

Notso Amazon Softball League Bylaws - Jan 2020

Summary:

Proposed changes to our bylaws will be posed to the league and voted on at this years AGM, following a meeting of the collective to streamline and update the rules.

The last changes to our bylaws were made in 2017 and passed at the GGM on Nov 5th, 2017. These changes included the amendment of bylaw 4.1 and 5.1, making its language more inclusive and representative of the full mission of the league.

BY-LAW	A set of by-laws relating generally to the transaction of business and affairs of the Notso Amazon Softball League (N.A.S.L.) and it's Collective .
	Whereas, it is desirable to enact a by-law relating generally to the transaction of the business and affairs of the N.A.S.L., be it enacted as a by-law of the N.A.S.L. as follows.
ARTICLE 1	NAME OF THE CORPORATION
1.1	The name of the corporation shall be the Notso Amazon Softball League.
ARTICLE 2	HEAD OFFICE
2.1	The head office of the N.A.S.L. shall be in the City of Toronto in the Province of Ontario, and at such a place therein as the Collective members may at time to time determine.
ARTICLE 3	SEAL
3.1	The seal of the N.A.S.L. shall be in the form impressed in the margin hereof.
ARTICLE 4	PURPOSE
4.1	The purpose of the N.A.S.L. shall be to promote enjoyment of softball and social activity in a positive atmosphere of friendship among lesbians, bisexual women, queer women, queer-allied women, and trans people. The league understands trans to be a broad and inclusive term, encompassing those who are binary-identified and non-binary-identified, including genderqueer, genderfluid, intersex, and Two-Spirit individuals, among others.
ARTICLE 5	MEMBERSHIP
5.1	Membership in the N.A.S.L. shall be open to all women and trans people (those who are binary-identified and non-binary-identified, including genderqueer, genderfluid, intersex, and Two-Spirit individuals, among others) who are interested in the purpose of the N.A.S.L. and have paid their registration fee.
5.2	Incoming Collective members shall determine the amount of yearly registration fees for members. The registration fee must be submitted along with an application prior to a member's first day of game play. Applicants may pay by cheque made out to N.A.S.L. or online through the payment system made available on the N.A.S.L. website.
5.3	Each individual member of the league shall be entitled to cast one vote on each question at any general membership meeting of the N.A.S.L.
5.4	Any member whose name has been brought forward to the attention of the Collective on charges of unsportsmanlike conduct, not in good standing, or otherwise deemed to be unacceptable as a member of the N.A.S.L. may be suspended indefinitely. Any suspension must be ratified by two-thirds majority vote of the full current Collective membership.
5.5	Any game protest must be presented to the Collective in writing or email no longer than 48 hours after the incident occurred.

5.6	Any complaint about a member or any other issue must be presented to the Collective in writing or by email no later than 5 days after the incident occurred.
ARTICLE 6	MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE N.A.S.L.
6.1	All general member meetings shall be held in such a time and place within the City of Toronto as decided by The Collective.
6.2	Two meetings of general members shall be held each year; one pre-season and one post-season. At such meetings, in addition to any other business which may be transacted, the report of The Collective, the financial statements, and the report of the auditors may be made available to the members.
6.3	The pre-season meeting will be used to introduce all members of The Collective, review the league regulations and policies, familiarize with teammates, choose team names and introduce the agenda for the season.
6.4	The post-season meeting will be used to discuss the past season, vote on any new business requiring a membership vote, hold elections for the incoming Collective members, and may appoint an auditor for the ensuing year.
6.5	The quorum for the transaction of the business at any meeting shall be 15% of the votes eligible to be cast at that meeting.
6.6	Any additional general member meeting may be called by The Collective or by a petition signed by one-third of the general membership.
6.7	The Collective shall make a good faith effort to notify every member in good standing not less than twenty days before the date of each meeting by e-mail. In addition this information will be made available online on the N.A.S.L. website.
ARTICLE 7	ELECTIONS
7.1	One week prior to the N.A.S.L. post-season general elections meeting, The Collective will appoint an election committee (no less than 3) to run the elections portion of the meeting and supervise the election return.
7.2	Any current league member in good standing is eligible to run for a position on The Collective.
7.3	All interested in being on The Collective shall be given an equal amount of designated time to address the league at the member meeting with a statement on their candidacy.
7.4	Every registered member in good standing will be given the chance to cast a vote to fill each position on The Collective.
7.5	A member will be considered duly elected to The Collective through majority vote of the general membership at the post-season member meeting and shall take office following the completion of the post-season member meeting.
7.6	Elected positions vacated or not filled may be filled by means of appointment by The Collective.
ARTICLE 8	COLLECTIVE MEMBERSHIP
8.1	The Collective shall consist of a maximum of twelve members of the N.A.S.L. All Collective Members must be a registered and active player for the year that they are serving on The Collective. The minimum term of office of a Collective Member shall be one year. Members holding a position of President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer may hold these positions no longer than 3 consecutive years.
8.2	The Collective may appoint a day or days in any month or months for regular meetings at a place and hour to be named.
8.3	Two-thirds of the members of The Collective shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting.
8.4	It is the responsibility of all members of The Collective to be present regularly at meetings, to take an active role in participating in the discussion of issues brought before the group and to contribute to the implementation of N.A.S.L. policies, goals and on-going activities.

	A special meeting of the general body may be called solely for the purpose of impeachment of a member or members of The Collective. Any member of The Collective so impeached shall be removed from office only upon a two-thirds majority vote in favour of such removal of those members present at such given meeting, proper notice to all members having been given.
8.5	Transaction of business – Business may be transacted and resolutions passed at Collective meetings where quorum is present, or by electronic platform wherein every member of The Collective must return a vote or message. A written copy of every resolution shall be kept within the minutes of the proceedings of The Collective.
ARTICLE 9	POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE COLLECTIVE
9.1	The Collective shall formulate rules, regulations, policies and other procedures concerning all aspects of the N.A.S.L. operation and program.
9.2	Collective members shall receive no remuneration for any services rendered to the N.A.S.L.
9.3	The Collective shall ensure that a sufficient number of members are prepared to stand for all seats on The Collective, to the best of their ability, in order to continue the purpose and operations of the N.A.S.L.
9.4	Participation by telephone – With the unanimous consent of all the members of The Collective, a member may participate in a meeting by means of telephone / web camera provided that such devices permit all persons participating in the meeting to communicate simultaneously and instantaneously. A member participating in such a manner is deemed to be present at the meeting.
9.5	Calling of meetings – Collective meetings shall be held from time to time at such place, date and time as the president or any other two members may determine.
9.6	Notice of meeting – Notice of time and place for the holding of the meeting shall be given to every Collective member no less than 14 clear days (excluding Sundays and holidays) before the date of the meeting. Notwithstanding, the foregoing, notice of a meeting shall not be necessary if all Collective members are present and none objects to holding of the meeting, or if those absent have waived notice of the meeting or have otherwise provided their consent to the holding of the meeting.
9.7	Votes to govern – At all Collective meetings, every question shall be decided by a majority of votes cast on the question; in the case of equality of votes, the president shall cast the determining vote.
9.8	Delegation by the Collective (committees) – The Collective may appoint a committee of volunteers for various areas within the league. The committee may be delegated responsibilities of The Collective, but an appointed member must act as a representative of the committee to The Collective.
9.9	The outgoing Collective is responsible for transferring duties, records and information to the incoming Collective each year by December 31 st .
ARTICLE 10	BOOKS AND RECORDS
10.1	The N.A.S.L. shall keep correct books and records of accounts and business transacted, and shall keep minutes and proceedings of its meetings of members of The Collective. It shall keep a record of the names and contact information of each member entitled to vote where feasible.
ARTICLE 11	SIGNING AUTHORITY
11.1	All cheques, drafts or orders for the payment of money and all notes stating acceptance of bills of exchange and contracts, documents and instruments in writing requiring the signatures of the corporation shall be signed by two of three (signing officers) members of The Collective. All money, cheques or payments must be given directly to a signing agent. The signing members of The Collective must not be in personal relationships or living together.
ARTICLE 12	AMENDMENTS

12.1	Any by-laws passed by The Collective to repeal, amend or re-enact this by-law shall be effective only upon being confirmed at the meeting of the members of the N.A.S.L. by at least a two-thirds of the votes of the members present and voting thereon.
ARTICLE 13	FISCAL YEAR
13.1	The fiscal year of the N.A.S.L. shall end on the 31st day of December in every calendar year.