

By-Laws of Stamford Youth Soccer League, Inc.

These amended by-laws, adopted by vote of the Board on March 11, 2011, cancel and supercede those by-laws which had been in effect since 16 December 1978, as well as any subsequent addition or amendments.

Article One: Organization

- 1) The name of this organization shall be Stamford Youth Soccer League, Inc.
- 2) The name of the organization may be changed by vote of a two-thirds majority of its board members.

Article Two: Purposes

The Stamford Youth Soccer League has been created to

- A. Provide the opportunity for every child in Stamford to learn and play the game of soccer;
- B. Promote the game of soccer as a sport affordably accessible and growing in popularity in our region;
- C. Solicit funds for soccer instruction, games, management, playing surfaces and equipment;
- D. Promote the game of soccer, and youth sports in general, as a key element in the building of children's character and concepts of teamwork, healthy competition and fair play.

Article Three: Membership

Membership shall be open to all who have an interest in the game of soccer and its role in helping to form the character and values of young people. There shall be two classes of membership in the Corporation:

Voting Members: not to exceed 15 members nor fall below 7 members. These members shall comprise the Board of Directors as described in Article Six. Each permanent member shall have one vote at meetings of the membership/Board of Directors.

New members joining the board do so as probationary members for the period of one year, at the end of which they may submit their names for consideration as permanent members. Both the Board and the probationary member can thus allow a membership to expire if there is not mutual interest in continuing it. During the probationary year, the probationary member shall enjoy full participation in Board meetings and discussions, but shall not have a vote. During the probationary year the member may be removed by a simple majority of all existing Board members. This action may be initiated by any officer of the Board.

Non-Voting Members: The Board of Directors may, at their discretion and as deemed necessary for the effective operation of the League, appoint any number of representative members, who shall bear no vote, to advise and assist the Board in its administration of the League.

Article Four: Meetings

The Board of Directors shall meet on whatever schedule is deemed necessary by a majority of members to properly execute the business of the organization. Whenever possible, meetings will be held on a schedule fixed each year by a majority of members. Special meetings may be called on seven days' written notice by the President or by any simple majority of members. Written notice shall be defined as any of the following: hand delivery, postal delivery or email delivery. Written notice shall include a description of the business purpose for which the meeting has been called, and no other business shall be considered at said special meeting.

The May meeting each year shall be designated the Annual Meeting, at which officers are elected to serve for the ensuing twelve months.

The presence of no fewer than half the sitting members shall constitute a quorum at all meetings.

Article Five: Voting

At all meetings all votes shall be *viva voce*, except the vote electing officers of the Corporation. Officer elections shall be by written ballot, and the ballot will contain no mark or indication of who cast it. The ballot method may also be used for any other vote if so desired by a simple majority of members present.

Whenever the ballot method is used, the meeting chair shall appoint a committee, immediately prior to balloting, to serve as "Inspectors of Election." This committee shall tally the votes cast and certify in writing to the meeting chair the results of that balloting. The certification made by this committee shall be affixed to the minutes of the meeting.

No Inspector of Election may be a candidate for office nor have a personal interest in the question voted upon.

Article Six: Board of Directors

The Board of Directors will be comprised of the membership of the Corporation. The term of membership on the Board is three years. There is no limit on the number of consecutive terms a member may serve.

The Board shall maintain the control and management of the affairs and business of the organization, and may make such rules, regulations and policies governing the organization as it sees fit.

A Director may be removed from the Board, and his membership revoked, for sufficient cause as determined by a two-thirds majority of remaining Directors. A vote to remove a Director must follow a fair and objective hearing on the cause of removal, at which the subject of the hearing will have the opportunity to oppose the action. This action may be initiated by any officer of the Board.

Article Seven: Officers

The organization shall at all times maintain the following officers' positions elected from the ranks of the Board of Directors:

The **President** shall preside at all meetings and, by virtue of his office, serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors. He or she shall present at each annual meeting an annual report of the work of the organization. He or she shall have all such powers as may be reasonably construed as belonging to the chief executive of any organization.

The **Treasurer** shall have care and custody of all monies belonging to the organization, and may designate to others the power to maintain accounts for specific purposes and become signatories to those accounts. In all cases, the activity in any sub-accounts maintained by others will be reported to the Treasurer monthly. He or she will present monthly financial reports to the Board of Directors and will oversee the preparation of an annual financial report and the conduct of an annual audit of the organization's books and records. The Treasurer may design and implement any financial controls he or she deems necessary to protect the assets of the organization and to ensure compliance with all statutes, rules, regulations and generally accepted accounting practices.

The **Secretary** shall keep the minutes and records of the organization, and file any certificate required by any statute, State or Federal. He or she shall give and serve all notices to board members, and be the official custodian of the current records and seal of the organization. He or she shall attend to all other duties incidental to the office of Secretary.

The Board may, at its discretion, from time to time create the office of one or more **Vice Presidents**, whose specific responsibilities will be outlined in the resolution creating the position.

At any meeting at which the President is absent, the Treasurer shall serve as chair. If the President and Treasurer are both absent, the Secretary shall preside over the meeting.

Article Eight: Compensation

The Board of Directors shall hire, and fix the compensation of, any and all employees and/or subcontractors which they deem necessary in the conduct of the business of the organization.

Article Nine: Fees

The Board of Directors shall determine the registration, sponsorship and other fee levels necessary to ensure the effective operation of the organization and to ensure its long-term fiscal health and realization of its goals. All fees, however, must reflect the organization's commitment to permit any child to play who wishes to play. Thus, fee level decisions must take into account the organization's need to allow needy children, such need to be determined solely by the board, to play on a reduced-cost or no-cost basis.