

The Girls Soccer League of Old Bridge

BY-LAWS & RULES AND REGULATIONS 01/2006

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Association shall be known as The Girls Soccer League of Old Bridge, Inc. (“ASSOCIATION”), The Association shall provide a chance for the girls of the Township of Old Bridge and surrounding communities to learn and play the sport of soccer by providing opportunities to play on Recreational and Travel Teams and to participate in other related activities.

1.1. Purpose of Association

The purpose of the Association:

- 1) To foster and promote the game of soccer among the girls of the Township of Old Bridge and surrounding communities.
- 2) To provide soccer coaching and training to the girls of the Township of Old Bridge and surrounding communities.
- 3) To promote good sportsmanship among all participants regardless of race, color, or creed.
- 4) To foster, promote, and insure sportsmanlike conduct at all times, on and off the playing field, by all members, parents, coaches, and other persons associated with the Association.
- 5) To raise funds by various means as deemed proper to support any of the objectives of the Association.

2. EXECUTIVE BOARD

The governing authority of this Association, whose powers shall be delegated in the By-Laws, shall be the Trustees, synonymously referred to herein as the Executive Board (“BOARD”) and be vested in the Association. The governing body of the Association is the Board. The Board shall be composed of the Officers elected at the Annual Election Meeting to be held on the first Wednesday in June at 8:00 pm unless otherwise notified. The Board Members shall hold office for a period of two-(2) years and can be reelected. The Board Positions of President, First Vice President-Recreation Program, Treasurer, Equipment Manager, and Field Maintenance shall be voted on during “odd year” elections (i.e. 2003,2005,2007,ect.) and the Board Positions of First Vice President-Travel Program, Secretary, Registrar, and Publicity Chairperson shall be voted on during “even year” elections (i.e. 2002,2004,2006,ect.). This way the Association will insure itself of stability and continuity from year to year. A person must serve one year on the

Board to run for VP of Travel or VP of Rec. A person must serve two years on the Board to run for President.

In the event that a duly elected Board Member resigns his/her position, the remaining Board Members will appoint another qualified Association Member to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of that Board Position until the election year of said Board Position.

The Board shall make available to all Association Members an Association Directory, which includes the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all Association Board Members and coaches. This Directory shall be updated once a year and will be maintained by the Secretary.

2.1 The Makeup of the Board

The Board shall consist of a:

- 1) President- *Odd Year Election
- 2) First Vice President-Travel Program- **Even Year Election
- 3) First Vice President-Recreation Program- *Odd Year Election
- 4) Secretary- **Even Year Election
- 5) Treasurer- *Odd Year Election
- 6) Registrar- **Even Year Election
- 7) Equipment Manager- *Odd Year Election
- 8) Publicity Chairperson-**Even Year Election
- 9) Field Maintenance-*Odd Year Election
- 10) Workbond/Concession- **Even Year Election
- 11) Director of Training and Education- *Odd Year Election
- 12) Director of Recreation- **Even Year Election
- 13) Director of Fundraising- *Odd Year Election

2.1.1 President

The President shall preside over all Association, Board, and General Membership meetings. The President shall not vote at Association or Board meetings, except in the case of a tie vote. The President, in the event that the Treasurer is unavailable, may issue an Association check(s) not to exceed \$600.00, without majority approval of the Board. The President is responsible for scheduling the use of all Association fields and must approve all field changes.

2.1.2 First Vice President- Travel Program

The First Vice President-Travel Program is responsible for all the duties of the President in the absence of the President. The First Vice President-Travel Program shall preside over the Association's Travel Program and is responsible for enforcing the By-Laws and rules and Regulations thereof. The First Vice President-Travel Program shall send monthly meeting notices when the Secretary is unable to do so.

2.1.3 First Vice President-Recreation Program

The First Vice President-Recreation Program is responsible for all Recreation Programs activities. The First Vice President-Recreation Program will preside over Association functions if the President and First Vice President-Travel Program are not available. The First Vice President-Recreation Program shall send monthly meeting notices when the Secretary and the First Vice President-Travel Program are unable to do so.

2.1.4 Secretary

The Secretary shall notify Association Members of general meetings and shall notify Board Members of Board meetings. The Secretary shall handle all Association correspondence (not otherwise delegated), record and publish minutes of Association meetings, take roll call by team and of Board Members, and send out notices of the Annual Election Meeting. The Secretary will also maintain the Association Directory.

During the Annual Election Meeting, the Secretary shall preside over all election activities. During the Annual Election Meeting the Secretary shall:

- 1) Identify those coaches and assistants eligible to participate in said election,
- 2) Prepare and distribute the election ballot for said election,
- 3) Collect and total the election ballots in said election, and
- 4) Inform the President of the results of said election.

2.1.5 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of all fees and dues and their deposit into the Association Bank Account. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate of all financial transactions and render a report at each monthly Association meeting. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for the payment of all Association bills. The Treasurer must sign all checks and tax returns. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for the preparation of the annual report. Checks written in an amount exceeding \$600.00 must have proper approval of a majority of the Board.

2.1.6 Registrar

The registrar shall be the recipient of all Travel and Recreational Registration forms and shall maintain a complete record of all teams and players for the purpose of player registration and Recreation Tournament assignment. The registrar shall assign post draft players in the order designated by the First Vice President-Recreation Program. The registrar shall insure that all Association Players, Travel and Recreational, are properly registered for each season with the New Jersey State Youth Soccer Association.

2.1.7 Equipment Manager

The Equipment Manager shall obtain bids from suppliers and present that information to the Board. The Equipment Manager shall make all equipment purchases as approved by the Board and distribute such equipment to the Recreation and Travel Program team representatives.

2.1.8 Publicity Chairperson

The Publicity Chairperson shall provide information to the news media covering Association activities, feature articles, and game results. The Publicity Chairperson is responsible for all Association related activities and, shall assist Fundraising Director with all Association fund-raising activities including the Spring Fundraiser and Picture Night. This is an elected position. Even year.

2.1.9 Field Maintenance

The Field Maintenance person is responsible for maintaining the Association fields and equipment necessary to perform such maintenance. In addition, the Field Maintenance person is responsible for setting up and breaking down of the Association fields, including but not limited to the construction of the goals, lining of the fields, insertion of the corner flags, and other activities necessary for playing Travel and Recreation soccer games.

2.1.10 Workbond/Concession

The Workbond/Concession Director shall be responsible for maintaining concession stand schedules, assigning field maintenance responsibilities and distribution of workbond checks. Additionally, this person is responsible for all concession stand activities including cash receipts, sale of league goods and coordinating purchasing of supplies with the President. This is an elected position and voting member of the Board.

2.1.11 Director of Training and Education

The Director of Training and Education is a voting member of the Board. The Director of training and Education is responsible for all Recreation Program training activities and is available to conduct and or organize other soccer related educational activities (i.e. coach's clinics, parent education sessions, etc.). This position is an elected position. Even year.

2.1.12 Director of Recreation Program

The Director of Recreation Program is a voting member of the Board. The director of Recreation shall work in conjunction with the 1st Vice President of Recreation and will Serve in his/her capacity if the 1st Vice President of Rec is not available. This is an elected position. Even year.

2.1.13 Director of Fundraising

The Director of Fundraising is a voting member of the Board. The Director of Fundraising shall oversee all fundraising activities of the league and work with the Director of Publicity on Spring Fundraiser and Picture Night. This is an elected position. Odd year.

2.2 Board Responsibilities

The Board shall be responsible and have sole authority for:

- 1) Enforcing the By-Laws of the Association,
- 2) Establishing, amending, and enforcing the Rules and Regulations of the Association.
- 3) Organizing and regulating the Travel and Recreational Teams, and
- 4) Making temporary Rules and Regulations for specific cases or occasions not provided for in the By-Laws.

2.3 Meeting of the Board

The Board shall meet:

- 1) Once a month,
- 2) Whenever the President deems it necessary, or
- 3) If the President is instructed to do so by a simple majority of the Board Members.

At all Board Meetings, a majority of five (5)-voting members shall constitute a quorum for conducting Association business. The President is not considered a voting member and shall cast a vote only if there is a quorum and a tie among voting members.

If a Board Member fails to attend two (2) consecutive Board Meetings, without notifying the Secretary, that Board Member will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board. The Board will annually review and if necessary establish new procedures, rules, and fees required for the Association Members and will appoint any committees that may be required.

2.3 Disciplinary Authority

The Board has the right and authority to suspend, bar completely, or otherwise discipline any player, coach, manager, team assistant, parent, or Association Board Member who show cause or violates the Old Bridge Township Athletic Code of Conduct as described in Section 6. A written notification explaining the Board's decision will be sent to the disciplined individual.

Each coach is specifically responsible for the conduct of his/her players, on and off the field, before, during, and immediately following a game. Failure to exercise this

responsibility will result in disciplinary action to the team, the officials, and the coach, which may include expulsion from the Association or lesser penalties as determined by the Board.

The Board shall review all red card offenses. Any coach or assistant receiving a red card is subject to the discipline of the Board and will not be reinstated until he/she meets with the Board at the next Regular Monthly Meeting. The coach or assistant receiving the red card, prior to being reinstated, will pay all red card fines.

2. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

3.1 Regular Monthly Meetings

The Regular Monthly Meetings of the Association for the transaction of ordinary business will take place the first Wednesday of each month, at the Old Bridge Municipal Center, unless otherwise notified. The meeting will start promptly at 8:00 pm, unless otherwise notified. Meeting attendance is mandatory for Board Members and a representative from each Travel and Recreation team. It is strongly suggested that assistant coaches attend the Regular Monthly Meetings as well.

If a Board Member or team representative fails to attend two (2) consecutive Regular Monthly Meetings, without notifying the Secretary, that Association member will be subject to disciplinary action by the Board.

3.2. Annual Election Meeting

An Annual Election Meeting of the Association shall take place on the first Wednesday of June at 8:00 pm, at the Old Bridge Municipal Center, unless otherwise notified. At this meeting, those Board Positions that are up for election will be voted on. Refer to Section 2- Executive Board for details.

3.2.1 Board Position Elections

Any Association Member wishing to run for a Board Position that will be voted on during the Annual Meeting must inform the Secretary, in writing, on or before May 1st by 8:00 pm of his/her intent to run for a Board Position and clearly identify the said Board Position. The Secretary will then officially inform the Association of those Association Members seeking election to Board Positions that will be voted on during the June Annual Election Meeting. Floor nominations will only be accepted if no Association Member has declared intent to seek a particular Board position.

During the Annual Election Meeting, only those voting association Members present and in good standing at the Annual Election Meeting will be eligible to vote. Refer to Section

3.4.3 Voting Power, for details. In the event of a tie vote the current Board Members will meet privately to declare a winner.

After all elections are complete and the duly elected new Board Members are announced, the Board Members “ELECT” will assume the roles and responsibilities of their respective Board Positions on the 1st day of July.

The Association Secretary will preside over all Annual Election Meeting activities. Refer to Section 2.1.4 Secretary, for details.

3.3 Special Meetings

The President may call Special Meetings of the Association, by a majority of the Board, or a majority of the Association Members voting at a Regular or Special Meeting.

3.4 Amendments

3.4.1 Proposed Amendment(s) to the By-Laws

Any proposed amendment(s) to the By-Laws may be introduced as an amendment by any active Association Member at any Regular Monthly Meeting or special Meeting of the Association and must be submitted in writing to the Secretary. Before the Association may pass any amendment(s) to the By-Laws, it must be read at two consecutive Regular Monthly Meetings including the one at which the amendment(s) is introduced and be voted on after the second reading. The proposed amendment(s) must be approved by a majority of all eligible votes. Refer to Section 3.4.3 Voting Power, for details.

3.4.1 3.4.2 Proposed Amendment(s) to the Rules & Regulations

Any active member of the Association at any Regular Monthly Meeting or Special Meeting of the Association may introduce any proposed amendment(s) to any rule and/or regulation as an amendment. Before the Association may pass any amendment(s) to the Rules & Regulations it must be submitted at a Regular Monthly Meeting and voted on at the next Regular Monthly Meeting. The proposed amendment(s) must be approved by a majority of all eligible votes. Refer to Section 3.4.3 Voting Power, for details.

3.4.2 Voting Power

- 1) Each Association team (Coach/Assistant Coaches) shall be entitled to two (2) votes on all Association matters. If, however an Association Member happens to coach more than one (1) team (Travel or Recreational), the said coach is allowed only one (1) vote in all Association matters. For voting purposes, each team is allowed to declare only one (1) coach and one (1) assistant coach. Each coach/assistant coach, as a member in good standing, shall be eligible to vote on all association matters.

- 2) Board Members holding a position of coach or assistant coach on a team shall have the right to one (1) vote only.
- 3) All coaches and assistants must be declared thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Election Meeting in order to vote in said Meeting and prior to voting on all Association matters.
- 4) Each eligible Association Member attending the Annual Election Meeting is entitled to one (1) vote only as a described member.
- 5) Absentee ballots will not be accepted under any conditions.

3.5 Association Audit

The President shall appoint two (2) non-Board Members, not later than one (1) month prior to the Annual Election Meeting to audit the financial records of the Association, The auditor's report should be submitted to the Board two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Election Meeting.

3.6 Insurance

The Board shall obtain the insurance for the Association on an annual basis and review and present the particulars of the Policy to the Association.

4. TRAVEL SOCCER PROGRAM

4.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Travel Soccer Program is to offer the girls of Old Bridge and surrounding communities a higher level of competition than is offered by the Recreational Soccer Program. Each player expressing an interest in the Travel Program will be given an equal opportunity to make a Travel Team in her respective age group and the best players available will be selected to represent the Association. An important goal of the Association is to allow every player the opportunity to reach the highest level of soccer proficiency that she is capable of achieving.

4.2 Age Groups

All Association Travel Teams shall be made up of players of the same age group according to NJSYSA1, USYSA2 and USSF3 rulings. Under normal circumstances Travel Teams in all divisions shall be comprised of players in single year age group (August 1 through July 31) except Division 1(U/17 & UP) where multiple years are permissible. Players must play in the correct age group provided a Travel Team exists in that particular age group. When a new Travel Team is being formed and there is a player in that age group currently playing on an older Travel Team, that player is obligated to try out for the Travel Team in her age group. However, if a younger player has "played-

up” for four (4) consecutive outdoor seasons (2 YEARS), this rule does not apply. Additionally, should a player leave a Travel Team, for whatever reason, after “playing-up” for four (4) or more consecutive seasons and wishes to continue playing Travel Soccer for the Association, she must try out for the team in her own age group (assuming a team in her age group exists). A player will be allowed to “play-up” one (1) year maximum if that players’ parents, coach and Board of Directors all agree to the decision. The Board reserves the right, to review and settle, all matters pertaining to travel players” playing-up”, for whatever reason.

4.3. Team Demographics

Each Association Travel Team shall consist of a majority of Old Bridge Township players. Up to and including Division III, there will be a maximum of five (5) out of town players allowed per Association Travel Team. In Division I & II there are no restrictions. Any out of town Travel Team player registered in the Association Travel Program for two (2) consecutive seasons will be considered an Old Bridge Township Travel Team player. The Board and association Members are encouraged to develop Old Bridge youth and teams. The Board reserves the right to intervene and settle a problem regarding out of town players if they occur.

4.4. Travel Teams

4.4.1 Number of Travel Teams

The Association is committed, when possible, to fielding Travel Teams in all age groups, from U8 to U19.

For U10 and under, the association will, when possible, field two (2) Travel Teams, an “A” Team and a “B” Team, with the purpose of combining the said Travel teams at the U11 age group. It is understood that under the “A” Team / “B” Team arrangement, the “B” team will act as a feeder team to the “A” Team. When formulating the “A” and “B” Teams, it is understood that the coach of the “A” Team will receive the higher rated players first and the coach of the B Team will select from the remaining players.

IF there are enough players in the U11 age group and up, the Association will make every attempt to field two (2) Travel teams to accommodate those additional players. The same “A” Team / “B” Team concepts apply in the older age groups as well.

The President & First Vice President-Travel Program have the right to review all the facts and information pertaining to the selection of “A” and “B” Travel Teams and reserve the right to intervene when necessary.

4.4.2 Travel Team Tryouts

Tryouts will be held as early as practicable so as to facilitate the formation of teams for the next travel year. Each tryout will be made known to all players of a particular age group via TV, newspaper, direct mail (when possible) and other means of advertisement. When the tryout(s) is concluded every player, as well as her parent(s), will be informed by the coach in that age group as to the result of that tryout. Tryout rating information is confidential and will not be shared with players or parents.

When there are enough players to form two (2) Travel Teams in the same age group (an “A” team and a “B” team as defined above) tryouts for said teams must be conducted at the same time, at the same location and under the same conditions. If insufficient players tryout for any given age group, the Board of Directors may choose not to flight a team in that division, or may allow for the selection of qualified, non-resident players, or may call for the holding of additional tryouts for that age group. The Board determines the travel tryout process. Any player who wishes to play must go through the tryout process.

It is the intent of the League to hold unbiased tryouts. There will be one (1) mandatory tryout for each age group, with the option of a second one as required. Players must attend the tryout to be considered for a Travel Team. It is up to the Director of Travel if additional tryouts are warranted.

Player Tryouts Exceptions and Procedures

Players who do not participate in the tryout process and wish to be considered for a team Will be addressed on a case- by- case basis. Once approved by the Director of Travel, the “A” Travel team shall have the right of first refusal on all new and existing talent. The Board of Directors will handle all appeals.

_____ The Assessor

Independent assessors will be selected and utilized by the Board of Directors for the purpose of ranking and rating U8 through and including U13 travel participants. A minimum of two (2) independent assessors will be used. The same independent assessors will be used if more than one tryout for a specific age group is required.

The Director of Training and the Director of Travel, along with then assessors, will develop the methodology that will be used for the rankings and ratings to be used form the tryouts. The rating sheet must be a standardized, pre-approved form with a comments section, along with a section for non-qualified travel players.

The assessors will determine those participants who are considered not to have the skills necessary to play travel soccer. These participants will be classified as currently “under qualified”. At the discretion of coaches, with the approval of the Director of Travel, these players may be selected to play on a travel team.

Any player wishing to tryout as a goalie will still be required to demonstrate their overall field skills as the other participants. This type of participant will receive two scores, one for goalie and one overall ranking.

The assessors will complete their evaluations and present the ranking and rating of all participants the same day as the last tryout for that age group. means of advertisement. When the tryout(s) is concluded, every player, as well as her parent(s), will be informed by the coach in that age group as to the result of her tryout. Tryout rating information is confidential and will not be shared with players or parents.

4.4.3 Number of Travel Team Players and Playing Time

Travel Teams in the U8 - U10 age groups will have on its roster a minimum of ten (10) "carded" players and a maximum of fourteen (14) "carded" players. The recommended number of "carded" players in these age groups is twelve (12). Small sided Travel team players are required to play a minimum of 1/3 of the game.

Travel Teams in the U11 - U16 age groups will have on its roster a minimum of fourteen (14) and a maximum of eighteen (18) "carded" players. The recommended number of "carded" players in these age groups is sixteen (16). U17- U19 will have on its roster a minimum of Fourteen (14) and a maximum of Twenty Two (22) "carded" players with only Eighteen (18) "carded" players allowed to participate in a game .

There is no minimum amount of playing time for full sided Travel Team players. The coaches determine playing time and positions.

4.4.4 Travel Team Uniforms

All Association Travel Teams will conform to a standardized uniform. The primary Jersey will be royal blue symbolizing Association colors. Individual Travel Team logos may be worn on the upper left of the Jersey. The words OLD BRIDGE must be visible in the logo and royal blue Shorts and Socks are also part of the uniform. An alternate Jersey (white with blue trim and lettering) should also be procured by each Travel Team player. All Travel team uniforms must be approved by the Board. It is the decision of the each team to wear either the alternate or primary jersey for any sanctioned league match. Travel teams also reserve the right not to wear the standardized uniform during tournament, scrimmage or winter league play.

4.4.5 Travel Team Tournaments and Training

The Association will establish an account with \$1250 for each Travel Team per year. For Travel Teams playing ½ a year the account will be established at \$ 625. The funds may

be used for Tournaments or Training only. The Travel Team coach must submit a trainers invoice or Tournament application to the Treasurer for allocation of the funds. The Travel Team and/or coach will decide which tournament(s) the team will participate in. The Board reserves the right to review and amend this policy on an annual basis. All outside bank accounts established by a Travel Team are subject to review by the board. The Treasurer of the Association shall be supplied with a copy of the latest Bank Statement for this review.

4.4.6 Travel Team Registration Process

All Travel Team players must be registered with the Association as soon as the team is selected. This is the responsibility of the coach. All Travel Teams players must be “carded” in accordance with NJSYSA Rules and Regulations. The President, First Vice President- Travel Program, and the respective Travel Team coach, are jointly responsible for the procedure. No Team or Player may be carded until the registration form(s) are received, reviewed and approved by the registrar. Travel Fees are currently set as follows:

Travel Player Fees

Single Child - \$ 200 per year

Additional Child - \$ 100 per year

Spring Season Fundraiser – \$50

1/2 season Travel Player - \$ 100

Additional 1/2 Season Travel Player - \$ 50

Travel Player plus Recreation Player - \$ 175 travel per year

Additional Recreation Player - \$ 30 per season

Workbond - \$75 per season

The Board reserves the right to change the fee structure when needed.

After the initial “carding” process is complete, a new player may be added, released, or transferred by using the “Player Status” form. The only Board Members allowed to approve/ sign the “Player Status” form are the First Vice President- Travel Program OR the President. The Association Registrar must be notified if the status of a player will be changed.

Once a player is “carded” to a Travel Team they are unable to play Recreation Soccer. The only exceptions to this rule are for U8 travel players, and a player that began the season in the Recreation program and was chosen to join a travel team during the Recreation season. The player is able to finish the Recreation season.

4.5. Travel Team Coach Selection Process

All prospective Travel Team coaches are required to submit a resume outlining experiences in the sport of soccer and qualifications. This resume along with a formal letter of transmittal, containing the age group of the Travel Team he/she wished to coach,

must be submitted to the First Vice President- Travel Program by April 15th for review and determination. All prospective Travel Team coaches are subject to the approval of the Board and shall, at the Board's request, appear before the Board for an interview prior to approval. The Board shall endeavor to select the best-qualified coaches for each Travel Team. The Board shall consider various criteria in making its determination and coaches will be appointed by the Board before the June Regular Meeting. The Board reserves the right to evaluate the performance of each Travel Team coach on an annual OR as needed basis. All returning Travel Team coaches must submit a letter of intent to coach each year for approval by the Board.

The criteria needed to possibly be selected as a Travel Team coach is as follows:

1. "F" License.
2. One full year of coaching youth soccer.
3. Resume submitted.
4. Character of person applying for team.

If there are enough players to form a second Travel Team or "B" Team in a particular age group, the coach that is selected by the Board to coach that team will be considered the "B" team coach. The incumbent coach in that age group will be considered the "A" Team coach.

If awarded a Travel Team, a coach will NOT identify his/her assistant coach until after the new Travel team has been selected and the players identified.

Each Travel Team coach and assistant is required to have at a minimum, "F" license from an approved NJSYSA and USYSA course. Once a coach has successfully completed the "F" license course, the Association will reimburse that coach all fees associated with said course.

5 RECREATION SOCCER PROGRAM

5.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Recreation Soccer Program is to promote the game of soccer in a non-competitive, fun atmosphere for the girls of Old Bridge and surrounding communities. The Association will provide all players training, leadership, and promote good sportsmanship. All recreation players will be afforded the opportunity and encouraged to play the game of soccer regardless of ability and skill level.

5.2 Age Groups

Girls who have reached the age of four (4) as of the end of the season, up to age sixteen (16) as of December 31 of the participating year, as per USYSA guidelines, are eligible to participate. The Registrar, in conjunction with the First Vice President- Recreation

Program and the Board shall determine the make-up of the Recreation Soccer Program age groups to which the players will be assigned on an annual basis. Generally speaking, the age groups are broken down as follows:

Division Breakdowns:

Mini Mites: Pre K Group (Age 4)

Pee Wee Division: Kindergarten Age

Youth Division: First and Second Grade

Junior Division: Third, Fourth, & Fifth Grade

Senior Division: Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, & Tenth Grade

Masters Division: Tenth, Eleventh & Twelfth Grade

The Board reserves the right to review and amend this policy on an annual basis.

5.3 Registration

Registration sessions for the Recreation Soccer Program are held periodically during the year preceding each Spring and Fall season. Registration information will be advertised on local TV stations as well as in the local newspapers. Registration forms will also be distributed throughout the Old Bridge Township Schools.

All registration forms must be filled out completely and accompanied with full payment. At the Board's discretion, a work bond in the amount of \$50.00 may be put in effect for a particular season. Recreation fees are currently set as follows:

Single Child - \$ 55 per season

Additional Child - \$ 30 per season

Spring season Fundraiser - \$ 50

Sister in Travel- \$30 per season

The Association reserves the right to impose a late fee of \$30.00 if registration forms are received after a specific, pre determined date. The Board reserves the right to change the fee structure when needed.

5.4 Recreation Team Draft

It is the responsibility of the First Vice President – Recreation Program / President /Registrar to organize and conduct the recreation team draft. All recreation teams will be assembled on the basis of a blind draft. The only exception pertains to the coach's daughter, who automatically plays on her parent's team.

Special requirements for a player, such as hardship, transportation, not wanting to be placed with a certain coach, etc, will be given consideration at the draft. Decisions will be made on an individual case basis. There will be no trading between recreation teams. Once the teams have been selected and players notified no registration refunds will be given without the approval of the President / Vice President – Recreation Program and the Registrar. Under normal circumstances, no refunds will be issued after the first game of the season has been played.

5.5 Recreation Team Coach Selection Process

The First Vice President – Recreation Program, prior to the recreation team draft, will select each recreation team coach and (1) assistant coach. Each recreation team coach is required to have, at a minimum, an “F” license from an approved NJSYSA and USUSA course. All assistants not having at least an “F” license will be given the opportunity to obtain an “F” license sometime during the season. Once a coach has successfully completed the “F” license course, the Association will reimburse the coach all fees associated with the course. The Board reserves the right to amend this process as needed.

5.6 Recreation All-Star Team

Each Fall, the Association will attempt to form a Recreation All-Star team(s) in whatever age group there is interest and enough players for the following Spring season. The Recreation All-Star team(s) will compete in Recreation Tournaments beginning Memorial Day weekend. The Association will pay for two Recreation Tournaments. The Recreation Team(s) or coach will decide which tournaments his/her team will participate in. The Board reserves the right to review and amend this policy on an annual basis.

5.6.1 Recreation All-Star Team – Coach Selection Process

All prospective Recreation All-Star team coaches are required to submit a resume outlining experiences in the sport of soccer and qualifications. This resume along with a formal letter of transmittal, containing the age group of the Recreation All-Star team he/she wishes to coach, must be submitted to the First Vice President-Travel Program by Oct 1 for review and determination. All prospective Recreation All-Star team coaches are subject to the approval of the Board and shall, at the Board’s request, appear before the Board for an interview prior to approval. The Board shall endeavor to select the best qualified coach for each Recreation All-Star team. The Board shall consider various criteria in making its determination and coaches will be appointed by the Board on or before the regular November meeting.

Each Recreation All-Star team coach is required to have, at a minimum, an ‘F’ license from an approved NJSYSA and USYSA course. Once a coach has successfully completed the “F” license course, the Association will reimburse that coach all fees associated with said course.

5.6.2 Recreation All-Star Team-Player Selection Process

The registrar will make available a roster of all eligible players. This information will be available by the regular November meeting. Tryouts will be made known to all players of that particular age group, via TV, newspaper, direct mail, and other means of advertisement. An independent trainer is required to run All Star tryouts. Rating information will be given to the President, VP Travel, or Board member in attendance.

When the tryout(s) is concluded, every player, as well as her parent(s), will be informed of the result of her tryout. Tryout rating information is confidential and will not be shared with players or parents. Final selection of players is subject to Board approval.

5.7 Responsibilities of Recreation Team Coaches and Assistants

Each Recreation Team coach and assistant is responsible for the following:

- 1) Abiding by the By-Laws and Rules & Regulations of the Association.
- 2) Attending all Association meetings
- 3) Providing instruction, discipline, and safety for all players under their jurisdiction during practice and league games.
- 4) Having at least (2) adults attend each practice session.
- 5) Maintaining a healthy and fun atmosphere for all players.

6. Association Code of Ethics

Soccer belongs to the players of the Association and provides physical and emotional satisfaction for the girls. All members, coaches, and assistants who are involved in the Association must understand this and put the welfare of the game and the players before their own personal reward.

A Soccer Association is only as good as its members and the conduct they exhibit. Soccer coaches and assistants must be asked to maintain the trust and confidence placed in them by the players, parents, and the Association. Coaches and assistants who are unwilling to comply with the principles of the Association's "Code of Ethics" will not be allowed to coach and or assist.

This "Code of Ethics" has been developed to clarify and distinguish ethical and approved behavior from those practices that are detrimental. The Code's secondary purpose is to promote the game of soccer by stressing the proper demeanor expected of coaches and assistants in the dealings with players, parents, officials, and the public. There can be no success of this "Code of Ethics" without the consent and support of those for whom it was established ...the Soccer Coach.

6A Old Bridge Township Code of Conduct

All coaches, assistants, Board members, parents, and players must comply with The Code of Ethics set forth by The Township of Old Bridge. All Association members, parents, and players, must abide by the rules in the Code of Conduct document as written by Old Bridge Township. All coaches, assistants, Board members, parents, and players, must sign the Old Bridge Code of Conduct. Failure to sign the Old Bridge Code of Conduct document will result in the individual not being able to participate in The Girls Soccer League of Old Bridge.

6.1 Responsibilities to Players

- 1) The coach and assistant must never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of the players. Winning should be the result of preparation and discipline with emphasis placed on societal ideals and character traits.
- 2) The Laws of Soccer were written to insure a continuous flow of action and safety of the players. Coaches and assistants must always play within these rules and never seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to their players. Coaches and assistants have a responsibility not to tolerate these types of behavior from their players regardless of the situation.
- 3) Medical problems are not the responsibility of coaches and or assistants. The appropriate person should handle the diagnosis and treatment of injuries.
- 4) Under no circumstances should a coach or assistant authorize the use of drugs.
- 5) Demands on players should pertain only to achieving success on the field and never be so extensive as to interfere with their academic progress.

6.2 Responsibilities to the Association

- 1) The function of the coach and assistant is to contribute to the intellectual and physical growth of the player through participation in soccer. This must never be disregarded.
- 2) The coach and assistant must behave in such a manner that the principles, integrity, and dignity of the sport are not comprised.
- 3) Coaches and assistants should discuss problems with the appropriate Board member in a friendly, courteous manner, and then accept and support their decision(s).
- 4) Coaches and assistants must support Association decisions in all policies, Rules and Regulations, regarding the game of soccer.

6.3 Rules of the Game

- 1) Coaches and assistants must be acquainted thoroughly with the rules of soccer. Coaches and assistants are responsible for seeing that the players understand the intent as well as the application of the rules of the game.
- 2) Coaches and assistants must adhere to the letter and the spirit of the rules.
- 3) Coaches and assistants who circumvent the rules to gain an advantage have no place in soccer.
- 4) Coaches and assistants are responsible for their players' action on the field.
- 5) Coaches and assistants must not permit their players to perform with the intent of causing injury to opposing players.
- 6) If coaches and assistants permit, encourage, or condone performance that is not in the letter or spirit of the rules of the game, they become derelict in their responsibilities to their players, the Association, and the sport.

6.4 Officials

- 1) Officials (Travel and Recreation) must have the support of coaches, players, and the Association. Coaches and assistants must refrain from criticizing officials to their players.
- 2) The NJSYSA as governing organization are highly professional organizations that have the welfare of youth soccer as their primary concern. Coaches and assistants should support these organizations.
- 3) Coaches and assistants should strive to attend local official meetings. Coaches and assistants should also invite officials to discuss rule interpretations.
- 4) At all times, officials should be treated with respect. The playing rules governing play should be followed to the letter. Criticism of an official should be made in writing to the appropriate club, league or State Administrator, and not address the referee before, during, or after a game in a demeaning fashion.
- 5) Officials (Recreation) must present to the First Vice President – Recreation program, prior to the season, proof of certification for that year and must have and wear an up-to-date patch when working.
- 6) Officials (Recreation) must be in proper uniform which includes; an approved shirt (black or summer color) with patch, black shorts, black socks, (worn to knee), and black cleats or turf shoes.
- 7) Officials (Recreation) must be properly equipped with a whistle, stopwatch, flags, a game card, booking cards, and a coin.
- 8) Officials (Recreation) must abide by FIFA and Association rules (where applicable) and must always act in the best interest of the girls.

6.5 Other Responsibilities

- 1) A coach's behavior must bring credit to him/her self, the Association, and the game of soccer.
- 2) Coaches and assistants have a responsibility to be as inconspicuous as possible during a game. The attitude of coaches and assistants towards officials should be controlled and undemonstrative.
- 3) It shall be considered unethical for a coach or an assistant to have a verbal dissent during a game with any coach, player or official.
- 4) Every Association coach and assistant is required each seasonal year to complete in its entirety, the NJSYSA Disclosure Form and return it to the President, First Vice President – Recreation program, or Registrar. Any coach or assistant failing to comply with this requirement will not be allowed to coach until the form is properly submitted.

7. Money Matters

7.1 Fund-Raising

Participation by Recreation and Travel players in Association sponsored fund-raising events/activities is mandatory. All teams and coaches will be expected to take part in such events. Each particular fund-raising activity will be presented to the Association members prior to the start of the season. Coaches and assistants will then provide the fund-raising information to the parents of the team. The Board reserves the right to “Grandfather” Travel teams from fund-raising activities when they only participate for 1/2 a travel season.

7.2 Individual Travel Team Fund-Raisers

Any Travel Team desiring to conduct an individual team fund-raiser must submit the details of such an activity to the Board for consideration and approval. The Board shall not withhold approval, providing that the fund-raiser does not conflict with any Association sponsored event. The Travel Team’s proposed fund-raiser must be legal, ethical, and one that does not tend to jeopardize or damage the good name of the Girls Soccer League of Old Bridge.

If a Travel Team decides to conduct its own fund-raiser, and the Board has approved that fund-raiser, that Travel Team will provide the Treasurer a detailed financial report of said activity. Failure to provide such a report will preclude that Travel Team from conducting additional fund-raising activities in the future.

7.3 Registration Fees

Registration fees and Association fund-raisers are the only means the Association has for paying for league participation, State Cup, Recreation and Travel Team tournaments, clinics, camps, equipment, and other programs it chooses to sponsor.

7.4 Referee Fees

Upon receipt of all registration fees and properly completed registration forms, each Travel Team coach will receive, from the Treasurer, a check to be utilized for payment of referee’s fees for all home Travel games in an amount equal to the total number of home games multiplied by the particular fee for that division. It is the coach’s responsibility to provide cash for payment of referees at each home game and to pay the full fee per game regardless of the number of referees officiating.

It is the responsibility of the First Vice President-Recreation Program, in conjunction with the Treasurer, to insure that all recreation referees are paid in full when they have completed officiating.

7.5 Workbonds

The Association is an all-volunteer organization. At registration a \$50 workbond will be collected in form of a check. It is the responsibility of the parent to fulfill their workbond commitment. It is the responsibility of the Board members to give all parents that want to volunteer the opportunity to do work. The Board will keep records of hours and dates worked by the parents and submit those records to the Treasurer of the Association. It is the responsibility of all coaches to advise parents of the Work Bond procedures. Upon completion of the workbond commitment the Workbond/Concession Director of the association will return the workbond. If the parent fails to fulfill their commitment to the association then the Treasurer will cash the workbond check.

The Board reserves the right to review the workbond and procedure on an annual basis.

8. Association Rules & Regulations

The following Rules & Regulations pertain to the operation of the Recreation Program.

8.1 Goals and Goal Nets

Properly anchored and secured goals with goal nets must be used for all games during league play. Also, all fields of play must be lined properly and corner flags in place. This is the responsibility of the Field Maintenance Board member.

8.2 Regular League Play

- 1) The competition will be between all Recreation Teams affiliated with the Association.
- 2) Recreation Team colors shall consist of a designated team jersey and black socks as determined and distributed by the Equipment Manager. Players are expected to wear black soccer shorts, shin guards, and soccer cleats.
- 3) Goalie shirts, as provided by the Equipment Manager, shall be a different color and distinguishable from all other jerseys
- 4) All Recreation Players, must play at least 1/2 of the scheduled game.
- 5) There will be no movement of Recreation Players between teams.
- 6) Prior to the start of the game, the President, First Vice President-Recreation, or the Field Maintenance director will make a determination as to whether a game(s) can be played due to weather conditions or other limiting conditions.
- 7) The referee of all youth, junior, and senior games shall make sure that each player has the proper equipment.
- 8) If during the first half of a regular league game, the President, First Vice President Recreation-Program, or referee halts play due to weather, darkness, or other conditions which in his/her judgment, warrants discontinuation of play, this game will be replayed in its entirety. Once the game enters the second half it becomes official and cannot be replayed. The result of the game will be at the point the referee stops play.
- 9) The season will be officially over after the last scheduled game and the standings are made official.

10) The First Vice President – Recreation Program, in conjunction with the President, will reschedule rainout games.

11) The First Vice President – Recreation Program or the President, shall appoint the referee in all Recreation games.

12) Any player receiving a red card will be ejected from that game and suspended for the next game. After issuing a red card, the referee must file a game report with The First Vice President –Recreation Program and the President.

13) Any coach or assistant receiving a red card will be ejected from that game, asked to leave the field of play before the game continues, and will not be allowed to coach until the Board has conducted a review of the incident. After issuing a red card, the referee must file a game report with the First Vice President – Recreation Program and the President.

8.3 Change of Date of a Scheduled Game

The President is responsible for scheduling the use of all Association fields and must approve all field changes.

8.4 Protests and Appeals

All Recreation League protests or appeals must be submitted in writing to the Secretary and recorded within (4) calendar days following the incident of protest or appeal. In the absence of the Secretary, any Board member shall record and give a receipt to the individual filing the protest or appeal.

The Secretary should notify the President and the person filing the protest or appeal. The President shall commission a Protest/Appeals committee within a (2) week period after official receipt of a protest or appeal. The Protest/Appeals committee shall consist of:

- 1) One (1) member of an uninvolved team
- 2) The Board Secretary or any available Board member
- 3) The First Vice President – Recreation Program.

This three (3) person committee shall review the protest/appeal and decide if penalties are required.

8.5 Senior Division

Each team will be given fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled kickoff time to field a minimum of seven (7) players, or what the Vice President –Recreation Program and the President determines to be the minimum amount of players for that season, based on the roster size. The minimum amount of players for a Senior Division game must be determined before the start of the season and all coaches and assistants must be made aware of the ruling. If a team is unable to field the minimum amount of players, the opposing team will be declared the winner. If both teams are unable to field a minimum amount of players, the game will be recorded as no contest. No points will be awarded to either team. The Senior division will, under normal conditions, play 11 v 11. The Vice

President Recreation, President, and Board reserve the right to determine the amount of players on the field, before each season, based on the roster size.

The length of the game in the Senior Division will be fifty (50) minutes; (2) twenty five (25) minute halves.

8.5.1 Junior Division

Each team will be given fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled kickoff time to field a minimum of seven (7) players, or what the Vice President Recreation and President determines to be the minimum amount of players for that season, based on the roster size. The minimum amount of players for a Junior Division game must be determined before the start of the season and all coaches and assistants must be made aware of the ruling. The same rules apply to the Junior Division as stated in the Senior Division. The Board reserves the right to determine the amount of players on the field, before each season, based on the roster size.

8.6 Youth Division

Same rules apply as stated in the Senior and Junior Divisions. The Board reserves the right to determine the amount of players on the field, before each season, based on the roster size.

8.7 Pee Wee Division

- 1) Under normal circumstances, play 5 v 5,
- 2) The Pee Wee Division is strictly for fun.
- 3) Standings and scores will not be kept.
- 4) The length of the game will be forty (40) minutes; four (4) ten (10) minute quarters.

8.7.1 Mini Mite Division

- 1) The Mini Mite Division is comprised of only four (4) year old players. The player must be four (4) years in age before the season ends to participate in this program.
- 2) The Mini Mite Division is strictly for fun.
- 3) Standings and scores will not be kept.
- 4) The length of the game will be forty (40) minutes, which will be split between instructional and game oriented.

8.7.2 System to determine First, Second, and Third place:

- 1) Three (3) points for a win and one (1) point for a tie.
- 2) In case of a tie after using the point system, the team with the most victories will be declared the winner.
- 3) In case of a tie using steps A and B, the team with the most wins in head-to-head competition during the season will be declared the winner.

- 4) In case of a tie using steps A, B and C team with least goals against shall be declared winner.
- 5) If a tie still remains after using A, B, C and D tie breaker will be determined in one of two ways: a playoff game to be played the next day or in the case where the teams in question have just finished playing, a ten minute “golden goal” overtime followed by a shootout if the overtime period finishes scoreless.

The Board reserves the right to change the point system before the start of the season if they deem it’s necessary. All Association members must be notified before the start of the season if a change has occurred.

THE GIRLS SOCCER LEAGUE OF OLD BRIDGE, INC; EXECUTIVE BOARD SHALL, AT ALL TIMES, ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF INTERPRETING THE BY-LAWS AND RULES & REGULATIONS AND MAKE ANY AND ALL DECISIONS NOT COVERED WITHIN THE BY-LAWS AND RULES AND REGULATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BEST INTEREST OF THIS ASSOCIATION AND ITS PLAYERS.