordinator, or other officers as necessary;
- d. Recruit and assign qualified coaches;
- e. Develop a code of conduct for coaches, players, and parents;
- f. Secure practice facilities;
- g. Design and administer team tryouts;
- h. Organize skills clinics;
- i. Develop stat insertion in conjunction with the "Game Changer" program;
- j. Coordinate team practices with experts in hitting, fielding and pitching to improve overall development of players;
- k. Manage the accounting and finances for all Southern Maryland Hustle
- l. Prepare a budget and financial report to share with coaches;
- m. Ensure proper spending of all funds and tracking of all expenses in accordance with 501(c)3 procedures;
- n. Manage the day to day of Southern Maryland Hustle
- o. Manage social and viral media for Southern Maryland Hustle
- p. Manage overall organization fund-raising efforts
- q. Assist individual teams with fund-raising efforts
- r. Any additional items needed to successfully run the proper development and growth of Southern Maryland Hustle.



All duties above will be done by the President/Commissioner with assistance of approved coaches and Volunteers (as noted under Article V, Section 2).

*Section 2.* In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President.

**Article VII: The Vice-President**

*Section 1.* The Vice-President shall perform the following duties:

- a. Overseeing the structure and policy of the organization
- b. Develop a code of conduct for coaches, players, and parents;
- c. Oversee tournament selections to ensure proper team and player development;
- d. Expand the organization

*Section 2.* In the absence of the Vice-President, the Treasurer shall perform the duties of the Vice-President.

**Article VIII: Treasurer**

*Section 1.* The Treasurer shall perform the following duties:

- a. Manage the accounting and finances for Southern Maryland Hustle
- b. Prepare a budget and financial report;
- c. Manage the organization's financial ledger;
- d. Manage the day to day operation for Southern Maryland Hustle

*Section 2.* In the absence of the Treasurer, the President/Vice-President shall perform the duties of the Treasurer.

**Article IX: Secretary**

*Section 1.* The Secretary shall perform the following duties:

- a. Handle all correspondence of the Association;
- b. Keep accurate listing of the Executive Board;
- c. Send out notices of Executive Board and Organization meetings;
- d. Take minutes at all meetings;
- e. Prepare and distribute all publicity for the Organization;
- f. Manage social and viral media for the Southern Maryland Organizations

*Section 2.* In the absence of the Secretary, a member of the Board of Directors shall perform the duties of the Secretary.

**Article XI: Fund-Raising/Sponsorship Coordinator**

*Section 1.* The Fund-Raising Coordinator shall perform the following duties:

- a. Manage overall organization fund-raising efforts;
- b. Assist individual teams with fund-raising efforts;
- c. Coordinate with community and business leaders regarding fund-raising efforts.
- d. Manage overall organization sponsorship efforts;
- e. Assist individual teams with sponsorship efforts;



- f. Coordinate with community and business leaders regarding sponsorship opportunities.

*Section 2.* In the absence of the Fund-Raising Coordinator, the Treasurer shall perform the duties the Fund-Raising Coordinator.

**Article XII: Member At-Large**

*Section 1.* The Member At-Large shall perform the following duties:

- a. Attend, participate, and contribute in all Southern Maryland Hustle board decisions
- b. Assist individual board members in various board activities as needed.

**Article XIII: Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution of the organization, all remaining equipment and supplies will be donated to a neighboring like organization.

**Article XIV: Administration of the Bylaws**

*Section 1.* Any question as to the meaning or proper interpretation of these bylaws shall be determined by the President of the Southern Maryland Hustle.

*Section 2.* The Board of Directors is empowered to make changes to the Bylaws as she/her deems necessary.

*Section 3.* In the event of the future creation of a Board of Directors, the Board of Directors must approve of all changes to the Bylaws by a 51% majority vote. In the event of a tie, the President/Commissioner will cast the deciding vote.

**Article XV: Player Eligibility Standards**

*Section 1.* Age eligibility rules are defined by those of USSSA, Baseball (Age as of April 30, of the current season), Softball (Age as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the previous year, i.e.: 2015/2016 season age is that of the date indicated at the end of 2015).

*Section 2.* Players are allowed to play up; however, cannot be roistered to more than one USSSA team. A player can play for multiple teams if playing in different organization events, i.e., ASA, Softball Nation, etc.

*Section 3.* Players cannot play below their age group in any organization.

*Section 4.* Players who turn down an offer from one Southern Maryland Hustle team may play on another Southern Maryland Hustle team, at the discretion of the President/Commissioner

*Section 5.* Players must retain good academic standing. Coaches shall consult with parents to ensure that participation with the Southern Maryland Hustle does not jeopardize a member's academic performance.

**Article XVI: Player Membership**

*Section 1.* Membership on the team will always be based on either competitive group or individual tryouts.

*Section 2.* The organization will secure USSSA registration and insurance for each participating player.

*Section 3.* Once a team is formed, coaches will hold a parent-player meeting to discuss rules and expectations and collect team funds for the season.

*Section 4.* All members of the Southern Maryland Hustle must provide a copy of the members' birth certificate.

*Section 5.* All Players will be required to pay an amount determined yearly by the board, as noted in the Offer Letter, with a 50% deposit required within two (2) weeks of contract acceptance.



#### **Article XVII: Player Participation Guidelines**

*Section 1.* Southern Maryland Hustle does not require minimum playing time standards.

*Section 2.* While playing time decisions should be based upon fair standards and decisions, playing time is at the discretion of the coaching staff. Each coach should use her or his best judgment to determine the appropriate levels of playing time for each member of their team.

*Section 3.* Parents shall provide coaches with all information regarding any medical and health information issues that affect their child's participation with the Southern Maryland Hustle.

#### **Article XVIII: Practices**

*Section 1.* Practices are always open to parents, barring any parent-caused disruptions that would call for their removal

*Section 2.* Members of the Southern Maryland Hustle shall promote during practices the principles of: attendance, hard work, focus, composure and respect, and communication.

#### **Article XIX: Player Commitment**

*Section 1.* Southern Maryland Hustle encourages all of its members to participate in multiple sports. No prospective participants will be turned away solely for participating in other sports.

*Section 2.* All participants-members should understand that they are making a commitment to the organization and their teammates for the entire playing season. [Seasons are defined as August 1 – July 31 of the following year]. Players are expected to attend practices and games. Parents should let the coaches know at registration, tryouts, or first parent meetings if there are conflicts that could cause their child to miss practices or games. Parents are expected to make arrangements with the coaches to prevent consistent absences due to conflicts.

*Section 3.* In the event that consistent conflicts arise that cannot be resolved and that result in frequent absences from team events, Southern Maryland Hustle reserves the right to remove a player from the organization without refund of funds rendered based upon the prior commitment to play.

*Section 4:* Players are allowed to play for multiple teams as long as guidelines are met through the hosting tournament organization.

#### **Article XX: Coaches and Volunteers**

*Section 1.* Southern Maryland Hustle promotes the ideas of a "good coach" and seeks to recruit quality individuals.

*Section 2.* All prospective coaches will be directly recruited by the President/Commissioner and approved by majority vote by all current and returning coaches. All coaches must be age 18 or above.

*Section 3.* All Coaches and Team Managers are subject to a background check. All Coaches must be cleared through the Southern Maryland Hustle or contracted vendors background check unless cleared through other background check from other organizations.

*Section 4.* The Southern Maryland Hustle does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, ethnicity, race, or religion.

#### **Article XXI: Coaches Behavior**

*Section 1.* Southern Maryland Hustle will require and provide means for coaches to obtain training and certifications in coaching young persons and specifically coaching any sport division which falls under our multi-sport organization.

*Section 2.* No coach shall engage in physical, sexual, mental, or emotional abuse toward any member of the Southern Maryland Hustle organization.

*Section 3.* Southern Maryland Hustle will develop a continuing development program for coaches that will include at least the following topics:

- a. Child Development



- b. Sports Psychology
- c. Growth and Development Issues
- d. First Aid/CPR
- e. Sports Rules, Techniques and Strategies
- f. Team Organization and Administration
- g. Sports Conditioning, Endurance, and Speed Training

**Article XXII: Finances**

*Section 1.* Southern Maryland Hustle is primarily self-financed through membership contributions.

*Section 2.* The organization provides a clear statement of costs for participation in the program (league or tournament fees, practice gym usage fees, uniform costs, equipment costs, etc.).

*Section 3.* Southern Maryland Hustle will itemize fees and collect funds after the composition of the team is determined for each season.

*Section 4.* Southern Maryland Hustle will develop a budget, which is fiscally sound and made available to the organization's membership.

*Section 5.* Complementary finances are sought through sponsorships by partner organizations and fund-raising activities.

*Section 6.* Members shall not permit the solicitation of funds in the name of Southern Maryland Hustle unless all of the funds so raised are placed in the Southern Maryland Hustle treasury.

*Section 7.* Sponsorships acquired by parents of players will count toward their player's league fees in the amount of \$75 for every \$100 donated; the other \$25 will go toward the bottom line budget of that individuals team. Any sponsorship acquired by the President/Commissioner or volunteer individuals will be allotted to the Southern Maryland Hustle organization account and used appropriately were needed, i.e.: field maintenance, equipment, dues, etc.

*Section 8.* All fund-raising activities conducted by the umbrella organization will be distributed to the age divisions based on the percentage of participation in the designed event, however 10% of the total profit will be provide to Southern Maryland organization account for administrative and other fees associated with running the organization. Any fund-raising activities conducted by specific teams shall benefit the team in question; however, must be approved by the President/Commissioner and proper paperwork submitted.

*Section 9.* All monies received, including Auxiliary funds, shall be deposited to the credit of Southern Maryland Hustle in the account at Community Bank of the Chesapeake and all disbursement shall be made by check, PayPal, and/or Bank Visa Check card. All checks shall be signed by the Hustle President/Commissioner or treasurer; and such other Officer or Officers or person or persons as the Board shall determine.

*Section 10.* All teams will be assessed an administrative fee at the beginning of each season (Aug 1) of \$250

*Section 11.* Balances left in team budget will carry over into the next 12-month period (Aug 1-July 31) unless that team is dissolved for the following year, in this case money will default to the organizations account. All teams will start with their previous years balance to move into the next 12-month period.

*Section 12.* Any expenditure paid for on behalf of the organization must obtain prior approval. Southern Maryland Hustle will not issue pre-funds for out of town tournaments. Upon approval, monies must be spent first and can be submitted for reimbursement with appropriate receipt attached to form.



Any expenditure paid for on behalf of the organization under the umbrella of Southern Maryland Hustle must submit proper paperwork to the President/Commissioner for approval and submission to the Treasure of Southern Maryland Hustle for final approval. This is to include but not limited to: tournaments, uniforms, insurance, etc. Any equipment under the amount of \$200 that is needed immediately may be purchased by the Commissioner/President without approval from the Board, these items would include, but not limited to: baseballs, softballs, diesel for tractor, umpire fees, field prep items (chalk, stay dry, etc.) and any other items as needed. Although approval is not needed prior to purchase, the President/Commissioner must submit proper receipts via email within 24-48 hours of the said purchase with description of usage to the treasurer.

Section 13. All monies received whether by membership fees, donations, and/or sponsorship to Southern Maryland Hustle belongs to the organization.

**Article XXIII: GENERAL**

These By-laws will be reviewed at least once per year and amended/added to as decided by a majority vote by the Board of Directors of the Organization. Amendments may be proposed in writing to the Board of Directors who will then vote on proposed amendment. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the By-laws; however, each member of the Board of Directors shall be given a copy. Each member of the Association may request a copy at any time.

**Article XXIV: EFFECTIVE DATE**

These policies are effective as of August 1, 2017 and will remain in effect until changed in accordance with Article XXIII.

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Fund-Raising Coordinator/Sponsorship

Member At-Large

Amended August 1, 2017