

MARCO ISLAND SENIOR SOFTBALL LEAGUE  
GOVERNING CHARTER

Marco Island Senior Softball League (“League”) is organized as a winter senior softball activity for the benefits of denizen men of Marco Island and, with discretion, surrounding communities. Guidance of play will be in accordance with USA Softball. The League will be governed by the Board of Directors (“Board”). The Board will be elected by the membership at an annual meeting during the winter season of play. The membership is renewed yearly by application and remittance. Funds raised will primarily support league and social activity to the benefit of members and community. Excess funds may be donated to local or national charities and memorials for past members.

Principal place of business:     950 North Collier Blvd  
Suite 101  
Marco Island FL 34145

Registered Agent:                 Kramer, Frederick C.  
950 North Collier Blvd  
Suite 101  
Marco Island FL 34145

This Charter was originally approved by the general membership on February 20, 2005 and took effect on that date. It has been revised a number of times. This revision rewrites the charter incorporating all past changes, with organizing and formatting changes.

The primary mission of the League is to provide men in their senior years an opportunity to play competitive softball within an organizational structure that encourages and fosters the principles of sportsmanship, collegiality, and physical fitness. The mission of the League includes being recognized as an integral part of the community fabric through the support of other charitable and social organizations. Our vision is to be recognized by others as the premier senior softball league in the region.

Board of Directors

The Board consists of 10 members - a Commissioner and nine Directors. Registered League members will be given the opportunity to run for board positions. Board members, however, must reside in the local area for a period not less than 6 months in a calendar year.

*Director members*, elected by popular vote at the Annual General Meeting, shall have full voting powers. Board members serve a term of two years. In the first election after this provision takes effect, there will be ten Directors elected. The five Directors who receive the most votes will serve an initial term of two years. The remaining five elected Directors will serve an initial term of one year. In subsequent years, there will be five Director positions elected for a two-year term to fill the positions whose term has expired.

Board meetings shall be run in accordance with Robert's Rules. At least 6 Board members must be present (a quorum) to hold a Board meeting. Unless otherwise stated, a Board "majority" shall consist of a majority of those participating at a Board meeting.

The Board, at their April meeting, will select one of the Directors to serve as the Commissioner. The Director who received the most votes at the Annual Meeting will act as chair at this first meeting, until such time as a Commissioner has been selected by the Board. The Board, at the April meeting, will also select one Director to be Chair of the Player Personnel Committee, two additional Directors to serve on that committee, one Director of Budget, and one Director of Information.

### Duties and Responsibilities

#### *Commissioner*

Responsibilities include: schedules and chairs Board meetings, oversees the administrative functions of the League, holds team manager meetings, schedules and runs general membership meetings, acts as the liaison with the City, other leagues and sponsors, and assigns Directors to necessary chair and committee positions for the best and proper functioning of the league activities.

#### *Directors*

Support the league operation by conducting activities as directed by the commissioner. Vote as necessary on: Player Personnel organizational recommendations, sponsor recommendations, rule changes, any player/manager punitive action, and other matters that the Commissioner deems appropriate.

#### *Player Personnel Committee*

Develops the player rating system and team formation process, recommends managerial assignments and assures that all teams are balanced in talent, manages the replacement pool and approves of all player trades and managerial replacement, receives player/manager complaints, manages player/manager issues, with direction and counseling, makes recommendations to the board, if player/manager suspension is deemed appropriate.

#### *Director of Budget*

Determines and collects fees for player registration and team sponsorship, pays City for field use, pays umpires, maintains financial records, assures payment of insurance and liability coverage for Board members and prepares periodic budget reports for the membership.

### *Director of Information*

When it is feasible, maintains the league's Internet presence. Prepares and distributes team standings and schedules, liaison with local news media, prepares League newsletters, records minutes of Board meetings, coordinates opening day and playoff ceremonies.

### Meeting and Election

There will be an annual General Membership Meeting during league play generally between February 1 and March 15. Membership may speak on issues related to the League. A Director of Budget report will be given.

Elections shall take place at the Annual General Membership Meeting. Elected Board members take office April 1. The sitting Commissioner, along with two other members selected by the Board, will coordinate the election process, which includes soliciting candidates, preparing ballots, distributing and collecting ballots, counting ballots and communicating results to the membership.

The Director positions shall be elected by popular vote of the members attending the Annual General Meeting. The candidates receiving the most votes thereby being elected to available director positions. Ties for all positions shall be broken by a coin toss. Those additional individuals running but finishing out of a position, shall be considered part of a "replacement pool" and shall be offered, in the order they are ranked, a Director position in the event of a vacancy on the Board. The results of the election including those not filling a position should be recorded in the Annual General Meeting minutes as notice to the membership.

This Charter may be changed by a motion from the floor at an Annual General Membership Meeting with the approval of a simple majority of those present.

### Membership

A registered member is an individual that has applied and paid the required remittance. However, those that drop out before or after a division draft, or not selected in a drafted position and have their funds returned, are not members. Suspended individuals are members. Terminated individuals are not considered members.

Membership is from the date an individual is drafted for a one year period. If an individual is not a player, membership starts December 1.

The membership of the League can act to change the Charter or reverse a Board decision by a petition action. Petition action requires the signatures of at least 80% of the registered members of the League. Issues which arise under this section that concern only the players of one division and not the others must receive the signatures of 80% of the division affected.

### Order and Protest

Any Board member can be removed from the Board or from a designated position or responsibility for just cause by an affirmative vote of at least six Board members. An incumbent manager may likewise be removed for just cause by a vote of at least six Board members. Such actions shall be taken only after the individual Director/Manager has received a specific "warning" by a vote of at least six Board members and such unacceptable condition continues. This "warning" may be waived, by a vote of at least 6 Board members, if the infraction is considered serious enough. A vacant Board position shall be filled for the remaining term by offering Board positions to individuals in the "replacement pool". If no "pool" candidates accept such position the Board, by at least 6 votes, can elect another individual to the Board for the remainder of the vacated term.

Players can be suspended or terminated from the League for just cause upon a vote of at least six Board members. Cause for such action would be inappropriate behavior, consistently poor sportsmanship, or any actions deemed harmful to the League. Such action should be followed after an appropriate warning. The length of any suspension or termination shall be decided by at least six votes of the Board and shall be based on the severity of the incident.

A team manager or his designate may file a "game protest" to the board. The protest will require a \$50 fee which is refundable if the protest is approved by the board, if not the fee will be retained in the league funds.

Other items necessary for the efficient operation of the League shall be contained in the Marco Island Senior Softball Administrative Policy Manual. The Policy Manual shall be controlled by the Board of Directors.

The board may create and modify USA Softball rules through the creation of "local rules". Local rules are approved by the board and maintained in the Policy Manual. They will also be available on the league website.

Rewritten and approve by the membership 11/5/2022