

**FAYETTE COUNTY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
PART II – BYLAWS**

ARTICLE I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section I. Affiliation

The Fayette County Youth Soccer League (FCYSL) shall be an affiliate of Georgia Soccer. FCYSL shall also be subject to the authority of US Youth Soccer (USYS), US Soccer Federation (USSF) and the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA).

- a. To the extent permissible under applicable law, the Georgia Soccer rules and by-laws, policies and requirements take precedence over and supersede the governing documents and decisions of FCYSL.
- b. To the extent possible under applicable law, FCYSL and its members shall abide by Georgia Soccer rules and bylaws, policies and requirements, including those of interplay.
- c. FCYSL shall register all of its players, coaches, teams and administrators with Georgia Soccer, USYS and USSF at least once each year and pay all dues and fees required by Georgia Soccer, USYS or USSF.
- d. FCYSL will not join any organization that has requirements that conflict with Georgia Soccer articles, by-laws, policies and requirements.

Section II. Authority

FCYSL shall exercise through its governing body all such powers as may be required in the furtherance of its stated purpose, or purposes, as are not inconsistent with the articles, by-laws, rules, and requirements of Georgia Soccer and/or the laws of relevant jurisdiction.

Section III. Non-Discrimination

FCYSL will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex or national origin.

Section IV. Sexual and Physical Abuse

To the extent permissible under applicable law, FCYSL shall adopt policies prohibiting

sexual and physical abuse that are consistent with criteria established by Georgia Soccer.

Section V. Tax Status

FCYSL shall maintain its tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

Section I. Membership

Membership in FCYSL is open to any soccer players and their parents or legal guardians, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators and officers participating in any program sponsored by FCYSL. Membership is congruent upon agreement of the member to abide by the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By-Laws, policies, procedures and decisions of FCYSL and to assist to the best of his or her ability in the furtherance of FCYSL's programs and purpose.

Section II. Voting Members

All parents or legal guardians of individuals who are registered with FCYSL Recreation, Fayette Futbol Club or AFC Lightning and who are in good standing and not currently subject to sanction under Article IV, shall be considered voting members if they are Fayette County residents.

Voting members must have been a member of FCYSL as defined in Section II, in one of the seasons in the current soccer year.

Section III. Affiliation

FCYSL shall be organized into two major components for purposes of membership and affiliation: (1) A Recreational Program, and (2) A Select Program. The Board of Directors shall have sole authority to determine qualifications for affiliation and to accept or reject any application. The FCYSL Board of Directors, through appointment of various Age Group Coordinators, shall administer the daily operations of the Recreational Program. An affiliated organization as determined by the FCYSL Board of Directors will be recognized as being responsible for administering the daily operations of the Select Program except for specific FCYSL sponsored select teams.

ARTICLE III – ADMINISTRATION

Section I. Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be composed of eleven members. Ten members shall be elected by the voting members of FCYSL. The eleventh member of the Board of Directors shall be the immediate past president of FCYSL. The ten elected members shall serve a two-year term. Members of the Board of Directors may be re-elected every two years to successive two-year terms. Five Members of the Board will be elected each year. Members of the Board shall take office at the conclusion of the election.

An individual shall be eligible to be nominated, and appointed for vacancy on the FCYSL BOD or be nominated to run in the yearly election, only if he/she;

1. Was a voting member of FCYSL in the current soccer year, OR
2. Served FCYSL as a Coach, Coordinator, Referee Assignor or Director in the current soccer year.

Section II. Board of Directors, Authority and Responsibility

The Board of Directors shall meet monthly, or as necessary, to conduct the business of FCYSL. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be 50% plus 1 of the active members. A vacant seat as declared by the President of FCYSL will not be counted when determining if a quorum is present.

The Board of Directors shall be responsible for and have the final authority for:

- a. Interpreting and enforcing the Constitution and By-Laws.
- b. The establishment, interpretation and enforcement of policies for the operation of the League, rules of play, player eligibility, and the conduct of players, teams, coaches, spectators, and game officials, for any activities conducted or sanctioned by the League.
- c. The establishment of rules or regulations for specific cases not provided for by the Constitution, By-Laws or policies, but which are deemed necessary to carry out the objectives of the League.
- d. The conduct of the day-to-day affairs of the League pursuant to the directives of the membership.
- e. Ensuring compliance with the annual contract for use of county facilities between the League and the Fayette County Recreation Department.

Section III. Officers

The officers of the League shall be elected by the Board of Directors and shall consist of:

- a. President
- b. Vice-President

- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer

Section IV. Duties of Officers

The officers of the league shall have the following duties:

PRESIDENT:

The President shall preside over all board meetings, call the meetings to order, conduct the order of business, moderate discussions, conduct a vote on all motions and close the meetings. The President shall have the authority to call a meeting at any time. He/she may cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie or may waive the right to do so.

The President shall appoint all committees and shall support all delegates and alternates to represent the League, shall appoint the League Registrar, Publicity representative and any other additional members necessary to conduct the business of the League.

The President will preside over all meetings of the Officers of the Board and is an ex-officio member of all committees. The President will represent the League to outside persons or organizations.

The President shall have the authority to approve expenditures of up to \$1,00.00. The Board will approve all expenditures over \$1,00.00.

VICE PRESIDENT:

The Vice-President shall act for the President in the absence of the President or in the event that the office of President becomes vacant. The Vice-President shall serve as the chair-person of the Planning Committee.

SECRETARY:

The Secretary will attend all board meetings and present a typed report of the minutes of the previous meetings. The Secretary shall record all public correspondence and maintain a file of all official League business.

TREASURER:

The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the League and distribute it upon orders of Authorized Officers. The Treasurer shall keep a detailed account of income and expenditures and have the authority to pay bills up to \$500.00 unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall prepare and present a financial report for scheduled board meetings and prepare and present a yearly financial report for the Annual General Meeting. The Treasurer shall maintain a

copy of Board of Directors meeting minutes with the monthly Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer shall ensure all applicable tax forms are filed with the Internal Revenue Service.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD:

During interim periods between regular board meetings, the Officers of the Board may be called upon to provide information on business matters pertaining to the League. The Officers of the Board shall prepare a summary for presentation to the Board of Directors at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

Section V. Registrar

The Registrar shall be appointed by the President of the League and shall be responsible for:

- a. Keeping a complete record of all teams and players for the purposes of player registration, team affiliation, fee assessments and insurance records.
- b. Establishing and providing for the registration of players and teams as required by Georgia Soccer.

Section VI. Removal and Vacancies

Any member of the Board of Directors or any Officer of the League may be removed from office and relieved of his or her duties by a two-thirds vote of those members eligible to vote and present at a duly constituted membership meeting. Any member of the Board of Directors (except the immediate past President) may be removed from the Board by a majority vote of the Board for missing three (3) consecutive Board meetings without excuse, as determined by the President. All vacancies among the Board of Directors, however occurring, may be filled by a nomination by the President and a majority vote of the remaining Directors. A Director added to the Board in this manner will serve out the remainder of the term of the former Director being replaced.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS AND VOTING

Section I. Membership Meetings

There shall be semi-annual meetings of the FCYSL membership. The spring meeting of the membership shall be designated as the Annual General Meeting and shall be held on one of the last 7 days of April. The fall meeting of the membership shall be designated as the Semi-Annual Meeting and shall be held on one of the last 7 days in September. There is no quorum of the membership required to hold the semi-annual membership meetings.

The elections of Members of the Board of Directors shall occur on the first Saturday in May. The elections of Members of the Board of Directors shall occur on the first Saturday in May.

Section II. Special Meetings

The President, as may be required from time to time, may call special meetings of the membership, with the concurrence of the Board. Additionally, special meetings are called whenever the Secretary is requested to do so by regular members in good standing possessing 20% (twenty percent) of the votes of the eligible voting membership.

Section III. Notice

Written notice of the semi-annual membership meetings or of special meetings of the membership must be posted in prominent areas to allow viewing by the general membership, at least 15 days in advance of the meeting date. The notices shall include an agenda for the meeting.

Section IV. Voting

Voting Members, as defined in Article II, Section II, shall be eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting, the Semi-Annual Meeting and the FCYSL Board Elections. Each Voting Member must provide his or her name, age, address, telephone number, and the names and ages of his or her child (children) and/or ward(s), date of registration and such further information as FCYSL may require.

Section V. Board of Directors' Meetings

- a. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly on one of the last 7 days of each month unless the Board directs otherwise and at other times at the call of the President or a majority of the Board.
- b. The order of business and agenda shall be as determined by the President or as set forth for general meetings. Seven (7) of the voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum to conduct business. Each member shall be allowed to cast one (1) vote on any matter of business before the Board. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed. The Board of Directors may act on any matter without a meeting with the consent of all the Directors.

Section VI. Rules of Order

All membership and Board of Directors' meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint, with the approval of the Board of Directors, standing and special committees to advance the purposes of FCYSL in such matters as rules of competition, discipline, scheduling, publicity, membership, and other activities which may be well served by committees. Each committee shall report regularly to the Board of Directors at meetings or to the membership through official notifications, and shall make recommendations to the Board or to the membership as it determines appropriate. The President with the approval of the Board of Directors shall appoint the following standing committees on an annual basis:

- a. **Planning Committee:** The Planning Committee shall be responsible for the administrative operations of FCYSL. The Planning Committee shall consist of members of the Board, Officers, and members of the association as appointed by the Board. This committee shall have the power to appoint subcommittees as needed to carry out the business of the committee. The President or the President's delegate will be a permanent member of the committee.
- b. **Discipline and Protest Committee:** The Discipline and Protest Committee shall be responsible for ruling on all protests and take appropriate disciplinary action as required on all reported incidents of serious misconduct of players, coaches, members or spectators in all FCYSL sponsored events. The President shall appoint no less than three (3) members to this committee and designate one of its members as chairperson. The President or the President's delegate will be a permanent member of the committee.
- c. **Ethics and Grievance Committee:** The Ethics and Grievance Committee shall be responsible for hearing all grievances and questions of an ethical nature involving any player, coach, manager, member or team official. The committee shall make recommendations, in writing, to the Board of Directors after hearing all charges and reviewing evidence in the matter in question. The President shall appoint no less than three (3) members to this committee and designate one of its members as chairperson. The President or the President's delegate will be a permanent member of the committee.
- d. **Budget Committee:** as described in Article VII – Budget and Fees.
- e. Other committees as necessary shall be appointed by the President with approval of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors or President may expand the charge of any standing or special committee when the circumstances warrant.

ARTICLE VI – ADJUDICATION, ENFORCEMENT AND DISCIPLINE

Section I. Hearing and Appeals

FCYSL will provide equitable and prompt hearing and appeal of decisions and recommendations made by the Discipline and Protest Committee and the Ethics and Grievance Committee to ensure the rights of individuals to participate and compete.

Section II. Jurisdiction of the Discipline and Protest Committee

The Jurisdiction of the Discipline and Protest Committee's authority shall include, but not be limited to: (1) the recommendation to reprimand, suspend and/or prohibit from participation coaches, players or spectators, and (2) recommending to the Board of Directors, in writing, the suspension or termination of a member from membership for cause. Cause shall be a violation or action that would pose serious detriment to the programs, purpose or policies of FCYSL.

Section III. D&P Committee Appeals

A member of FCYSL wishing to appeal a decision of a FCYSL D&P Committee, may appeal to the full FCYSL Board of Directors within 15 days of the original hearing date and providing a non-refundable payment of \$250.00 is made to FCYSL prior to the appeal hearing.

The FCYSL Board of Directors may revise a decision of a FCYSL D&P Committee by a two-thirds majority of the Directors present.

Section IV. Jurisdiction of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of FCYSL shall have the jurisdiction over matters relating to the accomplishment of its purpose, and in the enforcement of FCYSL Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Policies and Code of Conduct. The Board of Directors of FCYSL shall have the jurisdiction over matters and to consider and adjudicate decisions of individuals, members, committees, or groups having responsibility for administering an activity conducted by or sponsored by FCYSL. Such actions by the Board of Directors may be based on an original complaint filed with FCYSL or on the Board's own action.

Disciplinary actions by the Board of Directors shall be by majority vote. Decisions by the Board of Directors under this section is final except as may be appealed to Georgia Soccer as provided under their rules.

- A. Except as provided for under the provisions and requirements of Georgia Soccer and current US Soccer Policy 531-9 for adjudication of Assaults, Abuses, and Gross Misconduct with regard to Referees, Assistant Referees, Referee Mentors, and Players as provided for under U. S. Soccer Federation Rules, the FCYSL Board of Directors shall have through itself or a FCYSL Discipline and Protest Committee the sole right and authority to suspend, expel, or otherwise discipline an individual for violating FCYSL's; Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Policies, Code of Conduct or action for other such conduct detrimental to the purposes of the league, any player, coach, manager, member or spectator.
- B. The Code of Conduct is amendable at any time by the FCYSL Board of Directors, and will be incorporated into the FCYSL Registration Form.

Section V. Due Process

In any proceeding before the Discipline and protest Committee or the Board of Directors, any party in interest shall be afforded any opportunity to appear personally and to submit matter in support, rebuttal, mitigation or extenuation in regard to the party.

Section VI. Instituting Legal Proceedings

No party may invoke the aid of any court without first exhausting all administrative remedies provided for in the By-Laws and in the rules of Georgia Soccer, U.S. Youth Soccer and the U.S. Soccer Federation. For violation this section, the offending party is subject to sanctions and fines, and is liable to FCYSL for all expenses FCYSL and its officers, employees, and agents incurred in defending any court action including court costs, attorney fees, travel expenses and reasonable compensation for time spent by FCYSL, its officers, employees and agents in the action, including responses to discovery and court appearances.

ARTICLE VII – BUDGET AND FEES

Section I. Budget

The President shall appoint with the approval of the Board of Directors a Budget Committee to prepare an annual budget for the operation of FCYSL. This committee shall consist of at least three (3) members of the Board, one of which shall be designated by the Board of Directors as chairperson of the committee. The committee shall have the power to solicit assistance from other individuals as deemed necessary and appropriate to fulfill the function of the committee. The committee shall use all information reasonably available to identify and project revenues and expenses for the budget year. The budget

year shall coincide with the same budget year as for the Fayette County Recreation Department so as to allow close coordination of available funding. The Budget Committee shall present the annual budget to the Board of Directors for approval and/or modification. Modifications to the budget require a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors and can be made at any duly authorized meeting of FCYSL.

Section II. Fees

The Board of Directors shall establish player registration fees for participation in the Recreation Program, including the costs of uniforms. The Board of Directors shall also establish fees associated with the usage of the FCYSL complexes by the Select Program and its designees. These fees shall be established annually and in coordination with the development of the annual budget to account for revenues. Changes in fee structure may be made in accordance with provisions for modification of the annual budget.

Section III. Concessions / Field Maintenance

The Board of Directors shall approve any contract established or contract changes for the management of concessions or field maintenance for FCYSL. The contracted concessions entity shall have the responsibility for managing the concessions and assuring all monies due under the contract are reimbursed to FCYSL. Reports from the concessions management and field maintenance shall be made to the Board of Directors at normal monthly meetings.

Section IV. Board Members Travel Expenses

The Treasurer is authorized to pay the reasonable travel expenses of Board members incurred in attending meetings representing FCYSL.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENT, REPEAL OR SUSPENSION

The By-Laws may be amended, repealed, or suspended, in whole or in part, by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors present at any duly authorized meeting of FCYSL. Proposals for amendment, suspension or repeal of the By-Laws must be submitted to the Board of Directors in writing so as to allow twenty one (21) days notice to members prior to consideration by the Board of Directors of such proposals. Seven (7) of the voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for consideration of adoption of any amendment or for repeal of the By- Laws.

REVISION HISTORY

August 8, 2024 — Article VI, Section III: D&P Committee Appeals

August 8, 2024 — Article VI, Section IV: Jurisdiction of the Board of Directors

March 27, 2023 — Article III, Section IV: Duties of Officers

July 27, 2019 – Article IV, Section I & Section V: Meetings

May 8, 2017 – Article III, Section I: Number of elected Board Members reduced to 10

May 8, 2017 – Article III, Section II: Requirements to reach a quorum redefined

November 5, 2012 – Article II, Section II: Clarification of Voting Members

November 5, 2012 – Article III, Section II: Board nominee must be involved in the league

November 5, 2012 – Article VI, Section III: Established a way to appeal a D&P decision

March 30, 2011 – Article III, Sections I & VI: Board members elected to 2 year terms

January 31, 2011 – Article IV, Sections I & V (a): moved Board meetings to Wednesdays

April 26, 2010 – Article II, Section II

April 26, 2010 – Article IV, Section IV

February 23, 2009 – Various: GYSA changed to Georgia Soccer

February 23, 2009 – Article I, Section I (c): Registration with USSF recognized

February 23, 2009 – Revision History added

January 26, 2009 – Article IV, Section I

January 5, 2009 – Article VIII

October 27, 2008 – Article VIII

June 27, 2024 – Article VI, Section III