

BY-LAWS OF LEOMINSTER LASSIE LEAGUE, INC.

ARTICLE I NAME

This organization shall be known as "LEOMINSTER LASSIE LEAGUE, INC."

ARTICLE II OBJECTIVES

Section 1. The objective of the League shall be to teach youth of this community the fundamentals of softball keeping in mind that installing the ideals of good sportsmanship, courage, honesty, loyalty and respect for authority are of prime importance and that winning of games shall be secondary to these principles.

Section 2. *The object of the Women's division is to afford the opportunity for graduating members of the youth division as well as women of the community a chance to play recreational softball.*

Section 3. To promote the LEOMINSTER LASSIE LEAGUE, INC. by obtaining volunteer personnel to supervise every phase of the League and to comply strictly by the rules and regulations as set forth by the LEOMINSTER LASSIE LEAGUE, INC.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons residing within the geographical boundaries of the city of Leominster and surrounding communities shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2a. Playing members shall consist of the girls and women living within the authorized boundaries of the corporation who met the requirements of the rules and regulations of LEOMINSTER LASSIE LEAGUE, INC. Playing members *in the youth division* shall have no rights, duties, obligations in the management or in the property of the corporation and no voting rights. *Playing members in the women's division will have limited voting rights based on whether or not they have a child in the youth division from the current calendar year (January 1st-December 31st)*

Section 2a. 1. *Women playing members with a child in the youth league will automatically be eligible to be on the board of directors and be a full voting member.*

Section 2a. 2. *Women playing members with no child involved in the youth league shall have equal number of representatives corresponding to the number of the teams in the previous playing season as voted in by the board of directors.*

Section 2b. *Board of directors* of LEOMINSTER LASSIE LEAGUE, INC. shall consist of all the incorporators and all the officially registered managers and coaches, and all persons residing within the geographical boundaries of the League who are elected to membership at any regular or special meeting of the members of the corporation. Only *board of directors* shall have the right to vote and act upon the business of the corporation.

Section 2c. Honorary members. The Board of Directors may from time to time elect honorary members of the corporation, who need not be residents within the geographical limits referred to in Sect. 1. The Board of Directors may bestow honorary membership upon any persons in recognition of meritorious services or other contributions made by such persons to the League. Honorary members shall have no rights, duties, or obligations in the management or in the property of the corporation and shall have no voting rights. They may be members for life or any time so designated by the Board.

Section 3. Any member may resign from the corporation at any time for any reason by submitting his/hers resignation in writing to the Board of Directors; and such member's membership shall cease upon the submission of such resignation letter.

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The management of the property and affairs of this corporation shall be vested in the Board of Directors. The directors shall, upon election, immediately enter upon the performance of their duties and shall continue in office until their successors shall have been duly elected and qualified.

Section 2. *Immediately following the annual election of the board of directors the following officers shall be elected: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Player Agent or Commissioner, and such other officers as it may deem appropriate. All officers must be members of the Board of Directors.*

Section 3. *At the election of new officers the outgoing officers MUST be able to transfer and transition All league items. This includes but not limited to checking and savings accounts, all paperwork from the secretary as well as keys for the Post Office Box and other keys. A new signature card will be signed with in 5 business days.*

Section 4. The Board of Directors shall consist of those who volunteer to be on the Board at the annual meeting, those appointed by the Board and all honorary members.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall have the power to appoint such standing and special committees, as it shall determine and to delegate such powers to them as the Board may deem advisable and which it may properly delegate.

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall have general supervision over the League and the teams in the League see to it that the officers perform their duties, and enforce the by-laws and regulations of the corporation. Board Members may be expelled from the Board by a 2/3 affirmative vote of those members voting. An abstaining vote will be considered not voting

Section 7. The Board of Directors may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and the management of the League as it may deem proper.

Section 8. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held immediately following the annual election and on such days thereafter as shall be determined by the Board.

ARTICLE V DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. *The President shall preside at all meetings of the League and the Board of Directors, and shall have the power to call meetings when he/she determines the business of the League requires such meetings; shall be subject to the Board of Directors who manage the affairs of the League, and shall perform such duties as required by law; shall make an annual report to the members of the all transactions of the League and shall co-sign with the Treasurer all check, drafts, and other evidence of indebtedness of the League; meet with the Leominster Conservation Commission and/or Leominster Recreation Department on an annual basis or as needed; and shall be a non-voting member but shall have the power to cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie.*

Section 2. *The Vice-President shall preside at all meetings in absence of the president, and shall perform all the functions of the President if the President resigns, or is removed, or is unable to discharge the powers and duties of said office.*

Section 3. *The Secretary* shall keep the records of the League archived; shall attend to all correspondence and properly file all records for inspection at any time; shall notify the members as to the time and place of all meetings and shall keep the minutes of all meetings. The secretary will make past records available upon request in a timely manner.

Section 4. *The Treasurer* shall give sufficient bond and/or crime insurance for the faithful performance of his/her duties as may be required by the Board of Directors; shall have custody of all monies, securities and evidence of indebtedness of the League; shall have proper account for all receipts and disbursements; shall receive all Monies payable to the League and shall disburse the same in accordance with the instructions or order of the Board of Directors; and shall sign together with the President, all checks drawn on League funds, promissory notes, bill of exchange, warrants and negotiable and transferrable instruments. All books, account and records shall be subject to an audit and inspection and control with the rules as set down by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer must present a written financial report at each meeting and will make past records available upon request in a timely manner.

Section 5. *The Player Agent or Commissioner* shall conduct annual tryouts and be in charge of player selection, check birth records and eligibility of players; shall serve as a member of the Board of Directors and shall generally supervise and coordinate the transfer of players according to provisions of the regulations of LEOMINSTER LASSIE LEAGUE, INC.

Section 5a. Division player agents for the youth shall not manage, coach or have a child play in the division they wish to represent.

Section 6. Umpire in Chief. The Umpire in Chief (UIC) shall assign and evaluate certified umpires for the following divisions: Youth and Women's; shall serve as official rules interpreter for the League, and review player/manager ejections. UIC must be a certified umpire of the Softball Organization chosen at the annual meeting, in good standing, approved by the area UIC. UIC to receive an annual assigning fee to be established by the Board of Directors.

Section 7. The President, Treasurer and Equipment Manager shall be bonded and/or crime insurance in an amount to be specified by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 8. The officers of the Board of Directors shall have the ability to make decisions for the board of directors outside of a meeting or calling a special meeting where an immediate decision must be made and cannot wait until a scheduled meeting. Officers must be in a majority vote, cost must not be more than \$750.00. The issue will then need to be presented to the board at the next scheduled meeting. If this is not an emergency situation then the item can wait until the next scheduled Lassie League meeting.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meeting of *the board of directors* of the corporation shall be held in September for the purpose of electing *the board of directors and officers*, receiving reports of funds and progress and from the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

Section 2. Special meetings of the members or of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by the President or by the Secretary upon request of three members of the Board of Directors. The meeting shall take place within 7 days with at least 48 hours notice. During special meetings, regular business may be discussed as necessary.

Section 3. *Roberts Rules of Order* (revised) shall govern the proceedings of all meetings except where such rules conflict with the Constitution and By-Laws of this cooperation. The order of business of any meeting may be changed by a vote of the majority of the members present; a motion to change the order of business shall not be debatable. The order of business shall be as follows:

- a) Call to Order.
- b) *(Voting) Reading the minutes of the last meeting.
- c) Reports to the Board of Directors and Officers
- d) Communications
- e) Old Business
- f) Reports of the Committees
- g) New Business
- h) Adjournment

Section 4. *Capital improvements over \$2,000 must have a second reading for the vote to be official.*

Section 5. *Any changes to the by-laws themselves will require a second reading for the vote to be official.*

ARTICLE VII QUORUM

The Quorum shall consist of one half plus one of the active membership of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Members of the Board of Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting by a majority of votes cast by the *current sitting board members* who are entitled to vote.

Section 2. All Officers of the corporation shall be elected by and from the *new* Board of Directors as *elected in section 1* by a majority vote. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes, the top two candidates with the most votes will move on to a second ballot. *If there is a tie between two candidates in any position, ballots will be cast no more than three times. If after the third attempt there still remains a tie, that position will be tabled until the next scheduled meeting. Only those board of directors who were elected under section 1 may vote.*

Section 3. The Board of Directors may, if it wishes, appoint a nominating committee for the purpose of presenting at the annual meeting a slate of candidates for election to the Board. However, nominations shall also be received from the floor at any such meeting.

Section 4. If any vacancy occurs in the membership of the Board by death, resignation, or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Directors at any regular or special meeting.

ARTICLE IX Umpiring and Playing RULES

Section 1. The Official Playing Rules and Regulations for the Leominster Lassie League, Inc. shall be the *Official Rules of the Softball Organization chosen at an annual meeting. Women and Youth Divisions may use different umpiring organizations.*

Sections 2. The Board shall formulate the local rules of the League *and shall post the rules at the field.*

Section 3. Any modification or amendments to the rules, once approved by the Board, must be brought by the divisional player agent upon request of the divisional managers to the rules committee.

ARTICLE X MANAGERS AND COACHES

Section 1. *The player agent of each division will submit a list of all managers/head coaches and assistant coaches when available to be approved by the board.* The League officers shall approve managers and one coach for each team and then elected by a majority vote of the Board. They shall be responsible for their teams and will be expected to instill into the youngsters the highest ideals of sportsmanship. League officers shall approve any other coaches at least 2 weeks prior to the first game.

Section 2. Player/Manager Discipline: Managers and coaches will be responsible to the Board for the conduct of their teams and their own behavior while engaged in League activities.

- A. A standing sub-committee shall be established to deal with player, manager, coach, or Board Member discipline. There will be 7 committee members (6 permanent and 1 floating). It will include the League President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Umpire in Chief, the Player Agent, and the player agent of the division affected. This sub-committee's decision will be final. In the event that one or more committee member may have to abstain from voting, the president shall have the authority to appoint members to bring the said committee to 7 members.
- B. An infraction occurring during a game. Once the infraction occurs, the Umpire in Chief upon receipt of the game umpire's report will determine the severity of the offense.
 1. If the infraction is a violent or inappropriate act (umpire of the game's decision in conjunction with the Umpire in Chief), the incident must come before the sub-committee within 48 hours.
 2. If the Umpire in Chief determines the infraction to be minor he will meet with the offending party at their next game and issue a warning.
 3. If the infraction is a second offense, the infraction will automatically come before the sub-committee.
- C. An infraction occurring outside of a game context. A signed written request detailing the transgression(s) will be submitted to the League President. He will submit the request to the sub-committee.
- D. *All board of directors must behave appropriately in all Lassie League meetings. It is expected that the board members will be respectful of one another and any comments, suggestions, and complaints are not a personalized attack of any board member. If a board member is unable to abide by this code of conduct they will be given a warning. If they are unable to heed this warning the officers have the authority to ask that board member to leave the meeting. The board member may return to the next scheduled meeting providing that they are able to abide by the code of conduct expected of all board members.*

Section 3. Managers, coaches and umpires must be acquainted with the rules and regulations and policies, which govern the League before being eligible for, said positions.

Section 4. *The president shall not manage or coach a team. The president should not umpire without Board approval. The division player agent shall not manage or coach a team in the division he is a division player agent for, with the exception of the Women's Division.*

ARTICLE XI FINANCIAL POLICY

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall determine the amount of annual dues for all playing members *in the youth and women's divisions. The fee is payable in advance.*

Section 2. The funds of the organization shall be deposited in a local bank and such funds shall be dispersed upon order and the Board may prescribe as.

Section 3. The Board shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the League and it shall be a permanent policy to place all income in a common treasury directing the expenditure of same in such a manner as to give no individual or team an advantage over the others as to equipment, etc.

Section 4. The Board shall discourage the contribution of funds to individuals or teams and solicit it for the common treasury of the League. The above regulation is to discourage favoritism among teams and to endeavor the equalize benefits of the League.

Section 5. The League will only pay bills or invoices to companies where they have a Leominster Lassie League account *or upon submission of an invoice.*

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall approve all sponsors

ARTICLE XII AMENDMENTS

These by-laws or any section thereof, may be amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the board of directors at any meeting provided the Board of Directors has previously discussed such amendments or repeal. This requires a first and second reading of any changes and be voted on.

ARTICLE XIII COMMITTEES

The Board has established the following committees to assist with the administration of the League. The committees will comply with the mission statements as specified.

1. **Capital Improvements**
2. **Concession Stand**
3. **Communication:** To publish all information regarding Lassie League, including newspaper and/or internet. Including Board of Director's meetings, current events, statistics for games, contact people, and end of season banquet.
4. **Draft:** The Draft Committee will run the tryouts and oversee the draft. They will also work with the Player Agent to facilitate any necessary trades.
5. **Equipment:** *An equipment manager will be elected by the board. That person (s) will be responsible for inventory maintenance and purchasing of League equipment. Members will work with the finance committee and the Board for approval of expenditures before the season. The Equipment Manager will be a permanent member.*
6. **Finance Committee:** To review, recommend and track financial requests brought before the Leominster League Board of Directors. The Treasurer will be a permanent member.
7. **Fundraising:** To determine types of fundraising activities that will supplement the funds raised by the League registration and oversee these activities.
8. **Rules and Bylaws:** To review, recommend and update the Leominster Lassie League bylaws, playing rules, draft rules and scholarship eligibility rules. The Umpire-in-Chief will be a permanent member for playing rules only.
9. **Scheduling:** The Committee shall coordinate the use of the fields and the Lassie League facility in a fair and equitable manner. Said committee shall collaborate as liaison with groups requesting use to assure that League policy is complied with.

Article XIV
DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION

Pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 180, Section 11 or 11A, dissolution of the corporation requires two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting provided that dissolution is previously discussed by the Board of Directors. A quorum of the membership shall be present for any dissolution vote. The proposed agenda for the Annual Meeting shall contain any notice for dissolution vote. Should this Corporation dissolve, its assets shall be used to settle any outstanding financial obligations. Any and all remaining assets shall be placed in a scholarship Trust Fund. This Fund will be administered by Leominster High School Guidance Department. Scholarship criteria shall be those currently in effect.

Amended March 22, 1998
Amended March 1999
Amended March 2, 2000
Amended February 7, 2001
Amended January 2011
Amended March 6, 2013
Amended June 19, 2013
Amended August 7, 2013