

Ocean State Soccer School By-laws Change Form

Proposed by: Robert Jones
Submission Date: 05/21/2012

Change # 1:

Current: 2. Qualification and Removal. The Board of Directors shall be elected at the Annual General Membership (AGM) Meeting by a plurality vote of the voting members. Any Director missing three (3) consecutive meetings without prior notifications or five (5) or more meetings without prior notification during the year (July 1-June 30) may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Additionally, any member of the Board of Directors may be removed for cause by a unanimous vote of the remaining Directors. Such vote shall not occur until the Board of Directors has notified the individual Director of the reasons for removal and allowed the Director the opportunity to present evidence on his or her behalf.

Change: 2. Qualification and Removal. The Board of Directors shall be elected **from the slate of nominations** at the Annual General Membership (AGM) Meeting by a plurality vote of the voting members. **Individuals may only hold one board position, although board members may assume the responsibilities of any vacated positions until such time as the position is filled. Individuals serving on the Board of Directors may not serve on the board or act as an official, coach, or volunteer for any other organization that is also a member or affiliate of any state or national organization to which the corporation belongs.** Any Director missing three (3) consecutive meetings without prior notifications or five (5) or more meetings without prior notification during the year (July 1-June 30) may be removed by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Additionally, any member of the Board of Directors may be removed for cause by a unanimous vote of the remaining Directors. Such vote shall not occur until the Board of Directors has notified the individual Director of the reasons for removal and allowed the Director the opportunity to present evidence on his or her behalf.

Rationale – Clarifies that the slate is the official list of candidates; Reconciles the “one position only” rule with situations where vacancies come up given there is no contingency rule to fill positions on interim basis.

Change # 2:

Current: Article VIII - Election of Officers – Entire Article

Proposed Change: Delete entire Article VIII - Election of Officers (move as paragraph 3 under Article VI (Board of Directors and Officer) and renumber paragraphs under Article VI and other Articles that follow VIII accordingly.)

~~The President shall appoint, by May 1st, subject to Board of Directors approval, a nominating committee chairperson, who shall be a member of the Board of Directors. The nominating committee chairperson shall select a minimum of two (2) committee members, who shall be voting members of the corporation. Said nominating committee shall meet for the purpose of selecting a recommended slate of officers, with permission of the nominees, for the Board of Directors. The voting members shall be notified of the recommended slate and the name and address of the nominating committee chairperson, no later than May 21st.~~

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3.Election of Directors and Officers. The President shall appoint from the current board of directors a Board of Director’s nomination committee chairperson, subject to Board of Director’s approval, The President will announce the chairperson name along with the list of board positions up for election no later than the 15th of March. The committee chairperson shall select a minimum of two (2) regular members to serve on the committee. The committee will receive nominations from interested candidates until the 15th of May, at which time the chairperson will close nominations. Individuals may run for and hold only one Board position in a given term. The committee will then prepare the slate of nominations for the Recording Secretary within one (1) week after closing nominations.. The Recording Secretary will publish the slate of candidates by posting on the OSSS webpage as well as on the concession stand or other visible structure at the OSSS fields.

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~~No one individual~~

~~may hold more than one Board position in a given term. No one individual serving on the Board of Directors may serve on another Board or act as an Official, Coach, or Volunteer for another organization that is a member or affiliate of the same organization as Ocean State Soccer.~~

~~Additional nominations for the Board of Directors may then be made by mail or email (with permission of the nominee) to the chairperson of the nominating committee and signed by the 6/27/11~~

~~Final~~

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~~nominator and three voting members of Ocean State Soccer. Nominations must be received no later than May 30th, at which time nominations will be closed.~~

~~The Recording Secretary will then notify the voting membership of the additional nominations, if any, no later than June 10th.~~

~~At the AGM meeting, which shall be held between June 15th and July 1st, the chairperson of the nominating committee shall submit to the Membership the slate recommended by the nominating committee, as well as the other nominations received by mail. There will be no~~

~~nominations accepted from the floor.~~

Elections shall then be held **at the Annual General Meeting.** ~~Only~~ **and** only persons who are voting members of Ocean State Soccer as of May 1st of the year in which the elections are held shall be eligible to vote. ~~Officers for whom there is a contest shall be voted~~ **Positions with more than one nominee shall be voted on by using a secret ballot system. Three (3) current board members not up for election will count the ballots and certify the results. Positions with a single nomination may be elected by a voice vote at the discretion of the board.** ~~in closed ballot.~~ A quorum (6) of voting members shall be required to hold elections, and the new officers of the Board of Directors shall be determined by a simple majority vote. Each officer will serve a two-year term with the exception of the Director of Technical Training (DTT). The positions of President, Recording Secretary, Vice President of Development, Director of Referees, Director of Registrar, and Director of Operations shall be elected in even numbered years, and the positions of Vice President, Vice President of Competitive, Chief Financial Officer, Director of Safety, Director of Equipment, and Director of OSS Foundation shall be elected in odd numbered years. The DTT shall be appointed and approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors each year. ~~At~~

Rationale:

- (1) This section belongs under Article VI given it focuses on electing the Board of Directors.
 - (2) Given the board must approve committee members, a 1 May date really becomes a week later (see this year where the committee did not announce until 8 May). This effectively leaves only 2 weeks for people to become aware of board positions and submit nominations. Given the importance of bringing volunteers to the school, more time should be afforded to the process of making members aware of opportunities, allowing them the chance to become more informed, and scheduling the AGM. This change also codifies the procedures to ensure a fair voting process.
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Change # 3:

Current:

1. Each year the President shall appoint, subject to Board of Directors approval, a chair person to serve on each of the following standing committees:
 - a) Rules Committee - Shall explore, draft and recommend rules changes to the Board of Directors.
 - b) Nominating Committee - Shall recommend a slate of officers as set forth in Article VII.
 - c) Strategic Planning Committee - Shall explore and recommend proposals to the Board of Directors for the growth and development of Ocean State Soccer.
 - d) By-Laws Committee – Shall explore and recommend proposals to the Board of Directors for changes to the Ocean State Soccer By-laws.

Proposed:

1. Each year the President shall appoint, subject to Board of Directors approval, a chair person to serve on each of the following standing committees:
 - a) **Rules** Policy Committee - Shall explore, draft and recommend rules changes to the Policy and Procedures Manual and the Corporation by-laws
 - b) **Board of Director's** Nominating Committee - Shall recommend a slate of officers as set forth in Article VII.
 - c) Strategic Planning Committee - Shall explore and recommend proposals to the Board of Directors for the growth and development of Ocean State Soccer.
 - d) **Competition Committee – Shall explore and recommend proposals to the Board of Directors on promoting the competitive skills of playing members and coaches and to investigate and provide recommendations to the Board of Directors on all disputes arising from the competitive program.**
 - d) ~~By Laws Committee— Shall explore and recommend proposals to the Board of Directors for changes to the Ocean State Soccer By-laws.~~

Rationale – Consolidate by-law and policy changes into one committee to ensure consistency. Competition committee is a best practice recommendation adopted by many clubs, including several in SRI such as South County, that ensure more inclusion of perspectives as well as a more transparent and streamline process to adjudicate disputes and complaints before reaching the BOD level.