



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF SOUTH ALLEGHENY YOUTH SOCCER CLUB

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1 General

Section a – Name

The organization will be known as “**South Allegheny Youth Soccer Club**” hereafter known as **SAYSC**.

Section b – Definition

This is a soccer club founded to develop soccer skills and knowledge to all members.

This opportunity shall be afforded to all without consideration to race, color, sex, creed, and religion or player ability. This shall be limited to practicality. Notwithstanding the above, the club officers have the right to remove any player, coach, SAYSC officer, or member for cause whose presence is not in the best interest of the club.

ARTICLE 2 Membership

Section a

Active membership can only be obtained by active participation in the club, such as: administrative, coaching, child participation and/or other areas of the program.

Section b

Soccer teams wishing to join SAYSC can do so by submitting in writing their intentions.

Section c

SAYSC has an open-door policy concerning new teams but will not take teams from areas that already have soccer clubs.

Section d

Any member or soccer club officer acting in violation of the SAYSC Constitution or By-Laws is subject to having their membership privileges revoked. The officers of the club will act as the deciding body and their decision will be final.

ARTICLE 3 Voting Privileges of Members

Section a

All active members living within South Allegheny School District will have a vote provided they have attended 3 meetings within the previous 5 months.

ARTICLE 4 Officers

Section a

The elected officers will be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Registrar.

Section b

The term of each elected officer shall be two years.

Section c

Nominations for officers will be held in November with elections of officers to be the first meeting in January.

Section d

All elected officers must reside within South Allegheny School District.

ARTICLE 5 Duties of Officers

Section a - President

The President shall preside at all meetings of SAYSC. The president shall oversee all committees and their functions. If any officer resigns, the President shall appoint someone for the remaining balance of that term. The President shall appoint In-House and Travel Commissioners to serve as officers for 1 season.

Section b - Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the President in all of his/her duties. He/she shall assume the duties of the President in his/her absence.

Section c - Secretary

The Secretary shall oversee all correspondence. He/she shall make a permanent record of minutes of all meetings. The minutes of the meetings shall be kept in permanent form and have the approval of the membership.

Section d - Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have charge of all SAYSC funds and keep an accurate account of all monies received and disbursed.

Section e - Registrar

The Registrar will oversee registering all players with the PA State Soccer Organization.

Section f - Commissioners

The Commissioners shall oversee and oversee the operating functions of their respective divisions. Each Commissioner will report directly to the President on all matters for his/her approval.

ARTICLE 6 -Meetings

Section a

Regular meetings shall be held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

Section b

Meetings can be called by the President as often as needed, as long as the officers are notified within 48 hours prior to meeting and the meeting date, time, and location is posted on the club website.

Section c

All regular monthly meetings of SAYSC will be open to all officers and members of SAYSC.

ARTICLE 7 -Amendments

Section a

Amendments – These bylaws may be amended or altered only at a meeting of the membership and upon notice to the membership that a change in the bylaws will be considered at such meeting. Any amendment to these bylaws shall be effective only upon the affirmation vote of two-thirds of those present and qualified to vote at the meeting at which the change or amendment is considered. Any amendment shall become effective immediately upon their adoption.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1 -Rules of Conduct

Section a

Any person who commits an act of verbal abuse or harassment, whether to players, coaches, officers, spectators, volunteers or referees will be suspended for the first offense. The club officers will determine the length of suspension. A second violation of this section will result in the immediate banning of the offender from SAYSC for life.

Section b

Any person who commits an act of physical or sexual abuse, whether to players, coaches, officers, spectators, volunteers or referees will be banned from SAYSC for life.

ARTICLE 2 - In House Teams

Section a

The in-house program shall be designed to develop skills, sportsmanship and provide a fun environment for young players.

Section b

The in-house program also exists to develop player abilities in preparation for travel teams and should be structured to support the travel teams.

Section c

Team size should be limited to ensure reasonable playing time for all participants.

Section d

The in-house program shall follow the age classification rules of *US Club Soccer*.

ARTICLE 3 –Travel Teams Program

Section a

Travel teams exist to provide a higher level of competition for more experienced players.

Section b

Try-outs should be avoided. The prime objective for travel teams is still the enjoyment of playing and the developing of player skills.

Section c

Reassignment of any players, coaches or teams shall be the decision of the officers of the club only. On a case-by-case basis, a player may be reassigned by the club officers for personal reasons.

Section d

Player “RAIDING” and other destructive competition between teams will not be allowed.

ARTICLE 4 – Coaches

Section a

Qualifications for coaches shall be established and administered by the club officers.

Section b

It is the objective of the club that all coaches be certified. The club officers shall develop and make available training for all coaches. Travel team coaches should be level D or above and In-house coaches should be level E or above. All coaches must be certified in the age group that they are coaching.

Section c –Act 33, 34 -Certification

Any person wanting to coach must complete a *US Club Soccer* Risk Management form and submit to SAYSC. All information will be reviewed, accepted or declined on a case-by- case basis.

Section d

All coaches shall coach at the discretion of and must be approved by the club officers.

Section e

Coaches are representatives of our soccer club and are expected to behave in a manner of good sportsmanship at all times. Unsportsmanlike behavior will be cause for removal by the club officers.

Section f

All coaches or a representative are expected to attend all monthly meetings. However, the meetings in August and March are **mandatory**.

ARTICLE 5 –Players

Section a

Players can be cut from teams only for chronic absence, disruptive behavior or defiance of authority. Cuts can be made by the club officers only.

ARTICLE 6 –Miscellaneous

Section a

Commissioners will have the final say on field playing conditions.

Section b

Drinking of alcoholic beverages or the use of narcotics **will not be tolerated** at any club event. Anyone under the influence of alcohol or narcotics will be removed from the event, with membership privileges reviewed by the club officers.

Section c

Make-up games will take precedence over all practices. They must, however, be scheduled with the Commissioners.

Section d

Club support for all playoffs and tournaments will be based on the financial condition of the club during the season in question and will be distributed evenly to each team.

ARTICLE 7 – Sign ups

Section a

Signups will be held the last 3 weeks of the Fall/Spring season with consideration given to PA West scheduling. All PA West sign up rules shall be followed. Sign up cut-off dates are at the discretion of the club officers. Forms can be found on our Web Site; www.SouthAlleghenySC.com.

ARTICLE 8 –Meetings

Section a

Meetings shall be conducted by the President or Vice President. The order of business shall be as follows:

- 1.) President brings meeting to order
- 2.) Roll call of officers
- 3.) Reading of minutes from previous meeting
- 4.) Reading of correspondence
- 5.) Reports of committees
- 6.) Treasurer's report
- 7.) New business
- 8.) Old business
- 9.) Good of club
- 10.) Adjournment

ARTICLE 9 –Hearings and Appeals

Section a

SAYSC recognizes the rights of its members to have a fair hearing regarding any matter of discipline. The club also recognizes the right of its members to appeal any decision made by SAYSC pertaining to them directly.

Section b -Disciplinary Matters

All disciplinary hearings shall be held using the following procedures:

Panel of non-interested parties not to exceed 5 persons shall review all hearings. Club officers will comprise the panel as long as they are determined to be non-interested parties. The accused shall be notified in writing as to the date, time, location and reason for the hearing. The notice shall also include any

witnesses who shall testify against the accused. The notice shall be sent by certified mail and postmarked no less than 14 days prior to the scheduled date. The accused shall have the right to present evidence in defense, use the help of council, and confront their accuser(s). The decision of the panel shall be sent by certified mail within 10 days of the hearing date. The decision should include all evidence considered and the reasoning for the decision.

Section c – Appeals of Disciplinary Matters

Appeal of disciplinary hearings shall be held using the following procedures:

Appeals of disciplinary matters shall be made in writing and sent by certified mail to the club President within 10 days upon receipt of the findings of the panel.

The club officers must schedule the appeal hearing within 30 days of receipt of the appeal. The appeal hearing must afford all parties involved the same privileges as outlined in *Section 6* of this article. The appeal hearing will not be held to re-examine the evidence, but to ensure that the hearing examined all evidence presented and was conducted according to procedure as set forth in *Section 6*. The findings of the appeal hearing shall be sent by certified mail within 10 days of the hearing date. The decision should include all evidence considered and the reasoning for the decision.

All decisions of the hearing panel are final.

ARTICLE 10 –Risk Management

Section a

SAYSC recognizes the need for comprehensive risk management program to protect the club and its members. The club officers will serve as a risk management committee to oversee the implementation and adherence to these guidelines, as well as continue the development and improvement of the club's risk management program.

Section b

All coaches, volunteers, and employees must always have at least one adult with them when working with children. The club recommends one adult for every 6 children.

Section c

SAYSC will use the following safety standards for all games and practices:

- 1.) All goals shall always be anchored when in use.
Goals shall be properly stored and secured when not in use.
Coaches caught in violation of this process shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- 2.) The field(s) shall be checked for debris and uneven playing surfaces. Debris shall be cleared before use. Playing surface issues shall be given to the equipment manager and activity moved away from the dangerous area.
- 3.) The area surrounding the field shall also be checked for potential hazards.
- 4.) Coaches shall monitor the weather: at the first sound of lightning or the rumble of thunder all children should be moved to a safe place indoors or in vehicles. Resumption of activities may occur 30 minutes after the last strike of lightning or the sound of thunder.