

# **SYSA Policies December 2010**

## Mission Statement

To provide Scarsdale girls interested in fast pitch softball a competitive experience that stresses skill development, game knowledge, and sportsmanship. The program strives to place all interested girls on a team and to keep team size manageable to maximize playing time.

### 1. Player Policies:

a. Roster size: max of 15 per team, minimum of 10. All players trying out for teams beyond core of 10 to 15 are designated as Alternates unless the Board determines that it is necessary or desirable to carry more full time players. In addition, at the Board's discretion, players that sign up after the official registration period may be placed on a waitlist and may be offered a spot if any full time players or alternates withdraw from the team.

b. Playing time: minimum of 2 innings for U-10, U-12, U-14 and U-16. No minimum for Alternates

c. Fees: Once a player registers and pays their fee, they have made a commitment to play for the season and the fee shall not be refundable except as follows:

i. Injury: If a player is hurt and is unable to play prior to the first game of the season, they will be entitled to either: i) 75% refund of the seasons fee, or ii) a full credit to be applied to a future season. If a player is hurt between the first game and the halfway mark of the season and can not play the rest of the season, the player is entitled to a 25% credit to be applied to a future season. If the player is hurt and can not play after half of the season has passed, there is no refund or credit.

ii. First time player: If a player has never played on a SYSA team before, the following refund schedule will apply for any withdrawal for any reason with the exception of injury:

> Prior to the first game - 75%;

> After the first game and before the 3rd game 50%; and

> Thereafter no refund. Alternates will pay 50% of the fee of core team members.

d. Game time arrival: All players must arrive 45 minutes prior to game time, except U-10 players, who must arrive 30 minutes prior to game time.

e. Bench decorum: No food during games, no bad language; good sportsmanship must be shown at all times.

f. Commitment: to take a spot on a SYSA roster a player must commit to playing in at least 75% of the games and 75% of the practices; if they cannot or do not, they will be designated an Alternate for playing time, and cannot play more than four innings in two consecutive games if core players are available.

g. All SYSA teams will schedule at least one practice per week, conducted independently of other practices or workouts.

h. All players must be resident or go to school full-time in the Village of Scarsdale

1.) In special circumstances, if additional players are needed to complete a team or a particular season, the Board or a sub-committee of the Board will evaluate the need for additional players and make decisions on a case-by-case basis to invite a non-Scarsdale player to participate on a team during a specific season. In no circumstances will a player who meets the residence or school requirement be placed on a team as an Alternate while non-residents are placed as regulars, and in no circumstances will a player who meets the residence or school requirement be 'cut' from an A team and placed on a B team in the same age group behind non-residents. The Board remains strongly committed to limiting SYSA programs to those who reside in or go to school in the Village of Scarsdale, except in those cases where such limitation prevents the SYSA fielding a team in a particular age group

2.) Non-resident players are exempt from the residency requirement if they comply with at least one of the following requirements: a) played on a SYSA team in 2005 or a prior season, or b) are currently in the 9th through 12th grade and have played on at least three SYSA teams over the previous 3-year period.

i. Use of information: no SYSA player information will be divulged to any third party, with the exception of giving names of the players to the Scarsdale Recreation Department and respective leagues and tournaments that may require such information as part of their registration requirements and to distribute team rosters to families and coaches.

j. Spring season: all players up through the fifth grade are required to play in either Rec. softball program or Little League baseball program, if a team from their neighborhood area is participating in said programs.

k. Uniforms: All SYSA teams will wear uniforms with a maroon and white color scheme, and with 'Scarsdale' or 'Raiders' on the front of the jersey.

l. The SYSA will contract with professional coaches for its U-12 and older teams, and where possible U-10 and younger teams. Parents may coach U-10 teams if no professional coaches are available

m. SYSA Summary of Team Formation Policy, Including the Use of Outside Players

SYSA teams play in various leagues and tournaments that recognize teams based on ages. Since SYSA is small relative to other Scarsdale Clubs (ISOs), forming teams across various age groups can yield different results from season to season. Typically in the spring, SYSA forms teams based on grade levels and in the summer and fall, SYSA teams are based on age.

Teams are formed by first assigning all "Scarsdale age/grade eligible" girls to the appropriate team once registration has closed. The SYSA Board then reviews the registration numbers for each age/grade group to ascertain if players will have to be shifted among various teams with players generally moving up an age/grade group. If additional players are needed, the best players who are the next age group younger to the team, will be assigned to that team, provided that, if a girl is moved from the younger team, the younger team has sufficient numbers to maintain a team. If the Board determines that it is not feasible to fill out a team roster by having younger girls play on an older team due to either insufficient numbers and/or skill level, **as a last resort, the SYSA Board may invite non-SYSA eligible girls to join a team for a specific season so long as the majority of the team members are considered eligible to play on SYSA teams as per the SYSA's policies.**

If the SYSA Board determines that a younger girl or girls should be moved to an older team, all registered girls in the age/grade group will be notified of the opportunity to tryout for the older team. A tryout will be conducted by professional coaches to determine the appropriate players to be moved to the older team.

Furthermore, if a team is missing a key position player, such as a pitcher or catcher, the SYSA Board may invite other SYSA players who are age eligible and/or non-SYSA eligible players to join a team to provide the required skill.

The determination to move an SYSA registered girl and or to invite a non-eligible SYSA outside player to a team, will be made by the SYSA Board on a case-by-case basis, in its sole discretion, and only after the registration period has closed. The SYSA may also invite SYSA eligible and non-eligible players as guest players to individual games and tournaments.

- 1) "Tournament" teams may be formed in any season to play in tournaments and will be formed with the best players who are age-eligible for the division in which the team will play.
- 2) Players will be assigned to one SYSA team per season, which is their primary team. They may play on other SYSA teams on an as-needed basis, providing their play for these secondary teams does not result in reduced playing time for players for whom the team is the primary team.
- 3) In all seasons, pitchers will be assigned to teams to spread pitching quality optimally, and to provide as much opportunity for pitching development.
- 4) Outcomes of tryouts will be communicated individually to players and/or their parents.
- 5) All schedules will be set to try to achieve 50% home games for all SYSA teams.