



CONSTITUTION OF SOCCER ASSOCIATION FOR YOUTH, U.S.A.



ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this Corporation shall be SOCCER ASSOCIATION FOR YOUTH, U.S.A., an Ohio non-profit Corporation. This Corporation may also be referred to as SAY SOCCER. This Corporation shall be governed by this Constitution and its By-Laws and shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

This Corporation was formed and exists to serve and promote the physical, mental and emotional growth of the youth of the United States of America through the sport of soccer.

ARTICLE III: AFFILIATION

This Corporation shall be affiliated with the United States Soccer Federation, Inc. ("USSF"). The USSF is affiliated with the Federation Internationale de Football Association ("FIFA").

ARTICLE IV: ORGANIZATION

Section 1: SAYAreas and Districts. Any person, group of persons or non-profit Corporation in agreement with the purposes and philosophy of SAY may be admitted to affiliation with SAY as a SAYArea in accordance with such requirements and upon such terms as shall be established by the National Board of Directors. A SAYArea shall have a governing body selected in accordance with the organizational rules of the SAYArea, which governing body shall consist of three or more persons, to include a person designated as the SAYArea President. A SAYArea shall have the exclusive right to organize and manage SAY programs within a geographical area defined by the National Board of Directors. SAYAreas may designate administrative boundaries or groups within their territories as Districts.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Eligibility. Membership in SAY shall be open to all persons and organizations interested in the purpose for which it is organized. All persons or organizations accepted as members of SAY shall agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Corporation.

Section 2: Classes. There shall be four classes of membership in this Corporation, namely:

- 1) Administrative Members
- 2) Participating Members
- 3) Playing Members
- 4) Associate Members

Section 3: Administrative Members. The following shall be Administrative Members:

- a) All Directors serving on the National Board of Directors;
- b) All SAYArea Presidents.

Section 4: Participating Members. The following, if they are not Administrative Members, shall be Participating Members:

- a) All persons serving on any National Staff or National Committee of SAY;
- b) All persons serving on the governing body and staff of each SAYArea and/or District who are registered with this Corporation;
- c) All coaches registered with this Corporation; All referees registered with this Corporation

Section 5: Playing Members. Playing Members shall consist of all youth soccer players registered with this Corporation.

Section 6: Associate Members. Associate Members shall consist of those persons or sports organizations granted membership by the National Board of Directors in recognition of their service or contribution to the youth of the United States, the sport of soccer, or SAY.

ARTICLE VI: CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

A. ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

Section 1: Eligibility. Any person who has attained his or her eighteenth birthday and is of good moral character may become an Administrative Member of this Corporation. Administrative Members who are SAYArea Presidents are selected, serve and may be removed in accordance with the organizational rules of the governing body of their SAYArea and may also be removed for cause or neglect by the National Board of Directors after due process. Administrative Members who are the Directors serving on the National Board of Directors are selected, serve and may be removed only in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and the By-Laws of this Corporation applicable to National Directors.

Section 2: Annual General Meeting. The Administrative Members of this Corporation shall meet once each year at an Annual General Meeting, the date and place of which shall be set by the National Board of Directors.

Section 3: Quorum. A quorum at any Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting shall consist of twenty (20) Administrative Members of this Corporation who are present at the meeting either in person, by proxy, or by Absentee Ballot.

Section 4: Proxy. Any Administrative Member entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting or at any Special Meeting may vote by proxy. Such a proxy must be a Participating Member as defined in Article V, Section 4, Part b) and must be from the same SAYArea as the Administrative Member designating the proxy, or if the Administrative Member designating the proxy serves on the National Board of Directors, the proxy must be another member of the National Board of Directors or a Participating Member as defined in Article V, Section 4. The proxy must be in writing, signed and dated by the Administrative member, and shall be revocable at any time by the Administrative member executing it at his or her pleasure. In order to be valid, the proxy must be delivered to and accepted by the Secretary of this Corporation at least two (2) days prior to the opening of the meeting for which the proxy has been authorized.

Section 5: Absentee Ballot. Any Administrative Member entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting or at any Special Meeting may vote by Absentee Ballot. Every such Absentee Ballot must be signed and dated by the Administrative Member, and shall be revocable by the Administrative Member executing it at his or her pleasure. In order to be valid, the Absentee Ballot must be delivered to and accepted by the Secretary of this corporation prior to the opening of the meeting for which the Absentee Ballot has been authorized.

Section 6: General Voting Rights. The Administrative Members of this Corporation may be heard and shall vote at the Annual General Meeting on any issue affecting this Corporation. In voting upon any issue except for the election of Directors, each Administrative Member shall have one vote.

Section 7: Voting Rights For Election of Directors. In voting upon the election of Directors at the Annual General Meeting, Administrative Members shall have the following voting rights:

- a) Each Director serving on the National Board of Directors shall have one vote;
- b) Each SAYArea President shall have the following number of votes based upon the number of Playing Members within the President's SAYArea who are registered with this Corporation:

- 100-1,000 registered players 1 vote
- 1,001-2,000 registered players 2 votes
- 2,001-3,000 registered players 3 votes
- 3,001 or more registered players 4 votes

Section 8: Compensation. No elected or appointed National Director of this Corporation shall receive any compensation for the services provided to this Corporation as a National Director. This provision shall not prohibit the payment of reasonable expenses to Administrative Members, or payment to individuals for services provided to this Corporation that are not part of his/her duties as a National Director.

B. PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

Section 1: Eligibility. Any person who is of good moral character may become a Participating Member of this Corporation. A Participating Member under the age of 19 may also be a Playing Member.

Section 2: Rights. The Participating Members of this Corporation are volunteers and shall be treated with respect. Any Participating Member of this Corporation may be heard at the Annual General Meeting on any issue affecting this Corporation. No Participating Member of this Corporation shall be suspended from membership for a period of more than one month or expelled from a SAYArea or this Corporation except upon approval of the National Board of Directors after Due Process.

Section 3: Voting Rights. Participating Members shall have no voting rights with regard to the National Administration of this Corporation.

C. PLAYING MEMBERS

Section 1: Eligibility. All youths over the age of four and under nineteen, as of the cutoff date established by the National Board of Directors of this Corporation, may register as Playing Members of a SAYArea and of this Corporation, subject to the availability of volunteers and playing fields and the reasonable administrative requirements of the SAYArea in which the youth resides. Any youth so registered may continue to re-register as a Playing Member from year to year until no longer eligible.

Section 2: Rights. Every Playing Member of this Corporation shall be assigned to a soccer team in his or her appropriate age group. These assignments shall be made in such a manner that is consistent with the organizational rules established by S.A.Y. for the designated level of participation. Each playing member shall have the right to play at least one-half (1/2) of every game played by his or her team. It shall be the goal of this Corporation that every player shall be coached by a trained soccer coach who shall practice positive coaching. No Playing Member of this Corporation shall be suspended for a period of more than one month or expelled from an Area or this Corporation except upon approval of the National Board of Directors after Due Process.

Section 3: Voting Rights. Playing Members shall have no voting rights with regard to the National Administration of this Corporation.

D. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Section 1: Voting Rights. Associate Members shall have no voting rights with regard to the National Administration of this Corporation.

ARTICLE VII: NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The management and government of this Corporation shall be vested in a National Board of Directors. Directors shall be chosen as prescribed in the By-Laws. In addition to the general powers of the National Board of Directors exercised by virtue of their office, the powers and authority expressly given by law, by the articles of incorporation of the Corporation, and in the Constitution and By-Laws, the following specific powers are expressly conferred on the National Board of Directors:

- 1) to purchase or otherwise acquire for the Corporation any property, right or privilege which this Corporation is authorized to acquire at such a price or consideration and upon such terms as said National Board of Directors may deem expedient;
- 2) to appoint, remove or suspend subordinate agents or servants and to determine their duties and fix their salaries;
- 3) to determine who shall be authorized, on behalf of the Corporation, to sign bills, notices, receipts, acceptances, endorsements, checks, releases, contracts and any other instruments;
- 4) to delegate any of the powers of the National Board of Directors to any standing committee or special committee or any officer, or agent of this Corporation, with such powers as the National Board of Directors may see fit to grant, generally to do all such lawful acts and things as may be necessary and proper.

All of these actions will not require previous authorization or subsequent approval of the members of the Corporation.

ARTICLE VIII: APPOINTED NATIONAL DIRECTORS

Section 1: Number. The number of Appointed National Directors shall be at the discretion of the National Board of Directors and shall not exceed two (2).

Section 2: Selection / Term. The Appointed National Directors shall be selected and serve for such term and upon such conditions as the National Board of Directors shall determine. Each appointment shall not extend beyond the election of new directors at the next Annual General Meeting.

Section 3: Immediate Past President. In addition, the immediate Past President who is also no longer serving as an elected National Director, shall serve as an appointed National Director for a term up to, but not extending beyond, the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) immediately following his/hers termination as President.

Section 4: Removal. No removal of an Appointed National Director shall be voted upon at any meeting of the National Board of Directors or at an Annual General Meeting unless the Appointed National Director whose removal is proposed has been given thirty (30) days' prior notice of the intention to hold such a vote and an opportunity to be present and heard at the meeting at which the removal is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE IX: ELECTED NATIONAL DIRECTORS

Section 1: Number. The number of Elected National Directors shall not be less than seven (7) nor more than twenty-one (21) in number, and shall be as defined within the By-Laws of this Corporation.

Section 2: Regional Directors. The National Board of Directors shall adopt a plan under which the United States shall be divided into not less than four (4) nor more than twelve (12) geographic Regions. The National Board of Directors shall modify this plan from time to time in order to ensure a diversity of representation among its members. Each Region so designated shall be entitled to have one individual who resides within its geographic boundaries elected to the National Board of Directors as a Regional Director.

Section 3: At-Large Directors. Elected National Directors other than Regional Directors may reside anywhere in the United States and shall be designated as At-Large Directors.

Section 4: Term. Each Elected National Director shall serve a term of three years. The terms of the Elected National Directors shall be staggered so that no more than one-third (1/3) shall terminate each year.

Section 5: Nomination And Election. Elected National Directors shall be nominated in accordance with such procedures as shall be prescribed by the National Board of Directors and shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting by the Administrative Members of this Corporation, as defined in the By-Laws.

Section 6: Removal. An Elected National Director may be removed from office at any time for cause or neglect by an affirmative vote of not less than fifty one percent (51%) of all of the elected members of the National Board of Directors after Due Process. An Elected National Director may be removed for any reason at an Annual General Meeting by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Administrative Members of this Corporation present and voting, a quorum being present. No removal of an Elected National Director shall be voted upon at any meeting of the National Board of Directors or at an Annual General Meeting unless the Elected National Director whose removal is proposed has been given thirty (30) days' prior notice of the intention to hold such a vote and an opportunity to be present and heard at the meeting at which the removal is to be voted upon.

Section 7: Vacancies. The remaining term of any Elected National Director who has died, resigned or been removed from office shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining Elected National Directors.

ARTICLE X: OFFICERS

Section 1: Designation. The officers of this Corporation shall be National President, National Vice-President, National Secretary, National Treasurer, National Executive Director, and National Commissioner with such duties as the National Board of Directors shall prescribe.

Section 2: President; Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer. The National President, National Vice-President, National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be selected by and from the Elected National Directors for a term of one year each.

Section 3: Other Officers. The National Executive Director and the National Commissioner shall be paid employees of this Corporation, and as such shall serve as appointed officers of this Corporation. Such appointments shall be as voted and approved by the Elected National Directors for such terms, upon such conditions as shall be mutually satisfactory, and with such duties as defined in the By-Laws. Either may be removed for any reason at any time by the Elected Directors at any Regular or Special meeting of the NBOD.

ARTICLE XI: ORGANIZATIONAL AND PLAYING RULES

The Playing Rules of this Corporation shall consist of the Laws of the Game and Universal Guide for Referees published by FIFA, and as modified by this Corporation. The Organizational Rules of this Corporation shall consist of the rules and regulations established by this Corporation that affect the organization and conduct of soccer teams.

ARTICLE XII: BY-LAWS

By-Laws shall be adopted for this Corporation by the National Board of Directors. The power to amend or repeal existing By-Laws or to adopt new By-Laws shall be vested in the National Board of Directors. The By-Laws shall contain such provisions as are necessary to ensure compliance with this Constitution. The By-Laws may contain any other provisions for the regulation and management of the affairs of this Corporation which are not inconsistent with this Constitution.

ARTICLE XIII: POLICY DECISIONS

The National Board of Directors or such committees or persons as it shall designate may from time to time adopt and publish policy decisions applicable to the programs administered or sponsored by this Corporation, or the SAYAreas. These policy decisions shall not be inconsistent with either this Constitution or the By-Laws.

ARTICLE XIV: AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may only be amended at an Annual General Meeting or at a special meeting by an affirmative vote of three-quarters (3/4) of the Administrative members of this Corporation who are present and voting. The quorum requirement for amending this Constitution is 35% of all administrative members being present either in person, proxy, or by Absentee Ballot. No Constitutional amendment shall be placed before the membership for a vote unless the proposed amendment is in writing, which has been adopted either by the National Board of Directors or by the governing bodies of not less than three Areas. In the latter case it shall also have been received by the National Board of Directors at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon. The National Board of Directors shall cause all proposed amendments to be mailed to each Administrative Member at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE XV: EFFECTIVE DATE, REPEALER AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

This Constitution is an amendment in its entirety of all prior enacted Constitutions of this Corporation and upon its adoption all of those prior Constitutions are repealed. This Constitution shall be effective upon the vote of a least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the National Board of Directors, present and voting, serving in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Corporation in effect on the date of voting. Those persons serving as National Directors of this Corporation on the date of the adoption of this Constitution shall constitute the National Board of Directors under this Constitution without regard to any limitation contained in this Constitution on the number or ratio of such Directors and shall so serve until the first Annual General Meeting following the adoption of this Constitution.

ARTICLE XVI: DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of this Corporation or the conclusion of its affairs, the National Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all remaining assets of the Corporation as required by the State of Ohio Articles of Incorporation of the Soccer Association for Youth, U.S.A. The remaining assets of the Corporation shall be distributed exclusively to charitable, scientific, educational, or any other such organization(s) that would qualify as an exempt organization under the provisions of Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and as determined by the National Board of Directors.

This Constitution has been adopted by the National Board of Directors on March 26, 2006.
(Last amended on April 1, 2005)

By:



Bob Sommer, Secretary



SOCCER ASSOCIATION FOR YOUTH, U.S.A. BY-LAWS



ARTICLE ONE

AUTHORITY

These By-Laws are enacted in compliance with Chapter 1702 of the Revised Code of Ohio in order to regulate the affairs and conduct of Soccer Association For Youth, U.S.A. ("SAY").

ARTICLE TWO

SAY CONSTITUTION

The SAY Constitution adopted December 5, 1992, together with any subsequent amendments thereto is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety in this Article Two. In the event that any succeeding provision of these By-Laws conflicts with the SAY Constitution, then the conflicting By-Law shall be invalid.

ARTICLE THREE

IDENTIFICATION

Section 3.01: Principal Office. The address of the principal office of this Corporation shall be One 2812 E. Kemper Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241. This Corporation may conduct its business from such address, or addresses, as shall be designated from time to time by the National Board of Directors.

Section 3.02: Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of this Corporation shall be from July 1st through June 30th.

ARTICLE FOUR

MEETINGS OF ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

Section 4.01: Time; Purpose. The Annual General Meeting of the Administrative Members of this Corporation shall be held each year on dates and at a place designated by the National Board of Directors for the purpose of choosing the Elected National Directors of this Corporation, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before the meeting.

Section 4.02: Notice of General Meeting. Written notice of the time and place of each Annual General Meeting shall be given to each Administrative Member not less than ninety (90) days before the date of the meeting. The notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the Administrative Member at the address that appears on the records of this Corporation with postage thereon prepaid. The notice shall also be deemed to be delivered when it is sent via any verifiable electronic communication to the electronic address of the Administrative Member that is on file with this Corporation.

Section 4.03: Voting. For the election of National Directors at the Annual General Meeting the address of the Administrative member is that which is on file with this Corporation. Administrative Members of this Corporation shall have those voting rights set out in Article VI, Sections 6 and 7 of the SAY Constitution and as follows:

- A. Votes for a Regional National Director shall only be cast by those eligible Administrative Members that represent the SAY Areas within that particular Region, and only those National Directors serving on the National Board of Directors that reside in that particular Region.
- B. Votes for an At-Large Director shall be cast by all eligible Administrative Members.

Section 4.04: Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Administrative Members of this Corporation may be called by the National Board of Directors or upon the written petition of one-half (1/2) plus one (1) of all Administrative Members of this Corporation, stating thereon the purpose or purposes of the meeting, which petition shall be delivered to the National Secretary of this Corporation. Special Meetings shall be held at such time and place as shall be designated by the National Board of Directors.

Section 4.05: Notice of Special Meetings. Written notice of any Special Meeting shall be given to all Administrative Members of this Corporation not less than thirty (30) days before the date of the meeting. The purpose or purposes for which the special meeting is called shall be stated in the notice. The notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the Administrative Member at the address that appears on the records of this Corporation with postage thereon prepaid. The notice shall also be deemed to be delivered when it is sent via any verifiable electronic communication to the electronic address of the Administrative Member that is on file with this Corporation.

Section 4.06: Rules. All meetings of the Administrative Members of this Corporation shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE FIVE

ELECTED NATIONAL DIRECTORS

Section 5.01: Number. There shall be a maximum of nine (9) Elected National Directors on the National Board of Directors consisting of five (5) Regional Directors with one (1) Director representing each Region and four (4) At-Large Directors (ALD1 through ALD4). If there is no nominee from a particular Region, an interim Regional Director may be elected by the National Board of Directors to serve until a resident nominee for Regional Director of that Region becomes available. That term shall not extend beyond the business year during which that Director is appointed.

Section 5.02: Regions. For purposes of this Article Five, Regional boundaries are as designated in Exhibits A, B and C on the maps attached hereto.

Section 5.03: Term. The full term of each Elected National Director shall be three (3) years with each initial term commencing at the beginning of:

- a) the SAY 2012 business year for the Director of Region 5 and At-Large Directors ALD3 and ALD4.
- b) the SAY 2013 business year for the Directors of Region 2 and Region 3 and At-Large Director ALD2,
- c) the SAY 2014 business year for the Directors of Region 1 and Region 4 and At-Large Director ALD1.

For the purpose of this Section, "business year" shall be defined as the period of time beginning with the first meeting of the National Board of Directors held after new Directors are elected at the Annual General Meeting, and ending at the time of the following Annual General Meeting, at the end of the meeting when Directors are elected.

Section 5.04: Nomination.

A. At-Large National Directors: Candidates for Elected At-Large National Directors (ALD1 through ALD4) may be nominated in accordance with one of the following procedures:

- 1) The Nominating Committee appointed by the National Board of Directors in accordance with Articles 8.02 and 8.06 of these By-Laws may nominate one or more candidates and shall deliver its list of nominees to all Administrative Members at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting.
- 2) Any five (5) Administrative Members who are not National Directors may nominate one or more candidates by written petition delivered to the Secretary of this Corporation at least fifty (50) days before the Annual General Meeting. This list of nominees shall be delivered to all Administrative Members at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting.

- 3) Ten (10) or more Participating Members may nominate one or more candidates by written petition delivered to the Secretary of this Corporation at least fifty (50) days before the Annual General Meeting. This list of nominees shall be delivered to all Administrative Members at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting.
- 4) Any Participating Member may nominate themselves as a candidate by written petition delivered to the Secretary of this Corporation at least fifty (50) days before the Annual General Meeting. This list of nominees shall be delivered to all Administrative Members at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting.

B. Regional National Directors: Candidates for Elected Regional National Directors may only be nominated in accordance with one of the following procedures:

- 1) The Nominating Committee appointed by the National Board of Directors in accordance with Articles 8.02 and 8.06 of these By-Laws may nominate one or more candidates for each Region and shall deliver its list of nominees to all Administrative Members at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting
- 2) Any five (5) Administrative Members all from the same Region and who are not National Directors, may nominate one or more candidates, for their Region only, by written petition delivered to the Secretary of this Corporation at least fifty (50) days before the Annual General Meeting. This list of nominees shall be delivered to all Administrative Members at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting.
- 3) Ten (10) or more Participating Members all from the same Region may nominate one or more candidates, for their Region only, by written petition delivered to the Secretary of this Corporation at least fifty (50) days before the Annual General Meeting. This list of nominees shall be delivered to all Administrative Members at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting.
- 4) Any Participating Member of a Region may nominate themselves as a candidate, for their Region only, by written petition delivered to the Secretary of this Corporation at least fifty (50) days before the Annual General Meeting. This list of nominees shall be delivered to all Administrative Members at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual General Meeting.

C. All Nominations shall be in writing and shall:

- 1) Clearly state the Nominee's reasons for seeking election or re-election as a National Director; and
- 2) Include a description of the Nominee's qualifications, incorporating all necessary personal information regarding the Nominee including, but not limited to: full name, age, marital status, current employment address and telephone number, together with a brief resume of the Nominee's soccer activities and the names of at least two (2) persons in the Nominee's community who will vouch for the Nominee's character and standing in the community.

Section 5.05: Vacancies. In the event of the death, resignation, or removal of an Elected National Director, the following procedure shall be followed by the National Board of Directors:

- A.** At its next regular meeting following the creation of the vacancy, or in the case of removal, at that meeting creating the vacancy, the NBOD shall decide whether to fill the vacancy or reduce the number of Elected National Directors as prescribed by Section 5.01 of these By-Laws.
- B.** In the event the NBOD decides to fill the vacancy, then the NBOD shall appoint a Nominating Commission comprised of not less than three (3) Elected National Directors.
- C.** The Nominating Commission shall thereafter submit the names of not less than three (3) qualified nominees to the NBOD not less than thirty (30) days before the regular meeting of the NBOD at which the vacancy shall be filled. The submission of the nominees to the NBOD shall be addressed to each National Director. The requirements, as stated in Sections 5.05B and 5.05C of these By-Laws, may be waived (in whole or in part) by the NBOD, but only by a unanimous vote of all of its members.

- D. Any Elected National Director may submit to the NBOD the names of any additional nominees not submitted by the Nominating Commission not less than fifteen (15) days before the regular meeting of the NBOD at which the vacancy shall be filled. The submission of these additional nominees shall be by certified mail, return receipt requested, or via any verifiable electronic communication, also with return receipt requested, addressed to each National Director.
- E. The nomination submitted shall contain at the minimum all necessary personal information regarding the Nominee including, but not limited to: full name, age, marital status, current employment address and telephone number, together with a brief resume of the Nominee's soccer activities and the names of at least two (2) persons in the Nominee's community who will vouch for the Nominee's character and standing in the community.

ARTICLE SIX

DESIGNATED APPOINTED NATIONAL DIRECTORS

- Section 6.01: Selection.** The designation of Appointed National Directors, as authorized in Article VIII of the SAY Constitution, may be made by the National Directors at any regular or special meeting of the NBOD.
- Section 6.02: Term.** The Elected National Directors shall set the term for each Appointed National Director provided that said term shall not extend beyond the business year during which that National Director is appointed. The Elected National Directors may prescribe any condition or event under which the term of an Appointed National Director shall expire and may remove an Appointed National Director at any time for any reason, and in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII, Section 4 of the SAY Constitution.
- Section 6.03: Vacancies.** In the event of the death, resignation or removal of an Appointed National Director, the National Board of Directors shall decide whether or not to fill the vacancy. If the NBOD decides to fill the vacancy, it shall be done in accordance with the provisions of Sections 6.01 and 6.02 of these By-Laws.

ARTICLE SEVEN

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

- Section 7.01: Annual Meeting.** An Annual Meeting of the National Board of Directors at which time it shall designate the officers of this Corporation and transact such other business as shall come before it. This meeting shall be held without any notice other than this By-Law on the last day of the Annual General Meeting of the Administrative Members.
- Section 7.02: Regular Meetings.** The National Board of Directors shall hold at least three (3) regular meetings throughout the year on such dates and at such places as shall be fixed by its resolution. Notice need not be given of regular meetings of the National Board of Directors.
- Section 7.03: Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the National Board of Directors may be called at any time by the National President or by any three (3) members of the National Board of Directors. Notice of the time and place of a special meeting shall be given by the National Secretary in writing by mail or via any verifiable electronic communication to be received by all National Directors not later than the fourth business day immediately preceding the day for the meeting. Attendance of a National Director at a special meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of that meeting. Notice of any special meeting of the National Board of Directors may be waived in a writing signed by all National Directors, whether before or after the time of the meeting.
- Section 7.04: Meeting By Telephone.** The individual members of the National Board of Directors or any committee of the National Board of Directors may participate in any meeting by means of a conference telephone or similar electronic communication equipment by which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time, and such participation by such means shall constitute presence-in-person at the meeting.

Section 7.05: Agenda. The National President shall prepare an agenda for each meeting of the National Board of Directors. In preparing the agenda, the National President shall solicit items from all other National Directors for inclusion on the agenda. The agenda for each regular meeting of the NBOD shall be delivered by letter or via any verifiable electronic communication to each Director not later than two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

Section 7.06: Rules. All meetings of the National Board of Directors shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent version of Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 7.07: Action Without A Meeting. Any action required to be taken at any meeting of the National Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if all of the National Directors or all of the members of the Committee, as the case may be, are notified in writing, or via any verifiable electronic communication, of the action proposed and if the requisite majority of the National Board of Directors or of the Committee, as the case may be, assent to the action to be taken and confirm their consent to such action in writing, or via any verifiable electronic communication, and dated.

In any case, where a National Director or a member of the Committee, as the case may be, cannot be contacted, after reasonable attempts to do so, the non-response shall be considered and recorded as an abstention vote to the action to be taken.

In any case requiring a vote where a National Director or a member of the Committee, as the case may be, has been contacted, but the National Director or the Committee member, as the case may be, chooses not to vote within a specifically stated time limit on the matter at hand, the non-response shall be considered and recorded as an abstention vote to the action to be taken.

Section 7.08: Open Meetings. All meetings of the National Board of Directors shall be open to all Administrative and Participating Members of this Corporation, subject to space availability, unless the NBOD determines that it is necessary to hold an Executive Session.

Section 7.09: Quorum and Voting. A majority of the National Directors currently serving shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the National Board of Directors. The taking of any action will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the National Directors present at any meeting at which a quorum is present, unless the act of a greater number of National Directors is required either by law, by the SAY Constitution, or by these By-Laws. The National President shall not vote on any issue before the Board except to resolve a tie vote among the National Directors. If at any meeting of the National Board of Directors less than a quorum is present, no business may be transacted until such time as a quorum is achieved.

ARTICLE EIGHT

COMMITTEES

Section 8.01: Executive Committee. The powers of the National Board of Directors may be exercised by an Executive Committee consisting of the National President and three (3) other Elected National Directors who shall be appointed by the NBOD. The Executive Committee shall have such powers, perform such duties, and observe such restrictions as the NBOD may delegate to it from time to time.

The Executive Committee shall decide all issues and take all actions only by affirmative vote of a majority of its members, and will determine its rules and procedures in a similar manner. The Executive Committee may conduct its meetings by telephone conference call or similar electronic communication equipment by which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other at the same time. Action may be taken without any meeting if authorized in a written document, or via any verifiable electronic communication, signed, or duly recorded as such, by all members of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall keep a written record of its meetings and shall report its actions within seven (7) days thereof to all National Directors. The National Board of Directors at any of its meetings may overrule any action taken by the Executive Committee, noting, however, that any action duly taken by the Executive Committee within the course and scope of its authority shall still be binding on this Corporation as to third parties who have relied thereupon.

Section 8.02: Standing Committees. Standing Committees of this Corporation shall be:

- 1) A Finance Committee,
- 2) SNRRC - a National Referee and Rules Committee,
- 3) A Nominating Committee, and
- 4) A Constitution and By-Laws Committee.
- 5) A Hall of Fame Committee

The National President shall nominate the Chair of each of these Committees, except as designated in Sections 8.04 and 8.05, with the approval of a majority of the National Board of Directors currently serving. Each Committee will consist of at least three (3) members, one of whom shall be a National Director. The Chair of each Committee shall choose the other members of the Committee, but any choice may be vetoed by a majority of the National Board of Directors currently serving.

Section 8.03 Ad Hoc Committees. The National Board of Directors may establish special select committees to address specific projects or problems. Such committees will be dissolved upon completion of their assigned tasks. These committees shall be formed and shall conform to the procedures as are listed in Section 8.02.

Section 8.04: Finance Committee. There shall be a Finance Committee to study and review the records of this Corporation and make recommendations to the National Board of Directors concerning the budgeting, receipt and posting of Corporation funds. The National Treasurer shall be the Chair of the Finance Committee.

Section 8.05: National Referee and Rules Committee (SNRRC). There shall be a National Referee and Rules Committee to review existing programs for the education and training of referees and referee administrators, and to make recommendations to the National Board of Directors for improvements in these programs or the addition of new programs. The National Director of Officials of SAY shall be the Chair of this committee.

Section 8.06: Nominating Committee. There shall be a Nominating Committee whose responsibility shall be to encourage, seek out, identify or recommend a person or persons for election to the National Board of Directors. The members of this committee shall be appointed by the National Board of Directors pursuant to the conditions of Section 8.02. The Committee shall consist of no less than three (3) members and shall include the National Executive Director, one(1) member of the Executive Committee, and at least one (1) other National Director who is not a member of the Executive Committee. The remaining members of this Committee may or may not also be members of the Executive Committee or the National Board of Directors, and may be anyone considered in good standing and so approved by the National Board of Directors.

Section 8.07 Constitution and By-Laws Committee. The Committee will review the requirements of the policies of SAY regarding to its constitution and by-laws and will make recommendations to the National Board of Directors to institute improvements, additions, or modifications to these organizing documents as needed..

ARTICLE NINE

PLAYING and ORGANIZATIONAL RULES

Section 9.01: Playing Rules Changes. Playing Rules change recommendations, as developed by the National Board of Directors or submitted by members of SAY, shall be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the National Board of Directors and shall be transmitted to all National Directors at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. Playing Rules may be only amended by a 2/3 majority of all National Directors currently serving on the National Board of Directors at any of its meetings.

Section 9.02: Organizational Rule Changes. Organizational Rules change recommendations, as developed by the National Board of Directors or submitted by members of SAY, shall be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the National Board of Directors and shall be transmitted to all National Directors at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. Organizational Rules may be only amended by a 2/3 majority of all National Directors currently serving on the National Board of Directors at any of its meetings.

ARTICLE TEN

OFFICERS

- Section 10.01: Officers.** As prescribed by the SAY Constitution, the Officers of this Corporation shall be a National President, National Vice-President, National Secretary and National Treasurer, who shall be selected from the Elected National Directors; and a National Executive Director, who shall be appointed by the Elected National Directors.
- Section 10.02: Elected Officers.** The National President, National Vice-President, National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be elected by the majority vote of the Elected National Directors present and voting at the Annual Meeting of the National Board of Directors and shall serve from the day of their election until the day of the next Annual Meeting of the National Board of Directors.
- Section 10.03: Removal; Vacancy.** The National President, National Vice-President, National Secretary and National Treasurer may be removed from office for any reason by the vote of the majority of all the Elected National Directors at any regular meeting of the National Board of Directors or at any special meeting called for that purpose and in accordance with the provisions contained in the SAY Constitution.
Any vacancy in any of these offices due to death, resignation, removal, disqualification or other reasons shall be filled by the National Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term of the office In accordance with the procedures defined in Section 5.05 of these By-Laws.
- Section 10.04: Other Officers.** The National Executive Director shall serve as an appointed officer of this Corporation, as established in the SAY Constitution.
- Section 10.05: Additional Officers.** This Corporation shall have a National Director of Officials and such other officers including without limitation one or more additional Vice Presidents as the National Board of Directors shall determine from time to time. All such Officers of this Corporation shall be nominated by the National President and approved by the National Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting of the National Board of Directors. Any one of these Officers may be removed from office by the National Board of Directors at any regular or special meeting in accordance with the provisions contained in the SAY Constitution.

ARTICLE ELEVEN

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- Section 11.01: National President.** The National President shall be the Chairman of the National Board of Directors and shall have the following responsibilities subject, however, to the control of the National Board of Directors,
- A. Preside at the Annual General Meeting and at all meetings of the National Board of Directors and the National Executive Committee.
 - B. Oversee the operation and management of this Corporation.
 - C. Insure that all orders and resolutions of the National Board of Directors are carried into effect.
 - D. Execute all contracts on behalf of this Corporation.
 - E. Appoint all committees and commissions of this Corporation, subject to the approval of the National Board of Directors.
 - F. Serve as an interim replacement, or appoint an interim replacement with the approval of the National Board of Directors, for the National Executive Director in the event of the inability of the National Executive Director to perform because of illness or other reasons.
 - G. Serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

- H. Perform the general powers and duties usually vested in the office of the President of a non-profit organization.
- I. Render the National President's Annual Report covering the activities of this Corporation for the twelve months preceding the date of the Annual General Meeting to the Administrative Members at each such meeting.
- J. Exercise such other powers and duties as may be prescribed by the SAY Constitution and By-Laws or the National Board of Directors.

Section 11.02: National Vice-President. The National Vice-President of this Corporation shall have the following responsibilities and duties:

- A. Shall assist the National President and the National Executive Director in the performance of their duties and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the National President or the National Board of Directors.
- B. Shall have the powers and shall exercise the duties of the National President whenever the National President, by reason of illness or other disability or absence, is unable to act.
- C. To maintain an oversight of the committee structure and progress of each committee, and to report regularly on these matters to the National President and the National Executive Director.

Section 11.03: National Secretary. The National Secretary of this Corporation shall have the following responsibilities and duties:

- A. Shall be the custodian of and shall maintain the books and records of this Corporation and shall be the recorder of this Corporation's formal actions and transactions.
- B. To record or see to the proper recording of the Minutes and transactions of all meetings of the Administrative Members and the National Board of Directors, and to maintain separate Minute Books at the principal office of this Corporation or such other place as the National Board of Directors may order of all such meetings.
- C. Maintain at the National Headquarters a current list of all Administrative and Participating Members of this Corporation.
- D. To maintain at the principal office of this Corporation for inspection or distribution the SAY Constitution and By-Laws, the Policy Decisions of the NBOD, the Organizational Rules, and the Playing Rules of this Corporation.
- E. To serve all notices of this Corporation required by law, the SAY Constitution or these By-Laws.
- F. Maintain at the principal office of this Corporation a record of all correspondence sent by or received by this Corporation.
- G. To render a report at each Annual General Meeting on the total membership of this Corporation.
- H. To perform such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the National Board of Directors or the National President.
- I. To have such other powers, duties and authorities as may be set forth and prescribed by the National Board of Directors or the National President from time to time.

Section 11.04: National Treasurer. The National Treasurer of this Corporation shall have the following responsibilities and duties:

- A. To keep and maintain open to inspection by any National Director at all reasonable times the full, adequate, and correct accounts of receipts and disbursements of this Corporation.
- B. To have the care and custody of the funds of this Corporation and deposit the same in the name and to the credit of this Corporation such depositaries as the National Board of Directors may designate.

- C. To insure that all checks, drafts, notes and orders for the payment of money, as required in the business of this Corporation, are properly drafted.
- D. To provide a financial report in writing to the National Board of Directors at each of its meetings.
- E. To provide a financial report on an annual basis at the Annual General Meeting.
- F. To prepare a budget for this Corporation for each of its fiscal years.
- G. To serve as the Chair of the Finance Committee.
- H. To have such other powers, duties and authorities as may be set forth and prescribed by the National Board of Directors or the National President from time to time.

Section 11.05: National Executive Director. The National Executive Director shall assist the National President in the performance of his/her duties and will specifically:

- A. Serve as the Chief Operating Officer of this Corporation by directing, administering, and coordinating the activities of this Corporation in accordance with the policies, goals, and objectives established by the National President and/or the National Board of Directors.
- B. With the written approval of the National President, execute all deeds, bonds, mortgages, contracts and other legal instruments for and on behalf of this Corporation.
- C. Supervise operations of this Corporation's National Office.
- D. Hire, supervise, and direct designated employees of this Corporation and have the power to delegate responsibilities.
- E. Keep adequate and proper records of financial and other activities of this Corporation.
- F. Review, approve and/or disapprove, mutually with the National Director of Officials, all Organizational or Playing Rule variances submitted to Say National.
- G. Supervise matters relating to the expansion of this Corporation.
- H. Be responsible for paying all obligations of this Corporation in cooperation with the National Treasurer, and as provided by the National Board of Directors. The National Executive Director shall be an authorized signer of checks on behalf of this Corporation within whatever limits may be set by the National Board of Directors, or elsewhere within these By-Laws.
- I. Make quarterly reports to the National Board of Directors summarizing staff and fiscal activity, and shall annually provide detailed reports to the National Board of Directors of his/her activities and all matters within his/her knowledge that may affect this Corporation.
- J. Serve as a member of the Nominating Committee..
- K. Perform such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the National President.

Section 11.06: National Director of Officials. The National Director of Officials of SAY shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- A. To preside as Chair of the SAY National Referee and Rules Committee (SNRRC).
- B. To provide for the form of, arrange for, schedule and/or give clinics and training programs when needed.
- C. To perform such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the National Board of Directors or the National President.
- D. Review, approve and/or disapprove, mutually with the National Executive Director, all Organizational or Playing Rule variances submitted to Say National.

ARTICLE TWELVE

INDEMNIFICATION

This Corporation shall to the maximum extent permitted by law indemnify each member of its National Board of Directors and its National Officers and any other key employees against expenses, judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any proceeding arising by reason of the fact that such person is or was acting as an agent of this Corporation and shall advance to such persons' expenses incurred in defending any such proceeding to the maximum extent permitted by the law.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN

CONFLICT/DUALITY OF INTEREST

A National Director or Officer of the National Board of Directors of SAY may deal with the SAY Corporation as a vendor, purchaser, employee, agent or otherwise, and no contract or transaction shall be void able or in any way affected for the reason that it is between the SAY Corporation and any other organization in which one of its National Directors or Officers is a director, trustee, partner, or officer, or has a financial or personal interest, or for the reason that an interested National Director or Officer participates in or votes at the meeting of the National Board of Directors of SAY or a Committee thereof which authorizes such contract or transaction, if:

- (a) the material facts as to his or her relationship or interest and as to the contract or transaction are disclosed or known to the National Directors or Officers or a Committee thereof and the National Directors or Officers or a Committee thereof, in good faith reasonably justified by such facts, authorize or ratify the contract or transaction by the affirmative vote of a majority of the disinterested National Directors or Officers, even though the disinterested National Directors or Officers constitute less than a quorum;
- (b) the material facts as to his or her relationship or interest and as to the contract or transaction are disclosed or known to the Voting Members of the NBOD and the contract or transaction is specifically approved at a meeting of the Voting Members of the NBOD held for the purpose of voting on the contract or transaction by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Voting Members of the NBOD who are not interested in the contract or transaction; or
- (c) the contract or transaction is fair as to the SAY Corporation at the time it is authorized or approved or ratified by the National Directors or Officers, or a Committee thereof.

A National Director or Officer is not an interested National Director or Officer solely because the subject of a contract or transaction may involve a change in control of the SAY Corporation or his or her continuation in office as a National Director or Officer of the SAY Corporation. Without limiting or qualifying the foregoing, if in any judicial or other proceeding, the question of whether a National Director or Officer of the SAY Corporation or the SAY Corporation acting through its National Directors or Officers has acted in good faith is material, then notwithstanding any statute or rule of law or equity to the contrary (if any there be), his, her or its good faith shall be presumed, in the absence of proof to the contrary by clear and convincing evidence.

For purposes of this Section, an "action" means a resolution that is adopted by the National Directors or Officers or a Committee thereof. Also, for purposes of this Section, common or interested National Directors and Officers may be counted in determining the presence of a quorum at a meeting of the National Directors or Officers or Committee thereof which authorizes or ratifies the contract or transaction.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN

SAYAREAS

Section 14.01: Application Process. Any person, group of persons or non-profit Corporation desiring to affiliate with SAY shall submit a written application to the National Board of Directors on a form provided by SAY, which form shall require the applicant to certify that it has reviewed the Constitution, the By-Laws, the Policies of the National Board of Directors and the Organizational Rules and Playing Rules of SAY and that it agrees with and shall comply with the same and that it shall submit to SAY upon approval of its application a registration fee for each one of its playing members or teams.

Section 14.02: Approval. Every application for affiliation with SAY shall be approved by the National Board of Directors at the meeting next following the submission of the application provided, however, that in the event immediate action is required on the application before the next meeting of the National Board of Directors, then the Executive Committee may approve the application provided further that in such instance the application shall be submitted to the next meeting of the NBOD and may be disapproved by a majority of the NBOD.

Section 14.03: Fees. Each SAYArea shall remit a membership fee to this Corporation for each playing member in the SAYArea in such amounts as shall be determined by the National Board of Directors.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN

AMENDMENT

Section 15.01: Amendments. These By-Laws may be amended by a 2/3 majority of all National Directors currently serving on the National Board of Directors at any of its meetings.

ARTICLE SIXTEEN:

DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of this Corporation or the conclusion of its affairs, the National Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all the liabilities of the Corporation, dispose of all remaining assets of the Corporation as required by the State of Ohio Articles of Incorporation of the Soccer Association for Youth, U.S.A. The remaining assets of the Corporation shall be distributed exclusively to charitable, scientific, educational, or any other such organization(s) that would qualify as an exempt organization under the provisions of Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and as determined by the National Board of Directors.

ARTICLE SEVENTEEN

EFFECTIVE DATE; REPEALER

These By-Laws are an amendment in their entirety of all prior enacted By-Laws of this Corporation and upon adoption; all of those prior By-Laws are repealed. These By-Laws shall be effective upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the National Board of Directors present and voting at the meeting at which they are presented.

ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SAY on March 16, 2016.

(Last amended November 9, 2013)

By: _____

Tom Cox, Secretary