

THE GRAND SOFTBALL CLUB

CHAPTER 12

Submitted -12-8-2021 Approved

Revised 12-7-2022 Approved

Revised 12-04-2024 Approved

Revised 12-02-2025

CHAPTER 1.0 - Name, Principal Office, and Definitions

1.1 Name: The Grand Community Association, Inc. Softball Club.

1.2 Principal Address: The principal office/address of the Softball Club shall be the Activities Department located at 19753 N. Remington Dr., Surprise, AZ 85374 or its successor location. All Softball Club correspondence and bank statements are to be mailed to this address. The physical location of the Del E. Webb Memorial (Softball) Field is 15182 W. Mountain View Bl., Surprise, AZ 85374.

CHAPTER 2.0 - General Information

2.6 Dues: Annual dues in an amount recommended by the Club Executive Board and approved by membership vote are payable in advance. Timely payment of dues by each member shall be required for membership in good standing.

2.23 Payment for Unbudgeted Expenses: The Club has received an exemption from the Lifestyles Manager to raise the threshold to \$2,000.00 (from \$1,000.00) given the unique internal Club requirements to maintain and support the ongoing operations of the softball field. Any unbudgeted item this amount or higher requires the approval of more than one officer of the Club and will be documented by the Treasurer.

CHAPTER 3.0 - Chartered Club Executive Board (CCEB)

3.1 Officers: The officers of the Softball Club Executive Board shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Field Operations, and Director of Membership Services.

3.3 Duties of CCEB Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, as defined in 3.3 of the CC P&P.

A. Director of Field Operations: Shall perform the planning, organization, staffing, directing, and controlling of the Volunteers accepted into the Field Maintenance Crew and communicates directly with the CAM-appointed landscape contractor on all aspects of field landscaping, grass conditions, surrounding vegetation, and dust mitigation.

Works directly with the Treasurer to communicate short and long-term field needs impacting the Club budget.

B. Director of Membership Services: Shall ensure that membership data is stored, and the database maintained and secure so that membership reports, construction of league, drafts, schedules, email blasts, etc. are processed accurately using designated Club software tools Paid for by the Club. This position requires a better than working knowledge of computer systems and tools. Due to the nature of 5 softball sessions, across multiple leagues, a significant number of hours, may be required during certain times of year, to prepare for league drafts and schedules. Directs member website volunteers on activities associated with maintaining and updating the website, rating data and league stats.

5.8 - Inter-Community Play

The Grand Women's Softball team will host games between November 16, 2024 – April 5, 2025, on Saturday or Sunday afternoon with other adult communities within the area. The Grand Men's Softball team will host a men's team from Sun City Festival every other Wednesday from May - September 2025.

6.0 - Club Activity Supervision, Rules, and Safety

6.1 Monitors: League commissioners serve in the role as defined in 6.1 of the CC P&Ps.

6.2 Check-in: Check-in is not required as all teams on the field have been pre-screened (CAM card) and are permanently assigned to a league for the duration of a season. There is no "free play" or "drop-ins".

6.5 Safety: Due to the nature of the activity/sport, the SCG Softball CC, in 2022, will develop safety rules in accordance with this section of the CCP&P. See Safety Rules Addendum in Chapter 13.

Chapter 13 - Chartered Club Specific Rules

Grand Softball Club Rules with Safety Addendum

Submitted 12-8-2021 & Approved

Revision 12-7-2022 Approved

Revision 12-4-2024 Approved

Revision 12-02-2025

The organization known as the Grand Softball Club (the Club) has met the qualifications for a Chartered Club and has been a Club since the opening of the Del Webb Field of Dreams location in 1999. This Club is dedicated to the promotion of slow pitch softball for exercise and recreation in an athletic environment designed to sustain a high level of fellowship, sportsmanship, and friendly competition. The Club complies with the Grand Community Association documents governing residents, members, and their conduct:

- The Grand Rules and Regulations
- Chartered Clubs Policies & Procedures (CCP&P)
- The Grand Member Code of Conduct

Club income should not greatly exceed expenses (operating expenses and capital requirements) resulting in a net operating gain. Where revenues do exceed expenses, the net gain should be used to foster continued club growth and activity. Club dues may be adjusted to maintain, replace equipment used by members of the Club or the excess may be donated to the Association Facility Reserve Fund.

Membership in the Club shall be open to all members in good standing of The Grand Community Association Management (CAM) without discrimination as to gender, race, religion, ethnic culture, or national heritage. There shall be no preconditions for membership, nor will members be required to join any national, state, or regionally affiliated organizations. The guest privileges set forth in the Charter Club Policies & Procedures (CC P&Ps) shall govern guest privileges for this club. Annual dues in an amount recommended by the Club Executive Board and approved by membership vote are payable in advance. Timely payment of dues by each member shall be required for membership in good standing. Members of the Club, by virtue of membership, agree to abide by all the above and with the current Club Rules, Rules of Play and any League Specific Rules of Play designated for that session. Rules are posted on the Club website: scgsoftball.org.

Club Specific Rules

INTRODUCTION

To promote slow pitch softball in a safe and recreational environment. All Grand residents are eligible to join our Club. Playing and Non-Playing Club members are encouraged to volunteer for a variety of positions that are available: Scoreboard Keepers, Umpires, Committee Members, Maintenance, Managers, Coaches, Commissioners and Board Members. All members and applicants, when requested, must show their valid CAM card.

GENERAL INFORMATION - DEFINITIONS

Club Rules

Rules that govern the field use and activities of the Grand Softball Club.

Disciplinary Actions (Discipline)

As referred to in this document are as follows:

- Be issued a warning for the first offense
- Receive a one game suspension for a second offense
- Repetitive violations shall be cause for suspension from the Club

Violations of Club Rules are not grouped together but considered separate violations, except for Code of Conduct violations, which are cumulative.

League Divisions

Skill level divisions within a League established by the Softball Board in conjunction with the League Commissioner.

League Specific Playing Rules

Playing rules specific to a League and session that govern play in that league.

Non-playing Member

A member in good standing as defined in Chapter 1 of the CCP&Ps, who is eligible to participate in all Club activities except for playing in a League or practicing.

Playing Member

A member in good standing as defined in Chapter 1 of the CCP&Ps, who is eligible to participate in all Club activities.

Rules of Play

Rules that govern the game of softball played by club members at the Grand Softball Field.

League Play

The Club fiscal calendar year runs from May 1 - April 30 the following year. The Club generally follows a four-session format: Fall League, Winter League, Spring League, and Summer League. The Saturday League parallels each session. The field is closed during the month of October for maintenance. All other tournaments or use of the field must be scheduled and approved by the Director of Field Operations Officer of the Club. Any Inter-community play at the Grand Softball Field requires additional approval from the general membership and CAM in compliance with Chapter 5.8 of the CCP&Ps. The club has skill level leagues for players to provide a safe and competitive experience for all players.

The annual calendar of our Sessions of Play will start with the Fall Session, followed by the Winter Session, the Spring Session and end with two Summer Sessions. These follow when most Grand residents are present for play due to the weather seasonal cycles. The guidelines used for Session starting dates and ending dates are as follows:

- A. Fall Session - This Session will start the First full week of November and will run to the last full week of January. This session will have Non-Play weeks where no games will be scheduled. One week for the Thanksgiving Holiday and two weeks for Christmas and New Years. This results in a 10 week session.
- B. Winter Session - This Session starts the First full week of February and will run for 10 weeks to mid-April for an end date. Depending on how the calendar falls each year, a one week break (no scheduled games) can be scheduled between the Fall and Winter Sessions.
- C. Spring Session - This is a six week schedule which will start mid-April and must end the week before Memorial Day. Depending on how the calendar falls each year, a one week break (no scheduled games) can be scheduled between the Winter and Spring Sessions.
- D. Summer Sessions are split into two eight week Sessions starting the week of Memorial Day and ending mid-September. These Sessions will be designated Summer1 and Summer2.
- E. Field Closure Session will take place for annual re-seeding of grass in our outfield, any other field maintenance and annual improvements. This Session will run from mid-September, following the Summer Sessions through the last week of October. This period should run typically six weeks to allow re-seeded grass to grow.

League descriptions are as follows:

- 1. Red (upper and mid-level skill men and women players)
- 2. White (mid-level skill men and women players)
- 3. Blue (mid and lower skill level men and women players)
- 4. Saturday (all skill levels of men and women players)
- 5. Women's League (a combination of all skill levels of women players)
- 6. Spring League (Upper Division is a combination of upper and mid-level skilled men and women players, Lower Division is a combination of mid and lower skilled men and women players)
- 7. Summer League (due to the low number of players, summer is a combination of all skill level men and women players)

Leagues and the number of teams in each session will be determined by the number of players available.

- A. The Board, in consultation with the League Commissioners, will determine the number of players per team, the number of teams per League and League Divisions as needed, based on the numbers of players available.
- B. Leagues may adopt "League Specific" playing rules based on their needs. These League Specific Playing Rules will be established as follows:

- 1) The League Commissioner will present to the Board for approval, all League Specific Playing Rules.
- 2) Rules for that League, which are developed by the League Commissioner with input from the League Managers. These League Specific Playing Rules are developed prior to the draft each new session.
- 3) League Specific Playing Rules apply only to that current session.
- 4) The Board Secretary will post the approved League Specific Playing Rules on the Club web site for that League. A copy will be posted by the League Commissioner at the field prior to the start of the session. It is the responsibility of all club members to know the rules for the Club and their assigned League.
- 5) The Board will review and approve League Specific Playing Rules. The Board will not approve rules that:
 - a. Create an unreasonable risk to players of that league, or
 - b. Negatively affect the integrity of the Club or the game, or
 - c. Violates the General Rules established by CAM, or
 - d. Creates a conflict with another league

Rosters

- A. All Playing Members must be rated by the Club's Rating Committee before they are eligible to be drafted, assigned to a roster or eligible for a sub list.
- B. New players (first-time applicants) who have submitted a completed membership application, have paid Club dues and have been rated, prior to the close of League registration shall be eligible for the draft.
- C. After the close of League registration any new players (first time applicants) who have submitted a membership application, have paid Club dues and have been rated will be assigned to a League Sub list. Returning players who fail to register during the League registration will be placed on the appropriate sub list. At the discretion of the League Commissioner, they may be added to a team roster in the appropriate League according to their rating, to replace a drafted player who cannot play.
- D. Players failing to appear for more than 6 games may be dropped from the team roster with the approval of the League Commissioner(s).
- E. Players are responsible for informing their Team Manager when they will miss a game. Players shall be at the field prior to the start of their game. Players who do not inform their manager that they cannot play or do not arrive at the field to play by the start of their game will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the League Commissioner,
- F. All roster players drafted on a team SHALL play both offensive and defensive positions. All players will bat in the line-up rotation. Every player shall play a minimum of 3 innings defensively, however 5 innings would be strongly recommended, unless the game is called earlier than the 7th inning due to weather or the Mercy rule.
- G. All eligible playing Members who sign up by the designated deadline shall be placed on a team. If a player is not drafted in the League the player registered for, the League Commissioner(s) will consult with the player on their playing options. Those options may include being added to a sublist, entering a subsequent draft for another league or not playing.
- H. All players are eligible to attend League Practices. Players shall attend only the practice that is scheduled for the league they are playing in. Exceptions must be approved by the commissioners of both leagues. Any player attending another league's practice without prior approval will be issued a warning for the first offense. Any subsequent violation shall be subject to additional discipline. Players

that only play on Saturday will be assigned a Weekday League specific practice to attend by the Saturday League Commissioner according to skill level.

- I. Any player who quits or resigns from a team after the draft shall be subject to the following:
 - a. The League Commissioner shall investigate and review the circumstances and make a recommendation to the Board. The player may be subject to the following:
 - i. Suspension from playing in all leagues, including subbing, for the remainder of the session.
 - ii. Based on a review of any extenuating circumstances, other action may be taken by the Board and League Commissioner(s).

DUTIES

Players are required to choose a duty, either Umpire Duty or Scoreboard Duty, unless exempted by the Board, when registering to play in any League. Players are then assigned duties for their League each session. If a player is unable to fulfill their duty, it is the player's responsibility to follow their League rule on finding a replacement. The manager will report a missed duty to the League Commissioner. If the Commissioner finds no valid reason for the missed duty the player will be subject to disciplinary actions.

PLAYER INJURIES

The Grand Softball Club Safety Rules have been approved by the Softball Club and are included as an addendum to the CCP&Ps Chapter 13. The Grand Softball Club Safety Rules include procedures for player injuries that occur at the field. It is the responsibility of all players, managers and commissioners to comply with the Grand Softball Club Safety Rules.

The Club has an emergency 911 phone in the Score Tower at the field and First Aid kits for each dugout. An AED is provided and maintained by the Grand Community Association and is located above the third base dugout.

ATTIRE

- A. Players shall wear the sponsor's team shirt, current club cap, softball style gray pants or shorts for all League games. No other colored pants, sweats or shorts are to be allowed. Any exception requires a written medical excuse each year.
- B. No metal spikes may be worn anywhere within the Softball Complex.
- C. Substitutes shall wear their regular team shirt when subbing, unless they are not on a team roster for that League. Subs not on a team will wear a t-shirt similar in color or a team shirt if available.
- D. It is recommended that no watches, rings, earrings or bracelets be worn. Any player who chooses to wear jewelry while playing assumes liability for any loss or injury. Neck chains, if worn, shall be worn under the jersey at all times. Medical bracelets and necklaces may be worn at any time.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Sportsmanship is defined as treating your fellow players, umpires and the game with respect and fairness. All members are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all Club activities. If a member violates the spirit of play and sportsmanship associated with recreational senior softball, they will be subject to the actions as outlined in this section.

- A. Game Officials with the authority to eject players and recommend suspension for Code Violations are: The Player's Manager, Game Umpires, Chief Umpire, League Commissioner or Board Member if present.
- B. Ejection or suspension from playing softball means that a Club Member cannot use any part of the Ball Park complex, including the parking lot. The suspended/ejected player must leave the area immediately. Minimum penalty: Removal from the game plus two additional game suspension and one year probation.
- C. A Club Member in violation of the Code of Conduct who is on probation may have their penalty increased if another incident takes place during this probation period. Any additional Code violations within that time frame shall result in a Club suspension and a recommendation to CAM for discipline.
- D. Suspensions and probation will be based on the recommendation by the League

Commissioner and presented to the Board and/or for consideration and action. Suspension and/or Probation of a Club member can be indefinite, based on the severity of the violation.

- E. Suspensions and Probations can be appealed to the Board or CAM.

F. **NO INDIVIDUAL SHALL**

- a. With malice; shove, strike or threaten harm to any Club member or spectator Penalty: Ejection from ballpark. Incident is reported to the Board and CAM for suspension and probation.
- b. Demonstrate poor sportsmanship or lack of civility by swearing, throwing any object in anger, unnecessary rough tactics, verbal attacks against any Club member or spectator or refusing to participate in customary sportsmanship activities such as post-game handshakes and assisting teammates in post-game duties. All players, coaches and umpires shall participate in the post-game handshake line.
 - i. Penalties that may be imposed: Warning by any Official, Ejection from the ballpark complex and possibility of suspension/probation.
- c. Attempt to play in an intoxicated or impaired condition. Players who violate this will be asked to leave the field immediately and are subject to disciplinary actions outlined in this section,
 - i. Penalties that shall be imposed: Ejection from the ballpark complex and possibility of suspension/probation.

- d. Any suspended Club member who is discovered playing on the Sun City Grand Softball Complex property will be immediately ejected from the area and reported to the Board for further action.
- G. Smoking is prohibited on the playing field, grandstands, scorekeeping tower, rest rooms, picnic area, grassy area containing the practice pitcher's mound and grassy area outside the 3rd base line fence.
 - a. First Violation: Club member is warned.
 - b. Second Violation: Without cause, the Club member is asked to leave and is reported to the League Commissioner for discipline.

CHANGING CLUB RULES

- A. Rule change proposals are to be presented to the Board. The club website has guidelines for writing a proposal for a rule change.
- B. The Board will review and decide on club rule changes or additions. Any changes to club rules adopted by the Board shall be approved by General Membership and the CAM Lifestyles Director. Changes will go into effect in the next session.
- C. Changes to Club Rules of Play will be reviewed by the Board. If approved, Playing Rules will become effective the next session unless it is in the best interest for league operation to become effective immediately.
- D. Changes to League Specific Playing Rules will be reviewed and approved by the Board. Any approved League Specific Playing Rule can be made effective in the current session if it will be best for the operation of that League.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND COMMISSIONERS

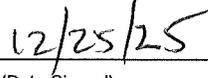
- A. All committee chairpersons and League Commissioners are appointed by the Board and serve at the pleasure of the Board.
- B. The Board has the authority to establish and dissolve committees in compliance with Chapter 3.10 of the CCP&Ps.
- C. Committee Chairpersons are responsible for selecting committee members and for the functioning of the committee.



(Signature)

Theodore Schneider

President, The Grand Softball Club



(Date Signed)



(Signature)

Lorena Nieto

Activities Department Manager, The Grand



(Date Signed)

**(Addendum 12.7.22 Safety Rules
Revised 12.04.24)**

The Grand Softball Club Safety Rules

INTRODUCTION:

The Grand Softball Club provides people ages 45+ with the opportunity to play the game they love at a variety of skill levels. The Grand Softball Club is committed to providing a safe environment for our members and players by proactively addressing safety issues in any form. Every member of this organization should assist in the protection of participants' safety and well-being on and off the playing field while involved in the Grand Softball Club activities.

OBJECTIVE:

The game of softball includes many activities that may be hazardous or risky- This includes' but is not limited to, the act of pitching, throwing, fielding, and catching of the ball, swinging of a bat, running, jumping, stretching, sliding, diving, and collisions with other players or stationary objects.

The mission of the Grand Softball Club is to minimize the hazards and risks associated with playing softball and provide a playing environment that is as safe as possible. The Safety Committee of the Grand Softball Club was established to assist the Club in maintaining a safe and risk-free playing experience through establishing safety rules to prevent injury as much as possible.

POLICY:

It is the Grand Softball Club policy that all players in any league are required to be familiar with and comply with all the safety rules established and approved by the club. Members who participate in league play assume personal responsibility for themselves and have been advised of the potential risks and dangers involved with this sport (Refer to the original application signed by the player). Failure to comply with any club safety rule or requirement may result in disciplinary action as outlined in The Grand Softball Club Rule CODE OF CONDUCT.

IN AN EMERGENCY

The club has an emergency 911 phone in the score Tower and First Aid kits for each dugout. An AED is provided and maintained by The Grand Homeowners Association and is above the third base dugout.

There are two emergency phones located at our softball field.

Primary Red Phone: This phone is in the score tower along with a sign directing the caller how to use the phone. (Red phone box is always unlocked during games).

The Secondary Grey Phone is located on the back of the bathroom building next to the entrance door into the supply room. This emergency phone is never locked.

Step #1: Pick up the red phone and dial 911.

Step #2: When asked if fire or police - we ask for fire.

Step #3: Provide 911 operator with the address that is on the sign.

Step #4: Provide 911 operator with the pertinent medical information for the injured player, type of injury, bleeding, conscious or unconscious. Stay on the phone until they tell you to hang up, you can provide updated medical information to the 911 operator if needed.

When a player is injured, and the paramedics are called, the manager needs to complete an Incident Report Form within 24 hours of the incident. Managers need to make a copy for the safety chairperson and send the original to the Club Board and League Commissioner.

All players are requested to complete an Emergency Medical Form at the beginning of each session and shall provide the form to either their managers in a sealed envelope or kept with the player at all times in their equipment bag. Bags need to be tagged with the player's name and an emergency contact phone number.

RULES

A. The Board mandates that any suspected injury involving the head, neck, back or chest pain that occurs on or around the Grand Softball Field requires that a commissioner/manager ensure that 911 is called, regardless of the injured player's wishes. For any obvious or suspected head injury, in addition to calling 911, the commissioner/manager shall comply with the Grand Softball League Concussion Management Plan. Attached to this document.

B. In the event of minor non-head injuries, when a player feels capable of continuing to play, they may stay in the game or return to the game within one inning. Any board member, commissioner, umpire, team manager, or safety committee member has the authority to overrule a player's decision should they believe the player is not safely capable of playing or able to protect him/herself from further injury.

C. The safety screen for the pitcher is mandatory for all mixed league games. See Club Playing Rule, Equipment, for rules regarding use of the safety screen.

D. Pitchers that do not use the pitching screen **MUST WEAR A MASK THAT COVERS THE TEMPLES** in addition to a chest (heart) protector. You may have a mask attached to a helmet for extra protection. Pitchers that use the screen may choose the safety equipment they wear.

E. The use of optional player protective equipment, such as shin guards, chest protectors' helmets, face masks, mouth guards, safety eyewear, cups, pitcher's protective screen, etc. is strongly recommended by the Club.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

On a continuing basis, The Grand Softball Safety Committee will:

1. Review accidents and injuries that occur on the field and recommend any safety changes to the League and Board based on the review.
2. Review safety equipment in use and recommend additional equipment or changes in equipment and its use.
3. Review minimum physical health requirements for players to safely participate without causing harm or injury to themselves or others.
4. When requested, the safety committee will collaborate with managers and commissioners to evaluate a player's ability to continue to play softball in a safe manner that does not put themselves or others at risk of injury.
 - Consider the player's ability to meet the minimum requirements of batting, catching, running, and overall playing softball.
 - Consider the player's physical abilities to safely play softball to keep themselves and others safe

Any concern regarding a player's ability to play safely will be addressed thoroughly and in an impartial manner. The result of this investigation may result in a recommendation for additional safety equipment to keep the player safe. A decision not to allow a member to continue to play is a last resort and will be taken seriously with all avenues completely exhausted.

5. Review current safety protocols and procedures for updates and applicability.

REPORTING

Any player in The Grand Softball Club may report a safety concern to any of the safety committee members or The Grand Softball Board members. These two groups will evaluate the concern and decide as to any action(s) to take to address the safety concern.