

1 **YOUNGSTOWN AREA YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE**

2
3 **By –Laws**

4 **Revised and Approved November 12, 2008**

5
6 **Article I: Name**

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8 The name of the organization is the Youngstown Area Youth Soccer league, hereafter referred to as
9 the YAYSL. It shall be registered with and maintain affiliation with the Ohio Youth Soccer
10 Association-North (OYSAN) and the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA). The
11 YAYSL affiliated with the OYSAN, USYSA and the FIFA are subject to all their rules and
12 regulations. Three fourths (3/4) vote (of trustees in good standing) is required to change affiliation.
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14 **Article II: Mission Statement**

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16 The Youngstown Area Youth Soccer League (YAYSL) is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) (b)organization
17 dedicated towards teaching and actively promoting:

- 18 • The sport of soccer
19 • The development of players, coaches and referees
20 • Good sportsmanship
21 • Life skills for children and youth players of all levels of interests and abilities in a safe and healthy
22 environment. We make ethical decisions based on what is in the best interests for all our members.
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24 **Article III: Membership**

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26 **Section 1. Eligibility.** No member shall be subject to suspension under Section 4 of United
27 States Soccer Federation, Inc. (USSF) Bylaw 241, and to any amateur soccer organization in its
28 territory.

29 **Section 2. Member Responsibilities.** Each affiliate member shall:

30 register their players by submission of member data and payment of fees as required by the state
31 registrar prior to practice or playing of games. Members may request an extension in the deadline,
32 which may be granted by the executive committee;

33 A) Membership for participation in the YAYSL is made by submission of completed team
34 roster, player registration forms and fees paid in full by August 1st preceding the seasonal
35 year.

36 B.) Completed registration includes;

- 37 1.) Player registration card must have attached a current photo of player and proof of the
38 player’s birth date (a copy of the birth certificate, passport or naturalization papers)
39 2.) Team roster must be completed and purchase of OYSAN insurance covering team
40 representatives, players and coaches.
41 3.) An USYSA registration form must be completed for each rostered player.
42 4.) The YAYSL has adopted the OYSAN Risk Management Policy. All YAYSL members
43 over the age of 18, rostered coaches, trustees, board members, or other adult affiliated with or
44 acting on behalf of YAYSL are required to submit to an on-line Risk Management

45 background check and produce a valid confirmation print out at time of spring and or fall
46 registration. This will be done on a yearly basis. These requirements can be superseded by
47 OYSAN Risk Management Policies.

48 C.) Acceptance is based on meeting YAYSL, OYSAN, and USYSA criteria for competitive
49 play and sportsmanship in amateur soccer.

50 D.) All personal papers and fees, minus a service charge in the amount of twenty-five percent
51 (25%) of the fee, will be returned if application is not accepted.

52 E.) Team rosters will follow OYSAN guidelines in regards to team size (number of players
53 rostered) and number of players playing on the field.

54 F.) Dual-registration is permitted on up to two teams at the same time provided the following
55 conditions are met

56 1.) To dual-roster/dual card, a player must follow complete registration procedures for
57 YAYSL, including a written notice to YAYSL that a player intends to dual card

58 2.) Any player dual-rostering/duel carding must follow OYSAN and YAYSL procedures as
59 specified by the registrar

60 3.) A player may dual card to two teams, so long as the two teams do not participate in the
61 same age bracketed division

62 4.) A player's first obligation is to the primary team, defined as the team with the higher level
63 of play (premier verses competitive); In the case of rostering with two YAYSL teams, the
64 primary team is defined, as the team playing in the **age appropriate** age division. Designation
65 of a primary team must take place at the time of registration

66 5.) A dual carded player must have one (1) card for each team he/she is rostered with. The
67 passes must show "P" for primary team and "S" for secondary team.

68 6.) A dual carded player is not restricted from playing in more than one match on any given
69 day

70 G.) Registration takes place twice per year for all members.

71 1.) Any team registering in July and participating in the YAYSL fall league play may earn the
72 representation of the league in State Cups.

73 2.) The YAYSL Registrar will supply necessary forms to all community representatives for
74 registration, transfers or releases, and/or travel.

75 H.) The YAYSL, upon approval of its Executive Committee, may organize its member teams into
76 geographic, skill or any other unilateral type of conferences or divisions to compensate for growth of
77 the league.

78 I.) All coaches must be appointed by YAYSL at the monthly Trustee meeting prior to registration.
79 Communities and clubs will list coaches that they are nominating for appointment. Appointment of
80 coaches is at the sole discretion of the YAYSL Executive Committee. Reasons for appointment or
81 non-appointment of coaches are not required. Coaching in YAYSL is contingent upon the receipt in
82 the OYSAN state office of the Risk Management Confirmation Form. Coaches' appointments are
83 **NOT** final until this is done. Coaches not complying can have their appointment revoked at any time
84 by the resident with no right of a hearing. Any changes or amendments must be approved by the
85 YAYSL Executive Committee.

86 J.) There can be two divisions in each age bracket – community and non-community or club
87 (commonly referred to as "A" or "B"). The community **teams** may play either in the "A" or "B"
88 division **unless the age of rostered players requires that they play in the A division. Such age**
89 **requirements include, 50% or more of rostered players are already of the correct age for the division**
90 **(example, 50% or more of the players on a team applying to play U-12 are true U-12 players),**

91 or the presence of one or more U-14 players, previously referred to as “trap” players (No more
92 than 4 players maximum) must play in the U-15 division. Teams falling under these conditions
93 must play in the A division. The non-community or “club teams” may only play in the “A”
94 division. At the time of registration each club shall declare their level of play (“A” or “B”), the
95 executive committee shall have the right to amend a clubs declaration.
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97 **Article IV: Executive Committee**

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99 The Executive Committee of the YAYSL shall consist of the following officers, President, 1st Vice
100 President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and ex-officio members (ex officio non-voting)
101 Director of Coaching, and Director of Competition.

102 **Section 1. Qualifications.**

103 A.) A candidate for elected office shall:

- 104 1. Be in good standing with YAYSL, OYSAN, USSF, USYS for the past year;
- 105 2. Not be a paid employee of the organization;

106 B.) A candidate for the office of president shall have served at least one preceding year on the
107 executive committee.

108 **Section 2. Nominations.**

109 A.) The YAYSL Executive Committee members shall be nominated for election at the monthly
110 meeting in October as follows;

- 111 1. President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary and Director of Coaching will be nominated
112 during even numbered years, ex., 2006, 2008, 2010.
- 113 2. 1st Vice President, Treasurer, and Director of Competition will be nominated during odd
114 numbered years, ex., 2005, 2007, 2009.

115 B.) Members of the Executive Committee shall serve a two-year term. Terms of office will begin
116 January 1st and end December 31st.

- 117 1. The Nominating Committee will be appointed by the President no later than September
118 1st.
- 119 2. The duties of the Nominating Committee end after they conduct the election of officers
120 during the October meeting.
- 121 3. No member of the Nominating Committee shall be a candidate for the Executive
122 Committee.

123 C.) In the event of any vacancies on the Executive Committee not addressed by provisions set forth in
124 these bylaws, the following shall occur upon announcement of said vacancies;

- 125 1. The President, acting as Chairman, shall appoint the Executive Committee (and other
126 Trustees as necessary) as an ad hoc Nominating Committee. If the vacancy is the President
127 and other highest-ranking officers, then the next highest ranking Executive Committee
128 member shall serve as Chairman.
- 129 2. The Executive Committee shall present the list of nominees for election at the next
130 regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees.

131 D.) Officers may be removed, with cause and/or failure to attend meetings or failure to perform the
132 duties of that office. Members are removed by a two-thirds vote of the voting members (in good
133 standing) at an annual meeting, board of trustees meeting, or a special meeting called for that
134 purpose. The officer has a right to a hearing and appeal rights. The hearing will be by the executive
135 committee with the officer who is the subject of the hearing not having a right to vote.
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137 **Article V: Executive Committee Duties**

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139 **A.) President:**

- 140 1. be the chief executive officer in the handling of the day-to-day business of YAYSL;
- 141 2. conduct monthly and special trustee meetings;
- 142 3. preside over any meetings, protests filed, render decision in writing to both affected parties,
- 143 report to Trustees the actions / sanctions taken
- 144 4. select appropriate members for all standing committees;
- 145 5. serve as an ex-officio member of all committees;
- 146 6. serve as a signed approver on YAYSL checks;
- 147 7. serve as the immediate supervisor and conduct annual performance reviews of any current
- 148 or future YAYSL employees;
- 149 8. serve as the immediate supervisor coordinating all YAYSL business conducted with third
- 150 party providers and vendors;
- 151 9. will receive in writing any reports of ejections (red cards) of either players or coaches,
- 152 cautions (yellow card) of coaches and any fan disruptions;
- 153 10. ensure that all laws of FIFA, USSF and OYSAN are followed by all league members.
- 154 11. appoint ad-hoc committees as needed;
- 155 12. appoint Nominating Committee by September 1st;
- 156 13. attend annual OYSAN general meeting and president's meeting;
- 157 14. serve as liaison to local officials association;
- 158 15. be responsible for coordinating and appointing an awards committee subject to executive
- 159 committee approval;

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161 **B.) 1st Vice President:**

- 162 1. conduct meetings in the absence of the president, perform the duties of the president in the
- 163 absence of the president; and succeed to the office of president for the unexpired term in the
- 163 event of a vacancy in that office;
- 164 2. serve on Tournament Committee;
- 165 3. coordinate regular season competition by serving on the competition committee
- 166 4. write regular season game schedule;
- 167 5. arrange for collections of all match results;
- 168 6. publicize League play and standings;
- 169 7. provide standings to Tournament Committee;

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171 **C.) 2nd Vice President:**

- 172 1. perform the duties of the first vice-president in the absence of the first vice-president;
- 173 succeed to the office of first vice-president for the unexpired term in the event of a vacancy in
- 174 that office;
- 175 2. coordinate tournament, either serving as Director of Tournament or as Co-director with
- 176 another Trustee;
- 177 3. write tournament schedule;
- 178 4. chair the YAYSL Tournament Committee;
- 179 5. plan, prepare and monitor the Tournament;
- 180 6. work with members of the community hosting the tournament to ensure adequate and safe
- 181 fields, appropriate and necessary accommodations, licensed officials, etc;

- 182 7. make recommendations for Tournament play and rules, submit to Tournament Committee
183 for approval and monitoring;
184 8. **serve as a signed approver on YAYSL checks;**
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186 **D.) Secretary:**

- 187 1. keep minutes of all trustee meetings and meetings of the Executive Committee;
188 2. prepare minutes for distribution at monthly meetings;
189 3. e-mail meeting notices to each Trustee one week prior to meeting;
190 4. prepare an accurate listing of Trustees, with mailing addresses and phone numbers;
191 5. mail a copy of meetings minutes to OYSAN office and District I Commissioner;
192 6. maintain an accurate listing and record set of files for the League;
193 7. **maintain all correspondence and communications essential to the conduct of YAYSL**
194 **business;**
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196 **E.) Treasurer:**

- 197 1. keep an accurate accounting for all YAYSL assets and liabilities;
198 2. prepare Treasurer's report for each Trustee monthly meeting;
199 3. invest YAYSL funds in the best interest of the League with consent from the Executive
200 Committee;
201 4. pay all bills approved by the Trustees in a timely manner;
202 5. **shall be responsible for meeting all statutory financial requirements, including the filing of**
203 **State and Federal returns;**
204 6. **provide** a full audit of the books will be done with the change of treasurers or every two (2)
205 years;
206 7. treasurer shall be bonded at YAYSL expense;
207 8. fees paid to registrar are to be distributed by league treasurer;
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209 **F.) Director of Coaching:**

- 210 1. **shall be nominated by the executive committee and approved by a vote of the board of**
211 **trustees;**
212 2. **the president shall be the immediate supervisor of the director of coaching. The director of**
213 **coaching shall consult with and be responsible to the president between meetings of the**
214 **executive committee.**
215 3. **Duties include;**
216 a. **chair the committee on coaching;**
217 b. **organization and implementation of all coaching courses sponsored by YAYSL;**
218 c. **assist member organizations, upon request, in the organization of coaching**
219 **education for their organizations;**
220 d. **review materials submitted for coaching course reimbursement by coaches in**
221 **member organizations;**
222 e. **serve as an advisor to the executive committee on approval of coaches;**
223 f. **verify that coaches applying for approval to coach in the YAYSL have meet the**
224 **standards set fourth by YAYSL, OYSAN, or other affiliate organizations and USSF;**
225 g. **other duties as assigned by the executive committee;**
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227 **E.) Director of Competition:**

- 228 1. shall be nominated by the executive committee and approved by a vote of the board of
229 trustees;
230 2. the president shall be the immediate supervisor of the director of competition. The director
231 of competition shall consult with and be responsible to the president between meetings of the
232 executive committee;
233 3. Duties include;
234 a. chair the competition committee
235 b. assuring member organizations meet the standards and recommendations set forth
236 by YAYSL for field size, goal size, and goal safety policies adopted by YAYSL prior
237 to the beginning of Fall play;
238 c. assure that teams participating in “Spring League” meet the requirements for Spring
239 league play set forth by YAYSL, including assuring teams play the required number
240 of games;
241 d. make recommendations for host site selection for YAYSL’s “Fall Classic “
242 tournament to the board of trustees;
243 e. other duties as assigned by the executive committee;

244 **Section 1. Election of Officers.**

245 A.) **Nominations:**

- 246 1. In order to be considered for office, nominations documenting the qualifications for the
247 nominee with their written consent to serve and the written endorsement of any two officers
248 of their member organization, shall be submitted to the YAYSL nominating committee
249 chairperson postmarked no later than thirty (30) days prior to the October meeting.
250 2. The names and qualifications of candidates meeting eligibility requirements shall be sent to
251 the member organizations no less than 14 days prior to the annual general meeting.
252 3. Nominations from the floor shall be allowed.

253 B.) **Elections:**

- 254 1. Officers shall be elected by ballot at the annual general meeting. If there is but one (1)
255 nominee for office, the vote may be taken by voice.

256 **Section 2. Vacancy in Elected Office.**

257 A.) A vacancy in the office of president shall be filled by the vice-president.

258 B.) A vacancy in the office of the first vice-president shall be filled by the second vice-president.

259 C.) Any other vacancy in elected office shall be filled by a vote of the executive committee until the
260 next annual general meeting. At the next annual meeting, a person will be elected to fulfill the
261 remainder of the term.

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263 **Article VI: Registrar:**

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265 A.) The YAYSL registrar will follow the registration procedures of the OYSAN state registrar and
266 report directly to the league president.

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268 **Article VII: Past Presidents:**

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270 A.) **Past Presidents as Executive Board Ex-Officio:** In addition to the Executive Board members
271 elected each year at the annual meeting of the members, the Immediate Past-President of the YAYSL
272 shall automatically serve as an additional member of the Executive Board for two (2) years, with all
273 the powers and rights granted such Executive Board members.

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Article VIII: Committees:

Section 1. Composition.

A.) The executive board may establish standing and special committees as necessary. Upon establishment, the duties are assigned by the president or executive committee.

The committee chairmen are appointed by the president and approved by the executive committee.

Section 2. Term.

A.) Committee members serve for one year with the committee chairperson serving at the discretion of the president and/or board of directors.

Section 3. Committee Chairpersons.

A.) Committee appointments are made by the president with the approval of the executive committee.

Section 4. Special Committees.

A.) In addition to the regulations prescribed in this Article, appointments of the president to special committees and approval by the executive committee may happen any time during the year. Special committees may be appointed for a specified period of time to perform various assigned committee functions. The terms of special committee members and chairpersons expire at the will of the executive committee.

Article IX: Discipline

Section 1. Revocation of Membership.

A.) Any member with may be removed for not following the YAYSL and/or USSF bylaws, and rules, and by not enforcing disciplinary judgments on members. A hearing by the executive committee will be held to remove a member organization. Notice must be given at least 30 days in advance of the executive committee meeting to the affected organization. A majority vote of the executive committee is needed to remove a member organization.

Section 2. Hearings.

A.) Hearings held by YAYSL for disciplinary or other purposes will be held in accordance USSF rules for hearings.

Article X: Spring League (see attached addendum)

Article XI: Revision of By-Laws

A.) The By-Laws may be amended or revised by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the entire Board of Trustees (in good standing) at the **Annual General Meeting of the YAYSL the second Wednesday of November** or a special meeting called for such purposes. All revisions of the By-Laws will take effect with the next calendar year (January 1 – December 31).

Adopted By: Y.A.Y.S.L. Board of Trustees By: _____
President

Date: November 12, 2008 Witnessed By: