

NCSA 2015-2016 League Meeting Voting Ballot & Survey

Please email completed ballot to Savannah.Ahrens@CollClubSports.com no later than **June 22, 2015**.

School Name: National Club Softball Association (NCSA)

Your Name: Savannah Ahrens

Your Position: Advisor

- 1) Several teams have experienced issues with opponents misusing the Unknown Roster Violation Protest Rule, where teams wait until after a game and/or series is completed to determine if they will use this rule to potentially cause the winning team to forfeit due to a roster violation. The proposal is to remove the Unknown Roster Violation Protest Rule from the NCSA Rulebook. **Note:** The On-Field In-Game Known Roster Violation Rule would still be in effect and will remain in the NCSA Rulebook. The removal of the Unknown Roster Violation Protest Rule will make sure that teams are using the roster violation protest rule properly by protesting a potential violation in-game.

Current Off-Field Protest Rule:

17.03.0 Off Field Protests

17.03.1.1 Off Field Protests consists of protests regarding Failure to secure fields, Failure to schedule qualified umpires, and In-Game Unknown Roster Violations.

Proposal: To remove “In-Game Unknown Roster Violations” from the Off-Field Protest Section.

- YES – I approve removing the Unknown Roster Violation from the Off-Field Protest Section
- NO – I do not approve the removal of the Unknown Roster Violation from the Off-Field Protest Section and choose that it should remain as is

NCSA recommended vote: YES – By removing the Unknown Roster Violation from the NCSA Rulebook, this will hold teams accountable to protest in-game if they believe there is a potential roster violation.

YES Votes - 55

NO Votes - 3

- 2) In order to avoid teams being protested against for stricter NCAA uniform rules on outwear/foul-weather gear, the following rule exception is proposed:

8.01.1.2 It is **NOT** required that a team have matching outwear/foul-weather gear.

Should this exception to the NCAA Uniform Rules be added to the NCSA Rulebook under section 8.00 – Uniforms?

- YES – Add the Uniform Exception to the NCSA Rulebook
 NO – Do not add the Uniform Exception to the NCSA Rulebook

NCSA recommended vote: YES – Add the Uniform Exception to the NCSA Rulebook. The NCSA understands the struggles that collegiate club softball programs endure with funding and agree that the safety of the players should come first in regards to outerwear/foul-weather gear.

YES Votes - 56

NO Votes - 2

- 3) An exception to Eligibility Rule (6.00) was proposed to include students who are enrolled in a bridge program for students with dual enrollment at the Main Institution and a Technical School.

Proposed Exception to the Eligibility Rule:

6.03.2 Students in good standing that are enrolled in a Bridge Program between the Main Institution for which the student registers to play for and an outside independent institution ARE eligible, provided the student has a student ID number for the Main Institution, can provide a letter with the Bridge Program's Letterhead stating that student's participation in the program, and the club sports program at the Main Institution permits the participation of Bridge students in club sports. They must meet all NCSA Academic Eligibility requirements.

- YES – I approve the addition of this Eligibility Rule Exception
 NO – I do not approve the addition of this Eligibility Rule Exception

NCSA recommended vote: NO – Allowing students who are not full-time at the institution for which they are registering to play for could potentially allow a loophole for teams to recruit players taking classes at local technical and community colleges by allowing them to have minimal enrollment and involvement at the team's registered institution.

YES Votes - 14

NO Votes - 44

- 4) To effectively hold teams accountable for rescheduling of unplayed games due to weather the following rule addition was proposed:

1.05.0 Rain Outs/Weather Postponement

1.05.1 In the event that an NCSA conference game(s) would be rained out and/or postponed due to weather, the teams have until midnight Thursday of the week following the week that the game(s) were originally scheduled to be played to mutually agree upon a make-up date and submit it to their Regional Director for approval.

1.05.2 Should the teams fail to mutually agree upon the make-up date, the Regional Director will officially set the make-up date at his/her discretion.

- YES – I approve the addition of this rescheduling rule.
 NO – I do not approve the addition of this rescheduling rule.

NCSA recommended vote: YES – It has always been NCSA policy that unplayed games must be rescheduled by Thursday of the following week, but by adding this to the official NCSA Rulebook it will allow the Regional Directors to hold teams accountable to this deadline.

YES Votes - 52

NO Votes - 6

- 5) **Opinion Survey:** In an effort to boost the value of our league and member benefits, the NCSA is interested in raising league dues for the **2016-2017** season to include the delivery of one DeMarini softball bat to each team. Each team will be able to choose their variation and size of this model bat (Example: The CF8 model comes in different variations and sizes: -8, -9, -10 Insane, -10 Balanced, -10 Hope, etc). By being able to guarantee bat sales to our sponsor, the NCSA is able to demand more sponsorship dollars from our sponsor. This additional league revenue will lead to improving league operations as well as regional playoffs, the World Series and the postseason travel stipend for teams. The NCSA has proven that this is an effective method of increasing the value of our sponsorship contract with minimal effect on our teams as they would usually be purchasing bats themselves at a higher cost. In this manner the team bat is already wrapped into league dues and actually relieves the team of the burden of ordering a team bat since it will be automatically delivered to them during the fall semester. As an example, the current pricing on any of the CF8 variations and sizes is \$350. By signing an exclusive contract with DeMarini we would be able to keep the costs for teams to an extreme minimum and would only be raising dues by \$240.

Would you support the NCSA raising dues for the 2016-2017 season to include the delivery of one DeMarini softball bat?

- YES – Raise the dues for the 2016-2017 NCSA season to cover the delivery of one Demarini softball bat.
 NO – Keep the dues the same.

NCSA recommended vote: YES

COMMENTS?

YES Votes - 21

NO Votes - 37

6) Are there any club softball teams in your area that are not currently members of the NCSA? Do you know any girls looking to start a team at their school?

Existing Teams:

Contact Person/E-mail/Phone Number:

Potential New Teams:

Contact Person/E-mail/Phone Number: