

Divisional Guidelines San Francisco Gay Softball League



**Although SFGSL adopts many of the NAGAAA/ASANA and ASA guidelines, the league establishes exceptions to these guidelines and the content of this document describes them.*

I. Definitions

- A. TEAMS: A team is defined by the composition of its players, not by its name or sponsor. The ASA definition of a team is applied to teams in the SFGSL. All teams are subject to ASA team reclassification guidelines.
- B. DIVISIONS: For purposes of seasonal play within the SFGSL, divisions shall be designated as follows: Barbary Coast, Cable Car, Golden Gate and Women's A, Women's B, Women's C, and Women's D. For the current season, below outlines the division definitions.
 - i) The Barbary Coast Division (A/B Division) shall consist of teams whose top ten player ratings are greater than 146.
 - (1) The Barbary Coast (A Division) shall consist of teams whose top ten player ratings are above 186.
 - (2) The Barbary Coast (B Division) shall consist of teams whose top ten player ratings fall between 146-185 with no player above 22.
 - ii) The Cable Car Division (C Division) shall consist of teams whose top ten player ratings fall between 106-145 with no player rating above 15. The C Division will be split as follows if there are at least 15 C Teams and at least 5 wish to play in a separate sub-division:
 - (1) The Cable Car (C1 – World Series Eligible Comp Division) shall be eligible to play in the WS Berth Tournament and eligible to earn a WS Berth by winning the regular season play (1st place team).
 - (2) The Cable Car (C2 – Lower Division) shall be eligible to play in the WS Berth Tournament. However, they shall not be eligible to earn a WS Berth through the regular season play. (C2–Lower Division entry subject to board approval.)
 - iii) The Golden Gate Division (D Division) shall consist of teams whose top ten player ratings fall below 105 with no player rating above 11.
 - iv) The Women's A division is for teams generally comprised of competitive players who are highly skilled and experienced softball players.
 - v) The Women's B division is for teams generally comprised of competitive players who have a good knowledge of the game, have developed skill set, and play the game in a competitive fashion.
 - vi) The Women's C division is for teams generally comprised of the more experienced recreational player and/or lower form of competitive player who is moderately skilled and is a moderately skilled softball player.
 - vii) The Women's D division is for teams generally comprised of the beginner player or less experienced players who are developing their skills and have a beginning knowledge of the game.

II. Player Eligibility

- A. At the beginning of the season, players in the Open Division will be rated based on their most current rating submitted to NAGAAA within the last two years. According to the Rating Guidelines, new players to the Open Division must be rated prior to playing their first game.
- B. For the deadline to add a player to your team, refer to the Manager's Instructions Document.
- C. A member may transfer between teams only one time during the season prior to the add/delete deadline.

- D. Any member identifying oneself as transgender may choose to play in any division.
- E. Any female or transgender player may choose to play in both divisions in the same season.
- F. To be eligible to participate in the WS Berth Tournament/Women's Playoffs players must meet the following criteria.
 - i) Each player must be verified and present (on the team's lineup card) for at least half of the games in the regular season.
 - ii) Players must take the field (including EH) for at least a quarter of the games in the regular season. (for the women's division players must take the field (including EH) for at least 1/3 of the games in the regular season based on ASANA qualifications).
 - iii) Players listed on the lineup who are not present at the start of the game must be removed from the lineup until they arrive. At that time, the manager of the team should instruct the umpire to add that player's name to the lineup card.
- G. Members with injuries will be reviewed on a case by case basis if they do not meet these criteria and wish to participate in the WS Berth Tournament/Women's Playoffs, the member must submit a written appeal to the Board via email or mailed to the League PMB no later than the last day of regular season play.

III. Divisional Eligibility

- A. Any team will be required to move up to the next division for the following TWO seasons should 1 of the following 2 achievements be met
 - i) The team ends the regular season in 1st place of its respective division, (Lower "C" would move to Upper "C", ie.)
 - ii) The team places 1st, 2nd, or 3rd at the World Series
- B. In compliance with NAGAAA/ASANA rules, any team placing 1st in their division at the World Series will be required to move up the following season. In ASANA in the top 20%.
- C. Any team required to move up a division but not wishing to, may return to the same division provided the team does not meet the SFGSL definition of a returning team: 4 members or more are considered a returning team.

IV. Seasonal Play

- A. For the current season, there will be three divisions within the Open Division. They will be named the Barbary Coast, Cable Car (upper & lower), and Golden Gate.
- B. For the current season, there will be four divisions within the Women's Division. They will be named the Women's A, Women's B, Women's C and Women's D.
- C. Any Open inter-divisional games may be played as exhibition games and will not count in either team's regular division standings.
- D. At the conclusion of the season, teams in all SFGSL Divisions will be ranked in succession according to the following method.

- i) Win/loss record.
 - ii) Head-to-head competition with teams tied.
 - iii) Run differential of all head-to-head games during the season.
- E. This ranking determines both division placement for seasonal play and WS Berth Tournament/Women's Playoffs seeding.

V. WS Berth Tournament/Women's Playoffs

- A. World Series division berths will be designated prior to the first game of the season, including number of berths per division and how a berth is awarded per division.
- B. Tournament will be double elimination at the conclusion of the regular season play, unless otherwise specified.
- C. All-Star berths for Open A & Women's A Divisions are available for any team or teams wanting to go the NAGAAA/ASANA World Series. Open A all star teams must have a team rating of 181 or higher. Any "All-Star" team attending the NAGAAA/ASANA World Series is responsible for paying their own entry fee.
- D. Open Division Teams participating in the WSBT must be committed to the World Series; a team may be fined up to \$300 for participating with no intent to attend the World Series.
- E. Teams wishing to play, with no intent on going the World Series, may participate in a Playoff tournament.

VI. Appeals

- A. Teams and players may request exceptions to the Divisional Guidelines described in Sections I and II of this document for good cause by submitting a written appeal to the Board via email or mailed to the PMB, along with a \$35 fee.
- B. All appeals for WS Berth Tournament/Women's Playoffs eligibility must be submitted by the last day of regular season play.
- C. The Executive Board shall have the authority to permit exceptions to any of the Divisional Guidelines contained herein.