

(insert sya diamond sport logo)

SYA Diamond Sports

Standard Operating Procedures

February 1, 2021

SYA Diamond Sports

Standard Operating Procedures

Article I – Date of Rules Induction

These standard operating procedures are inducted and effective upon final approval by the Southwestern Youth Association (SYA) Diamond Sports Board of Directors (BOD) and SYA BOD or February 1, 2021, whichever is later.

Article II – Mission and Objectives

SYA Diamond Sports provides a positive and safe environment to further develop both baseball and softball skills along with life skills through providing varying levels of competition. Available to the youth of the Centreville, Clifton and surrounding communities of Southwestern Fairfax County. The sports available under Diamond Sports include:

- Babe Ruth Baseball
- Little League Baseball
- Little League Softball
- Mets Travel Baseball
- Xplosion Travel Softball

SYA Diamond Sports oversees these sports to:

- Create an overarching, consistent diamond sports program that players can participate in from ages 4-18
- Remove any roadblocks in supporting players that want to continue to play until they age out of SYA
- Share ideas and directions on improving each specific sport - house and travel
- Consolidate resources where appropriate to keep participation costs affordable and volunteers engaged

SYA Diamond Sports falls under the SYA organization and adheres to all SYA By-laws, policies, and procedures.

Article III – Sports

House Program – Refers to the SYA Babe Ruth and SYA Little League programs.

SYA Babe Ruth Baseball – Chartered Babe Ruth Inc. program for players from 13-18 years old. SYA Babe Ruth has a boundary that players must reside in.

SYA Little League – Chartered Little League International Baseball and Softball program. The baseball program is for boys and girls, aged 4-12. The softball program is for girls, aged 7-16. SYA Little League has a boundary that players must reside in, or attend a school within the boundary.

SYA Mets Travel Baseball – Program developed for those seeking a higher level of baseball competition. Typically plays against other Virginia, Maryland, and District of Columbia teams as well as tournaments. This does have some requirements of playing in our house program, as detailed in their operating procedures.

SYA Xplosion Travel Softball – Program developed for those seeking higher level of fastpitch softball competition. Typically plays against other Virginia, Maryland, and District of Columbia teams as well as in tournaments that may attract teams from across the country. The program is transitioning to a model similar to Travel Baseball, with some requirements of playing in our house program, as most current Xplosion players are from outside our house program boundaries.

Article IV – Governance

SYA Diamond Sports is under the greater SYA organization. It covers the diamond sports of baseball and softball. The governing BOD is comprised of:

- Commissioner - Appointed and approved by SYA BOD
- SYA Babe Ruth Commissioner - Selected by the Babe Ruth BOD
- SYA Little League Commissioner - Selected by the Little League BOD
- SYA Mets Travel Baseball Coordinator - Appointed by the Diamond Sports Commissioner, in consultation with Little League and Babe Ruth Commissioners
- SYA Xplosion Travel Softball Coordinator - Appointed by the Diamond Sports Commissioner

In order to keep continuation of the travel programs, each coordinator position will be selected at least every two years.

The SYA Diamond Sports BOD will oversee the programs to ensure its mission and objectives are met. The board may define committees to help support the overall program. Members of these committees shall come from the current membership of each of the noted sports.

Article V – Amendments

These operating procedures may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote by the SYA Diamond Sports BOD and SYA BOD, with input provided by the programs they oversee.

Article VI – Financial Policy

Section 1: Fees

All fees are sport specific, nothing additional added by SYA Diamond Sports. SYA BOD approves all fees.

Section 2: Funds, Fundraising, and Audits

Each program shall be financially self-sufficient and may engage in fundraising. Details can be found in the SYA By-Laws, Attachment B for house programs and Attachment G for the travel programs.

SYA Diamond Sports will review all submitted budgets to ensure each program is coordinating with each other, especially on expenses – where we can consolidate expenses on things like advertising, purchases, etc.

Section 3: Compensation

The SYA Diamond Sport BOD will not be compensated for their positions.

Article VII – Meetings

The BOD will meet monthly to review and discuss the overall organization. General meetings are open to all members and will be for the purpose of conducting the business of SYA Diamond Sports. Any member may propose or discuss business in order to influence the vote of the Board members. Notice of all meetings will be publicized as practical.