

# **BYLAWS AND RULES AND REGULATIONS OF GREAT LAKES CO-ED SOCCER LEAGUE**

(A Michigan non-profit corporation)

**Reviewed 8/03/2016**

## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE 1**

#### **Members**

**Section 1. Name.** This body shall be known as the GREAT LAKES CO-ED SOCCER LEAGUE. The acronym "GLCSL" shall equally refer to this association. The acronym "MSYSA" shall refer to the Michigan Youth Soccer Association.

**Section 2. Purpose.** It is the mission of GLCSL to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of area youth through the sport of soccer at a recreational level. This association shall be established as a non-profit and educational organization. The association shall provide the governing structure to administer youth soccer in the West Michigan Area, and shall provide a vehicle to communicate information to players, parents, coaches, referees, and other interested parties.

**Section 3. Membership.** Membership in the association shall be restricted to affiliated clubs. No team may be a member of this association, but it shall be part of this association through a club. Any area recreational youth soccer club is eligible for membership if approval is granted by a majority of the clubs, which are now affiliated with GLCSL. Motion to accept new clubs is subject to discussion and vote at a scheduled League meeting. New clubs joining the league shall have another established club as a mentor to help guide them through the process.

- A. Clubs are required to provide a list of current board members, with each person's contact information at the beginning of each season. Changes in a clubs board that occurs during the season shall be submitted as soon as possible to the GLCSL board.

**Section 4. Conduct of Meetings.** Meetings of members shall be presided over by the President of the League. If the President is not present, the next highest ranking officer shall preside (Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, respectively). At least one League officer must be in attendance. All elections and all questions shall be decided by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting, unless otherwise provided by law, the Articles of Incorporation, or by these bylaws.

- A. **Attendance Requirement.** Attendance at meetings by the officers and club representatives is mandatory. Each unexcused absence that a club obtains shall result in a \$25 dollar fine. Any club that accrues three unexcused absences during the course of a calendar year shall be placed on probation with loss of voting privileges for a period of one year. Further attendance problems may result in further disciplinary action, which may include loss of membership status in GLSCL.

**Section 5. Voting.** Each member entitled to vote at a meeting of the League shall have the right to cast one vote. Each club will be entitled to only one vote regardless of the number of representatives at the meeting.

**Section 6. Action by Unanimous Written Consent.** If and when all the members collectively consent in writing to any action to be taken by the association, the consent shall have the same effect as a unanimous vote of the members and shall be a valid corporate action as though it had been authorized at an annual or special meeting of the members. The written consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the members.

**Section 7. Registration Fees.** Registration fees for all newly registered players, in the amount determined from time to time by the members, shall be payable at a date determined by the Board and shall be delinquent if not paid by a date determined by the Board.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **OFFICERS**

**Section 1. Election of Officers.** GLCSL officers shall be elected by the members for two-year terms. The

President and Treasurer shall be elected in odd-numbered years; the Vice-President and Secretary in even-numbered years. Officers elected by the members or appointed to fill vacancies shall hold office, unless sooner displaced, until the annual meeting at which their respective successors are to be elected and thereafter until their respective successors have been elected and qualified. The Board of Directors shall have the power to fill any vacancy in any office occurring for any reason, subject to affirmation by the members at the following meeting with a Roll Call vote. Nominations will be held at the August or September League meeting with the vote to be taken by the October meeting. The term of office will begin on January 1 of the following year.

The Administrative Board members shall have no term limits. An Officer of the Administrative Board may be removed from office only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members at a meeting called for that purpose, if, in the judgment of the members, the interests of the association will be served thereby. An officer may resign by written notice to the Executive Board or at a time specified in the resignation.

**Section 2. Disciplinary Authority.** The Board of Officers (also called "the Disciplinary Committee") has the authority to bar completely, suspend, or otherwise discipline any player, coach, manager, team assistant, club representative, League officer or member club for violations of League policy.

Any sanction or discipline action may be appealed. To appeal a club sanction, refer to the Rules and Regulation Appendix section 1. To appeal a suspension of a coach, player, club rep or any other individual that GLCSL has direct authority over, refer to the Rules and Regulation Appendix section 2.

**Status of Decisions.** All decisions at all levels of the appeal process shall stand and be in full force and effect until changed by a higher authority.

**Section 3. Election or Appointment.** The GLCSL Board shall be made up of the officers of the Executive Board and the Administrative Board. The Executive Board Shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Administrative Board shall be the League Registrar, and the League Scheduler.

The Executive Board shall be elected by a majority vote of the club representatives.

The Administrative Board shall be nominated by the President of the Executive Board, and approved by the rest of the Executive Board. The approved candidates shall then be elected by a majority vote of the club representatives.

**Section 4. Term of Office.** The term of all officers shall commence on January 1 following their election and shall continue as provided in ARTICLE 2 (Section 1). Any officer may be removed from office only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members at a meeting called for that purpose, if, in the judgment of the members, the interests of the association will be served thereby. An officer may resign by written notice to the Board or at a time specified in the resignation.

**Section 5. President of the Board.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Board of Directors. He/She shall be the chief executive officer of the association and shall have general and active management of the activities of the association, and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board are carried into effect.

**Section 6. Vice-President.** In the absence of the President at any meeting of the Board of Directors, the Vice-President shall preside as the chairperson of that meeting. He/She shall have such other powers and duties as may from time to time be prescribed.

**Section 7. The Secretary.** The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Board and all meetings of the members and record all votes and the minutes of all proceedings. The Secretary shall keep a complete record of all teams and players for the purpose of player registration and team affiliation and have such other duties as are delegated by the Board of Directors. The Secretary or a designated Registrar shall issue published procedures for the proper registration of players consistent with USYSA and MSYSA policies regarding player registration.

**Section 8. The Treasurer.** The treasurer shall have custody of the funds and securities of the League and shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the League and shall deposit all moneys and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the League in such depositories as may be designated by the Board. He/She shall disburse the funds of the League as may be ordered by the Board, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements and shall render to the League at the regular meetings of the Board or whenever they may require it an account of all transactions as Treasurer and of the financial condition of the League. The Treasurer shall submit a fiscal report showing income and expenses by budget categories and the current balance of all association accounts at each delegates' meeting. If required by the Board, the Treasurer shall give the association a bond in such sum and with such surety or sureties as shall be satisfactory to the Board for the faithful performance of the duties of office and for restoration to the association (in case of death, resignation or removal from office) of all books, papers, vouchers, moneys and other property in his/her possession or under his/her control and belonging to the association. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for preparing any and all federal or state tax returns. The Treasurer shall be responsible for preparing any and all papers regarding the tax-exempt status of the association.

**Section 9. Expenses.** The Officers of the association, as such, shall not be compensated for the performance of services for the association, but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of the association, including, but not limited to, expenses for attendance at meetings of the Board of Directors.

The Officers of the Administrative Board, as such shall be compensated for the performance of services for the association. The compensation shall be set at a rate by the Executive Board that will be confirmed by a majority vote of the club representatives.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **Seasonal Year and Fiscal Year**

**Section 1. Seasonal Year.** The seasonal year of this association shall begin on August 1 and end on July 31 of the following calendar year.

**Section 2. Fiscal Year.** The fiscal year of the association shall be January 1 through December 31.

### **ARTICLE 4**

#### **Amendments; Rules and Regulations**

**Section 1. Amendments.** These bylaws may be altered, repealed or new bylaws may be written in lieu thereof by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regularly scheduled or special meeting of the Board. One delegate from each club and the League officers will be eligible to cast one vote each.

**Section 2. Rules, Regulations and Policies.** The rules, regulations and policies of this association as now established and as hereafter amended may be altered, repealed or new rules, regulations and policies may be adopted in lieu thereof by a majority vote of the Board of Officers then in office and present at the meeting of the Board.

## **GREAT LAKES CO-ED SOCCER LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **RULE 1. Responsibility for Discipline.**

**Section 1. General Cases.** In general terms, the clubs shall be responsible for governing those persons associated within their operation and shall establish procedures for doing so. However, it is the duty of all club officers, coaches and referees to report immediately any infraction outlined in Rule 2.

**Section 2. Line of Authority.** Should any person, team or League want to appeal any adverse decision, the line of authority shall be from the League to MSYSA, and then to the next line of authority specified by the United States Youth Soccer Association.

**Section 3. Coaches Code of Ethics.** A copy of the Coaches Code of Ethics shall be signed by each member of each team's coaching staff and kept on file with the local club.

### **Rule 2. Regular Season and Tournament Disciplinary Rulings and Minimum Punishments (In addition to the game ejection).**

**Section 1. Player Fighting and/or Violent Behavior.** A player guilty of fighting and/or other violent behavior before, during or after games shall receive a **minimum suspension of two (2) games**. The player may be asked to come before the board to review the incident.

**Section 2. Player Profanity.** A player guilty of using profanity or abusive language, either by word or sign, directed against another player, coach, referee, spectator, or any League official shall receive a minimum suspension of two (2) games. Non-directed profanity shall result in a one (1) game suspension.

**Section 3. Player Threats.** A player guilty of making threatening gestures against another player, coach, or spectator shall receive a **minimum suspension of one (1) game**. A player who threatens a referee or any League official shall receive a **minimum suspension of three (3) games**. All incidents shall be reported to the League President. The player may be asked to come before the board to review the incident. Criminal liability may be looked at also.

**Section 4. Abuse Against an Official.** The referee or site director shall report any incident of physical abuse by a player, coach or other individual against any referee or assistant referee to the League President. These matters will be automatically referred to the MSYSA Disciplinary Board for review and action. No player, coach or other individual may participate in any GLCSL activity (which includes regular season games, tournament games, practices, etc.) while his/her case is pending before the MSYSA Disciplinary Board. A player, coach or other individual who physically abuses (pushes, strikes or grabs) a site director or League official must appear before the GLCSL Board of Officers and shall receive a **minimum suspension of five (5) years**. Verbal abuse by any player toward any referee, assistant referee, site director or League official must be reported to the League President who shall deal with each incident on a case-by-case basis (see **Section 10** below).

**Section 5. Player Ejection.** Any player or coach issued a red card by a referee shall receive a minimum **one (1) game suspension** (also, see **Section 10** below). A **second red card** will result in suspension from the League for the remainder of the season and shall disqualify the individual from participation in the post-season tournament. The President may issue a League red card for cause and will count as a red card against an individual. No one may participate in any team practice or game while his/her review is pending.

**Section 6. Inappropriate Behavior by Coaches.** Coaches or team officials who use insulting, abusive or threatening language and/or gestures toward other coaches, players, or League officials shall be required to appear before the GLCSL Board of Officers or the General Board for disciplinary action. Disciplinary action shall be handled on a case-by case basis.

**Section 7. Coach Fights.** Coaches or team officials who fight or otherwise physically abuse (push, strike or grab) another coach, team official or player must appear before the GLCSL Board of Officers and shall receive a **minimum suspension of three (3) years**.

**Section 8. Coach and Fan Misconduct.** Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein and as set by the USSF, including cautions, ejections and standard suspensions. Any other individual who may be reasonably construed to be associated with a team, such as parents, relatives and spectators, shall also be subject to the jurisdiction of this association.

A coach, team official and/or individual club may be held responsible for the actions of any individual(s) who violate these rules and who in the opinion of the disciplinary authority is a supporter of that team.

A coach shall be asked to remove any one associated with his/her team by the referee if their behavior becomes a problem. If the parent refuses to leave the head coach shall be issued a red card and shall be ejected. If the person causing the issue still refuses to leave, the match shall be terminated and not replayed.

If this game is a tournament game the offending team shall forfeit the match and the offending person shall not attend another match for the remainder of the tournament.

If a team forfeits a match due to a spectator, fan, or parent the league shall impose a fine of \$ 150 and a bond of \$150 to their respective club.

If a team forfeits a second match due to the actions of a fan, spectator, or parent the team shall be disqualified from participating from the end of season tournament with no refund of any fees already paid, and a fine of \$250 and the forfeiture of original bond. A second bond of \$250 shall also be collected.

If the second offense is during the tournament the team shall be eliminated from the tournament and shall forfeit that match and any others scheduled to be played. A fine of \$250 and the forfeiture of the original bond shall be imposed. A second bond of \$250 shall also be collected.

A club shall be fined \$50 for a coach receiving a red card. A fine of \$100 shall be assessed to a club for that coach receiving a second red card. Suspensions and other penalties to coaches shall also be imposed as defined throughout the bylaws.

A club shall be fined \$100 for any team collecting 4 red cards during the regular season and tournament. The head coach shall also be assessed with a one game suspension. Another fine of \$100 shall be assessed for every two red cards issued after the original 4 red cards to that team during the regular season and tournament. The coach shall also be suspended for one game for every two cards issued after the original 4 red cards.

The red card count does not carry over to the next season.

It is the responsibility of the clubs to report to the league any discipline action that is taken to a coach, player, parent or anyone associated with their teams.

**Section 9. Minimum Penalties.** Clubs may adopt more stringent penalties, which will prevail for their members, but in no event may penalties be less than those listed herein.

**Section 10. Authority of President in Disciplinary Matters.** The League President has the authority to require any player, coach, spectator, referee or other individual to appear before the GLCSL Board of Officers or the General Board and additional penalties other than those specifically outlined above (Rule 2 Sections 1-7) may be imposed at that time. Failure to appear when requested shall result in the suspension of the offending individual from all GLCSL activities until such time that compliance has been rendered. The President may issue **League red cards** to any individual for cause and may disqualify any individual or team from further participation the remainder of a season. A League red card shall count as a red card in determining an individual's eligibility to play. The President shall also have the authority to reduce or suspend any penalty resulting from a red card if he/she feels mitigating circumstances warrant such action.

**Section 11.** All red cards issued at a game site must be reported to the league president. An incident report from the referee and/or site director shall be made available at the request of the league president.

**Section 12.** Per USSF Rules there are no “soft” red cards to be given. You may not substitute for a player that has been sent off for a red card.

### **RULE 3. Insurance**

All players registered with the association shall be required to have in effect a medical insurance program specified by their League and approved by the State association.

**Section 1. Public Liability Insurance.** All officers of the association and officials of member teams and Leagues shall be covered against personal liability claims by the MSYSA for performing acts and duties related to the work of the association.

**Section 2. Report of Insurance Claims.** All injuries to be claimed against the medical insurance shall be completed on the proper form (obtained from the MSYSA website) and submitted within 72 hours of the injury.

**Section 3. Personal and/or Property Damage Disclaimer.** The GLCSL, its clubs and its coaches are not responsible for injuries or damage to property during the season. A signed registration form from the player's parents or legal guardian must be on file with the club before a player may participate.

**Section 4.** All players and coaches shall be registered by their clubs with the organization with which the League affiliates, thus providing them with secondary insurance.

**Section 5.** All officers and members of the Board of Directors will be covered by liability insurance from whichever State or national organization is affiliated with the League.

#### **RULE 4. Rules of Play.**

Rules of play shall be the "Laws of the Game" as published by FIFA with special modifications as permitted for local associations and youth soccer. All contests sanctioned by this association shall abide by the "Laws of the Game" and the modifications as published by the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) rule book and GLCSL modifications.

**Section 1. Coaching from the Sidelines.** Coaching from the sidelines, giving directions to one's own team on points of strategy and position, is permitted provided:

1. No mechanical communication devices shall be used. This includes but is not inclusive of cell phones, walkie-talkies, bullhorns or other devices designed to create an unfair advantage or distract from the game.
2. The tone of voice used by the coach is informative and not a harangue.
3. The coach is in the team's bench area (between the 18 yard lines) during the game.
4. Instructions are not continuous and constant throughout the game.
- 5.

**Section 2. Uniforms.** When colors of uniforms are similar, the home team must change to colors that are distinct from those of the visiting team. No player will be allowed to play with a wound or injury that will expose players, coaches, or referees to contact with body fluids on either a player's person or uniform.

**Section 3. Player Equipment.** Player equipment shall consist of a jersey (shirt) with a minimum 6-inch number on the back. Each number on an individual team shall be distinct. A player may have his/her last name and the initial of his/her first name on the jersey (optional), but no nicknames may be used. Shorts, socks, footwear and shin guards shall also be worn during play and the socks must cover the shin guards completely.

**Section 4. Miscellaneous.** The home team will be responsible for the condition of the grounds, the proper field markings and the proper equipment. Nets and corner flags are required. It will be the responsibility of the participating teams to have a game ball and to insure that their fans behave in a proper and respectful manner.

#### **Section 5. Field Size.**

Field dimensions for all age groups can be found in the Rules and Regulations Appendix section 3



## **Section 6. Pregame Requirements.**

1. Each team may be required to have equipment (shoes, cleats, etc.) checked by the game officials.
2. Each team must have the minimum required players to start and complete a game. Maximum and minimum number of players for each age group can be found on the Rules Appendix page 4.
- 3.

## **Section 7. Game times.**

1. Game time shall be set per scheduling.
2. Official game time shall be kept by the referee on the field.
3. The referee shall have the authority to shorten or cancel a game due to inclement weather. If a game, or half time needs to be shortened the referee shall inform both coaches before the contest begins.
4. No game shall be played if lightning is present.
5. Games ended in the first half due to inclement weather may be rescheduled. Games stopped in the second half shall be considered complete.
6. Officials may shorten the halftime to keep games on schedule, but the duration of the games should not be shortened unless absolutely necessary and then only with the consent of both coaches and/or the site director.

## **Section 8. Officials.**

1. Each club shall be responsible for hiring all game officials.
2. The referee or site director shall report to the League President all misconduct of players, coaches and spectators (red cards). Particularly poor behavior shall be reported even if no red card was issued.
  - A. A game summary is to be filled out and kept by all clubs, and must be made available to the board if it is requested.
  - B. The center referee will fill out the report indicating the score, opponents, and any cards issued.
  - C. If a team is a no show at a game, a report must be filed with the league indicating that no attempt was made to contact the host club.
  - D. If a game is moved and played no report is necessary until it has been played.
  - E. If a team cannot play a game, or a makeup game then a report needs to be filed with the league.
3. For all games U11 through U19, a USSF certified referee is required to officiate in the center and the three-official system must be employed. The center referee must be at least 2 years older than the age group he/she is officiating. For example, a referee must be USSF certified and at least 21 years of age to officiate a U19 game. The assistant referees must be at least in the same age group as the players on the field. The home team is responsible for providing two assistant referees if the referee is working alone and requests assistance. A two man system may be employed if circumstances warrant. Both referees must be certified and at least 2 years older than the age group on the field. If a two man system is used a game report must be submitted to the league president.

4. For the U7 and U9 games, the two-official system may be employed and the referees must be at least 2 years older than the players in the game he/she is officiating.
5. Referees shall be paid the standard League fee established by the League Board and this shall be paid prior to the kickoff by the home team club (see Section 12 below).
6. The referee shall be in charge of all matters pertaining to the field and the game. All participants are required to abide by the League rules and regulations. Poor behavior observed by a site director or League official may be reported to the League President who shall decide if a League red card is warranted.
7. To the greatest extent possible, all referees shall be USSF certified. USSF certified referees shall be given preference over club officials. If club officials are used in a U13 or older match then a report must be filed with the league president. This notification shall be by email within 24 hours of the contest being played and a written report submitted at the next league meeting.
8. The League will notify all clubs in writing prior to the season of any rule changes or modifications.

#### **Section 9. Coaches.**

1. Each coach is bound by the **Coaches' Code of Ethics**, established by the League, which he/she must sign and have on file with the home club.
2. The coaches are responsible for the conduct of all those representing his/her team at all times, including before, during and after the game. No players are allowed on the field unless they are participating in the scheduled match.
3. All coaches must have a risk management card issued from the MSYSA. Instructions on how to obtain the risk management certification and card please follow the instructions in Rules Appendix section 5.
4. Coaches must be properly rostered with the league prior to the beginning of the season.
5. Any coach who uses an improperly registered player during the regular season or tournament, whether intentionally, accidentally, or otherwise shall forfeit the game(s) in which that ineligible player participates and will face further disciplinary action by the League.

**Section 10. Player Participation.** All eligible players who are not under disciplinary action **shall play in both halves of each game** and shall play as nearly a **minimum of one-half of each game** as possible. U5-U8 players shall not sit out more than one quarter at a time. This rule shall not prohibit players from playing more than the minimum required time. In addition, **co-ed teams** in age divisions U9 and older must field a **minimum of 2 girls** at all times. If this is not possible, then the team must play shorthanded. The co-ed rule only applies if a co-ed division has been established by the league.

**Section 11. Soccer Balls.** Regulations concerning soccer balls are as follows:

1. Home teams will provide a game ball, which meets the requirements of the USSF rulebook.
2. The size of the ball for each age group can be found in the Rules and Regulations Appendix section 4.

## **Section 12. Number of Players, Game Duration and Referees.**

1. Players shall be placed in appropriate age groups by their host club. Those age groups are U5-U8, U9, U11, U13, U15 and U19. The league shall schedule games for both boys and girls in all age divisions in the fall and spring seasons except for the U19 age group. U19 girls shall be scheduled in the fall only and the U19 boys shall be scheduled in the spring.
2. The number of players per team and the number of players on the field for a game can be found in the Rules and Regulations Appendix section 4.
3. Duration of the games as established by GLCSL can be found in the Rules and Regulations Appendix section 4.
4. The number of referees needed and the fees which they should be paid can be found in the Rules and Regulations Appendix section 4.
- 5.

**Section 13. Substitutions.** "Players may be substituted only during a stoppage of the game." -Law 3, International Board Decision #6, and Law 9, Paragraph (a) and (b). The number of substitutions shall be unlimited. Substitutions may be made:

1. Prior to a throw in.
  - a. If both teams are waiting to substitute both teams shall be allowed to substitute.
  - b. If only one team is waiting to substitute then a team may only substitute on their possession.
2. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
3. After a goal by either team.
4. After an injury by either team when the referee stops play (one for one).
5. At halftime by either team.
6. When a player is carded by either team (one for one).
7. \*\*\*\*\*Special note: In U7, and U9 substitutions may be made by either team at all out of bounds stoppages regardless of which team is restarting play. This shall include throw-ins, corner kicks and goal kicks.

A player may not enter or leave the field of play until he/she has been given a signal to do so by the referee.

## **RULE 5. Tournament Games.**

The authority for approval and/or operational control of the tournament, including dates and times of the games that are to be played, shall be vested with the Board of Directors of this association. Also, see **Appendix A and Appendix B** on procedures and rules for the tournament.

**A.** Any club not hosting preliminary round games must have a club representative at the tournament finals. The tournament finals hosting site representative shall be contacted by the non hosting qualifying club representatives to coordinate times that are needed to be filled.

## **RULE 6. Age Limit Definition.**

**Section 1. Youth Player.** The term "youth" as applied to this Constitution shall mean an amateur player who has not attained his/her nineteenth (19th) birthday before August 1 preceding the seasonal year in which he/she applied for registration.

**Section 2. Attaining Age Limit.** Players attaining the limited age for any age group on or after August 1 will be eligible to play for the full seasonal year (August 1 through July 31) in that age group.

**Section 3. Age Groups.** All clubs, unless otherwise sanctioned by the Board, shall divide play among teams as listed below (for example, U19 represents the "under 19 years age group"): U19, U15, U13, U11, U9, U8-U5

Age divisions shall consist of players who are under the age group limit as of August 1 of the seasonal year. For example, a U9 player must be 8 years old or less on July 31 in order to play in the U9 age group. Clubs are not required to enter teams in all age divisions to remain in good standing in the League.

**Section 4. Proof of Age.** A birth certificate, passport, board of health record, certification of naturalization, or alien registration card shall be sufficient for proof of age for registration and verification if challenged.

**Section 5. Authority to Contest Age of Players.** Any player can be called upon to prove his/her legal age by the Board, the MSYSA Registrar, a district commissioner, or a club director. Such requests shall be verified at the next League meeting.

## **RULE 7. Player Registration, League Entry and Team Affiliation.**

### **Section 1. Proper Registration Procedure.**

1. All players are required to submit a properly completed club player registration form to the team. The submission of a club player registration form signed by the player or his/her parent or legal guardian (if the player is under 18 years of age) and MSYSA player fees binds that player to that team for the season unless granted a transfer or release under RULE 9.
2. Each team shall be required to submit to the appropriate League officer various forms as may be required for the operation of the association and shall pay all dues, fees, or fines that may be levied by the League or association. Also, each team is responsible for sending proper League affiliation forms and fees directly to the person responsible in the League.
3. Each club shall be responsible for ensuring the proper registration of the players, affiliation of the teams, proper accounting of fiscal transactions and accurate reporting to the GLCSL Board.
4. All clubs must have their final rosters submitted to the League by a date to be determined by the League. At this time the appropriate registration fee must also be submitted. There must be on file a complete roster, which includes each player's name, address, telephone number, birth date, and League ID number. Rosters may be checked against birth certificates by a representative approved by the Board of Directors if deemed necessary. The roster will also

include the name of the head coach and any assistant coaches and their telephone numbers.  
The roster must include the team name and club affiliation.

5. Only rostered players and coaches may participate in practices and games.

**Section 2. Ineligible or Improperly Registered Players.** Any team using a player in the regular season or tournament who is ineligible, whether accidentally, intentionally, or otherwise, shall forfeit the game(s) in which that ineligible player participates and may face further disciplinary action by the League, depending upon the nature of the violation.

#### **RULE 8. Youth Eligibility.**

A youth player will be permitted to play an unlimited number of senior mens/womens league games without losing his/her youth eligibility if the youth participation forms are approved by MSYSA/GLCSL. Any youth playing for a senior club without such approval shall be declared an ineligible player for youth games. Any youth team using an ineligible player shall forfeit all games in which that player participated under the provisions of RULE 7, Section 2.

#### **RULE 9. Player Release and Transfer.**

##### **Section 1. Player Registration and Release.**

1. A registered player shall be committed to a team for the season. Once registered and in the absence of mitigating circumstances, a player must remain with his/her team until the completion of the season for the League in which his team participates.

**Section 2. Registration and Transfer Cutoff Dates.** No changes to the GLCSL team rosters may be made after the date set each season in the Season overview.

**Section 3. Date of Registration.** A player is registered the moment the player or his/her parents or legal guardian (if the player is under 18 years of age) signs the club player registration form and submits the GLCSL/MSYSA player fees and these are accepted by a responsible League official.

**Section 4. Multiple Rostering.** With the concurrence of the GLCSL, a player may register with more than one team per seasonal year. The following restrictions apply to multiple registrations:

1. GLCSL is designed as a recreational league to provide opportunity for new players to develop soccer skills. All clubs agree to strive to balance their team composition in each age group as nearly as possible so that teams may compete on a fair basis. **Clubs are strictly forbidden from stacking any teams with skilled players at the expense of the other teams in any specific age group.**
2. . Players are to be registered to the maximum number permitted without regard to previous experience or skills. **Tryouts for acceptance on a team entered in GLCSL is not permitted.**
3. . **No team having more than 25% of its players from a select travel team shall be eligible to compete in the GLCSL.** Clubs that sponsor travel teams, such as those in GVSA, and WMYSA, must submit travel team rosters with the GLCSL Secretary for cross verification.
4. No player may play on more than one GLCSL recreational team per season.
5. Active high school players shall not be permitted to register and participate during the current high school season. Example High school boys playing in the fall may not participate in U15 boys GLCSL games in the fall.

#### **RULE 10. Professional Status.**

Any player signing a "letter of intent" or a professional contract or who plays on a professional team without the permission of the Board shall be declared a professional and ineligible to participate in the GLCSL Recreational Program.

#### **Section 1.**

**Play with Professionals.** Only the Board along with MHSAA may grant a youth amateur permission to play in benefit or exhibition games where professional players are involved.

#### **Section 2.**

**Loss of Youth Status.** No player who has signed a "letter of intent" or a contract or who has played in any game where professional players are involved without the permission of the Board will be permitted to be reinstated to a youth amateur status.

#### **RULE 11. Authority to Fund Programs.**

The Board of Directors, subject to membership approval or a special meeting may assess fees or require bonds for administrative functions undertaken on behalf of its members. The Board may also levy fines in specific disciplinary actions.

#### **RULE 12. Clubs Prerogatives to Set Rules.**

Clubs may deem fit to enact rules and regulations more stringent than those included herein, but in no case may their rules be less stringent.

#### **RULE 13. Pleas of Ignorance.**

A plea of ignorance to this Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations is not sufficient and violators may expect appropriate action by the Board of Directors of this association.

#### **RULE 14. Permission to Host a Tournament.**

Clubs or organizations who wish to host a tournament must request permission from GLCSL . Also, see Appendix B.

#### **RULE 15. Payment of Fees.**

All clubs must have fees and registration forms turned in on or before the League registration date in order to participate in that season's games.

#### **RULE 16. League Schedule for the Season.**

The League schedule for all of the regular season games to be played in a particular season shall be submitted to the League teams via their representatives 3 weeks prior to the first scheduled game or at such time deemed reasonable by the Board.

#### **RULE 17. Competition Outside GLCSL.**

Any club wishing to enter teams in competition outside GLCSL are advised to consult MSYSA for rules pertinent to their programs and tournaments as their rules shall prevail over the GLCSL rules.

#### **RULE 18. Matters Not Provided For.**

Any matters not provided for in these rules shall be determined by the GLCSL Board of Directors and decisions so made shall be binding.

**RULE 19. Referee and Coaching Clinics.**

MSYSA will send referees or coaching instructors to GLCSL-sponsored classes and clinics at times and locations mutually agreed upon. Individual clubs agree not to schedule independent referee or coaching classes or clinics at times which conflict with the League-sponsored events.

**Rule 20. Social Media**