

# North Shore Youth Soccer Association

## Constitution, Bylaws and Regulations

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# Constitution

- 1 The Association known shall be known as the "North Shore Youth Soccer Association" also referred to as "NSYSA".
- 2 The purpose of the Association shall be to foster, develop, promote and administer the game of soccer among youth (boys and girls under eighteen years of age) within the North Shore District.
- 3 The "North Shore District" shall be that area consisting of the City and District of North Vancouver, the Municipality of West Vancouver and extending north to include the Municipalities of Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton, the Sechelt Peninsula and any municipalities therein.
- 4 The Association shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other accretions to the Association shall be used in promoting its stated purposes.
- 5 In the event of winding up or dissolution of the Association, any funds and assets of the Association remaining after the satisfaction of its debts and liabilities, shall be given or transferred to such organization or organizations promoting the same purposes of this Association, as may be determined by the members of the Association at the time of winding up or dissolution.
- 6 The North Shore Youth Soccer Association is affiliated with the British Columbia Soccer Association (BCSA) and is subject to the rules and regulations of that body and the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA). The Bylaws and Regulations of the North Shore Youth Soccer Association do not supersede the rules and regulations of the governing Clubs under which teams play.

# Bylaws

## Bylaw 1. Interpretation and Definitions

### In these bylaws and regulations:

- (a) Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice-versa; words importing the masculine shall include the feminine, and words importing persons shall include bodies corporate.
- (b) The word "Association" shall mean the North Shore Youth Soccer Association.
- (c) The word "Club" shall mean a body corporate or a group of persons organized for the purpose of promoting youth soccer.
- (d) The words "Youth" or "Youth Player" shall mean a registered amateur player under the age of eighteen (18) years before January 1<sup>st</sup> of the Current Playing Season, as defined in Bylaw 8.
- (e) The words "Pee-wee" or "Mini-soccer player" shall mean a registered amateur player who will attain his fifth birthday on or before December 31<sup>st</sup> of the Current Playing Season, but is under the age of ten (10) years, before January 1<sup>st</sup> of the Current Playing Season, as defined in Bylaw 8.
- (f) The words "reinstated player" shall mean a player who has been reinstated to youth status in accordance with Bylaw 15 of the BCSA Constitution.
- (g) The word "Team" shall mean a youth team consisting of not less than eleven (11) nor more than eighteen (18) registered players, as well as any appointed team officials, who have complied with Bylaw 9.
- (h) The word "Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of the North Shore Youth Soccer Association.
- (i) The words "Voting Member in Good Standing" shall be as defined in Bylaw 5 and shall be according voting rights as defined in Bylaw 5.
- (j) The words "Ordinary Resolution of the Board" shall mean a resolution passed by a simple majority of the elected members of the Board in attendance at a meeting.
- (k) The words "Official Mailing Address" shall mean the address of the Secretary of the Board.
- (l) Interpretation of the Association bylaws, regulations or any other Association matter not provided for herein, shall be referred to the Board whose decision shall be binding on all parties.

## Bylaw 2. Membership

(a) Club Associations (referred to as "Clubs") and their official colours:

- (i) Lynn Valley Soccer Association (pumpkin and black)
- (ii) Mount Seymour Soccer Association (yellow and black)
- (iii) North Shore Girls Soccer Club (sky blue and black)
- (iv) North Vancouver Lions Gate Soccer Association (royal blue and black)
- (v) Pemberton Youth Soccer Association
- (vi) Squamish Youth Soccer Association
- (vii) Sunshine Coast Youth Soccer Association
- (viii) Whistler Youth Soccer Club
- (ix) West Vancouver Soccer Club (blue and red)
- (x) Bowen Island Football Club

(b) Registered players: and

(c) Honorary Life Member.

A team may not apply for membership directly to this Association. Team registration must be through an affiliated Club or through the Clubs acting together, with the consent of the NSYSA, in the North Shore Premier Player Program or North Shore District Girls Metro Program.

Changes to the above-noted official Club colours must be approved by the Board.

## Bylaw 3. Association Board Officers

- (a) The business of the Association shall be conducted by a Board of sixteen (16) members who shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. Eight (8) of these members shall be elected in odd-numbered calendar years, while the remaining eight (8) members shall be elected in even-numbered calendar years.
- (b) The term of office for a director of the Association shall commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July after the Annual General Meeting and shall continue for a period of two years from that date.
- (c) The Board shall elect from among their members a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.
- (d) The Board shall meet whenever the Chairman deems it necessary, or if he is instructed to do so by a majority of the Board, but in any case shall meet at least once in every two months.
- (e) At all meetings of the Board, a simple majority of elected members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Association.
- (f) In the event that an elected member resigns from the Board, the Board shall be empowered to appoint a new director to fill the vacant position. This appointee shall serve until the next Annual General Meeting, at which time the appointee must resign, and if necessary, an election held in conjunction with the normal election process to fill any term of office remaining from the original member's election.
- (g) Any member of the Board absenting himself without cause from three (3) consecutive meetings of the Board, or who willfully neglects his duties to the Board, shall be deemed to have forfeited his position on the Board, and his position shall be declared vacant.

- (h) It is the duty of all Officers to bring an issue of general or specific concern forward for the Board's consideration. However, unless that Officer is the sole source of facts regarding the matter, that Officer will refrain from undue participation in the debate leading to the resolution of the issue if the matter directly affects the member or any team with which the member is associated. Moreover, no member shall vote on any matter directly affecting himself, any team with which the member is associated, or any matter in which the member has, or appears to have, a conflict of interest.
- (i) Indemnity of Directors:
  - (i) Subject to the provisions of the Society Act of the Province of British Columbia, each director or officer of the association shall be indemnified by the association against expenses reasonably incurred by him or her in connection with any action, suit or proceeding to which he or she may be made a party by reason of his or her being or having been an officer or director of the association except in relation to matters as to which he or she shall be finally adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to have been derelict in the performance of his or her duty as an officer or director. "Derelict" shall mean grossly negligent, criminally negligent or intentionally engaged in tortious conduct with the intent to defraud, deceive, misrepresent or take advantage improperly of an opportunity available to the association.
  - (ii) The directors may cause the association to purchase and maintain insurance for the benefit of any person who is serving as a director, officer, employee or agent of the association and their heirs and personal representatives, against any liability incurred by such persons.

#### Bylaw 4. Management

- (a) The Board may engage employees as it deems necessary from time to time, and such persons shall have such authority and responsibility, as the Board shall determine. The remuneration of any employee of the Association shall be fixed annually by the Board.
- (b) The Board shall assess the need for, and fix the bond requirements of, its officers and employees having control of the Association's funds.
- (c) Executive: The immediate past Chairman shall hold the position of Chairman until the new Chairman is elected.
  - (i) Chairman: The Chairman shall conduct all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall cast a vote only in the case of a tie.
  - (ii) Vice-Chairman: The Vice-Chairman shall generally assist the Chairman and shall, in the event of the absence or disability of the Chairman, perform his duties and possess his authority.
  - (iii) Secretary: The Secretary shall keep the records of the Association and shall perform such duties as may be delegated by the Chairman.
  - (iv) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of financial records, and be responsible for the safe control of all Association funds. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the payment of all bills and deposits of all monies of the Association to the Association's credit in a financial institution decided upon by the Board of Directors. All accounts shall be paid by cheque, and shall bear two (2) signatures: the Treasurer's and one of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman or the Secretary. The Treasurer shall render financial statements to the Directors and others when required, but not less than once every two months. The Treasurer shall prepare and submit annual budget to the Board of Directors that is designed to avoid incurring a deficit, and make available to the Annual

General Meeting an account of all monies of the Association. The fiscal year of the Association shall be April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>.

- (d) The other Directors shall perform such duties as determined by the Board. The Directors may delegate duties and powers to the other Directors that are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.
- (e) The Association shall be responsible to the BCSA Board, and any decision of the District Board may be appealed to the BCSA Board under terms governing Protests and Appeals.
- (f) The BCSA Board shall have the power to approve or amend the status of this District Board.

## Bylaw 5. Meetings of Members

- (a) Annual General Meeting - The annual general meeting shall be called by the association board, and must be held before the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of July. At any annual general meeting the following must be transacted:
  - (i) Presentation of credentials
  - (ii) Roll call
  - (iii) Minutes from the last AGM
  - (iv) Business arising from these minutes
  - (v) President's report
  - (vi) Treasurer's report, including the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Revenue & Expenses for the past year
  - (vii) Auditors' report
  - (viii) Remaining directors' reports
  - (ix) Presentation of provisional budget for the coming year
  - (x) Election of directors
  - (xi) Appointment of auditors
  - (xii) New Business
  - (xiii) Such other business as under these bylaws ought to be transacted at an annual general meeting or business which is brought under consideration by the report of directors issued with the notice convening the meeting.
- (b) Notice of General Meeting:
  - (i) The following are entitled to receive written notice of a general meeting:
    - I) The Clubs
    - II) The Board members
    - III) Auditors of the association
    - IV) All honorary and or associate members
  - (ii) Notice of a general meeting shall be given not less than forty-five (45) days before the meeting. The notice shall specify the place, date, time and purpose of the meeting.
  - (iii) If a special resolution is to be presented at the general meeting then the intention to present it must be included in that notice.
- (c) Special General Meeting:

- (i) The Chairman of the Board shall call a special meeting in due course upon a written request signed by a majority of the members of the Board, or upon a written request signed by a majority of the affiliated Clubs. Any such request must specify the purpose of such a meeting. Each member of the Board and each affiliated club shall receive fourteen (14) days notice thereof.
- (ii) The accredited delegates to a Special General Meeting shall be determined in conformance with process for the Annual General Meeting, specified in paragraph (e) of this Bylaw.

(d) Quorum:

- (i) A quorum at any general meeting shall be one (1) voting representative from each of five (5) different Clubs in good standing.
- (ii) No business other than the election of a chair and the adjournment or termination of the meeting shall be conducted at a general meeting at a time when there is not a quorum.
- (iii) If within thirty (30) minutes from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not reached, the meeting shall be terminated.
- (iv) If at any time during the meeting there ceases to be a quorum, business then in progress shall be suspended and the meeting shall be terminated.

(e) Voting Accreditation:

- (i) The accredited delegates to the Annual General Meeting shall be:
  - I) The President of each Club (or his nominee)
  - II) One additional delegate for every 100 players (or fraction thereof) registered by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current playing season.
- (ii) No Club in arrears with its annual fees, suspended, or in any way indebted to the NSYSA, shall be entitled to vote or participate in the business of the Annual General Meeting.
- (iii) Voting shall be by show of hands or, if voting representatives so determine, by secret ballot.
- (iv) Proxy votes shall not be permitted at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. Delegates accredited to cast a vote must be present in person.

(f) Rules of Order:

- (i) The president, a vice-president, or in their absence a director, shall preside as chair of a meeting. If none is present or able to act as chair, the voting representatives present shall choose one of their number to be chair.
- (ii) "Roberts Rules of Order" shall govern the proceedings of all meetings, except where it conflicts with the constitution or bylaws of the Association.

(g) BCSA General Meeting Delegates:

- (i) Individuals who attend General Meetings of the BCSA as delegates of the Association must be approved as delegates by the Board.
- (ii) The number of delegates approved by the Board is at the Board's discretion, but should not be less than 50% of the number of votes the Association carries at the Meeting, except due to lack of nominated individuals.
- (iii) Individuals shall be eligible to be appointed as delegates upon application, and subject to any of the following:
  - I) The applicant is a director of the Association
  - II) The applicant is the first nominee of a member Club

- (iv) In the event that all delegate seats are not filled from above then Clubs wishing to nominate more than one delegate shall submit names to the Board however no Club shall be permitted to send more than three delegates.
- (v) The Association chair (or designate) shall be the head of the Association delegation to BCSA General Meetings, and shall convene a meeting of delegates in advance of the General Meeting to gain consensus on how Association votes shall be cast.
- (vi) The Secretary will send a request for nominations to the member Clubs 60 days prior to the General Meeting.
- (vii) Club nominations must be submitted to the Board no later than the last regular meeting of the Board that precedes the General Meeting.

## Bylaw 6. Club affiliation

- (a) Clubs shall be affiliated with the NSYSA at the sole discretion of the Board.
- (b) Club Constitutions, Bylaws and Regulations are subject to the approval of the NSYSA Board.
- (c) No member in arrears with annual (or other) fees, suspended or in any way indebted to the Club, shall be entitled to vote or participate in any business of the Club whatsoever.

## Bylaw 7. Constitutional Amendments

- (a) Any Club or member in good standing may propose a change or amendment to the NSYSA constitution or bylaws. This proposal must be submitted in writing to the NSYSA Board of Directors, or notice provided to the Secretary of the Board, but in any case, must be received no later than the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March in each year. The Secretary shall promptly give each Club or Team notice of the proposed change(s) or amendments.
- (b) To be accepted or ratified, any change or amendment must pass by a vote of seventy-five (75) percent of those present and eligible to vote at an Annual General Meeting of the Association. No changes or amendments to the constitution or the bylaws of the Association shall be accepted from the floor.
- (c) Changes or amendments to the constitution or bylaws may be made at any time at a Special General Meeting of the Association called for that purpose upon an affirmative vote of seventy-five (75) percent of the accredited delegates present. Twenty-one (21) days Notice of Motion of any proposed changes or amendments must be given in writing to the Secretary of the Association who shall give each Club or Team fourteen (14) days notice of such Special General Meeting, together with a copy of the proposed changes or amendments.

## Bylaw 8. Playing Season

- (a) The playing season shall commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August in each year and terminate on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of July in the following year.
- (b) "Season" or "Current Playing Season" shall be the year in which play terminates. That is, e.g.: the 2006 / 2007 Playing Season shall be named the "2007 Season" and will terminate on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

Players on teams having met all League, District Cup and or Provincial Cup Commitments prior to July 31<sup>st</sup> will be permitted to participate with other teams within their District boundaries, entered in invitational tournaments, "off-season" leagues, non-league play and exhibition games. Players in the North Shore Premier Player Program or North Shore District Girls Metro Program at U12 and U13 shall additionally be permitted to participate, while still playing with their regular club team before July 31<sup>st</sup>, in such competitive play arising out of that program as does not conflict with club commitments.

## Bylaw 9. Team Affiliation

- (a) A team shall be recognized by the Association when a minimum of eleven (11) youths of one sex are registered under one team name on the proper form for such affiliation.
- (b) All youth teams having their grounds within the North Shore District and registered with an affiliated Club or by the Clubs acting together, with the consent of the NSYSA, in the North Shore Premier Player Program or North Shore District Girls Metro Program are eligible for membership on payment of an affiliation fee to be set annually by the Board.
- (c) All teams must be affiliated on forms supplied by the BCSA. All application forms for team affiliation must be given to the Secretary of the Association not later than September 15<sup>th</sup> (Club teams) or July 15<sup>th</sup> (District teams). Payment of the proper fees must accompany the registration form. Such forms and fees will be remitted to the appropriate BCSA officers not later than such date set by the BCSA. Affiliation fees are not refundable once League play commences.
- (d) Teams not affiliated are not eligible for participation in League or Cup competition.
- (e) No divisional team (Under 18 to Under 11 inclusive) shall be permitted to have less than eleven (11) or more than eighteen (18) registered players at anyone time. Any team having 18 registered players and desiring to register an additional player (or players) must release to the BCSA Secretary in writing such of its players so that the team's playing strength does not exceed 18 players.
- (f) Such released player(s) shall become the property of the BCSA and may be transferred by the BCSA to such teams desiring the services of the released player(s); application for transfer must be signed by the player(s). Any team(s) desiring the released player(s) services shall pay the appropriate transfer fee; such fee is to be paid to the BCSA Secretary at the time of application. Notwithstanding, all such transfers are subject to Bylaw 13(g) of the BCSA Constitution.

## Bylaw 10. Player Registration

- (a) Players shall be registered on a form to be provided by the BCSA through the District Secretary. All registrations shall be handled through the BCSA Registrar.
- (b) Player registration forms are good only for the current playing season. Registration forms must have District validation appearing in the appropriate place on each form.
- (c) Players must be registered at least seven (7) days prior to taking part in any Cup competition. For example, a player registered on the first day of the month will be eligible to play on the eighth day of the month. In addition, to be considered eligible for Provincial Cup play, a player must have participated in at least one League game in a properly constituted League.
- (d) Players must be registered at least one (1) day prior to taking part in any League game.
- (e) No player shall be allowed to register or play for more than one team, with the exception of District or Provincial All-Star teams or School teams, or in more than one division or in more than one Provincial or District Cup competition under the jurisdiction of this Association, subject to the conditions cited in Bylaw 8(c).
- (f) Birth certificate, baptismal certificate, citizenship papers, passport or other evidence acceptable to the BCSA Registrar shall be accepted as proof of age and such evidence shall accompany all initial applications for registration. Proof of age shall not be required provided the BCSA Registrar has evidence of previous registration. The burden of proof of age rests with the player.
- (g) Any player not registered with the BCSA Registrar is an ineligible player, and any team using such a player will forfeit any League, District Cup or Provincial Cup game in which the player participates, provided a protest is lodged in accordance with Bylaw 14. The burden of proof of registration rests with the team officials.
- (h) Any registered player who is released by his team coach or manager shall become the property of the BCSA and may be transferred by the Board to another team, subject to BCSA Bylaw 13(g).
- (i) The NSYSA shall have the authority to determine which team in its jurisdiction its applicants may register with.

## Bylaw 11. Transfer of Players

- (a) No player who has signed an official registration form, or has been included on the official team registration form of the BCSA, and has been registered with the BCSA by the team desiring his services for the current season, shall be allowed to transfer his services without first giving seven (7) days notice in writing to the Secretary of the BCSA and to the team for which he is registered.
- (b) Application to transfer shall be made on the appropriate form to be supplied by the BCSA and obtainable from the NSYSA Secretary. When properly completed, signed by an official of the releasing team, and accompanied by the appropriate transfer fee, it shall be forwarded to the BCSA Secretary, who shall affect the transfer and registration.
- (c) No transfer will be permitted after January 15<sup>th</sup> of the current playing season, except at the discretion of the BCSA Board, and only in the case of a player having moved his place of residence from one District to another; such request must be in writing.
- (d) A player shall be entitled to two (2) transfers during any one playing season, but a player cannot be transferred back to the team for which he originally registered for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of his original transfer.

- (e) A player is entitled to his transfer as hereby provided, and it cannot be withheld except in the case of indebtedness to the team holding his registration.
- (f) Notice of all transfers as hereby provided shall be immediately sent to the team to which the player is transferred. Players must be transferred seven (7) days before taking part in any cup competition. This rule shall not apply to league games. A player, after being transferred, may compete in league games as provided by the rules of such leagues. All player transfers for league games must be made at least one (1) day prior to the game taking place. A player transferred to a youth team must play at least one league game before playing in cup competition for the team to which he has been transferred.
- (g) No more than three (3) players shall be transferred to any one team during any one playing season.
- (h) A transferred player shall be not eligible to play for the new team in any Provincial or Inter-District Cup competition in which the player has already competed during the current playing season.
- (i) The transfer of players from defunct teams is governed by Bylaw 12.

## Bylaw 12. Defunct Teams

- (a) A team shall be considered "defunct" when it has received the consent of its Club Board, the NSYSA Board and the BCSA to cease operation. In the case of any teams entered in the Lower Mainland Girls Metro League or the British Columbia Youth Select Soccer League, the approval of the boards of those leagues will also be required.
- (b) Any player registered for a team which has become defunct may be transferred to any other team at the discretion of the BCSA Board, which shall have the power to transfer such player(s) to the team producing the player(s)' signed transfer application, accompanied by the appropriate fee. Transfer of players from the Lower Mainland Girls Metro League or the British Columbia Youth Select Soccer League, shall be as described as above, but also subject to the boundary regulations of those leagues.
- (c) Notwithstanding the preceding paragraphs, but in accordance with Bylaw 11, no transfer of players from a defunct team will be permitted after January 15<sup>th</sup> of the current playing season.

## Bylaw 13. Poaching

Any team, which through its responsible officers or representatives, attempts to induce a registered player of any team under the jurisdiction of this Association to leave his team before the completion of his team's league, league cup or Provincial cup commitments, shall be deemed by this Board to have committed an offence and shall be dealt with by this Board.

## Bylaw 14. Select Committee

- (a) The Board shall cause a standing committee, to be known as the "North Shore Premier Player Program Committee", to be struck and empowered to administer the affairs of the District youth boys' premier player development program. The Committee shall administer the affairs of the boys' District Select League for age levels at which North Shore District teams exist in the British Columbia Youth Select Soccer League. The Committee shall consist of: a North Shore Youth Soccer Association Board member and representatives appointed by the Boards of each of the youth boys' soccer clubs

affiliated with the North Shore Youth Soccer Association in the club. This Committee shall report to the Board at duly constituted meetings, and shall refer all appeals of its decisions to the full Board.

- (b) The Board shall cause a standing committee, to be known as the "North Shore District Girls Metro Operating Committee", to be struck and empowered to administer the affairs of the District youth girls' premier player development program. The Committee shall administer the affairs of the girls' District Select League effective for age levels at which North Shore District teams exist in the Girl's Metro Soccer League. The Committee shall consist of: a North Shore Youth Soccer Association Board member and representatives appointed by the Boards of each of the youth girls' soccer clubs affiliated with the North Shore Youth Soccer Association. This Committee shall report to the Board at duly constituted meetings, and shall refer all appeals of its decisions to the full Board.

## Bylaw 15. Discipline

- (a) The Board shall have the power to deal with violations of the Laws of the Game, the rules, regulations and Bylaws of the North Shore Youth Soccer Association the BC Soccer Association and the Canadian Soccer Association.
- (b) The Board shall have the power to deal with all players and team officials reported by a referee for misconduct, and shall do so in accordance with the "Guidelines for District Discipline Committees" set out by the BCSA.
- (c) The BCSA shall deal with all players and team officials reported by a referee for misconduct in the following instances:
  - (i) all Provincial Cup matches
  - (ii) any case involving referee assault
  - (iii) any case involving misconduct requiring disciplinary measures beyond the powers allowed the NSYSA Board
  - (iv) any case in which the NSYSA Discipline Committee feels the BCSA Discipline Committee should be involved
- (d) Notwithstanding the preceding, the Board may delegate to established League Disciplinary Committees the right to deal with all players and team officials reported by a referee for misconduct where such formal Committees exist. Such Leagues include, but are not limited to:
  - (i) 4-District boys
  - (ii) 9-District boys
  - (iii) BCCGSL (girls)
  - (iv) GMSL (girls) or BCYSSL (boys)
- (e) The Association may delegate and authorize officers of the Association to perform the functions and exercise the disciplinary powers vested in the Board and the Association under this Bylaw.
- (f) Team officials shall be responsible for controlling the actions of their parents and or supporters, and failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.
- (g) A player or team official sent from the field of play for misconduct, or who engages in conduct for which the penalty under the FIFA Laws of the Game would be ejection from the field or game, shall be suspended without hearing and without appeal from the following league or cup match. The player or team official, having served the one game suspension, shall be eligible to resume play unless notified by the Board that further disciplinary action is being considered. The one game suspension

shall be carried from one playing season to the next if not served prior to the completion of the playing season in which the suspension was imposed.

- (h) A player who accumulates three (3) official cautions (yellow cards) within the period of one playing season shall be automatically suspended from participating in the following league or cup match. The player, having served the one game suspension, shall be eligible to resume play unless notified by the Board that further disciplinary action is being considered. The one game suspension shall be carried from one playing season to the next if not served prior to the completion of the playing season in which the suspension was imposed.
- (i) Notwithstanding the preceding sub-paragraphs, and any resulting discipline imposed by an appropriate body, the NSYSA Board may deal with an offending player, team official, team, league official, Club official or Club for reasons of:
  - (i) actions already described in this Bylaw;
  - (ii) ungentlemanly or unsportsmanlike conduct;
  - (iii) actions deemed to jeopardize the Association or its reputation;
  - (iv) actions deemed not to be in the best interests of the game of soccer;
  - (v) violations of the Laws of the Game; or
  - (vi) actions that contravene the rules, regulations and bylaws of the Association.
- (j) In the event that a player, team official, team, league official, Club official or Club is found guilty of misconduct in respect to the matters cited in this sub-paragraph, the Board shall have the power to order that the offending party be:
  - (i) removed from membership;
  - (ii) suspended for a stated period of time;
  - (iii) fined;
  - (iv) required to post a performance bondas the Board may consider appropriate in the circumstances.

## Bylaw 16. Protests

- (a) All protests relating to qualifications of competitors or the interpretation of the Laws of the Game shall be referred to the respective Boards for games controlled by them. A protest shall only be considered on the grounds of interpretation of FIFA Laws of the Game, on the eligibility of players or on breaches of Competition Rules and Regulations.
- (b) The NSYSA Board shall deal with all protests arising out of any League or Cup match under the jurisdiction of the NSYSA. The protest shall be in writing, in triplicate, and delivered to the Secretary of the Association accompanied by the appropriate fee. Such protests will be dealt with in accordance with the regulations governing protests.
- (c) The BCSA Board shall deal with all protests arising out of any Provincial Cup match under its jurisdiction. The protest shall be in writing, in triplicate, and delivered to the Secretary of the BCSA accompanied by the appropriate fee. Such protests will be dealt with in accordance with the regulations governing protests.
- (d) All protests arising out of any League or Cup match under the jurisdiction of another League or District, e.g., BCCGSL or 4-District, shall be dealt with by the appropriate League Protest Committee. The protest shall be in writing, in triplicate, and delivered to the Secretary of the appropriate League,

accompanied by the fee specified for such actions. Such protests will be dealt with in accordance with the League or District regulations governing protests.

- (e) All protests must be submitted to the Secretary (or other designated official) of the appropriate Board or League within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of the match to which the protest applies. Sundays and holidays are included in this time period. The protest (in writing and in triplicate) must contain the particulars of the grounds on which the protest is founded. One copy of the protest must be sent to the opposing team within twenty-four (24) hours of the Secretary (or other designated official) receiving the protest. The postmark will be taken as the limiting date in all cases. Metered mail is not acceptable as proof of date.
- (f) The protest fee will be returned if the protest is upheld, it will be forfeited if the protest is not sustained.
- (g) Any protest relating to the grounds, goal posts, cross-bars or other field appurtenances shall not be entertained unless notice with particulars has been given to the referee prior to commencement of the match. The referee shall request the responsible team officials to remove the cause of the objection(s), if possible, without delaying the commencement of the match. Where an objection has been lodged with the referee, a protest must be made to the appropriate Board or League, and no objection or protest can be withdrawn except by leave of the Board or League to whom the protest was submitted.
- (h) No protest will be considered if, in the opinion of the referee, the objection lodged did not seriously affect the outcome of the game.

## Bylaw 17. Appeals

- (a) The decisions of the NSYSA Board shall be binding, but subject to appeal to the BCSA Board. The decisions of other League or District Boards shall likewise be binding, but likewise may be appealed to the BCSA Board. Such appeals must be submitted in writing, in triplicate, and accompanied by the specified fee, to the Secretary (or other designated official) to whom the appeal is being directed within forty-eight (48) hours from such time that the original decision is rendered.
- (b) The appeal must be signed by an affiliated team coach, manager or registered player.
- (c) An appeal of a decision of a District Board or other League Committee must be submitted within four (4) days from the day the decision is rendered. A written copy of the decision in question must accompany the appeal to the BCSA. In the event that the appeal is mailed, the postmark shall be taken as the limiting date in all cases. Metered mail will not be acceptable as proof of date.
- (d) The appeal fee will be returned if the appeal is upheld; it will be forfeited if the appeal is not sustained.
- (e) Appeals of decisions to the BCSA Board shall be in accordance with the provisions specified in the BCSA Constitution. Such appeals must be in writing and state the grounds upon which the appeal is based. The appeal must be in triplicate and be accompanied by the appropriate fee. It must be sent within four (4) days from the day the BCSA decision is rendered; in the event that the appeal is mailed, the postmark shall be taken as the limiting date in all cases. Metered mail will not be acceptable as proof of date.
- (f) The appeal fee will be returned if the appeal is upheld; it will be forfeited if the appeal is not sustained.

## Bylaw 18. Zoning

- (a) No player residing in the North Shore District may play outside the boundaries of the North Shore District without the approval of the Board of the District in which he wishes to play.
- (b) No player residing outside the boundaries of the North Shore District may play for a North Shore District team without the approval of the NSYSA Board.
- (c) The NSYSA shall have the option to establish zoning with the North Shore District.

## Bylaw 19. Age Limits

- (a) A player's age category is determined by the age a player attains on or after the first day of January (January, 1) of the Current Playing Season.
- (b) The "Current Playing Season" is the year in which play ends (Bylaw 8).
- (c) Age categories shall comprise players who have not attained their:

18 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 18 division
17 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 17 division
16 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 16 division
15 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 15 division
14 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 14 division
13 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 13 division
12 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 12 division
11 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 11 division
10 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 10 division
9 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 9 division
8 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 8 division
7 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 7 division
6 <sup>th</sup> birthday	Under 6 division

before the first day of January (January, 1) of the Current Playing Season.

- (d) Youth players are ineligible to play in an age division for which they attain the limiting age before the first day of January (January, 1) of the Current Playing Season.
- (e) Any team using a player who is over age and therefore ineligible for that division shall forfeit the game in which the offending player participated, provided a protest is lodged in accordance with Bylaw 14.

## Bylaw 20. Youth to Senior / Senior to Youth

- (a) Any registered youth player wishing to transfer his services to a senior team during the current playing season may do so on forms supplied by the BCSA. No youth to senior transfers will be permitted after the 15<sup>th</sup> of January of the current playing season.

- (b) A registered youth player may sign for a senior team between the date of completion of his team's league and cup commitments and the end of the current playing season, upon written consent of the NSYSA and the BCSA. A youth player in his last year of youth eligibility may sign for a senior team without payment of fees.
- (c) Reinstatement of players to youth status may be granted by the BCSA Board prior to January 16<sup>th</sup> of the current playing season. Any registered senior player wishing to be reinstated to youth status must apply for reinstatement on forms supplied by the BCSA. A player may be reinstated to youth status once per playing season.
- (d) No youth team shall be permitted to register more than three (3) reinstated players in one playing season.
- (e) A registered senior player must wait a period of seven (7) days prior to taking part in any match with the youth team to which he is being reinstated. For example, a player reinstated on the first day of the month will be eligible to play on the eighth day of the same month. The reinstatement application must be approved by the BCSA before the player can play for the youth team.

## Bylaw 21. Trial Games or Permits

- (a) The BCSA Board may, at any time during the current playing season, grant a youth player permission to play any number of games with a team senior to that of youth (exhibition and or practice games excepted) without affecting his status as a youth player, provided the player is eligible and has the consent of the team with which he is registered. Application for permission must be made at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the game for which the permit is to be issued. The appropriate fee for the trial games, as set by the BCSA, must be submitted to the BCSA Secretary at the time of application for permission. Permit fees are non-refundable, and are valid only for the day and game stated on the permit.
- (b) Any player who plays as afore said without the written permission of the BCSA Board shall be reported to that Board, who shall take appropriate action against that player.

## Bylaw 22. League and Competition Rules and Regulations

The NSYSA Board may approve rules and regulations governing league and competition play. Such rules and regulations are to be considered as "operating polices", and need not have annual approval by the Board. However, it shall be the policy of the Board to annually reaffirm that any rules and regulations in place remain in place. Changes or amendments to these rules and regulations may be effected by an ordinary resolution of the Board, provided the consent of the majority of the Clubs is obtained.

## Bylaw 23. Provisional Rules

The Board may, from time to time, make temporary rules governing specific matters not provided for in the Constitution or these Bylaws, but which may be necessary to carry out the objects of the North Shore Youth Soccer Association.