

League Structure

The Board of Governors - The APA recommends that a Board of Governors (BOG) exists in each League area to hear and rule on protests and disputes. In larger areas, a number of Boards may exist. A Board of Governors generally consists of a number of Division Representatives. The business conducted by the BOG will normally concern protests, disputes, sportsmanship violations and other similar issues. The BOG, in addition to settling such issues, may also hand down penalties. Penalties may vary from loss of one point to a number of points. Penalties can include loss of eligibility, fines, or suspension of membership. The League Operator represents a higher authority than the BOG, but the APA has asked League Operators to uphold the findings of the BOG unless they are in violation of APA League rules or policies. The BOG may not conduct meetings without approval from Local Management. It is essential for the members of the Board to understand that the Board is there to assist the League Operator—not to monitor, criticize, or supervise. Members who cannot accept their role as just described may be removed from the Board. The existence of a Board of Governors in your area is the best way to ensure the various situations that can and do occur get resolved as fairly as possible. Please accept their rulings and support your Board of Governors at all times.

The Division Representative - The APA recommends there be a Division Representative for every division in the League. The Division Representative (DR) may either be elected by the teams in his division or appointed by the League Operator. He is a person of integrity and is consistently active in the League. The DR is a member in good standing and enjoys the involvement this position offers. He helps make sure bulletins and other League information and materials get distributed to, and are understood by, the Team Captains in his division(s). He helps improve the League by passing information between the players and the Local League Office. He may also assist League Management with the Local Championships and other special events. The DR may serve on the Board of Governors. He is knowledgeable concerning League affairs and may be consulted by other members in the League. Consulted is the key word here because the DR does not have the authority to make rulings as an individual. However, it is a logical choice to call your DR if you have a protest or dispute—he may be able to help solve it. Remember, the DR has no more authority than any other member to make rulings unless he is acting as a member of the Board of Governors, and then only during an actual meeting of the Board. Remember, also, that his advice and interpretations are generally correct. The League Operators (LO) may ask the division reps to help out at tournaments as well as getting the scoresheet envelopes to the designated drop off location. Furthermore, the division rep may be asked to serve on a committee regarding any enhancements to the player benefits such as more prizes, cooler patches, fundraisers for our own players in need of support as well as special fun and unique tournaments. The Board of Governors meets once a month in person but also communicates by phone and text more often.

The Team Captain - The Team Captain is an essential part of the team and holds an important position. The Team Captain is the first person listed on the team roster. He helps with distribution of League information and bulletins and posts information at his home location. The Team Captain must also collect membership dues and weekly fees to be forwarded to Local League Management at the drop off point on a timely basis. He is responsible for having his team at the appointed place on time. He ensures that all rules concerning etiquette, sportsmanship and eligibility are observed by his players. He makes sure proper scorekeeping procedures are followed. The Team Captain must have a phone and ensure that his email address and phone number is current for the league office. He represents the team and all

communication with Local League Management or the division rep is handled through the Team Captain. A team may elect a new Team Captain by a simple majority vote at any time. Local League Management must be notified immediately if a new Team Captain is elected. While the Captain is responsible to collect the fees, they absolutely should not bear the burden of paying weekly fees for any team member that either does not have their share of the weekly fees nor should he cover the team member that cancelled playing last minute. The missing fee should be covered equally among the team and then have the player who owed the money should pay them all back. The Captain would also notify the office if they are in danger of the team folding so that we might assist in recruiting members for their teams. The Captain and co-captain should have read the Tampa Bay APA by-laws (found in the top bar on our tampabay.apaleagues.com website). They should also go over the sportsmanship guide and the repercussions of any of our guidelines that are broken. Please be sure to send any requests by text, email, one of our office forms that your DR keeps on him, a private Facebook message, or on the scoresheet so we can have a record of the request and for us to ensure that we take care of it asap in the office. Our preference is that you email us at tampabay@apaleagues.com.