

#### D. TRAVEL TEAM TRY-OUT GUIDELINES (continued)

5. Children will be allowed to tryout for a given travel team providing they are eligible by age as defined in the CJSA rules, for their particular age group.
6. Children will be allowed to tryout for a given travel team above their eligible age group as defined in the CJSA rules, providing it is of one (1) age grouping higher than they are eligible for.
7. In every case, the Board should be aware of, and attempt to maintain a true divisional age team to develop them as a team. This will avoid future disruption to the team as kids flow through the travel program.
8. Players will not be allowed to participate in higher age groups than listed above, without the approval of the Board of Directors.
9. In all cases, preference will be given to players whose parents are Directors or coaches/assistant coaches of this Association.

#### E. GENERAL

1. Players will be allowed to play in higher or lower age groups than they are qualified for, as listed in the CJSA rules, provided they are approved by the Board of Directors.
2. Teams for specific tournament play, excluding cup play, will be selected by the coach and reviewed by the Board on the basis of performance by individual players.
3. Drafting of players from other teams to fill a roster for a regular weekly scheduled game shall be allowed provided that regular team members are not deprived of playing time.

## B. RECREATIONAL TEAMS (continued)

5. Spring and/or Fall seasons will generally run for an eight week season.
6. The coach of each team will schedule practices as he/she deems fit.
7. Games for recreation teams will normally be held on Saturdays.
8. Every attempt will be made to have each game officiated by at least one (1) referee and preferable one (1) club linesman from each team.
9. In the event too many players sign-up for a specific team, the first come-first serve rule will apply, but in all cases a maximum effort will be set forth to try and recruit for a second team.

## C. TRAVEL TEAMS

Travel teams will be formed in the age groups established by our CJSA district. Whenever possible, every player who signs up for a travel team will be placed on a travel team. Travel team roster is limited to 18 maximum. If there are too many players for the team roster, but not enough to form another team, then travel team selection will be accomplished by try-outs.

If openings on a travel team occur during the regular season, player(s) who did not make the travel team through tryouts, will be contacted to fill the void if the coach deems it necessary.

After exhausting all in-town resources for fielding a roster of fifteen (15), the Board may seek out players from other towns. If we can roster fifteen (15), we will not seek out players to make eighteen (18).

## D. TRAVEL TEAM TRY-OUT GUIDELINES

These guidelines pertain to tryouts in the event they are required as outlined in B above. In every situation a maximum effort should be put forth to schedule and accommodate all players for the tryouts. In the event a player doesn't make the travel program, he/she shall be automatically enrolled and rostered in the recreational program for their age group. The Board should keep in mind the feelings of the children and take the appropriate steps to explain the intent of the tryouts.

The following guidelines established to govern the creation of travel teams, will be governed by the coach and the Board of Director, and tempered with good judgment.

1. When the maximum players rostered doesn't qualify a legitimate travel team as outlined under the CJSA rules, teams will go to tryouts.
2. The coach in concert with the Board, shall make the final decision if a team shall go to tryouts, or go out with the original number rostered.
3. Tryouts shall be attended by at least two travel coaches, at least one of them will be a coach from a different age group than the team being selected.
4. A maximum of two (2) tryout sessions shall be hosted by the coach/Board, of which each child must make one (1) to be considered for the team. Children that do not attend tryouts shall automatically default back to recreational program.

A. ASSOCIATION POLICY (continued)

7. The playing time of a team member in a tournament game shall be at the discretion of the coach, but each member must participate in each half of the game.

**ARTICLE X: COACHING GUIDELINES**

- A. This Association has one primary purpose - TO TEACH THE GAME OF SOCCER IN A MANNER THAT IS ENJOYABLE AND REWARDING TO THE PLAYERS AND THE COACH. The goal of our coaches shall be to foster unity, friendship, and to teach and maintain good attitudes of fair play, self-control, discipline and sportsmanship.
- B. Strong emphasis on physical conditioning is important; however, it is necessary to consider the capabilities of the child at each age level. Coaches are encouraged to be open and responsive to the needs and skills of each child as an individual.
- C. Practice sessions should include the following essentials:
  1. Developing the fundamental skills trapping, kicking, passing, shooting and dribbling, heading and throwing.
  2. Developing a knowledge of positional play and strategy.
  3. Developing a knowledge of the game rules.
  4. A warm-up period at the beginning of each practice and game, which shall be considered mandatory.
- D. A positive attitude in establishing and enforcing discipline is essential to providing a pleasant learning experience. Proper conduct and good judgment during practice sessions and at games is of utmost importance.

**ARTICLE XI: FORMATION OF TEAMS**

- A. The Board of Directors will assign players to teams within the FIFA rules. Teams will be balanced by age and skill level to the maximum extent possible. Teams will be formed in the beginning of each season, with only the coaches child assured of playing on that team. The age and skill level of the children will be considered when assigning players to teams. Other considerations shall be the disbursement of multiple children from same family, and equal numbers of both sexes, unless otherwise intended that way.
- B. RECREATIONAL TEAMS
  1. Players who do not reside in the Town of Scramers, will be allowed to play under the following conditions.
    - a) CJSA insurance fees will be added to the registration fees.
    - b) Approval must be granted by the Board of Directors.
  2. All players who sign-up to play will be placed on a coed team.
  3. Teams will be mixed, boys and girls as sign-ups dictate.
  4. A schedule will be established so teams of similar age groups are grouped to play each other, round robin style.

during the season, he/she is suspended from playing in the next regular schedule game after the game in which he/she received the third "yellow card".

- E. If a coach receives three (3) "yellow cards" during a season, he/she is suspended for the rest of the season, and his/her continued participation in this Association will be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

F. **PLAYER BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES:**

A. Players are expected to;

1. Not engage in disruptive behavior.
  - a. Fighting,
  - b. Pushing or shoving,
  - c. Throwing grass or water, etc.
2. Exhibit good sportsmanship;
  - a. No offensive language,
  - b. No criticizing players or officials, etc.
3. Call the coach in advance if the player cannot attend a practice or game.
4. Wear the proper uniform to games.
5. Put their best effort forward at practice and games.
6. Arrive at practice and games on time.

G. **PLAYER DISCIPLINE:**

Repeated inappropriate behavior, or unexpected absences or tardiness from practice or games, or an extreme isolated incident, will result in loss of game playing time or removals from the team.

## **ARTICLE IX**

A. **ASSOCIATION POLICY:**

1. It is the desire of this Association to provide fun, and training for the players.
2. It is the rule of this Association that each player play at least half of every game, and that he/she adheres to the player behavior guidelines.
3. Usually games are scheduled on a weekly basis. In the event of rain or other inclement weather, players must still report to the field at the appointed time. Coaches can cancel games one hour before game time. If a referee stops a league game during the first half due to inclement weather, the game must be replayed in its entirety. If stopped in the second half, the game is considered completed and the score at the time the game is stopped is considered the final score.
4. In an obvious one-sided game, the winning coach is not to run-up the score. High scorers should be moved to a defensive position, weaker players should be substituted, players should be told to use their left foot for scoring, etc.
5. In the event a referee fails to show up for a scheduled game, each coach may referee one-half of the game, they may both referee together, or they may substitute some other person(s), provided that that person (s) is agreeable to both coaches, or they may postpone the game.
6. Tournament play will be governed by the rules of the CJSA.

OLDER REC. PROGRAM COORDINATOR - is responsible to the President and the membership. In concert with the President, prepares teams, solicits coaches, organizes pre-season coaches meeting, and monitors program throughout playing season.

**ARTICLE VI:        GAMES**

All games must be played under the rules of FIFA, as modified by CJSA or this Association.

**ARTICLE VII:        PROTESTS**

REFEREE JUDGMENT CALLS ARE NOT PRO TESTABLE!

- A. Rules, grievances and protests: The Board shall be responsible for all decisions regarding rule interpretations, official protests and discipline of coaches, teams or individual players.
- B. All protests shall be submitted in writing to the Board within seventy two (72) hours of the incident.
- C. The Board shall have the authority to question all parties involved on a dispute and make final decision on all protests within seven (7) days of receipt of the protest. Decisions must be recorded in writing.
- D. The Board shall have the authority to take disciplinary action against any team, coach, or player found to be in violation of the CJSA or SSA rules, or to have acted in a manner inconsistent with the goals or philosophy of the SSA.

**ARTICLE VIII:        CONDUCT**

- A. Parents and coaches are asked to encourage their players on in a positive manner. Parents and coaches should not harass an official or other coaches. Parents should not harass any player or coach.
- B. It is the coaches responsibility to inform the parents of the Code of Conduct set forth in "A". The referee may terminate a game in which parents and/or coaches become unruly.
- C. If a player or coach receives a "red card" from the referee during the game (international rules), he/she is suspended from participating in the next regularly scheduled game after the game in which he/she received the "red card". If a player or coach receives two (2) "red cards" during the season, he/she is suspended for the rest of the season, and his/her continued participation in this Association shall be received and acted upon by the Board of Directors.
- D. If a player receives a "yellow card" from the referee during a game, he/she is cautioned and allowed to play in the game (international rules). If a player receives three (3) "yellow cards"

**F. OFFICERS RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)**

Recreation, and in general perform such duties as are customary for presiding officers. president shall obtain written permission from the Recreation Commission to use town facility prior to contacting outside organizations for use of an in-town field.

**VICE PRESIDENT** - the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the latters absence. He/she is responsible to the President and the membership.

**SECRETARY** - the Secretary shall assume the duties of the president in the absence of the President and Vice president. He/she is responsible to the President and the membership. He/she is required to keep minutes of all official meetings and handle all correspondence.

**TREASURER** - the treasurer shall handle the funds of the Association and shall be responsible to the President and the membership. He/she is required to report monthly income generation, expenses, planned expenditures and total available cash. Additionally, the Treasurer will formulate with the president a budget plan, and report actuals at each meeting.

**G. COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

**REGISTRAR** - is responsible to the President and the membership. Prepares for the Board of Directors, necessary CJSA paperwork to register players and coaches annually.

**FIELD COORDINATOR** - is responsible to the President and the membership. In cooperation with the President shall coordinate field set-up with in-town recreational department representative. Shall manage the equipment (goals & nets), lining of fields, including the allocation of practice schedules for both recreational and travel programs.

**EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR** - is responsible to the President and the membership. Advises to the Board of Directors uniform and equipment acquisition requirements for the current season, manages allocation of all travel uniforms, and distribution of soccer equipment to include balls, cones equipment bags and other.

**REFEREE COORDINATOR** - is responsible to the President and the membership. In cooperation with the President shall coordinate the education, training, assignment, and payment of referees throughout the playing season. Additional responsibilities include, managing the certification of referees, and distribution/assignment of general equipment and establishment of general rules of conduct.

**INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR** - is responsible to the President and the membership. In concert with the President, prepares teams, solicits coaches, organizes pre-season coaches meeting, and monitors program throughout playing season.

**MIDDLE REC. PROGRAM COORDINATOR** - is responsible to the President and the membership. In concert with the President, prepares teams, solicits coaches, organizes pre-season coaches meeting, and monitors program throughout playing season.

- C. Special meetings of the membership may be called by the President, Vice President or the Secretary of this Association, or at the request of not less than three of the Directors.
- D. Notice of the Annual meeting and any special meeting shall be given to members at least ten days prior to said meeting.

**ARTICLE V:           BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall be a ~~ten (10)~~<sup>12</sup> member board including the officers of this Association. Five (5) directors must be present to have quorum. Any action taken by the board requires a majority vote of those present unless otherwise stated elsewhere in these by-laws.

- A. ELECTION AND TERMS - a vacancy will be filled by election at the annual meeting of membership. Directors may serve a term of three years or until they either resign or are removed by a three/quarter vote of the directors. Directors' three (3) year terms shall be staggered. If a vacancy occurs, the President, with the majority approval of the directors, may appoint a temporary director to serve until the annual meeting of members.
- B. MEETINGS - regular meetings of the directors shall be held on the second (2nd) Wednesday of every month except July and December, during which there will be no meeting.

Meetings shall begin with twenty (20) minutes of audience time, during which the audience may offer suggestions of complaints to the Board of Directors. If the audience requests that its input be voted on, then that person shall also submit its suggestion or complaint in writing so that it may be on record and entered on the agenda.

- C. BOARD OF DIRECTORS ATTENDANCE - the board shall consider relieving a Director of his/her duties if he/she misses three (3) consecutive meetings. This matter will be voted on at the next meeting.
- D. OFFICERS - the officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- E. ELECTION AND TERMS; Election of officers to fill a vacancy will take place during the February meeting off the Directors and their terms shall be one (1) year, or less than one year if they resign or are removed by a three/quarter vote of the directors. If a vacancy occurs prior to the end of that term, the Board of Directors shall appoint a successor at the next meeting who will serve to the end of that term.
- F. OFFICERS RESPONSIBILITIES

PRESIDENT - the President is the Chief Executive and presiding officer of this Association, responsible to the membership. He/she shall preside, when present, at all meetings of this Association, appoint committees as needed, serve as liaison to the Somers Board of

# SOMERS SOCCER ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

February 21, 1996

## ARTICLE I: PURPOSE

The Purpose of this Association shall be the regulation, control, promotion and development of youth soccer in the Somers area. It is the policy of this Association that every eligible player play in at least half of every game.

## ARTICLE II: GENERAL

This Association shall be affiliated with the Connecticut Junior Soccer Association (CJSA) and shall recognize the authority, rules and laws of that body.

- A. This Associations by-laws specify the manner of operation.
- B. The membership of this Association shall be given copies of the following.
  1. Association by-laws,
  2. International (FIFA) rules.
  3. CJSA League rules,
  4. Any Association modifications to the FIFA rules.

## ARTICLE III: ADMINISTRATION

- A. The Board of Directors shall have jurisdiction over all affiliated teams, their coaches and their players.
- B. No financial liability shall be incurred on behalf of the Association by any officer or member without the approval of the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

- A. The membership of this Association shall consist of a <sup>12</sup>~~ten~~ member Board of Directors and all coaches and their assistants.
- B. An annual meeting of the membership shall be held every February on the second (2nd) Wednesday of the month, if not a legal Holiday. At the annual meeting, the membership shall elect, by majority vote, directors in accordance with ARTICLE V below. At the adjournment of the annual meeting, a meeting of the directors will take place with the newly elected directors presiding.