

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS



2023-2024

EASTERN NEW YORK YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

167 Nassau Blvd. Garden City South, NY 11530

www.enysoccer.com

Affiliated with US Youth Soccer, USSF, FIFA

Revised 8/2023

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State Association

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE EASTERN NEW YORK YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC Approved August 2023

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CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS of the Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association, Inc., hereinafter known as "ENYYSA, or the "Association".

ARTICLE II- NATURE OF ORGANIZATION

SECTION ONE: Purpose

This Association shall be a Not-For-Profit Corporation existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of New York and be dedicated to the fostering and government of youth soccer. These purposes include but are not limited to:

- A. Educate, develop, promote, and administer the game of soccer among youth up to and including the age of 19.
- B. Encourage and assist in the development and growth of community leagues, associations, organizations, programs, clubs and teams so that soccer is made available to more participants at all levels of competition.
- C. Foster and encourage sportsmanship and playing proficiency by all players and persons involved in soccer.
- D. Conduct sanctioned tournaments of youth team competition and to sanction teams to enter and participate in tournaments outside the jurisdiction of the Association.
- E. Provide equitable and prompt hearing and appeal procedures to guarantee the rights of individuals to participate and compete. Those procedures shall include that all grievances involving the right to participate and compete in activities sponsored by the United States Soccer Federation, ENYYSA and its members may

appeal to the United States Soccer Federation's appeals committee that shall have jurisdiction to approve, modify or reverse a decision.

- F. Any and all other acts necessary or desirable in the furtherance of the foregoing purposes and for the good of soccer.

SECTION TWO: Jurisdiction

The area of jurisdiction, hereinafter known as the "territory", of the Association shall include all New York State counties east of the eastern boundaries of counties traversed by Interstate Highway 81 which are not otherwise under the jurisdiction of other associations accredited by the United States Soccer Federation.

Each territory of this Association will be divided into geographical subdivisions know as "districts". Each district shall correlate to a single specific league and consist of the territory served by that league.

SECTION THREE: Affiliation

This Association shall be affiliated with the United States Soccer Federation, hereinafter known as "USSF", or the "Federation". The Association shall be an integral unit of this Federation and shall at all times abide by the Federation's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, policies, and its requirements shall take precedence over and supersede the governing documents and decisions by the ENYYSA and its members to the extent allowable under New York State Law. ENYYSA and its members shall abide by those Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, policies, and requirements of the USSF. ENYYSA shall not join any organization that has requirements that conflict with the United States Soccer Federation's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, policies, and requirements.

SECTION FOUR: Tax

This Association shall maintain its tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code

SECTION FIVE: Abuse Prevention Policy

This Association shall adopt policies prohibiting sexual and physical abuse that meet minimum criteria established by the Federation.

SECTION SIX: USSF Compliance

This Association will allow the Federation to review the documents and procedures of ENYYSA, on request of the Federation, not less than once every 4 years, to determine compliance with USSF bylaws.

SECTION SEVEN: Headquarters

The headquarters of this Association shall be within the territory of the Association.

SECTION EIGHT: Colors

The representative colors of the Association shall be royal blue and gold.

SECTION NINE: Parliamentary Law

The rules contained in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the association in all matters in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution or By-Laws of this Association or New York State Law.

ARTICLE III- MEMBERSHIP***SECTION ONE: League Eligibility***

An organization seeking membership in ENYYSA shall submit a written application to the Membership Committee. The applicant will include copies of their articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, current financial data, proof that they are 501(c)(3) and any specific league regulations. The applicant must demonstrate that they will not adversely affect player registration, nor would contribute or cause the diluting of the competitive level of any current member. In addition, the applicant will submit letters from four established clubs, each club having at least five teams in different age groups to play travel soccer and an intramural program of a minimum of 150 players. The letters

to be on club stationary, signed by the Club President and Secretary stating that they are prepared to play in total under the new entity if accepted for membership. The membership committee will report their recommendation to the General Committee. A two thirds majority is required for membership.

SECTION TWO: Individual Eligibility

Membership in the Association shall be open to all qualified soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials not subject to suspension under Section 4, Bylaw 241, of the USSF Bylaws, or by any amateur soccer association in ENYYSA's jurisdiction.

SECTION THREE: USSF Membership

All players, coaches, teams and administrators shall be registered annually with the USSF. ENYYSA shall pay all member's dues and fees to the Federation on a timely basis.

SECTION FOUR: Affiliation Fee

To remain in good standing, all member leagues shall pay to the Association by September 1 of each year, an annual affiliation fee as, set by the General Committee.

SECTION FIVE: Acceptance

The criteria for membership and membership application procedures shall be established by the membership committee the in a manner consistent with these Constitution and by-laws and approved by the General Committee. Each league, upon being accepted as a member of this Association by a two- thirds majority vote of the of the General Committee shall be furnished with a copy of the Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules and Regulations of the Association, and a copy of the Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of the United States Soccer Federation.

SECTION SIX: Non-Affiliated Organization

A league, with headquarters within the territory of this Association that is not a member of this Association, shall be deemed to be a non-affiliated organization.

SECTION SEVEN: Discrimination

ENYISA and its members shall not discriminate against any individual or organization based upon on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, or gender identity.

ARTICLE IV- ADMINISTRATION***SECTION ONE: Board of Directors***

The Board of Directors of this Association shall be comprised of the Association's President, four Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, two Trustees, and Life Members. Vacancies may be filled for the remainder of that position's term by the President with the approval of a majority of the remaining Executive Board members.

The Board of Directors shall govern the Association according to the Constitution and By-Laws and as directed by the General Committee. It shall also be the planning and advising body of the Association. Meetings of the Board of Directors are subject to the call of the President at any time and for any purpose he/she deems expedient.

A) Eastern New York shall indemnify each of its present or former directors, officers, employees, committee members, agents and other persons specified from time to time by the Board of Directors, against all expenses actually and reasonably incurred by the person (including judgments, costs and counsel fees) in connection with the defense of any pending or threatened litigation to which that person is, or is threatened to be made, because that party is or was serving in such a capacity. This right of indemnification may also apply to expenses of litigation which is compromised or settled including amounts paid in settlement if Eastern New York approves the settlement as provided in paragraph B of this By-Law. Such a person shall be indemnified if that person acted in good faith and in a manner, that person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of Eastern New York. The termination of any litigation by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or plea of nolo contendere or its' equivalent shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person

did not act in good faith or in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of Eastern New York.

B) Any amount payable as indemnification under this By-Law may be paid by Eastern New York on a determination by the Board of Directors, not including those members who have incurred expenses in connection with the litigation for which indemnification is sought, that the person in question met the standard of conduct provided for in Paragraph A of this By-Law.

C) Any expenses incurred by a qualified person in connection with the defense of any litigation may be paid by Eastern New York in advance of the final disposition of litigation on receipt of a written commitment by that person to repay the amount advanced if it is determined under Paragraph B of this By-Law that that person is not entitled to indemnification under this By-Law.

D) The Board of Directors may authorize the purchase of insurance on behalf of any person that potentially may be indemnified under this By-Law. That insurance may include indemnification for those persons for expenses of a kind not subject to indemnification under this By-Law.

E) All members of the Board of Directors must acknowledge, via signature, a copy of ENYYSA's 'Conflict-of-Interest' policy. The Conflict-of-Interest policy must remain compliant with and must not conflict with, at all times, those of the State's immediate (USYS) and national (USSF/US Soccer) governing bodies.

F) The Conflict-of-Interest policy shall define "financial interest", "business relationship" and "affiliated person or persons", in accordance with those of the State's immediate (USYS) and national (USSF/US Soccer) governing bodies.

G) Following an appropriate hearing, any Board of Director who is found to be in violation of the Conflict-of-Interest policy will be removed immediately for cause. No vote of the General Committee, or the Board of Directors will be required.

SECTION TWO: League Delegate

Each affiliated league or association may be represented at the General Committee meeting of the Association by one delegate and one alternate delegate. If the league or association has voting privileges, only one delegate shall have a vote. The President of each league must annually certify the names of their delegates.

SECTION THREE: General Committee

- A. The General Committee of this Association shall consist of the Board of Directors and a delegate from each league that is in good standing.
- B. The General Committee shall conduct all business of the Association between the Annual General Meetings. It shall have the power to enforce the “Laws of the Game”, rulings of the USSF, and the ENYYSA Constitution, By Laws and Rules and Regulations. It shall approve interstate or international competitions. It shall have the power to rule on matters not subject to appeals. It shall have the sole authority to authorize expenditures or incur non-budgeted liabilities in excess of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) on behalf of the Association.
- C. The order of business for General Committee meetings shall be:
 - Roll call
 - Minutes of the previous meeting
 - Treasurer’s report
 - Unfinished business
 - Reports
 - New business
 - Good and welfare
 - Adjournment
- D. The General Committee shall meet at least twice per year: in August at the Annual General Meeting and in February.

- E. Attendance by one-third of the members of the General Committee shall constitute a quorum at all meetings.
- F. Non-members may be granted the privilege of being present at meetings, at the discretion of the President.
- G. Any officer absenting himself from three successive meetings of the General Committee, without excuse, shall have his/her office declared vacant. Any officer is subject to removal from office for cause by a two-thirds vote of the General Committee.
- H. Any League which fails to have a representative present at a General Committee Meeting may be subject to a fine of \$ 150.00 for each absence.

SECTION FOUR: Annual General Meeting.

Actions and Policies adopted by the General Committee, the Board of Directors and the Officers of the Association shall be reported to its league members, through the member's authorized representatives, at least once each year at a meeting of the Association's membership. Notice of the meeting and agenda shall be provided at least 15 days in advance of the meeting. The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year between July 1 and August 31.

- A. The order of business for the Annual General Meeting shall be:
 - 1. Roll call and establishment of voting strength for elections
 - 2. Reading of the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting.
 - 3. Treasurers Report
 - 4. Unfinished business
 - 5. Report of Officers
 - 6. Report of Leagues
 - 7. Reports of Chairpersons of Standing Committees
 - 8. Election of Officers
 - 9. Election of Life Members
 - 10. Amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws and Rules and Regulations
 - 11. New Business

12. Good & welfare
 13. Adjournment
- B. Attendance by one-half of the member league's authorized representatives shall constitute a quorum at all Annual General Meetings.
 - C. Voting at the AGM shall be done only by Member Leagues and Life Members (excluding election of Life Members). All voting shall be by weighted voting by population for leagues and each life member will have one vote each.
 - D. Voting through a proxy is not permitted. Only properly accredited representatives of that member league present at the election may cast ballots. No one person may cast ballots for more than one-member organization.
 - E. Any League which fails to have a representative present at an Annual General Meeting may be subject to a fine of \$ 150.00 for each absence.

SECTION FIVE: Special General Meetings

General Meetings of this Association may be called by the President or upon request of a majority of the member leagues in good standing. Fourteen days written notice must be given to the President of all member leagues and to all members of the General Committee.

SECTION SIX: President

The President of Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association cannot serve as a board member in any ENYSA League during his/her term as the state president

- A. The President shall only cast a vote to break a tie by all other voting members. This applies to Executive Board, General and Annual General Meetings.

ARTICLE V- OFFICERS

SECTION ONE: President

The President shall be the chief executive officer of this Association and may, at his discretion, preside over all meetings except during the election of officers at the Annual General Meeting, or appoint a chairman. He/she shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and shall appoint all committees, with the approval of the Board of Directors.

The President shall represent this Association in all matters of a foreign nature and shall have the full power to deal with matters coming to its attention, subject to the regulations of the United States Soccer Federation. The President of the Association shall form an emergency committee to represent the General Committee on matters demanding immediate attention when it is impractical or impossible to call a meeting of the General Committee. If possible, he/she shall seek advice from available members of the Board of Directors. His/her actions shall be subject to the approval of the General Committee. The President shall have the authority to authorize expenditures or incur liabilities not exceeding twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) on behalf of the Association.

The President of the Association shall provide to the Secretary General of the Federation an annual report on the activities of ENYYSA and the most current annual financial statements within 90 days after the start of the Federation's seasonal year.

SECTION TWO: Vice Presidents

Two Vice Presidents will be elected at the Annual General Meeting each year by voting where each voter may cast up to two votes on each ballot, but not more than one per candidate on any ballot. The first two candidates with a majority vote shall be elected. If more than one ballot is required, the candidate with the least votes shall be removed upon each revote unless a candidate received a majority of votes cast in that ballot. At the first Board of Directors Meeting subsequent to an election, the Board of Directors shall assign numerical titles to each Vice President (1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, 3rd Vice

President and 4th Vice President) with the 1st Vice President being first in the line of succession to be President. Any appointment to a vacancy in a Vice President position shall be for the remainder of that position's full two-year term with the new appointment becoming 4th Vice President and existing Vice Presidents moving up in succession.

SECTION THREE: Secretary

The Secretary shall attend to all correspondence as directed by the President, keep records and have charge of the Association's property. Unless otherwise authorized by the General Committee, all Association property is to be held in the Association's offices.

SECTION FOUR: Recorder

The Secretary, with the approval of the General Committee, may appoint a Recorder, who shall be responsible for recording the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the General Committee. These minutes are to be forwarded to the Secretary for approval prior to forwarding to all league members. The Recorder may be salaried. The Recorder shall not have a vote in any matter of the Association unless authorized to do so by holding another voting position.

SECTION FIVE: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall have charge of the finances of the Association and shall report on the conditions of the same at each General Committee meeting and at any time upon request of the President. The Treasurer may be bonded, and the expense incurred there from shall be borne by this Association. The Treasurer at the end of each fiscal year shall secure a certified independent audit of the Association's financial accounts and transactions. A copy of the audit shall be mailed to each League President within thirty (30) days of its completion.

SECTION SIX: Registrar

The Registrar shall be responsible for the coordination and overseeing of the registration of all duly registered players and shall be the chairman of the Registration Committee.

SECTION SEVEN: Trustees

Two Trustees shall be members of the Board of Directors and auditing committee.

SECTION EIGHT: Term of Office

All Officers shall hold office for two (2) years. The President, two (2) Vice Presidents, Treasurer and two (2) Trustees shall be elected in even years; two (2) Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Registrar and two (2) Trustees shall be elected in odd years.

SECTION NINE: Removal of Officer

A member of the Board may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the board if he or she has three or more unexcused absences from three or more board meetings within a twelve-month period or is deemed to have behaved in a manner detrimental to the welfare of this association.

SECTION TEN: Life Members

Life Members shall be a member of the Board of Directors, with the exception of election of Life Members. Life Members shall have one vote each on all matters brought before the Association. To be eligible to become a Life Member, a candidate must be;

1. affiliated with the Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association.

AND

2. Elected by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the total votes cast by the member leagues present at the Annual General Meeting.

SECTION ELEVEN: Approval of Agreements/Contracts

Where meetings are held for the purposes of negotiating an agreement or contract on behalf of this association, the association must be represented by minimum of two (2) board members and

the agreement must be approved by a majority of the Board of Directors (unless pre-approved by a majority of the Board) or the agreements will not be binding upon the association. This shall also apply to monies in excess of the President's authority.

ARTICLE VI- COMMITTEES

SECTION ONE: Standing Committees

The President shall appoint, with the approval of the Board of Directors, the following standing committees:

A. Cup and Games Committee: It shall have charge of all matters pertaining to cup games.

B. Rules Committee: It shall review all constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations of the league applying for membership in this Association, as well as amendments submitted to these rules. It shall have all matters on rules referred to it for decision. It shall draft amendments and provide a committee position on proposed amendments to the By-Laws, and Rules of this Association.

C. Registration Committee: It shall exercise all powers in connection with the registration and transfer of players. It shall be chaired by the Registrar of this Association.

D. Olympic Development Program Committee: It shall handle all matters pertaining to the Olympic Development teams.

E. Coaching Program Committee: It shall plan and manage programs to improve coaching.

F. Referee Committee: It shall plan and manage programs to improve refereeing.

G. Publicity Committee: It shall handle all matters pertaining to publicity in radio, television, and other media.

H. Workshop Committee: It shall have charge of the organization and development of an annual workshop to be held for all

participating leagues so that they may be informed of, and instructed in, the administration and game development procedures of this Association.

I. Appeals Committee: It shall handle all appeals filed with the Association in conformance with the rules and regulations of the appeals process.

J. Arbitration Board: It shall handle all cases involving physical and verbal assaults on referees, assistant referees and assigned officials, when such an assault occurs in a game played under the jurisdiction of this Association and its affiliated leagues.

K. Supervisory Committee: It shall handle all cases involving rules and/or conduct violations of players, coaches, officials, spectators and /parents under the jurisdiction of this Association and its affiliated leagues.

L. Insurance Committee: It shall coordinate and be responsible for all insurance matters of the Association.

M. Budget Committee: It shall prepare and present a budget for the following fiscal year. A proposed budget must be submitted at least two months prior to the Annual General Meeting. The proposed budget shall be itemized as to the amount and sources of projected income, and as to the amount of projected expenses. The budget shall be approved at a General Committee Meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Treasurer shall be the chairman of the Budget Committee.

N. Scholarship Committee: Shall handle all matters pertaining to the annual award of the Patricia Louise Masotto/Brenda Driscoll, Livio D'Arpino and Jack Bauman Scholarships, and any other Scholarships awarded by this Association.

O. President's League Committee: Shall handle all matters relating to ENYYSA President's League competitions.

P. Risk Management Committee: Shall handle all matters pertaining to risk management rules, criteria and enforcement of said program.

Q. Membership Committee: Shall handle the evaluation of new member applications based upon the criteria and membership application procedures in accordance to the rules of Membership, Article III, Section One, and shall report their findings to the General Committee.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTIVE PROCESS

SECTION ONE: Nomination

- 1) Nominating Committee
 - a. The role of the Nominating committee is to present the membership a slate of qualified candidates to the membership in order for the membership to elect individuals that can best serve our members.
 - b. The nominating committee shall be a committee of this association. The president shall appoint with approval from the board, a chairperson who is not an officer of ENYYSA. The chairperson will then select three (3) additional members from different leagues to form a committee with no more than one (1) person per league in that committee.
- 2) Candidate Eligibility: To be eligible for nomination, any candidate for elected office shall
 - a. Be in good standing with ENYYSA, and both its immediate (USYS) and national governing bodies (USSF/US Soccer).
 - b. Not be a paid employee of ENYYSA.
 - c. Not have relations that are paid employees of ENYYSA.
- 3) Qualifications: Each candidate shall demonstrate ability to hold the office by one of the following methods
 - a. Currently holding that position on the Executive Board, or,
 - b. Affirmation by the Nominating Committee, or,
 - c. Affirmation of qualifications from either two (2) League Presidents; or two (2) current Executive Board

members; or one (1) League President and one (1) current Executive Board member.

4) Process:

- a. Members (including those seeking re-election) may submit proposed nominations for officers to the Nominating Committee by May 1st, close of business day 4:00pm of each year.
- b. Between May 1st and the June Executive Board meeting the Nominating Committee:
 - i. Shall evaluate any nominations submitted to ensure the candidate meets the eligibility and qualification requirements and does not violate any conflict-of-interest rules
 - ii. Shall find candidates for all positions where no nominations have been submitted
 - iii. May nominate additional candidates as they determine is warranted
 - iv. By the June Executive Board meeting, shall submit to the Executive Committee a slate of candidates that contains at least one candidate for each position up for election that year
- c. All nominations shall remain confidential to the nominating committee until the June Board of Directors meeting.
- d. All candidates shall be on the slate and filed at the June meeting. No candidate will be accepted from the floor of the AGM.
- e. If a candidate withdraws 31 days prior to the annual general meeting, a member may submit proposed nominations to run for the vacant position in writing up until 15 days before the AGM.

To be eligible for nomination, any candidate for elected office shall:

1. Be in good standing with ENYYSA, and both its immediate (USYS) and national governing bodies (USSF/US Soccer).

2. Not be a paid employee of, nor have any “financial interest” in, or a “business relationship” with either ENYYSA or any member league, club, or affiliate.
3. Not have any “affiliated person or persons” that have any “financial interest” in, or a “business relationship” with ENYYSA or any member league, club or affiliate.

SECTION TWO: Election

Each contested office shall be elected by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting of this Association. Each league in good standing and with no disputed past due fees of 60+ days outstanding may cast multiple votes based upon the voting strength chart below.

- A. Only for the purpose of electing officers at the Annual General Meeting, each affiliated league and adult association in good standing and with no disputed past due fees of 60+ days outstanding shall be entitled to be represented at the General Meeting by one (1) accredited delegate and one accredited alternate delegate. This accreditation must be based on a written, signed, dated, and provide the name(s) of the league delegate(s) to the specific Special or Annual General Meeting. These letters must be in the possession of the Secretary and available for inspection by any person in attendance at the meeting.
- B. Voting through a proxy is not permitted. Only properly accredited representatives of that member league present at the election may cast ballots. No one person may cast ballots for more than one member organization.
- C. All voting shall be weighted voting by population for leagues in good standing and each life members. A league’s voting strength shall be based upon the registrations submitted to the Association by July 31 subsequent to the Annual General Meeting, as follows:

Number of Players	Votes
100 - 1,000	1
1,001 - 2,000	2
2,001 - 3,000	3
3,001 - 4,000	4
4,001 - 5,000	5
5,001 - 6,000	6
6,001 - 7,000	7
7,001 - 8,000	8
8,001 - 9,000	9
9,001 - 10,000	10
10,001 - 15,000	11
15,001 - 20,000	12
20,001 - 25,000	13
25,001 - 35,000	14
35,001 - 45,000	15
45,001 - 55,000	16
55,001 - 65,000	17
65,001 - 75,000	18
75,001 - 100,000	19
100,001 - 110,000	20
Over 110,000	25

- D. An individual league or association, affiliated with this Association, shall not control more than forty-nine (49) percent of the total voting strength of this Association.
- E. No more than three active members of any one league's Board of Directors may serve as officers of the ENY Board of Directors at any one time.

SECTION THREE: Assumption of Office

Officers shall assume the duties and responsibilities of their respective offices immediately following their election.

ARTICLE VIII – DISSOLUTION

SECTION ONE: This Association

In the case of dissolution of this Association, all remaining assets shall revert to the ***United States Youth Soccer Association***, in the trust for the succeeding state youth association, properly constituted, organized, and affiliated with United States Soccer Federation.

SECTION TWO: An Affiliated Organization

In case of the proposed dissolution of any affiliate, for any reason whatsoever, the following rules shall govern:

- A. This Association must be notified of such proposed dissolution and be represented at the meeting of the respective organization at which the dissolution is voted upon.
- B. All obligations, financial or otherwise, of the dissolving affiliated organization to this Association, shall be properly settled.
- C. Any assets remaining are to revert to the ENYYSA or to any non-profit charitable organization if provided in the Constitution and By-Laws of the dissolving affiliated organization.

ARTICLE IX- AMENDMENTS

SECTION ONE: Voting

- A. Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association shall be made only at the Annual General Meeting or the February General Meeting, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast. Voting at the AGM shall be done only by

member leagues in good standing and Life Members. Voting strength in February shall be the same as the prior AGM.

- B. Voting through a proxy is not permitted. Only properly accredited representatives or the President of that member league present at the election may cast ballots. No one person may cast ballots for more than one member organization.

SECTION TWO: Submission

Proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws must be submitted to this Association, in writing, no later than forty five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting or the February General Meeting.

SECTION THREE: Notification

Each member affiliate shall be notified sixty (60) days in advance that they must submit any proposed amendment changes to ENYYSA forty-five (45) days prior to the AGM. Each affiliate shall be given thirty (30) days notice in writing of any proposed amendments to be voted on at the Annual General Meeting or the February General Meeting.

SECTION FOUR: Annual Submission to USSF

This Association shall annually submit a copy of these Constitution, and By-Laws to the USSF. Ratified amendments to these Constitution and By-Laws shall be forwarded to the USSF, for approval, not later than 90 days after adoption.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS OF
THE EASTERN NEW YORK YOUTH SOCCER
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

ARTICLE I- DEFINITIONS

SECTION ONE: Registration Youth Player

A player who is an amateur player and who has not reached 20 years of age prior to December 31 for the current seasonal year.

SECTION TWO: Club

The body providing the organizational structure for, duly registered, players; to obtain training, development and education in soccer.

SECTION THREE: League

The body providing a broader organizational structure for properly constituted member clubs. It is responsible for the administration of competitive and/or intramural development programs.

SECTION FOUR: Travel Team

A league shall determine the roster size and the number of players dressing for a match in their league competition. In other competitions rosters must conform to that competition's rules.

SECTION FIVE: Intramural Development Program

A program organized by a club for the purpose of the development, fun and full participation of all players within the club structure.

SECTION SIX: Seasonal Year

The period of time between September 1 of one calendar year and August 31 of the succeeding calendar year.

SECTION SEVEN: Playing Season

The period of time, determined by a league or club, during which said league or club conducts a competitive or developmental program. There may be more than one playing season during a seasonal year.

Any league that runs competitions that span more than one seasonal year must provide separate player registrations for all players for each seasonal year.

SECTION EIGHT: “Laws of the Game”

All affiliates under the jurisdiction of this Association shall play under the “Laws of the Game” as promulgated by the USSF.

SECTION NINE: Age Division

Age divisions shall be comprised of youth players who are of age on or before the last day of December of the current year-

- (1) 19 years of age and under.
- (2) 18 years of age and under.
- (3) 17 years of age and under.
- (4) 16 years of age and under.
- (5) 15 years of age and under.
- (6) 14 years of age and under.
- (7) 13 years of age and under.
- (8) 12 years of age and under.
- (9) 11 years of age and under.
- (10) 10 years of age and under.
- (11) 8 years of age and under.
- (12) 6 years of age and under.

SECTION TEN: Verbal Abuse

A verbal threat to do physical attack on one’s body or property.

SECTION ELEVEN: Physical Assault

To physically make contact with one’s body or property.

ARTICLE II- GENERAL REGULATIONS

SECTION ONE: Affiliation by a Club

Any club that does not have scheduled league competition available to them, and whose headquarters are in the territory served by this Association, may play exhibition matches and participate in cup competition, providing all cup rules are met, by affiliating directly

with this Association and paying the annual affiliation fee. Such club will be required to register their players with a member league and meet all risk management requirements.

SECTION TWO: Admission to another League

A club and/or team shall be admitted to another league during the soccer year only after it has received clearance from the league it last competed in. At the beginning of the soccer year any club can change league affiliation.

SECTION THREE: Clubs from other Jurisdictions

Leagues affiliated with this Association may admit clubs from outside the jurisdiction of this association provided:

- A. Such clubs are members in good standing with the Association in which their headquarters is located.
- B. They have two written permissions of both Associations involved.

SECTION FOUR: Extra-League Competition

Affiliated teams, clubs and leagues shall obtain necessary permission, on forms provided therefore, from this Association and from their governing league (if applicable) to host foreign teams, sponsor tournaments involving inter-league competition, arrange exhibition or regular games against another league or Association, and to travel to another jurisdiction. The appropriate USSF, and/or FIFA form shall be completed, if required, and furnished to this Association with all other information available. Failure to abide by this rule shall subject the offending team, club or league to disciplinary action as may be just and proper.

SECTION FIVE: Association Pass

Each member of the General Committee may be furnished with an Association Pass, which shall not be transferable, and all clubs belonging to the Association, or to any affiliated body, shall honor said Pass. The holder, upon presentation of Pass, shall be admitted to the grounds without charge, and without requiring any other authority.

ARTICLE III- REGISTRATION, TRANSFER AND RELEASE OF PLAYERS

This Association exercises full powers in the registration, transfer, and release of all players with its territory. All affiliated bodies must be governed by the registration records of this Association.

SECTION ONE: Registration

Registration in this Association will be handled as follows:

- A. A player cannot be registered with this Association unless he/she and a legally responsible party have signed a document or registered online or registered by any other means approved for that purpose by the Registration Committee. This registration document must be properly filled out, and shall contain the following statement:

“The player assumes all risk and responsibility for loss, damage, or injury to himself or herself while engaged as a player for the club or while using the property and facilities of the club, whether such loss, damage, or injury be occasioned by the club, its agents, employees, or otherwise. This Association refutes any and all claims for damage and cost arising out of such loss, damage, or injury.”

The date of registration will be the date the club electronically submits the registration. Any falsification of the registration form will result in the immediate suspension of the player and/or the responsible party. In case of doubt, the Registration Committee shall determine the actual date of registration.

- B. A player may be registered with more than one club travel team at a time to a maximum of two. However, they must designate only one as his / her primary team in accordance with State Cup rules.

The maximum five player transfer rule may be exceeded if a team player is transferring from a team that has been

disbanded prior to the time of league registration and if the player or players are transferring onto a team that is entered into the US Youth Soccer Championship series or ENYYSA Challenge Cup those players can only be added to the US Youth Soccer Championship series or ENYYSA Challenge Cup rosters before they are frozen and if they DO NOT exceed the five-player transfer rule.

- C. A player rostered to a club travel team U15 and up can be rostered on another club's tournament team roster and will not be considered a transfer or dually registered player.
- D. Proof of age shall be satisfied by presentation of any of the following:
 - 1. Birth certificates issued by a recognized government body with competent jurisdiction in the United States or Canada.
 - 2. Passport issued by the United States of America or by a recognized foreign country.
 - 3. Certificate of Naturalization issued by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service.
 - 4. Alien registration card issued by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Services or the United States Customs Service.
- E. A player registered with a club is committed to that club for the entire seasonal year, unless transferred and or released.
- F. A team cannot exceed the USYSA, ENYYSA or their league roster guidelines for team play.
- G. All registration received by a league registrar must be forwarded to the Registration Chairman of this Association on a timely basis.

SECTION TWO: Release and Transfer

- A. Any player registered to a team is bound to that team for the entire seasonal year unless the player requests and obtains a release or transfer. A release or transfer will not be unreasonably withheld if the player is in good standing. All requests for release or transfer shall be submitted to the affiliated League in writing on the form provided, stating the reason for the request.
- B. A team shall be limited to a total of five (5) transferred players per seasonal year. A transfer shall be defined as adding a currently USYSA registered player moving from one club roster to a different club's roster. The maximum five player transfer rule, may be exceeded if a team player is transferring from a team that has been disbanded prior to the time of league registration and if the player or players are transferring onto a team that is entered into the US Youth Soccer Championship series or ENYYSA Challenge Cup those players can only be added to the US Youth Soccer Championship series or ENYYSA Challenge Cup rosters before they are frozen and if they DO NOT exceed the five player transfer rule.
- C. A player can play for only one team in youth competition sponsored by the USSF, i.e. National Youth Challenge Cups.

SECTION THREE: Registration and Transfer Fees

Fees for all players, depending upon classification, will be set by the General Committee in conjunction with the budget for the following year.

ARTICLE IV- PLAYER RULES

SECTION ONE: Player Passes

To be eligible to play in any and all games under the jurisdiction of this Association, each player must produce a player pass valid for the

current seasonal year. Such passes will be supplied by the Registration Committee of this Association upon presentation of the properly completed registration and roster documents. Regulations pertaining to player passes are as follows.

- A. Player passes must be handed to the referee before the commencement of the game. Any team that fails to produce the required player passes forfeits the game.
- B. All player passes are property of the Association and must be returned upon request.
- C. If a pass is lost, a new pass must be issued before the player is again eligible to play.
- D. During a playing season, clubs signing players properly released from another club must obtain a new player pass. Clubs who release players must send the player's passes to the league registrar.

SECTION TWO: Competition Rosters

Teams desirous of entering state, regional, and national competition are to submit their roster of registered players to this Association prior to the scheduled date of the first round of competition. Players cannot be registered or transferred to a roster other than as allowed under the applicable USSF rules.

SECTION THREE: Junior Players on Senior Teams

Junior players can play on a Senior team in accordance with the USSF rules.

SECTION FOUR: Cup Competition

All cup competition conducted by this Association shall be open to all clubs that have registered players.

SECTION FIVE: Olympic Development Teams

This Association is entitled to use any registered player from any affiliated club for the purpose of developing and/or fielding Olympic Development teams.

SECTION SIX: Intramural Development Program

To allow for the development of players, intramural development programs may enter teams in sanctioned competition.

SECTION SEVEN: Uniform Numbers

All players participating in traveling team and select team games under the jurisdiction of this Association shall wear numbers on the back of their uniforms. The numbers must meet FIFA guidelines. These numbers shall be at least six (6) inches in height and must be listed on the roster together with the number of the player pass.

SECTION EIGHT: Team Captain Identification

The captain of a team should wear an arm band for identification purposes.

ARTICLE V- CONDUCT AND MISCONDUCT

SECTION ONE: Responsibility of Leagues and Clubs

Every league or club is responsible to the General Committee of this Association for the conduct of its players, officials, and spectators and as such, is required to take precautions necessary to prevent spectators from threatening or assaulting officials and players either prior to, during, or at the conclusion of games.

- A. Players, officials, and spectators are only allowed to take part in or attend games on the condition that they observe the Rules, Regulations, and By-Laws of this Association. Every affiliated league or club is required to observe and strictly enforce such Rules, Regulations, and By-Laws.

- B. It shall be compulsory for any referee, player, club, league, or association official to report cases of misconduct. Such cases shall be investigated by the Supervisory Committee and take such action as may be deemed proper by this Association.
- C. Any league or club affiliated with this Association shall have the power to deal with violations of the “Laws of the Game”, the Rules, Regulations, or of the USSF, or with misconduct by any of their affiliated bodies or players, officials, or members thereof, insofar as they have direct jurisdiction, as in the event of exhibition games. This Association shall take cognizance of any such violations called to their attention and act thereon.
- D. In the event of any league, club, player, official, member, or spectator being proven guilty of any violation of the “Laws of the Game”, Rules, Regulations, and By-Laws of this Association, or of the USSF, or of any misconduct, the General Committee shall have the power to order the offending party to be removed from this Association, or suspend such party for a stated period, or deal with it in such a manner as the General Committee may deem proper. Any league, club, or player, who shall play with or against the offending league, club, or player, after such removal or during such time of suspension, shall also be dealt with as the General Committee may see fit.
- E. Anyone attacking or assaulting (physical or verbally) a referee and/or an assistant referee in a game played under the jurisdiction of this Association, shall be subject to action by the ENYYSA.
 - 1. The referee must notify a member of the Arbitration Board immediately after the game. A written report must follow.
 - 2. The Arbitration Board must render a decision within forty-eight (48) hours after the hearing.
 - 3. All decisions, except Referee Assaults, of the Arbitration Board may be appealed, in writing, to the Appeals Board

within ten (10) days of receipt of the written decision. Decisions related to Referee Assaults may only be appealed to the USSF.

ARTICLES VI- APPEALS AND LEGAL ACTIONS

SECTION ONE: Appeals Process

The following process shall be used to handle appeals brought to this Association from either decision of an affiliated organization or the result of a supervisory hearing.

- A. An appeal brought to this Association from a decision of an affiliated organization must be accompanied by an appeals fee, which shall be forfeited if the appeal is not upheld. The appeal must be filed with the Association within ten (10) calendar days of the action, and the previous action shall be binding pending the result of the appeal. In the event that a special meeting shall be called to hear an appeal, this Association may require the appealing club to pay part of or all of the expenses thereof, should the appeal not be upheld. In the event the appeal is upheld; the expense shall be borne by the league appealed against.
- B. The appeal, and copies thereof, must be mailed by the person making the appeal, to all parties involved in the dispute within three (3) days after receipt of the original decision leading to the appeal, by either registered, certified mail with return receipt requested or other acceptable receipted delivery methods.
- C. All parties involved in an appeal must be invited to the hearing of the appeal at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the hearing, except in cases where time is a factor in the case, or if all parties agree to an earlier date.
- D. Decision of this Association may be appealed to the USSF.

SECTION TWO: Legal Proceedings

In case of disputes between clubs and players, the parties involved must exhaust all administrative procedures in accordance with ENYYSA and UFFS prior to legal proceedings being instituted.

ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENTS***SECTION ONE: Voting***

Amendments to the Rules and Regulations of this Association shall be made only at the Annual General Meeting, by a two-third majority of the votes cast.

SECTION TWO: Submission

Proposed amendments to the Rules and Regulations must be submitted to this Association, in writing, no later than forty-five (45) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

SECTION THREE: Notification. Each affiliate shall be given thirty (30) days notice in writing of any proposed amendments.

SECTION FOUR: Submission

Annual submission of ENYYSA's members Constitution, Bylaws and Rules.

- A. Each member league shall submit a copy of their Constitution, bylaws, and rules annually to ENYYSA Rules Committee for approval.
- B. Changes to membership constitution, bylaws and rules must be submitted within 30 days to ENYYSA Rules Committee for approval.

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State Association

