

BY-LAWS OF
NORTHERN VALLEY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE
IN THE LEHIGH VALLEY
OF PENNSYLVANIA

LATEST REVISION DATE: August 1, 2019
(Original AUGUST 8, 1993)

APPROVED BY:

Name

Organization

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ARTICLE I: NAME

This league shall bear the name Northern Valley Youth Soccer League, also referred to as NVYSL.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this league are to provide a forum for competition between instruction level clubs from member soccer organizations, and to promote, foster and perpetuate the game of soccer on the youth level in accordance with the highest standards of good sportsmanship and fair play. Furthermore, this league shall not conduct business or be operated for profit in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(7).

ARTICLE III: AFFILIATION

The Northern Valley Youth Soccer League is an active member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association (EPYSA) and its parent organizations.

ARTICLE IV: LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

A. ELIGIBILITY

League membership shall be limited to active EPYSA affiliated soccer instructional clubs meeting the age groupings specified herein. The number of member organizations and teams will be limited by field availability, number of referees or other extenuating factors as determined by the Board of Commissioners.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE

There will be a seasonal membership fee for each team to be set by the Board of Officers and shall be determined based on the number of member teams, referees, expenses, and other costs. There will also be fines for late payments, late filing of forms, infractions, etc. These fees and fines can be found on the current seasonal Club Accounting Form and the Fines and Fees document found on the League website.

C. ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS

Each new Club shall pay a joining fee of \$250. A representative of the new club shall make a presentation electronically or in person describing their club and their interest in joining the League. A Majority vote from all current, active Clubs as well as the Board of Directors shall decide if membership is approved.

D. TERMS

The NVYSL defines a seasonal year as a twelve-month period beginning August 1 and ending July 31. The seasonal year will further divided into two primary playing seasons: Fall and Spring. The season that begins on July 31 and runs through December 31 will be designated as the Fall season. The season that begins on January 1 and Run through June 30 shall be designated the Spring season. Term of membership seasons shall be from July 1 to December 31 and be designated as the Fall season and January 1 to June 30 and be designated as the Spring season.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A. MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Commissioners shall be comprised of representatives from each active member soccer organization/club in the league. The following table shall determine the number of commissioners:

NUMBER OF LEAGUE PLAYERS PER ORGANIZATION	MAXIMUM NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS
0 – 200	1
201 +	2

B. SELECTION

Commissioners shall be selected by their parent organizations. Terms of office for each commissioner shall be at the discretion of his/her soccer organization except that a commissioner must serve at least one year starting on August 1st.

C. TERM OF OFFICE

The terms of office will be consistent with the Terms established in Article IV, Section D of the NVYSL Bylaws.

D. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Removal of a commissioner from office may occur by one of the following methods:

1. By a 3/4 majority of a secret ballot of all commissioners present and voting.
2. At the request of the commissioner in question.
3. At the request of the commissioner-in-question's soccer organization.

E. REPLACEMENT OF REMOVED COMMISSIONERS

Replacements for removed commissioners must come from their respective soccer organizations. If the replacement occurs during a season, then the commissioner- elect must be approved by a majority vote of the remaining commissioners. If replacement occurs after the year that the removal occurred, then no vote is necessary and the new commissioner shall merely take office.

F. VOTING

Commissioners may vote in person or electronically. If electronically, all active Commissioners as well as the League Board of Directors must be copied on the correspondence.

G. MEETING FORMAT

Meetings shall be conducted by the Chairperson or his/her designate in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

A. MEMBERSHIP OF OFFICERS

The Board of Commissioners shall appoint the following officers:

Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

Director(s) of Referees Director of

Membership Director(s) of

Schedules Director of Fields

Director of Game Review

Information Officer

B. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Chairperson - Organize and chair meetings and act as a spokesperson for the league as required. The Chairperson will also be responsible for attending the annual EPYSA meeting or appointing a designee to attend on his/her behalf.

Vice Chairperson – Oversee the Under 7 and Under 8 Age Groups or Divisions, Act for Chairperson in the Chairperson’s absence.

Secretary - Take meeting minutes, receive, and send correspondence on behalf of the organization.

Treasurer - Shall receive all monies and funds due to the leagues, shall deposit all monies, except petty cash, in an FDIC member bank, shall keep careful accounts of all monies received, deposited, and spent, shall sign all checks drawn on the bank account, and present a budget and financial status upon request.

Director(s) of Referees – Responsible for the selection, training, organization of referees and Field Marshals for all U7/U8 games.

Director of Membership/Registrar - Collect and process all team memberships including player registration/rostering. Verify all teams have Coaches that have completed current Risk Management as required by EPYSA & the State.

Director(s) of Scheduling - Arrange game schedules for all participating teams in the league and disseminate them to the teams’ parent organizations. The Director of Scheduling shall be compensated per game, per referee scheduled.

Director of Fields - Arrange for goals, parking, lining of fields, and coordination with the County Parks Department, LCCC, Schadt Avenue Playground Association and other applicable organizations for the purpose of securing field usage.

Director of Game Review - Oversee all game reviewers. Review all game reports submitted.

Information Officer – Responsible for the establishment, operation and maintenance of the NVYSL’s website.

C. SELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. Election of Officers

Officers shall be elected in Prior to the end of the spring season and fill the position in the immediate fall season. Re-election is permissible. Officers may be elected only if they are present at the election meeting or if they have filed written notice in advance with the secretary expressing interest in the positions. All elections shall be by secret ballot or by voice vote if no objections are raised. A simple majority of votes by the commissioners present and voting is necessary for election.

2. Appointment of Officers

Officers shall be chosen by active club commissioners for a term of 2 years. Chairperson and Secretary in odd years, Vice Chair and Treasurer in even Years.

ARTICLE VII: APPEALS

A. RIGHT OF APPEAL

Any ruling by an officer or the commissioners may be appealed.

B. APPEAL PROCEDURE

Appeals must be in writing addressed to the Board and must be submitted within 2 weeks of being notified of any final decision.

C. DISPOSITION OF APPEAL

1. All appeals pertaining to league business shall be decided by the board of commissioners by a simple majority vote. Appeals may be presented by a commissioner, his/her soccer organization, or a representative from that organization.
2. A decision shall be reached and all parties shall be notified within seven (7) days of the appeal meeting.

ARTICLE VIII: OBLIGATIONS OF THE LEAGUE

A. FACILITIES

All member clubs of the league shall be encouraged to provide facilities for the playing and coaching of instructional soccer games between member teams and to allow "Home" games for each club to be played. Such facilities shall include fields, goals, lines, and parking.

B. REGISTRATION

The league will confirm the registration of all member clubs enrolled teams, including verifying all players are age appropriate and that all coaches are properly registered thru EPYSA.

C. SCHEDULES

The league shall provide dates, times and places for all league games scheduled between member teams.

D. CANCELLATIONS

As per rules document located on the league website

E. REFEREES

The league shall arrange for all referees for league games.

F. RULES

The NVYSL shall establish, and maintain, rules of play that are to be adhered to by all member clubs. This document will be separate from the bylaws, and allowed to be updated on an as needed basis without requiring a vote. League rules are posted on the league website under 'ABOUT US' page

ARTICLE IX: AGE GROUPS

Team age groups may include under-7 through under-19. The Board of Commissioners will determine the age groups based on the availability of players for a season. EPYSA age group cut off dates shall apply.

ARTICLE X: CLUBS' RESPONSIBILITIES

A. MEETING ATTENDANCE

1. Club attendance at monthly general meetings is important. Attendance at each pre-season meeting is mandatory. A fine will be imposed for missed meetings per the Fines and Fees document located on the website. All other meeting throughout the year are highly encouraged, but not mandatory unless for emergency situations.
2. Club attendance is satisfied with at least one representative present.
3. Substitutes are allowed but will not participate in voting per Article V, Section F. The substitute representative must be designated as such on the clubs RG-1 form submitted prior to the beginning of each season.
4. The league reserves the right to suspend any club's playing privileges if poor attendance (as defined above) is persistent.

B. TEAM COUNTS/COACH & FIELD INFORMATION

For each season in which organizations have teams participating, the clubs are required to submit team counts and field information to the Director(s) of Schedules by the established dates as determined by the league. Coach's names, cannot be TBD and must be a unique individual, and must be finalized no later than one week prior to the first game.

Any changes made to this information, after the team entry information deadline date, will result in a fine to the offending club per team change. All fines can be found on the league website per the Fines and Fees document.

Any fines levied on a club must be paid to the league no later than the mid-session point of the season in question. Failure to comply with the requirement to timely pay a league fine could result in the suspension of a club's playing privileges. Fines will not be imposed because of required changes made by the league to a club's team count, or for the in-season high school soccer age brackets.

C. REGISTRATION PAPERWORK & PAYMENT OF CLUB FEES

For each season, each club is responsible for providing payment of club fees and the filing of the appropriate registration paperwork as determined by the Director of Membership in view of EPYSA requirements. The Treasurer must receive payment of club fees no later than two weeks after the established registration deadline. If the club fee payment or

registration deadline is missed, the offending club will be fined per the Fines and Fees document. If a club has not properly filed complete registration paperwork in EPYSA required format by the registration deadline, the club will be considered in non-compliance of the registration paperwork requirement and will be subject to the missed deadline fine. Any fines levied on a club must be paid to the league no later than the mid-session point of the season in question.

D. CLUB CONTACT

Each club shall designate one commissioner as the club contact. The club contact will be the primary contact for the club's coaches and will distribute schedules and other league information.

E. EXTERNAL FINES OR FEES

Any fines or fees incurred by NVYSL, including those of a legal nature, as a result of one or more clubs' actions will be passed through to the responsible club(s).

F. TEF SPECIAL REQUESTS

Any special requests or accommodations must be made in writing at the time of submission. Failure to do so will result in a fine per the Fines and Fees document located on the website

ARTICLE XI: ADOPTION OF BY-LAWS

A. METHOD OF ADOPTING

1. The date of the meetings for the readings of these by-laws must be known to all current club member commissioners prior to the meeting.
2. If no commissioner eligible objects, eligible commissioners may vote in person or electronically. If electronically, all active Commissioners as well as the League Board of Directors must be copied on the correspondence.
3. An affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the qualified commissioners present and voting is required for the adoption of the by-laws.

B. EFFECTIVE DATE

The by-laws will become effective immediately upon their adoption.

C. FILING OF BY-LAWS

All commissioners present should sign the official copy of the by-laws.

D. COPIES OF BY-LAWS

The By-Laws will be available on our website under the ABOUT US page

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS OF BY-LAWS

A. METHOD OF ADOPTING

1. All eligible commissioners must be provided a copy of the By-Law amendments to be made

2. All amendments shall be provided by the Secretary and must be in writing.
3. An affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the qualified commissioners ~~present and voting at the meeting~~ is required for the adoption of any amendments.

B. EFFECTIVE DATE

Amendments shall become effective and part of these by-laws immediately upon their adoption.

C. FILING OF AMENDMENTS

1. The chairman and secretary should sign each amendment as an official copy.
2. All adopted amendments shall be kept with the official copies of the by-laws.
3. The by-laws shall be updated as needed to include any new amendments.

ARTICLE XIII: DISSOLUTION

A. Disbursement of Assets

The league shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and purposed specified in these bylaws, and no part of said funds shall be distributed to the members of the organization.

In the event of dissolution, all remaining assets and property of the organization shall, after payment of necessary expenses thereof, be distributed by the Board of Directors to such organizations as shall qualify under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws, or to the Federal government or State or local government for a public purpose, subject to the approval of a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of Pennsylvania. Any assets not so disposed of shall become the property of the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the current Treasurer resides. Disbursement of assets shall then be conducted under the direction of the Court, with the understanding that recipients shall have a similar purpose to that of the league.