

REDWATER YOUTH SPORTS ASSOCIATION

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be Redwater Youth Sports Association.

ARTICLE II: STRUCTURE

- A. RYSA shall be a nonprofit organization.
- B. RYSA shall be organized and operated exclusively for nonprofit purposes. No part of its net earnings shall be used to benefit any officer, director, member or private individual. Nor shall it ever declare or make to any of such persons any dividend or other distribution.
- C. Nothing herein shall prevent the payment of reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the association's affairs.

ARTICLE III: OBJECT

The purpose of this organization is to provide a youth sports program for the youth of the area, in doing so; promote the growth of physical, mental, social, and spiritual welfare of every participant, and more specifically, to provide healthy, sportsmanlike play and to teach the fundamentals of football, basketball, baseball and softball to the youth of our community.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERS

The membership of the organization shall be coaches, parents, players, and board members who are interested in promoting the objectives of this Association.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. The Board of Directors of the RYSA shall consist of 11 members: Four elected officers: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. The other 7 members consist of a Softball Commissioner, Tournament Director, 3 elected Baseball Members and 2 elected Softball Members. If it is deemed necessary by the Board of Directors, extra members may be voted into the Football, Cheer, Basketball, Baseball or Softball Board.
- B. The Board of Directors shall regulate, supervise, and administer all of the affairs of the RYSA.
- C. The Board shall handle all finances of the association. All money will be placed in a common treasury. The Board of Directors will be responsible for directing all expenditures for the association.
- D. The Board of Directors will approve the annual budget for the Association. Any expenditure that exceeds this budget amount is subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- E. The Board of Directors shall supervise the hiring of all umpires and other personnel necessary to conduct the program for this Association.
- F. The Board of Directors shall have the power to suspend any official, coach, player, sponsor, team, parent, or board member who, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, jeopardizes the RYSA. He or she shall be replaced at once and not be allowed to serve, coach, or work in this program without 100% approval of the Board of Directors.

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G. The Board of Directors shall set policy for the RYSA, select chairpersons, establish committees, make recommendations to the RYSA membership, render decisions in matters of policy, rules, protests, grievances and complaints, and oversee the general management of RYSA.

ARTICLE VI: ELECTED OFFICERS

A. PRESIDENT:

1. The President shall reside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the RYSA and shall sign all written contracts of the associates.
2. The President shall be one of the required signatures for signing checks written against the association account.
3. The President is charged with the responsibility of assuring that all rules and regulations of the local program are adhered to.
4. The President shall assign duties to members of the Board of Directors as needed to conduct the affairs of this association.
5. The President is accountable for representing the local program in District and State meetings and all other functions of the RYSA.
6. The President must attend all Playoff or Tournament functions that RYSA teams are a part of or have a board member present in His/Her absence.
7. The President of RYSA will serve as Baseball Commissioner unless otherwise voted on by the Board of Directors.
8. The President Requirements as Baseball Commissioner:
 1. Must make sure ball park is in complete working order. Make sure field and park is mowed, cleaned and trash taken out.
 2. In charge of the concession stand, all its workers and contents.
 3. Must be present at all baseball tournaments held at Redwater Sports Complex.
 4. Must attend all District and State Dixie meetings.
 5. Must organize and complete all coaches meetings, draft, rules and needs of coaches.
 6. In charge of purchasing all materials needed to maintain fields and park.

B. VICE-PRESIDENT:

The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President or the disability of the President. In case of a vacancy occurring in the office of the President, he shall perform the duties of the President until the next board meeting. At this meeting the Board of Directors shall elect a new President from members of the Board.

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C. SECRETARY:

1. The Secretary shall be responsible for taking minutes of all board meetings (regular and called), and all meetings of the RYSA.
2. The Secretary shall be responsible for handling all of the league correspondence.
3. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping all records of minutes and correspondence in a proper file for reference.

D. TREASURER:

1. The Treasurer shall have the charge of all of the association's books, records, papers and shall be custodian of all written contracts of the association.
2. The Treasurer shall be responsible for all money received by the association. The Treasurer shall keep a complete and accurate record of all receipts and disbursements. The Treasurer shall furnish financial statement in writing at each regular board meeting. All records will be kept in such a manner that an audit can be made at any time. The Treasurer is responsible for disbursing monies of the association.
3. The Treasurer is responsible to see that all of the association paperwork is completed on time, which includes tax forms to be filed with the Internal Revenue Service.
4. The Treasurer shall be one of the authorized signatures for checks for the association.
5. The Treasurer shall keep records in accordance with generally accepted principles of accounting.

ARTICLE VII: OTHER POSITIONS

A. UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF:

1. The Umpire-in-Chief shall be appointed for a term of one year by the Board of Directors of the RYSA.
2. The duties of the Umpire-in-Chief shall be to secure and schedule the officials for games sanctioned by the RYSA. The Umpire-in-Chief shall secure officials with the credentials and accreditation as required by the Board of Directors of the RYSA. The Umpire-in-Chief shall act as liaison between the RYSA and the game officials employed by RYSA.

B. COMMISSIONERS:

1. The Commissioner shall be charged with enforcing the rules and regulations under which teams and leagues play within his age division.

(Divisions listed below):

<u>Football:</u>	<u>Basketball:</u>	<u>Dixie Baseball:</u>	<u>ASA Softball:</u>	<u>Mini/Tball:</u>
Flag	Boys 2-4	8 and under	8 and under	3-4 boys and girls
Junior	Boys 5-6	10 and under	10 and under	5-6 boys and girls

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Senior	Girls 2-4	12 and under	12 and under
	Girls 5-6	14 and under	14 and under

Such regulations and rules shall be covered in the official rules of West Bowie County Football, Little Dribblers Basketball, Dixie Youth Baseball and ASA Softball rules and any rules that the Board of Directors shall pass. However, in the event that any matter arising in the above, the Commissioner is authorized, empowered and directed to formulate and make such rules and decisions as he may deem necessary and proper to fully or decision by the Commissioner shall be binding until such time as the Board of Directors next meeting. At such meetings the Board of Directors shall make final disposition of the matter.

2. The Commissioner is responsible for insurance forms to be given to each team and see that all claims are properly filled out. He is also in charge of the upkeep and availability of the playing fields.

3. The Commissioner of each league will be responsible for the completion of the tournament team's forms and securing birth certificates for each player on said teams.

5. The Commissioner of each league will assure that the proper number of players and age requirements as outlines in official West Bowie County Football, Little Dribblers, Dixie Youth Baseball and ASA Softball Rules Book and the Board of Directors are complied with.

6. The Commissioner of each league will assure that the provisions of local Football, Basketball and Baseball/Softball rules are complied with as to selection system as outlined by the association and that each team maintains a full roster during local league play.

7. The Commissioner of each league will be responsible for investigating the reason for the dropping of a player by a team coach. This investigation will then be brought before the Board of Directors for Ruling.

ARTICLE VIII: CONDUCT OF ALL MEMBERS

- A. There will be no use of tobacco in any form on the field of play at any time.
- B. There will be no alcohol or controlled substance permitted on the premises. For the first offense the person will be asked to comply with the rules. If the person does not cooperate, the person will be escorted from the premises.
- C. If, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, a coach jeopardizes players or this organization, the coach shall be replaced at once and not allowed to coach or work with the team or work with this program without 100% approval of the Board of Directors.
- D. Any player, coach, or board members ejected from a ballgame shall:
 - 1. For the first offense the commissioners of each league (Dixie Youth Baseball or USA Girls, West Bowie County Football, Little Dribblers) will meet with the ejected person, (if player, parents may also be included in meeting) within three (3) days where a decision will be made concerning ejections.
 - 2. If this is the second offense, the person will automatically be suspended. The Board of Directors of the RYSA will meet with the Commissioner and the ejected person, (if player, parents may also be included) within three (3) days where a decision will be made for reinstatement or further suspension.
 - 3. This ejected person will not be permitted to practice, coach, play, serve as a board member, or be able to engage in any team or Board of Directors affairs during the suspension.
 - 4. Umpires working a game where they have to eject a person are to be advised of the time of the panel meeting and urged to attend in person or to furnish a statement to the panel concerning their reason for the ejection.

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5. Any person ejected from any ballgame connected with the RYSA program will be subject to the same penalties whether the game is being played locally or out of town, league play or tournament play.

ARTICLE IX: STRUCTURE OF TEAMS

Baseball/Softball

- A. The Board of Directors shall have the responsibility and power for the number of teams and players in each league.
- B. There will be no team jumping by any youth in any league. Once a player starts with a team he must remain on the same team until his age puts him in another league. There will be no releases for players unless said release is signed by both team coaches, parents, Commissioner, and a special approval given by the Board of Directors. Players who quit during the season return to the same team the following year, unless the player moves up in age division. Special definition of approval of the Board in reference to article IX only to mean a 100% vote of quorum. Quorum being eight members. Five would have to be unanimous to release. All six board members would have to vote to release a player and seven would have to vote yes to release.
- C. Teams entered in the RYSA league shall be allowed three adults to assist in the coaching of the team in the T-Ball and 8u Division, and two adults to assist in the 10u-14u Divisions.
- D. The Board of Directors reserves the right for final approval of all head coaches and assistant coaches.
- E. Team Structure for Softball:
 1. Registration forms will be distributed. The registration day will be set by the Board. On registration day, coaches bring their team roster along with individual registration forms to the designated area. After the registration closes, players will be added to teams that do not have twelve players and teams will be created for players not on a team.
 2. Twelve players to a team unless the Board of Directors deem it necessary to add additional players. No team should be overcrowded. Once registration closes and teams have been formed, no more players will be added to a team unless the team is under twelve players or the team wants additional players. Any additional girls that want to play after registration closes will be placed on a standby until a team can be formed or a team that is already formed needs a player.
 3. Coaches will be determined by who turns in a roster. For a player to be on a certain person's team, the coach has to agree and the player/parents have to agree. The exception to this is when the Board of Directors deems it necessary to add additional players to a team.
 4. Team rosters are for one year. If a coach and a player/parent are having problems that cannot be resolved the player may leave the team as long as the coach and the player/parent both sign a release form.
- F. Drafting Procedures for Baseball (Ages 3-14):
 1. The number of teams in each league will be established. There should be an equal number of players on each squad. When that is not possible, teams will draw to see who will have one less player.
 2. Drafting will begin by drawing numbers. Lowest number will be drafted first followed by next and so on. At any point when all teams have the same number of players, the following procedure will be used: If teams A and B have had the last two picks, then team C will have the next pick.

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3. Head coaches' children and younger siblings are considered automatic picks and do not count as draft selections.
4. T-Ball and 8u Division - head coach and assistant coaches kids and siblings only there will be no automatics.
5. 10u-14u age Division - head coach and assistant coaches kids and siblings with one automatic allowed.
 - a. Must contact automatic players parents and parents must approve.
6. Registration forms must be turned in by try-out day for kids to be eligible for the draft.
7. If a team has no coach returning to coach the next year those players will be added back to the draft for the next season.

Football:

- G. The Board of Directors shall have the responsibility and power for the number of teams and players in each league.
- H. There will be three divisions: Flag (K-2nd Grade), JR (3rd-4th Grade), SR (5th and 6th Grade).
- I. There will be one team in each Division. Exception: In flag if there are 30 or more signees you may split into two teams. In Jr and Sr there must be 40 or more signees to split into two teams.
- J. Head coaches may only coach in the same age division for no more than 3 years in flag and 2 years in tackle.
- K. All other rules will be governed by the West Bowie County Football League Rules.

Basketball:

- L. The Board of Directors shall have the responsibility and power for the number of teams and players in each league.
- M. The number of teams in each league will be established. Each team shall have a minimum of 7 players. There should be an equal number of players on each squad. When that is not possible, teams will draw to see who will have one less player.
- N. Drafting will begin by drawing numbers. Expansion teams will get first pick in the draft. If there are two expansion teams they will flip for pick. From that point on you will draft in order your number is drawn. Team with the lowest number of kids will pick until they catch the next lowest team. Teams will draft so on and so forth until teams have an equal number of players.
- O. New players will be added to the draft each year and drafted in appropriate order.
- P. You may request to have your child added back to the draft for the next year. There is no guarantee that they could be drafted by the same coach next year. All concerns should be addressed with the basketball commissioner and board of directors.
- Q. Playoff teams will be decided by win loss and then head to head if all is still tied at that point a coin flip will be decided.
- R. First Seed will play Fourth seed and Third Seed plays Second Seed.
- S. Gate fee \$2 Adults \$1 Kids 5 and under are free. 65 and older are free.

ARTICLE X: SPECIAL RULES FOR PARENTS AND COACHES

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- A. No spectator shall be allowed on the field of play during the game. If the umpire in charge requests the field be cleared, the field must be cleared in five minutes or forfeit will be declared.
- B. No person except the officially registered players of the team, coaches, scorekeeper, and announcer shall be allowed on the bench/sideline during the game.
- C. All parents of players are encouraged to assist with fundraising projects. These assignments will be handled by the coaches as set forth in local rules.

ARTICLE XI: CONCESSION STAND

The concession stand shall be run by RYSA officials, board members and parents during season play. All day to day concession needs, stocking, filling orders, monetary proceeds, etc, shall be handled by the board of directors.

ARTICLE XII: COACHES

- A. All coaches must be approved by the Board of Directors of the RYSA before they may coach in this program.
- B. All coaches must work for the improvement of RYSA.
- C. It is the coaches responsibility to see that his or her team has a folder consisting of:
 - 1. Complete team roster listing player's name, address, telephone number, age, and uniform number.
 - 2. Parent/Guardian release form giving approval for the player to participate.
 - 3. Copy of birth certificate.
 - 4. Medical release form giving team coach or RYSA official permission to have player treated for emergency medical care.
- D. All league fees must be turned in by date set by the Board of Directors.
- E. All coaches shall keep with him a complete roster at all ballgames that his team plays in.
- F. All coaches must have passed a background check each year.
- G. Anyone who helps or is on a practice field helping must also have a passed background check.

ARTICLE XIII: BY-LAW CHANGES

The Board of Directors of the RYSA shall receive all recommendations concerning changes and/or additions to the policies and regulation in writing signed by a board member at regular or special called board meetings. The board shall recommend their finding at the next meeting and at that time shall said changes, additions, and/or recommendations to consider for voting. This shall not apply to changes and recommendation that will affect league play.

ARTICLE XIV: ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. The Board of Directors will be elected by the members as reflected in Article IV to exclude players. The election will be held in the month of January at the annual meeting at a time and place to be set by the Board of Directors.
- B. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer will be elected for two (2) year terms. The seven members will be elected to serve two year terms. Board members may serve consecutive terms. The floor will be open for nominations as long as the candidates have been contacted and accepted to fill the vacancy.

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- C. If board members are elected for another position before his term expires this vacancy will be filled by electing a new board member for the remainder of this term.

ARTICLE XV: SPECIAL RULES

- A. A player fee shall be assessed each player affiliating itself with the association. Fees collected shall be used to defray the expense of this association.
- B. Other means of raising revenue shall be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors.