

SIERRA YOUTH SPORTS BY-LAWS

Tax ID #95-4405705

1. Name

The league shall be known as "Sierra Youth Sports Association, Inc.," hereinafter referred to as "SYS" or "Sierra Youth Sports," a member of PONY Baseball, Inc., and Little League District 51. The league has been established as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of California.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this league shall be to organize and supervise the playing of baseball and softball under specialized rules and regulations, to secure suitable and adequate financial backing for these purposes, and to own, lease or otherwise obtain the use of suitable playing facilities and equipment for these purposes.

3. Fiscal Year

September 1st – August 31st

League Age:

- Little League Softball: The player's age on December 31st the prior year.
- Pony Baseball: The player's age on or before April 30th of the current year.

Fall ball is where players move up to the next division that would be played in the following Spring division.

4. Membership

Any parents or guardians of active players, active team or division sponsors, or active volunteer adult leaders shall be considered members of the League. For purposes of this provision, "active" shall mean actual participant during the prior season. Membership is restricted to those who are at least 18 years of age and excludes anyone who may have been specifically banned from the League by its Board of Directors.

The league shall not discriminate based upon age, sex, gender, national origin, race, or religion.

(a) Welfare of Young People

It shall be the policy of the League to conduct its activities so that the physical and moral welfare of the young people for whose benefit it is organized shall remain paramount and all matters of policy shall be determined on that basis.

(b) Conflict of Interest

No person who is a member of or who is employed by or who is in any way connected with the League shall receive any personal financial benefit therefore beyond the

reasonable value of services in carrying out the purpose for which the League has been organized.

5. Sponsors & Advertising

In order to secure suitable and adequate financial backing to carry out the purpose of the League, it shall be the policy of the League to permit only such sponsorship as is consistent with the purpose for which this League is organized and to select sponsors who are interested in the League solely or principally as a means of contributing to the welfare of young people.

It shall be the policy of the League to prohibit any direct advertising or consumption of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or tobacco products at the SYS complex.

6. Board Positions / Definition of Duties

LEAGUE PRESIDENT

- Attend Pony Baseball Interleague Presidents Meetings
- Fingerprinting (not required by league)
- Baseball Game Schedules – including interleague
- Oversee Opening Day
- Oversee Coaches
- Oversee Treasurer
- Oversee Player Agent
- Oversee Snack Bar
- Oversee Uniforms, Trophies

SOFTBALL PRESIDENT

- Oversees and Assumes Responsibility for the Operation of the Softball League
- Presides at Little League District Presidents Meetings
- Softball Game Schedules
- Selects and Appoints Coaches
- Offers Coaches Assistance and Ensures the Leagues Standards are Being Upheld

VICE PRESIDENT OF BASEBALL

- Oversee Equipment Manager
- Oversee Umpires
- Oversee Field Maintenance
- Helps Oversee Coaches
- Coordinates Allstar teams through Pony Baseball, and handles communications with parents involved

VICE PRESIDENT OF SOFTBALL

- Oversees all Little League Requirements are Met
- Presides in Absence of Softball President
- Carries Out Duties and Assignments as Delegated by Softball President
- Maintains Softball League Social Media Accounts
- Coordinates Allstar teams through Little League Softball, and handles communication with parents involved

TREASURER

- File Necessary Taxes for non-profit
- Monthly Finance Report at Board Meeting
- Maintain finances (deposits & with draws)
- Ensures Umpire Payment Envelopes Are Distributed to All Managers Each Month

SECRETARY

- Record, Maintain & distribute Board Minutes to Board Members
- Creates binders for incident reports
- Maintain & Distribute Contacts including coaches, team moms, board members
- Help support snack bar

REGISTRAR

- Create Spring and Fall registration pages (Sports Engine/Sports Connect)
- Create registration flyers to advertise (i.e., flyers to schools, banners, and other community events)
- Export registration data to excel regularly and update the Board of registration numbers.
- Monitors signups and maintains the registration excel document throughout the registration period.
- Shares registration data with League President and Player Agent
 - This data is required for tryouts and drafting teams.
- If any offline payments are allowed, sets up payment plans and collects payments

PLAYER AGENT

- Organize and supervise team drafts, leads draft committee which includes the president(s) and vice president(s)
- Organize and run division evaluations
 - Hold a second evaluation for those who missed the first if needed
- Set up Coaches Meeting
- Explain league rules to coaches

HEAD TEAM MOM

- Set Up and organize Team Mom meeting before opening day
- Distribute Team Mom duties
- Confirm Team Moms have received schedules (i.e., game & snack bar duty)
- Help support snack bar, posts signup registration link
- Create Flyers for Registration, Events, Marketing, etc.
- Organizes Player and Coach Clinics
- Update Reference Guide as needed
 - Team Moms will confirm with the manager that they received and read the guide

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

- Maintains Social Media Accounts
- Submit weekly articles and pictures to local newspaper

WEB MASTER

- Maintain league website
- Collect & submit write ups weekly regarding league, games, events pertaining to league

FUND RAISING/Event Coordinator

- Organize 50/50 Raffle for opening day
- Organize Yearly Poker Night fundraiser at beginning of spring season
- Organize minimum of 1 yearly fundraiser for league participation
- Research available Grants
- Plan and coordinate various events and community vendor days

SNACK BAR MANAGERS

1. Scheduling Manager

- Set Snack Bar Schedule (Family Commitment Hours)
- Ensures All Shifts Are Covered
- Finds Volunteers to Cover Shifts Without Volunteers
- Providing treasure with family commitment fee credits

2. Financial Manager

- Start Drawer \$100 - \$1s, \$5s, \$10s and Quarters
- Manages All Cash Pick Up and Drop Off, Bank Deposits, etc.
- Manages snack bar payment platforms
- Provides compensation to Volunteers
- Provides Monthly Snack Bar Financial Statement
- Sets Pricing of Snack Bar Items

3. Inventory Manager

- Purchases snack bar inventory
- Restocks Snack Bar Inventory
- Works with financial manager to set pricing

4. Operations Manager

- Ensures Snack Bar is Open and Closed Daily on Game Days
- Enlists Board Members to Open / Close the Snack Bar When Needed
- Trains Volunteers on Snack Bar Operations to Work
- Ensures Grilles and Cooking Utensils Are Cleaned and Put Away

UNIFORMS

- Presents Style Options for Board Approval
- Places Uniform Order
- Distributes team uniforms to each team prior to opening day
- Organizes uniform orders, reorders for corrections, missing items, etc. with coaches
- Confirm player jersey information with registrar (size, name, numbers, etc.)
- Request pricing from vendors to ensure the most economical price point

PICTURES

- Set up Photographer/s for Opening Day Pictures
- Set Schedules for Picture Day and Distributes to Teams
- Organizes Picture Order Forms
- Schedule make-up picture day
- Distribute pictures once received from photographer
- Request pricing from vendor photographers to ensure the most economical price point

TROPHIES

- Order Trophies for spring and fall seasons
- Order trophies for Allstars & TOC winners
- Orders pony player acknowledgements
- Requests pricing from vendor to ensure the most economical price point

SPONSORSHIPS

- Promotes league sponsorships
- Follow-up with previous sponsors
- Invites sponsors to opening/picture day and closing day ceremonies
- Order sponsor banners or advertisement on behalf of sponsors
- Make sure sponsor banners are hung on fences prior to opening day

HEAD UMPIRE

- Coordinates schedule with umpires for baseball and softball
- Advises Board of pricing changes
- Coordinates with umpires throughout each season to make sure each game is covered.
- Make executive decisions to transfer umpires based on availability due to no show umpires
- Utilize Junior Umpires/volunteers for younger divisions

EQUIPMENT MANAGER

- Inventories each sheds equipment
- Maintains, orders any equipment needed for the baseball and softball leagues
- Keep track of which coaches have Sierra catcher gear
- Passes out Equipment and First Aid Kits to the coaches at the beginning of each season
- Collects Sierra gear from each coach at the end of the season

FIELD MAINTENANCE

- Responsible for making sure the fields are safe and ready for play
- Coordinates trash collection
- Coordinates porta potties cleaning
- Maintains bleacher covers, batting cages

7. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the League, hereinafter referred to as the “Board,” shall be drawn from the existing members of the league and elected by the membership at the annual meeting for the terms and in the manner provided for as follows:

The Board shall consist of not less than one (1) OR more than twenty-five (25) persons. The term of each Board Member elected at the annual meeting is two (2) years. All members of the Board shall be eligible for reelection. Board members' terms will be staggered.

The prior Board shall determine, immediately prior to the annual August election meeting, the total size of the Board for the following year.

A quorum for the conducting of all business, except as specifically otherwise set forth herein, shall be at least fifty-one percent (51%) of the Board.

(a) Auxiliary Board Member must have been an “active” member.

(b) Registrar, Secretary, Player Agent (Executive Board Members) must have been a

member of the previous year's Auxiliary Board for one (1) year.

- (c) Presidents, Vice Presidents & Treasurer must have been on the Executive Board a minimum of one (1) year plus a member of the Auxiliary Board a minimum of one (1) year.
- (d) For all above definitions, if the position cannot be filled by the criteria provided the position is open to the next level down (i.e., if Board cannot fill President by Executive Board members, then open to Auxiliary Board members, if cannot fill from Auxiliary Board members then open to "active" members.

The Board, in its discretion, may remove any Board member upon an affirmative vote of two thirds of the Board sitting at the time such issue is brought before the Board for a vote. For the purpose of removing a Board member, the quorum required to conduct such business shall be increased from fifty-one percent (51%) to sixty-six and two thirds (66.66%)

The Board may fill any vacancies on the Board at any regular Board meeting by a majority vote.

All Board Members receive a 50% discount on league registration fees. Board members must have invested (1) full season of service on the Board before being eligible to receive the discount.

The Executive Officers of the Board shall include League President, Vice President of Baseball, President of Softball, Vice President of Softball, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and Player Agent.

The Board shall meet monthly.

The Board shall have full authority and discretion to make all policies, set budgets, and implement the ongoing business of the League consistent with the By-Laws. Without limitation the generality of the foregoing, the Board shall have the power to:

- Purchase or otherwise acquire for the League any property, right or privilege which the League is authorized to acquire, by the price of consideration and upon such terms as the Board may deem appropriate;
- Appoint, remove, or suspend subordinate agents, umpires, or volunteers and determine their duties and fix their salaries (if any);
- Determine who shall be authorized on behalf of the League to sign bills, notices, receipts, acceptances, endorsements, checks, releases, contracts, and any other instruments. Without any further action by the Board, the President and Vice President are so authorized;
- Delegate any of the powers of the Board to any agent of the League with

any powers as the Board may see fit;

- Suspend, discharge, bar or otherwise discipline any member, manager, coach, player, parent, league official, umpire, as well as other related people as needed without a refund whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interests of the League (*see Disciplinary Guidelines*);
- Set registration fees and award scholarships
- Generally, do all such lawful acts and take actions as may be necessary and proper.

8. Drafting Process

- Drafts are to be held in person.
- All players must attend the evaluation day(s) in order to enter the draft. If the player is not present during the evaluation day(s), that player's name goes into a blind draw.
- The draft committee will be led by the Player Agent and include the President(s) and Vice President(s).
- The Player Agent will be present and oversee evaluation day(s) and conduct all team drafts to ensure a fair and even drafting process. If the Player Agent is involved in a team draft, as a manager, coach or parent of a player being drafted, then the President or Vice President will conduct that draft.
- The manager's child (or registered player) will be the manager's first pick. If a sibling is present, that player will be the automatic next pick. If the manager has a predetermined assistant coach, as agreed upon before the draft by both managers and the Player Agent, the assistant coach's child(s) (or registered players) will be the manager's automatic next pick after the manager's registered player(s).
- Siblings playing in the same division are guaranteed to be on the same team but count as two consecutive picks.
- Numbers are randomly drawn to determine drafting order. The reverse of this order shall be used to choose team names. The draft is then conducted in a serpentine fashion (1-2-3-4, 4-3-2-1, 1-2-3-4,)
- Trades are handled at the time of the draft; all trade requests to be approved at the discretion of the Player Agent.
- Coaches and Player Agent shall receive players years of experience before the draft takes place.

Player Agent to submit a list of recommendations for players capable of playing outside of their age division. Players playing outside their age division must be approved by the

board for the purpose that would benefit or help the league. Players may play up, but not down unless medically approved. Players may only be considered for All Star selection in a division in which they played at least half the regular season.

All players must register, participate in tryouts, and be drafted individually through the process listed above. No person or persons shall be permitted to bypass the drafting process listed above and enter the Sierra Youth Sports Softball or Baseball Leagues as a privately organized team.

Player Divisions:

All players must play in the age division they belong to unless approved by the Board for a purpose that would benefit or help the league.

- If a division is short on players and needs help from the division below in order to fill a team and not turn away families from playing.
- If a division is maxed out on players and the division above has room for more players.
- If a family has kids close in age and is not able to have them both play unless they are on the same team.

Any player approved to play up by the Board must be at tryouts and tryout in both divisions to confirm they will be capable of performing in the older division.

9. All-Stars

See All-Star Reference guide.

10. Financial Policy

The Board shall decide all matters pertaining to the finances of the league, bearing the responsibility to conduct the financial affairs of the league in a prudent business-like manner. The Board shall institute policy relative to the preparation and acceptance of an annual budget, and periodic presentation of financial reports, and an annual audit of the books of the League.

No officer shall be permitted to expend, on any particular item or task, more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100) without prior Board approval. Any non-Board member spending any amount of money needs Executive Board approval. EXCEPTION – Snack Bar Inventory during the regular season, equipment manager and field maintenance.

11. Coaches & Players

All League coaches and players shall promote and maintain good sportsmanship at all times,

including at all League practices, games, and any additional League functions. Coaches and parents shall comply with the SYS Code of Conduct and any additional League rules set down by the Board. Coaches will treat all League officials and umpires with courtesy and respect. Players and parents or guardians are expected to treat all coaches, League officials and umpires with courtesy and respect (reference "code of conduct"). Each player and parent or guardian must sign this code of conduct at registration.

12. Disciplinary Guidelines

Enforcement of playing rules at League games shall be the sole responsibility of the umpire(s) who have been assigned to the game. Enforcement of additional League conduct rules shall be the joint responsibility of the Division Coordinators, umpires assigned to that game, any Board members present at the game/practice and any other League officials who have been given authority by the Board. For any incidents regarding a player, the Division Coordinator shall inform and consult with the Player Agent.

Violations of conduct rules for coaches and players include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Fighting
- Foul Language
- Derogatory remarks made to umpires, coaches, or League officials
- Improper decorum in the dugouts or on the fields
- Cheating or fraud
- Destruction of league equipment or property
- Continued use of improper equipment or wearing of an improper uniform, after being warned
- Malicious conduct of any kind
- Violation of PONY guidelines of General Conduct

Thus, if a coach, player, or fan is ejected from a game for any of the aforementioned violations, he/she must leave the playing field immediately and the park within 10 minutes of the ejection. (A coach or fan can only return to the park to pick up a player once the game is complete). If a coach is ejected from a game for any reason, he/she must volunteer to work the snack bar during his/her next scheduled game.

Failure to act accordingly will result in the forfeiture of the game and suspension from the league for the rest of the season. Additionally, the league may pursue criminal trespass charges if the police are required to remove someone from the park.

1st Offense: Verbal Warning

- 2nd Offense: Written Warning
- 3rd Offense: Suspension for the game of games
- 4th Offense: Season Suspension
- 5th Offense: Expelled for the League

If the offense occurs in the last game of the season, the proscribed suspension will be effective for the following season or the next season that the violator participates in.

These penalties are automatic and do not require a ruling or vote by the Board. The coach, parent or player may appeal to the league President. After investigating the facts and circumstances the league President may overrule the proscribed suspension or continue with the necessary penalty. The President's decision can be appealed to the Board where a majority rule vote must be obtained in order to alter the ruling.

13. Equipment, Uniform Rules

- **Cups:** Recommended for all players but not required.
- **Helmet Facemasks:** Pinto division and higher are mandatory, Shetland is optional. Required for all softball divisions.
- **Catcher's Gear:** Catchers must wear a catcher's helmet with a face mask and throat guard, chest protector, and shin guards.
- **Baseball catchers:** No throat guard required with hockey style helmet. Cups are required.
- **Softball catchers:** Throat guard required, regardless of helmet type.
- **Baseball Bats:** Effective January 1, 2018, with the exception of the -3 bat (BBCOR certified), all other 2-5/8 inch minus factor bats (-5, -7, -9, etc.) and 2-1/4" bats must be certified with the USA Bat licensing stamp on the bat in order to be used for league and tournament play. 2-1/4" BARREL bats are legal in all divisions of PONY Baseball except COLT 16U, PALOMINO 19U and THOROBRED 23U. 2-1/4" and 2-5/8 inch minus factor bats (-5, -7, -9, etc.) used in 2017 will be illegal to use in 2018. 2-5/8" barrel bats are legal in all divisions of PONY Baseball. If a 2-5/8" bat is -3, it must be BBCOR certified (stamped on the bats). 2-3/4" barrel bats are prohibited in all divisions of PONY Baseball.
- **Softball Bats:** The bat shall be no more than 33 inches (34 inches for Junior/Senior League) in length, not more than two and one-quarter (2¼) inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenth (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30 inches) at its smallest part. Non-wood bats shall be printed with a BPF (bat performance factor) of 1.20 and have a cork or tape grip at minimum of 10 inches long.
- **Jerseys:** Jerseys must include the players name, and player's number. Jerseys must be tucked in at all times during games. Player's number must be visible at all times during spring season and all-star / TOC games. If a jacket is worn, it must also

contain the player's number.

14. Softball Travel Ball Rule

No privately organized team, alternatively known as travel ball teams, shall enter the Sierra Youth Sports Softball League and participate in spring or fall season games. Individual players must register, participate in tryouts, and be drafted through the proper channels listed above in section 8. The Sierra Youth Sports Softball League is focused on the development of player skills, fundamentals, and sportsmanship. Travel ball teams typically represent local hand-picked teams made up of highly skilled players from their own town or neighboring towns, focusing on succeeding in local, regional, and national tournaments. Due to the difference in objectives, no organized teams are permitted to play in the Sierra Youth Sports Softball League.

15. Baseball Travel Ball Rule

No privately organized team, alternatively known as travel ball teams, shall enter the Sierra Youth Sports Baseball League and participate in spring or fall season games. Individual players must register, participate in tryouts, and be drafted through the proper channels listed above in section 8.

16. Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the League members at any regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

SIERRA YOUTH SPORTS PLAYER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

I will be positive about my youth sports experience and accept responsibility for my participation.
As a player for Sierra Youth Sports, I agree:

1. I will remember that sports are fun and an opportunity to make new friends.
2. I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at every game and practice by demonstrating good sportsmanship.
3. I will be a team player and support my teammates.
4. I will be on time and attend every practice and game that I can and will notify my coaches if I cannot.
5. I will work hard to improve my skills.
6. I will do my best to listen and learn from my coaches.
7. I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity.
8. I will congratulate the other team after each game as a demonstration of sportsmanship.
9. I will refrain from using violence of any form and report any instances to an adult.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subjected to disciplinary action levied by the Board or Disciplinary Committee that could include, but is not limited to the following:

1. Verbal warning
2. Written warning
3. Player suspension for game/s
4. Player season suspension
5. Player being expelled from the league

Player/Parent Printed Name

Player/Parent Signature

Date

SIERRA YOUTH SPORTS PARENT & COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

I therefore pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating, or participating in a youth sports event and shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
2. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
3. I will not engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or wellbeing of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
4. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or wellbeing of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
5. I will not use drugs or alcohol while at Sierra Youth Sports fields.
6. I will not engage in the use of profanity.
7. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in the use of profanity.
8. I will treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or ability.
9. I will encourage my child to treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, or ability.
10. I will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
11. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
12. I will not initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.
13. I will not encourage my child, or any other person, to initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, officiating, or participating in a youth sports event I will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal warning
2. Written warning
3. Parent/Coach suspension for game/s
4. Parent/Coach season suspension
5. Parent/Coach being expelled from the league

Printed Name

Signature

Date