

Club Softball  
Lafayette College  
CONSTITUTION

**ARTICLE I: Name**

The name of this organization shall be the Club Softball.

**ARTICLE II: Purpose and Scope**

**Section 1: Purpose Statement**

The purpose of the Lafayette College Women's Softball Club is to bring together individuals from the Lafayette College Community to play softball and to assist students in developing softball, teamwork, and leadership skills.

**Section 2: Goals/Objectives**

In pursuit of this general purpose, the Club Softball will aim to:

- A. Practice and play softball games with other colleges
- B. Foster an inclusive environment for all
- C. Promote physical activity and teamwork

**Section 3: Relationship & Policy Agreement**

As a recognized Lafayette College student organization, the Club Softball will have access to advising and resources through the Division of Student Life and the Lafayette College Student Government, however, the Club Softball activities are not supervised by Lafayette College staff or Student Government Representatives. The members of the organization itself are responsible for following all College policies and state laws and for ensuring the safety, security, and appropriate and lawful behavior of the membership as well as any students involved in activities sponsored by the organization.

**Section 4: Affiliation**

Club Softball is associated with the league CollClubSports. This league gives us the benefits of automatic matching with other teams for league games as well as a team health insurance.

**ARTICLE III: Membership**

**Section 1: Nondiscrimination**

In keeping with Lafayette College's policy of nondiscrimination, membership in Club Softball is open to all students of Lafayette College, regardless of race, color, national or ethnic origin, disability, religion, age, military or veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital or familial status, pregnancy, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law.

## **Section 2: Active Members**

Active membership in the Club Softball shall be limited to students who are currently enrolled at Lafayette College. Active members must be students enrolled online in our club on Do Sports Easy, <https://recreation.lafayette.edu/join-a-sports-club/>, and attend some amount of practices and or games. Active members are eligible to vote and hold office. Other members of Lafayette College such as faculty, staff, and alumni may participate but only as non-voting associate or honorary members.

## **Section 3: Selection of New Members**

To obtain active status, prospective members must be in good academic standing as well as sign-up on Do Sports Easy and with the league.

## **Section 4: Hazing**

Lafayette College requires that no student participate in and that no student organization allow any of its prospective members, new members, members, or others to participate in any ceremony or practice that involves mental or physical exhaustion or abuse, or in any way interferes with the students' mental or physical ability to perform their work at Lafayette College. These rites must not reflect unfavorably upon either the group or the College or be of a dangerous, rude, or demeaning nature. Hazing, whether it occurs on or off campus, is prohibited and will be subject to sanctioning through the conduct process.

## **Section 5: Voluntary Member Withdrawal**

Any member can, at any time, voluntarily withdraw their membership from the organization.

## **Section 6: Non-Voluntary Member Withdrawal**

A member can be removed from the organization by...

- A. The membership may request that an active member be removed if their conduct violates the College's Code of Conduct in a manner warranting disciplinary action from the College. The Organization Advisor should serve as a non-voting mediator for these proceedings. The removal of an Executive Officer is described in Article 6, Section 6.
- B. The active member should be given notice of concerns raised by the membership (verbal and in writing) by the Executive Officers with the Advisor present.
- C. A second meeting should be held between the active member, Executive Officers, and Advisor to discuss the concerns and determine the outcome.

## **ARTICLE IV: Organizational Leadership**

### **Section 1: Officers**

The officers of the Club Softball shall be the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer, and Financial Advisor, which will serve as the Executive Committee. Coach/instructor and team captains are not part of the executive board. Coaches cannot vote, but captains could vote. Leaving board can vote for the next board coming in.

### **Section 2: The President shall:**

- A. Coordinate and schedule club activities

- B. Organize and run practices
- C. Oversee all officers and help with anything needed
- D. Communicate and schedule games with other teams
- E. Hire umpires and communicate with the City of Easton Department of Recreation to schedule necessary field time

**Section 3:** The **Vice-President** shall:

- A. Serve as the primary safety leader/risk manager (does not need to be CPR/First Aid certified)
- B. Run practices in an organized and beneficial manner
- C. Assist the president as needed

**Section 4:** The **Treasurer** shall:

- A. Write and Submit the semester budget requests
- B. Pay fees, dues, and new equipment or uniform costs
- C. Request vans for travel
- D. Attend the semester SCORE meeting
- E. Perform any other financially related officer duties

**Section 5:** The **Financial Advisor** shall:

- A. Assist with financial duties performed by the Treasurer
- B. Advise new Treasurers
- C. Would preferably be performed by a treasurer or previous club Treasurer

**ARTICLE V: Advisor**

**Section 1:** Club Softball will be advised by a Lafayette College faculty, staff, or a full-time employee.

**Section 2:** The organization is free to select any eligible employee to serve as the advisor to the organization. Upon selection, the advisor must be approved by the Director of Student Involvement.

**Section 3:** The Advisor shall:

- A. Provide guidance and support
- B. Advise the group on College policies and procedures and risk management
- C. Attend meetings and major functions of Club Softball
- D. Perform any other duties as seen fit by the club board

**ARTICLE VI: Officer Terms and Election Procedures**

**Section 1: Term**

The terms of all officers of Club Softball shall be one calendar year. Officers may serve multiple consecutive terms but may not serve if not enrolled as a full or part time student at Lafayette College.

## **Section 2: Election Timeline**

All officers shall be elected on or before December 31st of each year, with their term effective beginning after a winning candidate is recognized or three weeks after the election, whichever one comes first.

## **Section 3: Officer Criteria**

All officers shall be elected from the active members. Any student seeking to hold office must have run for the position and maintain good academic and judicial standing.

## **Section 4: Election Process**

- A. The President will announce that elections will be occurring and communicate the process and timeline to the active members.
- B. A quorum (simple majority) of active members must be present for all meetings where nominations or elections take place.
- C. Any member may nominate any active member for a position, including themselves. All nominations must be accepted by the nominee in order to be considered.
- D. Nominations will be closed by the President after all nominations are accepted for each office.
- E. In the event that only one individual accepts a nomination for a position, they will assume the position for the coming year. If two or more individuals accept the nomination, it will be put to a vote.
- F. Voting shall occur by a secret ballot distributed to each active member in attendance at the meeting. The ballots shall be tabulated by any officer not on the ballot and/or the Advisor. A majority is required to elect Executive Officers.

## **Section 5: Officer Resignation**

Any officer can, at any time, voluntarily resign from their position with proper notice given to the other officers and Advisor.

## **Section 6: Officer Impeachment**

Officers can be impeached for harassment, incompetence, and other incidents or combinations of incidents that would equal or surmount the level of harassment or incompetence. This includes but is not limited to hazing, hate speech, and bullying. Officers may also be impeached for a repeated failure to perform their duties or a lack of engagement with the club.

- A. The membership may request that an Executive Officer step down from their duties for failing to complete the duties of their office or if their conduct violates the College's Code of Conduct in a manner warranting disciplinary action from the College. The organization's Advisor should serve as a non-voting mediator for these proceedings. The impeachment hearing must occur while classes are in session. The Executive Officer should be given notice of concerns raised by the membership (verbal and written communication) at a regular meeting at which 75% of the active members are present.

- B. At the next regular meeting, 75% of active members must be present in order for the impeachment hearing to begin. The moderator of the impeachment hearing will be the President unless they are being impeached, in which case it will be the Vice President. The moderator cannot be the Officer being impeached. Each side will be given the opportunity to present their case and the active members may ask questions.
- C. The membership upon hearing the case shall vote. A 75% affirmative vote of all present members is required to remove the Executive officer from office.

### **Section 7: Captain and Coach Impeachment**

See Article VI section 6. Whenever “membership” is written, replace it with “board member”. All board members must be present for an impeachment hearing and vote to take place. If no meeting is able to be held two weeks after an impeachment hearing is requested, the impeachment hearing may be held with the maximum number of board members able to attend.

### **Section 8: Officer Succession**

During the time between impeachment or resignation and the conclusion of an emergency reelection, the current board members will perform the duties in their absence. If the board members are unable to perform their additional duties or there are no acting board members, club members may perform the vacated duties.

## **ARTICLE VII: Meetings and Programs**

**Section 1:** The first meeting and or program of the fall semester shall be within three weeks after classes start.

**Section 2:** At least one business meeting should be held per month or as seen fit. A business meeting is defined as an official publicly advertised meeting with quorum present and minutes recorded.

**Section 3:** Quorum: A simple majority of the membership is required to conduct business (half plus one).

**Section 4:** Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern meetings in all cases except when in conflict with this constitution and with general College regulations.

## **ARTICLE VIII: Constitutional Amendments**

**Section 1:** Amendments to the Constitution must be proposed in writing by an active member of the Club Softball at any regular meeting at which two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of the active members are present.

Section 2: Proposed amendments shall be voted upon only after two regular meetings following the introduction of the proposal and discussion period.

Section 3: Proposed amendments will become effective following a three-fourths (¾) affirmative vote of the active members.

### **ARTICLE IX: Risk Management**

#### Section 1: Injuries

We as a club mitigate injuries through:

- A. Having the at least the minimum number of certified safety officers
- B. Encouraging a safety first team mentality
- C. Not allowing players to play when they feel too injured to play

#### Section 2: Finances

We as a club reduce excess spending through:

- A. Trying to cut costs and wasteful spending when possible
- B. Following School Budget Guidelines

#### Section 3: Hazing

We as a club attempt to stop team hazing by:

- A. Maintaining a zero tolerance policy on hazing
- B. Fostering an inclusive welcoming team environment

### **DOCUMENT HISTORY:**

Created: February, 2nd, 2023

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### **Previous Documents**

<https://recreation.lafayette.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/91/2016/03/Softball-Constitution.pdf>

<https://recreation.lafayette.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/91/2021/09/Softball-Constitution.pdf>