

Tualatin Hills UNITED Soccer Club
(aka UNITED Soccer Club)

By-Laws

Effective April 25, 2018

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be Tualatin Hills UNITED Soccer Club (also known as UNITED), hereinafter referred to as UNITED. Crossfire United (CU) is a registered operating name (DBA) for UNITED’s Elite Club National League (ECNL) teams.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purpose of UNITED shall be to teach, govern and promote the game of soccer for junior players of all skill levels within the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District (THPRD). *Note: this does not exclude players outside THPRD boundaries.*

ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVE

It shall be the objective of UNITED to promote sportsmanship and a sense of fair play within the framework of a team sport, and to develop an interest in, and working knowledge of, the game of soccer. UNITED shall endeavor to provide both a developmental and a competitive environment whereby those players of above average ability and dedication will have the opportunity to compete at the highest competitive level in the State of Oregon and the United States.

It shall further be the objective of UNITED to be an active member of the Oregon Youth Soccer Association (or equivalent) and support the objectives and best interests of youth soccer.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

A. Definition of Membership

- a. Junior Player: The term “junior player” as applied to these by-laws means an amateur player who has not attained his/her 19th birthday before the last day of the year for the current USYSA/USCLUB playing year.
- b. Senior Player: The term “senior player” as applied to these by-laws means an amateur or professional player who has attained his/her 19th birthday during the last year for the current USYSA/USCLUB/WPSL (or other league) playing year.
- c. Adult Member: Those persons actively engaged in fostering the game of junior soccer within UNITED, including parents of participating players, coaches, club officers, and club representatives.

B. Players residing outside the Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District boundary may be subject to assessments of out of district fees as established by the Park and Recreation District.

C. Member in good standing. To be a member in good standing with UNITED, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. All paperwork associated with registering a player with the club is complete and accepted by the Registrar. This includes the player participation form, notarized medical release form, a copy of the player’s birth certificate or passport, 8th grade waiver (if applicable) and transfer form from another club (if applicable).
- b. Payments of all fees levied by the club are current or the player was approved by the board for financial aid. These fees may include the players’ participation fee, uniform fee, late payment fees, or other fees levied by the club or an individual team.
- c. Players on financial aid meet the terms of their financial aid contract.
- d. Member must be in good standing with the UNITED Code of Conduct.

If a member is not in good standing with the club, their player card will be held by the board, and the player will not be able to practice with the team or participate in tournaments or games until they are back in good standing with the club.

If a member is not in good standing with the club upon departing from the club, their player status will be reported to the league governing body (OYSA/USCLUB). That body will hold the player card from all club play until UNITED reports the player has moved into good standing status.

ARTICLE V – ELECTED AND APPOINTED BOARD POSITIONS (Directors)

- A. The Board officers and their duties are:
- a. ELECTED BOARD POSITIONS (Directors)
 - i. PRESIDENT: The president shall be the presiding officer of the club. The president shall meet with the Board of Directors at least once each month. The president will establish with the Board the program and calendar of the club. The president will appoint persons and/or committees to implement the programs of the club. The president shall oversee all operations of the club, and is authorized to sign club checks. The president will recommend to the Board the appointment of the Director(s) of Coaching and unfilled Board positions. The president shall review all contracts (including sponsorship contracts, employment and independent contractor agreements) and recommend to the Board their approval or termination.
 - b. APPOINTED BOARD POSITIONS (Directors)
 - i. SECRETARY: The secretary shall manage minutes of all board meetings, ensure minutes are distributed to members shortly after each meeting, is familiar enough with the organizations bylaws to insure they are being followed at board meetings, maintains management of the records of the board and is the custodian of the organizations important documents. The secretary will inform all board members of upcoming meetings and ensure by-laws are reviewed once a year.
 - ii. TREASURER: The Treasurer shall be responsible for all club funds, including the *overseeing* of accounts receivable and disbursement of payments for accounts payable. This position is responsible for identifying opportunities for fundraising events. The Treasurer will develop and monitor the annual budget with the board of directors as well as provide financial reports to be handed out at the monthly board meetings. The Treasurer will oversee the guidelines enforcement of Non-Profit 501C3, team player accounts and oversee the preparation of the tax returns and tax preparer.
 - iii. IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: The immediate past president will reside on the board as a voting member until the board votes that he/she is no longer needed or the past president resigns.
 - iv. MEMBERS AT LARGE: Members at Large may be appointed by vote of the Board and assigned areas of responsibility, such as Fundraising, Tournament or Event Coordination, Marketing, or other projects/program focal points based upon club strategy and needs. Members at Large are voting board members.
- B. The President of UNITED will be elected by the majority of adult members who have players registered, and in good standing, at UNITED for the current USYSA/USCLUB playing season, and who are present and voting at the Annual General Meeting. A slate of nominees will be approved by the Board from a pool of applicants. The slate will be closed seven days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- i. If a vote does not occur the current President remains in the position until a successor is voted in.
 - ii. In the event the President becomes unable to fulfill responsibilities (i.e. due to disability, death or other unforeseen circumstances) the position will be filled on an interim basis by the Secretary and if unfilled, an approved board member, until an official vote can be taken.
- C. The term of office for all officers shall no more than three calendar years from the first annual meeting election. A member may serve an indefinite number of terms.
- D. Board appointed positions: Any position that becomes open at the end of a term or becomes vacant between terms may be recommended by the President or other another Director to the remaining board of directors and voted upon. The President will be the tie breaker.

- E. All board positions are unpaid positions and considered as “Qualified Directors or Officers.” UNITED employees may serve as non-voting board members as long as their board position is in a different capacity as their employment.
- F. Closed board meetings will be open to only voting board members unless otherwise specified.
- G. Powers of the Board:
 - a. The Board shall meet at least once each calendar month to administer the affairs of the club.
 - b. The Board shall adopt a budget and registration fees and assessments.
 - c. The Board may request, and the President may approve, a request for a Special Session to consider items concerning personnel, club management, external opportunities, and other areas as deemed confidential and/or requisite of a certain level of confidentiality. Executive Sessions are open only to the Officers on the Board of Directors and those specifically invited by the President.
 - d. When an officer of UNITED resigns or is unable to complete his/her term of office, the Board shall be empowered to fill the vacancy through the term.
 - e. The board may, upon vote of three officers excluding the President, suspend the powers of any officer. A board member must then be called within 30 days to review the suspension, and if upheld by a majority of the Board, a replacement shall be elected by the Board.
 - f. The board shall maintain and adhere to the documented procedures in the annual Club Handbook.
- H. The Board shall be responsible for:
 - a. Enforcing the By-laws.
 - b. Setting strategy, goals, creating policies/procedures, and making rulings on interpretations necessary to carry out the objectives of the club and provide for the safety of the players.
 - c. Making policies, temporary rules or regulations for specific cases or situations not provided for in the By-laws, the Club Handbook, adopted policies, procedures or regulations of the Club, OYSA or US Club Soccer Rules, when deemed necessary to carry out the objectives of UNITED.
- I. Proceedings, unless agreed upon by the Board, shall always be considered confidential.
- J. Board members must be an adult member in good standing.

ARTICLE VI – UNITED PAID POSITIONS

- A. UNITED paid positions will be defined and approved by the Board. Paid positions will exist to meet the strategic and operating goals of UNITED.
- B. UNITED paid positions may be an adult club member and if so must be in good standing.
- C. UNITED paid positions may attend board meetings to provide operational updates and participate in discussions as appropriate, but shall not be voting members.

ARTICLE VII – STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Standing and special committees will be appointed by the President and approved by the Board and shall contain a minimum of one active Board member or designed representative by the Board and shall report to the Board via official activity report.

- A. JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: Will investigate, hear and recommend to the Board action to be taken regarding rules infractions reported to it in writing. This may include discipline of players or adults for misconduct, including possible dismissal from UNITED.
- B. COACHES COMMITTEE: In case of alleged misconduct by a coach, the committee shall investigate, hear and recommend to the Board action to be taken against the coach, including immediate suspension and possible termination.

- C. GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE: The grievance committee will be formed by the President as part of member relations to listen to and investigate any complaints not handled by the Executive Director of Coaching.
- D. ECNL ADVISORY COMMITTEE: The ECNL Advisory Committee will support the work of THUSC’s ECNL program (i.e. Crossfire United) and its Director and provide mission-based leadership and strategic governance.
- E. Other Special Committees may be appointed and convened as needed.

ARTICLE VIII – CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Fifty one percent (51%) of the filled board positions shall constitute a quorum. All members of the board shall have one vote. The business of UNTIED shall be conducted according to “Roberts Rules of Order”. The President votes only to break a tie. Meetings and voting may be conducted via email.

ARTICLE IX – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At least one general meeting of UNITED shall be held each year. All members shall be notified of the annual general meeting at least 14 days but not more than 30 days prior to the annual general meeting. At this meeting, club members will be provided club information and updates. Election of the President shall occur at the Annual General Meeting. In rare cases that an election does not occur the current President remains in office until a successor is voted in as outlined in Article X.B.

ARTICLE X – TEAMS

- A. TEAM FORMATION: The age grouping and roster size used to determine team formation will be in accordance with those set down by OYSA and/or US Club Soccer for classic league play. Teams or qualified players will be formed from a pool consisting of junior players who are eligible for membership in accordance with Article IV.
- B. TEAM SELECTION: UNITED will hold a minimum of two tryouts for each age group. Final selection by the coaches’ panel will be based upon performance at the tryouts, written recommendations, and any other information submitted on behalf of the player. Team selection will be completed within one week of the final tryout, and each player participating in the tryout will be notified of the team selection as soon as possible.

ARTICLE XI – OYSA MANDATED BY-LAWS

The following articles are OYSA mandated by-laws to be included verbatim.

- A. OYSA BY-LAW 102, Section 2
 UNITED will comply with all applicable state and federal laws governing non-discrimination and will be open to participation by any individual, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, citizenship, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status.
- B. OYSA BY-LAW 106, Section 1(B)(1) AND (2)
 - 1. To the extent permissible under applicable law, the USSF articles of incorporation, bylaws, its binding rules and policies, including interplay, take precedence over and supersede the governing documents and decisions of UNITED and members of UNITED shall abide by the USSF articles of incorporation, its bylaws, and its approved binding rules and policies.
 - 2. To the extent permitted by governing law, UNITED will respect and enforce the statutes, regulations, directives, and decisions of FIFA and CONCACAF.
- C. OYSA BY-LAW 108
 UNITED does not tolerate any form of physical or sexual abuse.

D. OYSA BY-LAW 701, Section 4

UNITED will recognize, and enforce, the disciplinary actions of USSF and other organizational members of the Federation that have been included in a Disciplinary Action Report.

E. OYSA BY-LAW 704, Section 1 and 2

1. No member or participant of THUSC, be it an official, league, member club, team, player, coach, administrator, or referee may invoke the aid of the courts in the United States or of a state without first exhausting all available remedies within THUSC and organizations of which THUSC is a member.
2. For violation of this bylaw, the offending party shall be subject to suspension and fines, and shall be liable to THUSC for all expenses incurred by THUSC and its officers and members of the Board of Directors in defending each court action, including the following:
 - a. Court costs
 - b. Attorney Fees
 - c. Reasonable compensation for time spent by THUSC officials and employees in responding to and defending against allegations in the
 - d. action, including responses to discovery and court appearances
 - e. Travel expenses
 - f. Expenses for holding special THUSC meetings necessitated by court action

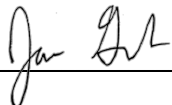
ARTICLE XII – AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Amendments to these By-Laws may be proposed at any board meeting. They may be discussed and modified at this meeting. Final adoption of any changes cannot occur until the next meeting or follow-up approval by means of email or other electronic mediums.

ARTICLE XIII – DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of UNITED, any remaining fund balance will be placed in trust with the THJSL for the exclusive use of the youth soccer program.

Submitted April 25, 2018 by the UNITED Board of Directors.

 _____, Date 4/25/2018

Jason Gardner
President, UNITED Soccer Club