VIEWPOINT SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (VPSSA)
PLAYER ELIGIBILITY RULES and SELECTION PROCEDURES
Updated March 14, 2022

General

Any Viewpoint resident or owner whose periodic and/or annual rent is current and who wishes to play softball will be considered a member of the Association and will be given the opportunity to play. It is the objective of the Association to provide a satisfactory ball experience for each player consistent with Viewpoint RV and Golf Resort policies governing access to and use of its facilities

Viewpoint players and teams participate in leagues at various skill levels in addition to in-park activities.

To maximize enjoyment and safety, players are encouraged to compete at a level commensurate with their ability, and to change teams as necessary to achieve that goal.

A selection process which is fair and equitable to the teams and players is required in order to form teams at the appropriate skill level.

These rules and procedures are to establish eligibility and to implement the selection process.

It is incumbent upon each team manager and player to observe the intent of the document where an unforeseen situation may not be adequately treated. Violation of the letter or spirit of the selection process may result in disciplinary action by the VPSSA Executive Board.

It is recognized that in an unforeseeable or unusual situation these rules and procedures may place an unreasonable or untenable burden on a team or individual. In that event the VPSSA Executive Board may be petitioned to approve an exception to the rules and procedures. The VPSSA President or the specific designee is the final authority on the interpretation of the rules and procedures and for approval of any exception.

"Season" as used in this document begins for each Division on January 1 and extends through the final VPSSA activity of the spring, normally the Annual General Meeting. Fall league activities are not included.

These rules apply for any game during the season in which Viewpoint uniforms are worn.

The VPSSA Executive Board will provide oversight to assure compliance with the rules and procedures. If there is an infraction of any parts of this document an ethics committee with a representative from each division will be appointed by the Board to deal with the infraction. If there is a tie it will be taken to the Board.

Player Classification

Each player is designated as “tenured” or “non-tenured”.
A player who has passed through the selection process or was granted tenure under earlier rules is tenured.

All other players are non-tenured.

Player Eligibility

Any tenured player may become a rostered player for any team with which they can reach an agreement**,** subject to roster restrictions.

A tenured player may not be involuntarily placed on a roster, and commitment to a roster is not final until the player indicates their approval.

A tenured player may elect not to play in a given season or elect to join the In-Park group. Tenure is not affected.

Any non-tenured player, whether newly arrived or on the In-Park group, who wishes to be considered for selection, will be placed on the “available for selection” list, be passed through the selection process, and will become tenured whether selected or not.

A non-tenured player may elect not to be considered for selection to a team, in which case they will be assigned to the In-Park group and will not be eligible to substitute on a rostered team.

An individual may not play for a Viewpoint team during the season unless:
1) on a Viewpoint team roster
2) enrolled in the selection process
3) on the In-Park group roster as a tenured player.

A player who voluntarily leaves a team during the season may not substitute on any uniformed team but may participate on the In-Park team. The team he leaves will be allowed to add a replacement player to their roster if the departing player has been treated fairly. If there is doubt, the Ethics committee will investigate. If it is ruled that the player was forced off the team, he will be allowed back into the system to play on any team that expresses interest and the loosing team will forfeit a roster spot for the remainder of the season.

Player / Manager Etiquette

Managers are selected by the players, not by the Association. A manager for the following season should be selected in the spring by a secret ballot by the players.

Players wishing to be considered for movement to another team should advise his/her manager of their intent prior to contacting the manager of another team.

Managers wishing to recruit a player currently on another team roster should advise the manager of the affected team prior to approaching the player.

Managers should encourage players to play on a team appropriate to their ability.

A manager who finds it necessary to release a player between the end of a season and the selection deadline date for the subsequent season should make every effort to place the player on another roster.

Team Classification

Viewpoint teams are grouped to enhance intramural and round robin tournament competition. Division assignments will normally remain stable but may be adjusted by the Executive Board. Any changes for the succeeding season will be determined no later than March 15. As of the date of this document men's teams are grouped as follows:

Division 1	Amigos
Division II.	Viewers, Chaparrals, and Diablos
Division III.	Hombres, Comancheros, and Bandidos (age group 70+)*
Division IV.	Falcons, Desperados, and Saguaros

* Player age is determined as of December 31 of the current year.

Team Rosters

Roster limits

Initial roster limits are as follows:

Amigos, Viewers, Chaparrals, Diablos, Hombres, Bandidos, Comancheros - 13 players.
Saguaros, Desperados, and Falcons – can go to 14 players once all Division 4 teams have 11players.
Gems - unlimited.

When it becomes apparent that an adequate number of players is or will be available, the Executive Board may allocate an additional roster spot to each team. That process will be repeated if players are available. A team may "hold", meaning leave vacant, one or more roster positions.

A team may add a tenured player to the roster at any time, up to the current roster limit.

A team which completes a season with more players than the above stated limits due to expanded rosters or players returning from injured reserve must reduce the roster to the above limits by March 15 of the current year. Injured reserve status terminates at this time.

Injured reserve

Subject to approval by the VPSSA Executive Board a player may be placed on injured reserve for a period of not less than 21 days. An additional roster space will be allocated to replace the injured player. The "injured" designation may be allowed when the player is not available because of illness or injury to him/herself or a close family member, or due to a personal emergency. The 21-day period begins on January 1, or when approved by the Executive Board, whichever is later. A player returning from injured reserve before expiration of the 21-day period, will not be eligible to play -- other than In-Park group activities -- until the 21-day period

is completed. At the end of the season the injured reserve player either returns to their team roster or is released. This is to eliminate the “holding” of an additional spot on the roster.

Players cannot go on the injured reserve during player selection (November / December)

Use of substitutes

A substitute in this context is a player not on the VPSSA roster of the subject team.

The intent of allowing the use of substitutes is to enable teams to fill gaps in their roster caused by missing players. It is not intended to be used for strengthening a team or in effect increasing the roster size of that team beyond current roster limits. The player being added to the roster must also have an opportunity to play.

A team may use substitutes during the season subject to the following:

The substitute must be tenured or a candidate in the selection process.

The substitute must not be from a higher Division VPSSA team.

A player entering the In-Park group will be assigned a level of play by the Evaluation Committee. Until the player is added to a roster, they may play on any team as long as the team follows all league and/or VPSSA rules, with regards to roster numbers.

A tenured player from the In-park group may substitute in as many Viewpoint tournaments as requested as long as they are playing at the assigned level or above.

The Bandidos may use age qualified players (55+) in VPSSA tournaments following all of the Use of Substitutes guidelines.

For league play and out-of-park tournaments the Bandidos may use any VPSSA players age 70+ as substitutes.

Selection process

Administration

The selection process pertains only to non-tenured players.

The Gems are exempted from the selection process.

VPSSA Evaluation Committee

The VPSSA Evaluation Committee will be compromised of three experienced ball players, each member from a different division. They are responsible for assessing all new ball players to

ensure that each player gets an opportunity to play on a uniformed team in the division appropriate to their skill level.
One of the members of the committee will be assigned the lead of the committee and his responsibilities will be:

- Recruit new members to the evaluation committee
- Do the necessary paperwork to document new players, provide evaluation process details to the new players and provide lists with evaluation and player details to all managers
- Provide updates on the evaluation process to the VPSSA Board
- Provide deadlines to the division managers to ensure decisions (draft or pass) are made as quickly as possible

The Evaluation Committee members will remain on the committee until they request to be replaced or the VPSSA Executive requests a change.

Order of selection for non-tenured players

Selection of new/non-tenured players will be in order of team division (Division 1-4).Within a Division, the order of selection will be based upon head-to-head competition in the prior year, with the least successful team having the first selection. When the same teams play all games (tournament and league), all of these game results will count toward the selection priority. Where head-to-head results are inconclusive, the Board will use other criteria, such as league standings or runs for-and-against to determine selection priority. Division managers are responsible for collecting the data and reporting to the Board after the season ends.

When a team selects a non-tenured player that team will move to last priority within the Division. The process will be repeated until each team reaches the roster limit or elects to “hold” a roster position.

Selection process chronology

By the following dates each manager will submit to the VPSSA Executive Board a preliminary roster for the upcoming season, and notify any prior season rostered player who is not included.

Division I	December 1
Division II	December 4
Division III	December 7
Division IV	December 10

A player who is on a team’s roster on the above deadline dates, or is added after the deadline date, is obligated to play for that team for the balance of the season and may not be released for the balance of the season except as described above under the injured reserve clause.

When a non-tenured individual is registered for the selection process the Evaluation Committee will place the candidate on the “available for selection” list. The manager having selection priority will coordinate with other managers in the Division to evaluate the player. Beginning 1st of November a decision to select or pass on that individual must be made by all managers within the Division within seven days of notification, unless a request for delay, with justification, by one or more managers is approved by the Evaluation Committee. If no decision is made

within the 7 days, and no delay approved, the candidate will be made available to the next lower Division, and the process repeated.

If a team does not have a manager or designated representative available, the Evaluation Committee will make a binding select-pass decision on the team's behalf.

By the15th of December, at the latest, the Division I teams must reach a decision on any player who is present in the park or vicinity and has been on the available list for at least 7 days. The deadline is the 17th of December for Division II teams, 19th of December for Division III and 21st of December for Division IV.

If a candidate is placed on the available list on or after the 9th of December, the team having first priority for selection will have a maximum of 3 days to reach a decision. During that time managers in all categories should make a concurrent evaluation and be prepared to select or pass on the candidate in order of selection priority, either by the above deadline dates or at the conclusion of *3* days, whichever is later.

For example, if a candidate is placed on the available for selection list on 5 January and is not selected earlier by the Division I team having selection priority all managers must be prepared to reach a decision no later than 8 January. The candidate may of course be selected or passed through to a lower Division prior to the expiration of the 3-day period.

If a player is signed up before February 1 and plays in park, the next year he will be considered a tenured player. If a player is signed after February 1, he must go through the selection process the following fall.

Revision

This document supersedes Viewpoint Senior Softball Association Player Eligibility Rules and Selection Procedures 2017-2018, dated December 3, 2018. Proposed revisions must be in writing and be submitted to the Executive Board at least one week before a General meeting so it can be approved at the Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the VPSSA at the Annual General Meeting on March 9, 2020

This document supersedes Viewpoint Senior Softball Association Player Eligibility Rules and Selection Procedures, dated March 9, 2020. Proposed revisions must be in writing and be submitted to the Executive Board at least one week before a General meeting so it can be approved at the Annual General Meeting.

Approved by the VPSSA at the Annual General Meeting on March 14, 2022