

Chapter 13 – Chartered Club Policies & Procedures

Grand Softball Club Rules

Submitted _____

The organization known as the-Grand Softball Club (the Club) has met the qualifications for a Chartered Club and has been a Club since the opening of the Del Webb Field of Dreams location in 1999. This Club is dedicated to the promotion of slow pitch softball for exercise and recreation in an athletic environment designed to sustain a high level of fellowship, sportsmanship, and friendly competition.

The Club complies with the Grand Community Association documents governing residents, members, and their conduct:

- SCG Rules and Regulations
- Chartered Clubs Policies & Procedures (CCP&P)
- SCG Member Code of Conduct

Club income should not greatly exceed expenses (operating expenses and capital requirements) resulting in a net operating gain. Where revenues do exceed expenses, the net gain should be used to foster continued club growth and activity. Club dues may be adjusted to maintain, replace equipment used by members of the Club or the excess may be donated to the Association Facility Reserve Fund.

Membership in the Club shall be open to all members in good standing of the ~~SCG~~ Grand Community Association Management (CAM) without discrimination as to gender, race, religion, ethnic culture, or national heritage. There shall be no precondition for membership, nor will members be required to join any national, state, or regionally affiliated organizations. The guest privileges set forth in the Charter Club Policies & Procedures (CC P&Ps) shall govern guest privileges for this club. Annual dues in an amount recommended by the Club Executive Board and approved by membership vote are payable in advance. Timely payment of dues by each member shall be required for membership in good standing.

Members of the Club, by virtue of membership, agree to abide by all of the above and with the current Club Rules, Rules of Play and any League Specific Rules of Play designated for that session. Rules are posted on the Club website: scgsoftball.org

Club Rules

INTRODUCTION

To promote slow pitch softball in a safe and recreational environment. All Grand residents are eligible to join our Club. Playing and Non Playing Club members are encouraged to volunteer

for a variety of positions that are available: Scoreboard Keepers, Umpires, Committee Members, Maintenance, Managers, Coaches, Commissioners and Board Members. All members and applicants, when requested, must show their valid CAM card.

GENERAL INFORMATION - DEFINITIONS

Club Rules

Rules that govern the field use and activities of the Grand Softball Club.

Disciplinary Actions (Discipline)

As referred to in this document are as follows:

- Be issued a warning for the first offense
- Receive a one game suspension for a second offense
- Repetitive violations shall be cause for suspension from the Club

Violations of Club Rules are not grouped together, but considered separate violations. With the exception of Code of Conduct violations, which are cumulative.

League Divisions

Skill level divisions within a League established by the Softball Board in conjunction with the League Commissioner.

League Specific Playing Rules

Playing rules specific to a League and session that govern play in that league.

Non-playing Member

A member in good standing as defined in Chapter 1 of the CCP&Ps, who is eligible to participate in all Club activities with the exception of playing in a League or practicing.

Playing Member

A member in good standing as defined in Chapter 1 of the CCP&Ps, who is eligible to participate in all Club activities.

Rules of Play

Rules that govern the game of softball played by club members at the Grand Softball Field.

LEAGUE PLAY

The Club fiscal calendar year runs from May 1-April 30 the following year. The Club generally follows a four-session format: Fall League, Winter League, Spring League, and Summer League. The Saturday League parallels each session. The field is closed during the month of October for maintenance. All other tournaments or use of the field must be scheduled and approved by the Director of Field Operations Officer of the Club. Any Inter-community play at the Grand Softball Field requires additional approval from the general membership and CAM in compliance with Chapter 5.8 of the CCP&Ps.

The club has skill level leagues for players to provide a safe and competitive experience for all players.

League descriptions are as follows:

1. Red (upper and mid-level skill men and women players)
2. White (mid-level skill men and women players)
3. Blue (mid and lower skill level men and women players)
4. Saturday (all skill levels of men and women players)
5. Women's League (a combination of all skill levels of women players)
6. Spring League (Upper Division is a combination of upper and mid-level skilled men and women players, Lower Division is a combination of mid and lower skilled men and women players)
7. Summer League(due to the low number of players, summer is a combination of all skill level men and women players)

Leagues and the number of teams each session will be determined by the number of players available.

A. The Board, in consultation with the League Commissioners, will determine the number of players per team, the number of teams per League and League Divisions as needed, based on the numbers of players available.

C. Leagues may adopt "League Specific" playing rules based on their needs. These League Specific Playing Rules will be established as follows:

1. The League Commissioner will present to the Board for approval, all League Specific Playing Rules for that League, which are developed by the League Commissioner with input from the League Managers. These League Specific Playing Rules are developed prior to the draft each new session.
2. League Specific Playing Rules apply only to that current session.
3. The Board Secretary will post the approved League Specific Playing Rules on the Club web site for that League. A copy will be posted by the League Commissioner at the field prior to the start of the session. It is the responsibility of all club members to know the rules for the Club and their assigned League.
4. The Board will review and approve League Specific Playing Rules. The Board will not approve rules that:
 - a. Create an unreasonable risk to players of that league, or
 - b. Negatively affect the integrity of the Club or the game, or
 - c. Violates the General Rules established by CAM, or
 - d. Creates a conflict with another league

ROSTERS

A. All Playing Members must be rated by the Club's Rating Committee before they are eligible to be drafted, assigned to a roster or eligible for a sub list.

B. New players (first time applicants) who have submitted a completed membership application, have paid Club dues and have been rated, prior to the close of League registration shall be eligible for the draft.

C. After the close of League registration any new players (first time applicants) who have submitted a membership application, have paid Club dues and have been rated will be assigned to a League Sub list. Returning players who fail to register during the League registration will be placed on the appropriate sub list. At the discretion of the League Commissioner, they may be added to a team roster in the appropriate League according to their rating, to replace a drafted player who cannot play.

D. Players failing to appear for more than 6 games may be dropped from the team roster with the approval of the League Commissioner(s).

E. Players are responsible for informing their Team Manager when they will miss a game. Players shall be at the field prior to the start of their game. Players who do not inform their manager that they cannot play or do not arrive at the field to play by the start of their game will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the League Commissioner.

F. All roster players drafted on a team SHALL play both offensive and defensive positions. All players will bat in the line-up rotation. Every player shall play a minimum of 3 innings defensively, however 5 innings would be strongly recommended, unless the game is called earlier than the 7th inning due to weather or the Mercy rule.

G. All eligible Playing Members who sign up by the designated deadline shall be placed on a team. If a player is not drafted in the League the player registered for, the League Commissioner(s) will consult with the player on their playing options. Those options may include being added to a sublist, entering a subsequent draft for another league or not playing.

H. All players are eligible to attend League Practices. Players shall attend only the practice that is scheduled for the league they are playing in. Exceptions must be approved by the commissioners of both leagues. Any player attending another league's practice without prior approval will be issued a warning for the first offense. Any subsequent violation shall be subject to additional discipline. Players that only play on Saturday will be assigned a Weekday League specific practice to attend by the Saturday League Commissioner according to skill level.

I. Any player who quits or resigns from a team after the draft shall be subject to the following:

1. The League Commissioner shall investigate and review the circumstances and make a recommendation to the Board. The player may be subject to the following:

a. Suspension from playing in all leagues, including subbing, for the remainder of the session.

b. Based on a review of any extenuating circumstances, other action may be taken by the Board and League Commissioner(s).

DUTIES

Players are required to choose a duty either Umpire Duty or Scoreboard Duty, unless exempted by the Board, when registering to play in any League. Players are then assigned duties for their League each session. If a player is unable to fulfill their duty, it is the player's responsibility to follow their League rule on finding a replacement. The manager will report a missed duty to the League Commissioner. If the Commissioner finds no valid reason for the missed duty the player will be subject to disciplinary actions.

PLAYER INJURIES

The Grand Softball Club Safety Rules have been approved by the Softball Club and are included as an addendum to the CCP&Ps Chapter 13. The Grand Softball Club Safety Rules include procedures for player injuries that occur at the field. It is the responsibility of all players, managers and commissioners to comply with the Grand Softball Club Safety Rules.

The Club has an emergency 911 phone in the Score Tower at the field and First Aid kits for each dugout. An AED is provided and maintained by the Grand Community Association and is located behind the first base dugout.

ATTIRE

- A. Player's shall wear the sponsor's team shirt, current club cap, softball style gray pants or shorts for all League games. No other colored pants, sweats or shorts are to be allowed. Any exception requires a written medical excuse each year.
- B. No metal spikes may be worn anywhere within the Softball Complex.
- C. Substitutes shall wear their regular team shirt when subbing, unless they are not on a team roster for that League. Subs not on a team will wear a t-shirt similar in color or a team shirt if available.
- D. It is recommended that no watches, rings, earrings or bracelets be worn. Any player who chooses to wear jewelry while playing assumes liability for any loss or injury. Neck chains, if worn, shall be worn under the shirt at all times. Medical bracelets and necklaces may be worn at any time.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Sportsmanship is defined as treating your fellow players, umpires and the game with respect and fairness. All members are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all Club activities. If a member violates the spirit of play and sportsmanship associated with recreational senior softball, they will be subject to the actions as outlined in this section.

- A. Game Officials with the authority to eject players and recommend suspension for Code Violations are: The Player's Manager, Game Umpires, Chief Umpire, League Commissioner or Board Member if present.
- B. Ejection or suspension from playing softball means that a Club Member cannot use any part of the Ball Park complex, including the parking lot. The suspended/ejected player must leave the area immediately. Minimum penalty: Removal from the game plus two additional game suspension and one year probation.
- C. A Club Member in violation of the Code of Conduct who is on probation may have their penalty increased if another incident takes place during this probation period. Any additional Code violations within that time frame shall result in a Club suspension and a recommendation to CAM for discipline.

D. Suspensions and probation will be based on the recommendation by the League Commissioner and presented to the Board and/or for consideration and action. Suspension and/or Probation of a Club member can be indefinite, based on the severity of the violation.

E. Suspensions and Probations can be appealed to the Board or CAM.

F. NO INDIVIDUAL SHALL:

1. With malice; shove, strike or threaten harm to any Club member or spectator.

a. Penalty: Ejection from ballpark. Incident is reported to the Board and CAM for suspension and probation.

2. Demonstrate poor sportsmanship or lack of civility by swearing, throwing any object in anger, unnecessary rough tactics, verbal attacks against any Club member or spectator or refusing to participate in customary sportsmanship activities such as post game handshakes and assisting teammates in post-game duties. All players, coaches and umpires shall participate in the post-game handshake line.

a. Penalties that may be imposed: Warning by any Official, Ejection from the ballpark complex and possibility of suspension/probation.

3. Attempt to play in an intoxicated or impaired condition. Players who violate this will be asked to leave the field immediately and are subject to disciplinary actions outlined in this section.

a. Penalties that shall be imposed: Ejection from the ballpark complex and possibility of suspension/probation.

4. Any suspended Club member who is discovered playing on the Sun City Grand Softball Complex property will be immediately ejected from the area and reported to the Board for further action.

G. Smoking is prohibited on the playing field, grandstands, scorekeeping tower, rest rooms, picnic area, grassy area containing the practice pitcher's mound and grassy area outside the 3rd base line fence.

1. First Violation: Club member is warned.

2. Second Violation: Without cause, the Club member is asked to leave and is reported to the League Commissioner for discipline.

CHANGING CLUB RULES

A. Rule change proposals are to be presented to the Board. The club website has guidelines for writing a proposal for a rule change.

B. The Board will review and decide on club rule changes or additions. Any changes to club rules adopted by the Board shall be approved by General Membership and the CAM Lifestyles Director. Changes will go into effect in the next session.

D. Changes to Club Rules of Play will be reviewed by the Board. If approved, Playing Rules will become effective the next session unless it is in the best interest for league operation to become effective immediately.

C. Changes to League Specific Playing Rules will be reviewed and approved by the Board. Any approved League Specific Playing Rule can be made effective in the current session if it will be best for the operation of that League.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND COMMISSIONERS

- A. All committee chairpersons and League Commissioners are appointed by the Board and serve at the pleasure of the Board.
- B. The Board has the authority to establish and dissolve committees in compliance with Chapter 3.10 of the CCP&Ps.
- C. Committee Chairpersons are responsible for selecting committee members and for the functioning of the committee.

Kathy Boland 1-8-24
Approved CC President, Kathryn Boland Date

Executive Board Meeting Minutes Attached, dated 11/17/23

Membership Meeting Minutes Attached, dated 12/6/23

[Signature] 2/07/24
Approved Lifestyles Director. Date