

# JACKSON FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION

## BY LAWS

### ARTICLE I: NAME

This organization shall be known as the Jackson Fastpitch Association (JFA). Jackson Fast Pitch is a recognized 501(c)(3) and will operate according to all rules and regulations put forth by the Ohio Secretary of State and the Internal Revenue Service.

### ARTICLE II: MISSION

The missions for which said corporation was formed are: to provide a wide range of fastpitch playing opportunities for girls who reside in Jackson Township in a way that benefits players, coaches, and the community at large.

### ARTICLE III: ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

The “articles of incorporation” of this association include a) the by-laws of this association, b) the certificate (or articles) of incorporation filed with the Ohio Secretary of State.

### ARTICLE IV: PARTICIPATION

This organization is open to any *person of* good character without regard to race, religion, or ethnic background. Only those barriers to membership cited in Article VI shall be considered valid. Non-residents of Jackson township may be accepted only under terms outlined in Article XVIII.

### ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership in this organization shall include:

- A. *Any parent or other legal guardian* that has registered a girl to participate in any JFA program for the current year.
- B. Any person that is a *current member of the Board Of Directors*.

### ARTICLE VI: TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Voluntary. Any member may resign his/her membership by not registering their child for any Association program, or by submitting a written letter to the Board of Directors in the case of any *current* member of the Board.

Section 2: Removed for Non-Participation. Any member of the Board of Directors missing three (3) meetings without cause will constitute a voluntary termination of his/her position on the Board. Excused absences are work, personal or family business or vacation. Members may be excused by contacting any association officer two (2) days’ prior to a meeting.

### ARTICLE VII: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: Organization. The Board of Directors (Board) shall consist of elected officers, not more than *ten (10) elected trustees at large, and one manager from each team*. Members may hold only one voting position on the Board.

**Section 2: Function.** The Board Of Directors shall determine all policies including but not limited to team formation, eligibility of players, program development, fill board vacancies, discipline of members, approval of budgets, approval of the association's long range plan, approve changes to the BY-LAWS, and generally supervise the affairs of this association.

Section 3: Meetings. The Board Of Directors shall meet AS NEEDED, at the call of the President or the Vice President, or upon the request of any three (3) members of the committee. Attendance will be taken at each meeting. A simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business and a majority vote of those present shall be necessary to give effect to any action of the Committee.

## **ARTICLE VIII: ELECTED OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES**

Section 1: The officers of this association shall be President, Vice-President- Operations, Vice-President – Administration, Secretary, and Treasurer who shall be elected upon necessity. There will be no term limits placed on any elected position. All officers shall hold office until their successors are duly elected as provided in these by-laws. At any time any elected Board official may be removed with cause. In addition, **up to 10 trustees may each be elected to a one- year term.**

Section 2: President. The president shall serve as the executive officer of this association, preside at all meetings of the membership, Board of Directors, and be an ex officio member of all committees except the nominating committee, exercise general supervision over all affairs of this association, and perform such duties as are ordinarily incumbent upon a president. The President shall have overall responsibility for implementing the long range plan adopted by the Board of Directors.

Section 3: Vice-President. Reporting to the President and responsible for all softball operations including but not limited to: scheduling, tournament scheduling, fields, equipment, coach procurement, umpire selection, player solicitation and signups, team assignments, uniform procurement and distribution, public relations, insurance procurement, legal representation, team solicitation and tournament administration, planning of the association long range plan, pictures, any other group activities, data base management, for administering any association newsletter and all other softball programs, as well as any task assigned by the President.

Section 4: Secretary. Shall maintain all association records of any type, take and keep minutes of any association meeting, *provide meeting notices and meeting minutes to all Board members prior to the next meeting, assist other officers as needed, and maintain an attendance record of all meetings.* The secretary shall make all association records available for inspection by any member within 48 hours of notice. The secretary will also perform any other duties assigned by the President.

Section 5: Trustees. Trustees shall assist other officers as needed in the performance of their duties, assist in developing the association's long range plan, and assist in committee work as needed.

Section 6: Where a shortage of members exist to fill all board positions, the secretary position and vice president positions may be filled by one member.

Section 8: Travel Team Director / Coordinator. This position shall report to the President. The overall responsibility of this position is to, when deemed necessary, promote and guide travel team formation in all age groups to allow us to reach the JFA goal of at least one travel team for each age division.

This position will be responsible for the development of an all-star program that will play a set number of travel tournaments in and around Stark County. All players and coaches that are selected for the all-star program will be approved by the Travel Team Director.

This position is responsible for all publicity (in the absence of a publicity chairperson) to promote the formation and continued growth of the travel portion of JFA.

After teams are formed, he/she is responsible for guiding the team managers through the tournament registration process and collecting all travel tournament fees as necessary.

## **ARTICLE IX: VOTING RIGHTS**

Section 1: Voting privileges shall be extended to all members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: All votes shall be show of hands. Any officer may request a roll-call vote prior to or after any show of hands.

## **ARTICLE X: ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Section 1: The nominating committee shall consist of not fewer than two (2) members of the Board of Directors elected at the first meeting in January.

Section 2: Elections of officers shall be held during the meeting occurring in month of January.

Section 3: During the election meeting, the president shall read the notices issued by the secretary then proceed to conduct the annual election. Prior to distributing ballots, the nominating committee shall solicit any nominations from the floor, such nominations to be included on the ballot. A separate ballot shall be cast for each office beginning with the President and ending with the officers at-large. A majority is needed to win election. In the event of a tie, another ballot will be taken until such time as one nominee receives a majority. In the event only one nominee is on a ballot, the president will ask for unanimous consent for the nominee.

Section 5: Only members in good standing shall be eligible to hold office or cast votes.

Section 6: All officers elected shall assume their responsibilities on the day of their election.

## **ARTICLE XI: MEETINGS**

Section 1: Regular meetings of this association shall be held as determined by the President, however, a minimum of one meeting per month shall be held during the months January through October.

Section 2: A majority of the voting members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at all regular and any annual meetings.

## **ARTICLE XII: REVENUE**

Section 1: For the purposes of raising funds necessary to meet the mission of this organization, the Board, by a vote, must approve fund raising activities prior to the fundraiser's start. A majority vote will determine if a fundraiser is to be adopted by JFA teams. The Board will also establish membership fees, accept donations from businesses and if necessary borrow funds from public entities such as Jackson Township. The Board will also apply for and receive grants or accept tournament fees.

## **ARTICLE XIII: LONG RANGE PLAN/ BUDGET**

Section 1: The long-range plan shall function as a policy document designed to document what the association has accomplished and what it intends to accomplish in the future. It shall be debated and voted on annually during the month of October. All officers shall be charged with implementation of the long-range plan.

## **ARTICLE XIV: NOT- FOR- PROFIT ORGANIZATION**

**This organization is formed and shall operate as a not-for-profit group for social welfare, civic improvement, and similar not-for-profit purposes. Any revenue received shall be applied only to the not-for-profit purposes and objectives of this organization and no part of the revenue shall be for the benefit of any officer or member.**

## **ARTICLE XV: AMENDMENTS**

These laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the association by a two-thirds vote of the voting members.

## **ARTICLE XVI**

“Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised” shall govern the meetings of the association in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with these by-laws.

## **ARTICLE XVII: MISCELLANEOUS**

Section 1: Any person who is proposed or duly elected to the Board of this association has read and accepted these by-laws of the Jackson Fastpitch Association, and shall be bound by them in all respects.

Section 2: The Board of Directors of this created organization shall not be held liable for any claims or indebtedness created by anyone other than allowed by these by-laws and voted upon by this membership in accordance with its rules.

## **ARTICLE XVIII: NON-RESIDENT PLAYERS**

Section 1: TRAVEL TEAMS. If is it the Board’s vote to form travel teams, in recognition that teams need quality players to be successful, and in recognition that Jackson township may not have enough qualified players to field competitive teams, the board may grant acceptance of a maximum of four (4) non-resident players per team. The board will not grant a waiver where, in the opinion of a majority of the board, sufficient talent exists to field a competitive team. All non-resident players must first receive written waiver from the charter in which they reside.

Section 2: ROSTER TEAMS. In order to ensure all Jackson players have opportunities to play at the roster level, the Board may authorize a maximum of four (4) non-resident players per team. A non-resident player will be considered only when there is a shortage of players available to field a complete team. All non-resident players must first receive written waiver from the charter in which they reside.

Section 3: SURCHARGE. Non-resident players will be assessed a Non-Resident Playing Charge as determined by the Board, which is above and separate from their participation fee.