
Skagit Storm Youth Soccer Club BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME AND DURATION

SECTION 1: The Skagit Storm Youth Soccer Club, hereafter referred to as the “Club”, is a private, non-profit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Washington.

SECTION 2: The duration of this corporation shall be perpetual.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES

SECTION 1: The objectives of the Club are to:

- (a) Promote and further develop the game of soccer for youth within the service area of the Skagit Valley Youth Soccer Association (SKVYSA).
- (b) Organize and administrate the game of soccer at the select level for youth within the SKVYSA area.
- (c) Assign administrative responsibilities to members.
- (d) Provide training, education programs and competitive select soccer for the Club membership.
- (e) Administer and conduct local competitions as required.
- (f) Represent this Club in all matters of organized youth soccer with regard to WSYSA, US Youth Soccer, and interested parties. Where conditions and circumstances prevent full compliance, the Club shall effect deviations best suited to its own particular needs.
- (g) Engage in other related activities, such as fund raising and team building for the Club and youth select soccer.
- (h) To provide an environment free of any form of intimidation, harassment or bullying.

SECTION 2: The purposes of the Club are educational and include the following:

- (a) Teach and train players and coaches.
- (b) Teach through the game of soccer, sportsmanship, physical health and mental alertness.

ARTICLE III - ASSOCIATION COLORS

SECTION 1: The representative colors of the Club shall be RED and WHITE and BLACK.

ARTICLE IV – JURISDICTION

SECTION 1: The Club shall have jurisdiction over all its members, including Trainers, Coaches, Players, and Administrators.

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ARTICLE V – AFFILIATION

SECTION 1: The Club shall be a member of the Washington State Youth Soccer Association (WSYSA) and Skagit Valley Youth Soccer Association (SKVYSA). The Club will not join any organization that has requirements that conflict with the WSYSA's articles, bylaws, policies and requirements.

SECTION 2: The Club shall register all of its players, coaches, teams, administrators, trainers and volunteers with the WSYSA and SKVYSA at least once each year and timely pay all dues and fees of the WSYSA and SKVYSA.

ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: GENERAL

- (a) The membership of the Club shall consist of all players engaged in youth soccer within the SKVYSA and placed on teams formed through an open selection process to play at District or Premiere level in the State of Washington, and who agree to be bound by the bylaws, procedures and rules of the Club and which shall be admitted to membership in accordance with the bylaws of the Club.
- (b) Individual players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators and officials are members of the Club through their association with said Club or with Club committees, or as elected officers of the Club.
- (c) Membership of the Club shall be open to any soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators and officials not subject to suspension under the rules of WSYSA or SKVYSA and compliant under WSYSA Risk Management Policy.
- (d) The Club will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin.
- (e) No member of the Club shall engage themselves in a Club position or function in an effort to secure an advantage for another organization or for their personal or business gain. Any potential conflict of interest shall be declared in a disclosure statement to the Executive Board, either voluntarily or upon the request of the Executive Board. If a conflict of interest is evident, the Executive Board shall request the withdrawal of the person or recommend an investigation by the Board of Directors.
- (f) The team coach shall have final authority to choose the level of play that best suits their team. All coaches are encouraged to compete at the highest level available to that team.

SECTION 3: STANDARD OF MEMBERSHIP

- (a) The Club shall maintain recognition of federal tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

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SECTION 4: RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS – Members shall be responsible for the conduct of players, parents, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators and officials under their supervision, and shall ensure that their actions on or off the field do not bring disfavor upon the Club, SKVYSA, or WSYSA.

ARTICLE VII - FEES

SECTION 1: The Board of Directors shall determine the amount of fees due from each team for Club participation annually.

SECTION 2: Team fees shall be paid to the Club Treasurer in accordance with a payment schedule established by the Board and must be paid in full no later than September 1 of each year.

SECTION 3: Teams delinquent of fees shall be suspended from voting as a board member; furthermore, failure to pay all fees shall result in the loss of club services including, but not limited to, field availability, referee assignments, tournament participation, and team trainings.

ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1: Each member team shall appoint a person to serve as that team's representative on the Board of Directors . No person will be allowed to be a team representative where a conflict of interest exists. Appointed representative shall be identified to the Club Secretary within 10 days of appointment. The appointed representative shall be the only individual authorized to vote in matters brought before the Board. An alternate representative may substitute if identified by appointed representative to the Club Secretary prior to start of any meeting in which Club business is performed. The term of service shall begin immediately after completion of player selection process, and end the following year after the last Club meeting prior to the completion of player selection process.

SECTION 2: The Board of Directors consists of the Executive Board and the Team representatives. Each member of the Board shall have one vote on matters that come before the Board. No proxy votes shall be allowed. In the event multiple teams have the same representative, that representative shall have one vote for each team he/she represents. Responsibilities and authority shall include, but not be limited to, the actions shown in Section 3 below.

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SECTION 3: The Board of Directors shall vote on the following matters:

- (a) Proposed changes or amendments to the Club Operating Procedures;
- (b) Approval of league play;
- (c) Filling vacancies on the Executive Board;
- (d) Removal of Officers based on detrimental actions or neglect of accepted responsibilities;
- (e) Suspension or expulsion of Members;
- (f) Approval of club Bylaws;
- (g) Execution of contracts;
- (h) Items of interest that come before the Board.
- (i) Approval of formation and operation of all tournaments run by the Club;
- (j) Appointment of the Registrar, the Communications Committee Chairperson, The Tournament Committee Chairperson, the Development Committee Chairperson and the Tryout Committee Chairperson and any ad hoc Committee.

SECTION 4: The Board of Directors shall meet as set forth in Bylaw Article MEETINGS, herein.

ARTICLE IX - EXECUTIVE BOARD

SECTION 1: The Executive Board (Officers) of the Club shall consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and Ombudsman (parent representative). The Executive Board (Officers) shall be supported by the Registrar, the Communications Committee Chairperson, The Tournament Committee Chairperson, the Development Committee Chairperson, the Tryout Committee Chairperson, and the Coaches Committee Chairperson, who are appointed by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2: The Executive Board shall be responsible for conducting the business and administering the affairs of the Club to include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Enforcing the Bylaws, procedures and rules of the Club;
- (b) Approval of local, interstate, and international play;
- (c) Recommendations to the Board of Directors for suspension or removal of Club Officers;
- (d) Review and make recommendations on matters to be submitted to the Board of Directors;
- (e) Sign orders on the treasury;
- (f) Strategic planning.

SECTION 3: The Executive Board shall meet as set forth in Bylaw Article MEETINGS, herein.

SECTION 4: OFFICER ELECTION PROCEDURES

- (a) The Executive Board (Officers) shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting by the voting membership of the club Board of Directors, as follows:
 - (1) Officers to be elected in ODD numbered years are:
 - President

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- Secretary
 - Ombudsman (parent representative)
- (2) Officers to be elected in EVEN numbered years are:
- Vice-President
 - Treasurer

SECTION 5: TERM OF OFFICE

- (a) The term of office for Club Officers shall commence immediately upon election, and shall continue until the Annual General Meeting two years hence. Outgoing officers shall assist their successors for a period not to exceed the remainder of the fiscal year, in order to assure a smooth transition.
- (b) In the event the offices of the President and the Vice-President are both vacated, the Board of Directors shall elect replacements for the remainder of their respective terms. In the interim, the Board of Directors shall designate a member of the Board of Directors as Acting President.
- (c) Any officer having unexcused absence from three (3) consecutive meetings of the Executive Board or Board of Directors, or being negligent in responsibilities to the Club or being in violation of the Club Board Member Code of Ethics, WSYSA Coaches Code of Ethics, or combination thereof, shall be subject to suspension or removal by the Board of Directors.
- (d) Members of the Club Executive Board may not be a paid employee or compensated agent of any member of the USSF, US Youth Soccer, or WSYSA. A compensated agent refers to a person receiving fees for services rendered, not a person who is compensated for expenses incurred in order to fulfill official duties in connection with the business of the Club.

SECTION 6: RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS

- (a) **PRESIDENT** - The President shall supervise all activities of the Club; the work of the Executive Board, the Board of Directors, and any committees, and shall chair all meetings of same except committee meetings which may be delegated. The responsibilities of the President may be delegated but shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (1) Be the representative of the Club to those organizations with which the Club is an affiliated member, the SKVYSA and the WSYSA, as provided by the bylaws and policies of those organizations, which responsibility may be delegated subject to the approval of the Executive Board;
 - (2) Be the general representative of the Club in all matters, particularly as regards public relations, which responsibility may be delegated;
 - (3) Appoint Committee Chairpersons as the needs of the Club may require, subject to the approval of the Executive Board;

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- (4) Sign orders on the Treasury up to Two Hundred (\$200.00) dollars; or up to One Thousand (\$1000.00) dollars by majority approval of Executive Board;
 - (5) Be responsible for oversight of office procedures and personnel, which responsibility may be delegated;
 - (6) Special awards such as Coach of the Year, Player of the Year, and President's award;
 - (7) Risk management;
- (b) VICE-PRESIDENT - The Vice-President shall assist the President in all business of the Club, become the Acting President during any temporary absence of the President, and succeed to the Presidency if that office becomes vacant for any reason. The responsibilities of the Vice-President may be delegated but shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (1) Custodian of equipment;
 - (2) Administrative hearings and dispute resolution;
 - (3) Contract administration and oversight;
 - (4) Sign orders on the Treasury up to Two Hundred (\$200.00) dollars; or up to One Thousand (\$1000.00) dollars by majority approval of Executive Board.
- (c) SECRETARY - The responsibilities of the Secretary may be delegated and shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (1) Custodian of corporation records;
 - (2) Compile and publish the Club Annual Report;
 - (3) Prepare and publish minutes in a timely fashion for all meetings of the Board of Directors; and compile Executive Board minutes for presentation at Board of Director meetings;
 - (4) Provide proper notice of all Club meetings to required attendees;
 - (5) Coordinate all practice times and field assignments;
 - (6) Organize and coordinate home game playing schedules and field assignments;
 - (7) Sign orders on the Treasury up to Two Hundred (\$200.00) dollars; or up to One Thousand (\$1000.00) dollars by majority approval of Executive Board. (as necessary).
- (d) TREASURER - The responsibilities of the Treasurer shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- (1) Provide oversight of the financial affairs of the Club;
 - (2) Prepare financial reports for Executive Board meetings and Board of Directors meetings;
 - (3) Prepare a proposed budget for each fiscal year with the inputs from the other officers.
The proposed budget will be developed for the January Board of Directors Meeting;
 - (4) With the assistance of a Certified Public Accountant and/or other qualified professional help, as needed, assist the Executive Board in defining specific financial policies;

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- (5) Ensure that the club complies with record keeping and reporting requirements in conjunction with club's status as a charitable organization;
- (6) Sign orders on the Treasury up to Two Hundred (\$200.00) dollars; or up to One Thousand (\$1000.00) dollars by majority approval of Executive Board.
- (7) Sign orders on the Treasury as directed by Board of Directors.
- (e) OMBUDSMAN (parent representative) - The Ombudsman shall serve as liaison between all players, parents, coaches, trainers, Executive Board, and Board of Directors. Responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Administrative hearings and dispute resolution;
 - (2) Parent / Coach liaison

SECTION 7: NON-VOTING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

- (a) REGISTRAR - The responsibilities of the Registrar shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Registration for league and state tournament play;
 - (2) Maintain validity of coaches, trainers, managers, and persons of influence Risk Management Applications as required by WSYSA and SKVYSA.
- (b) COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON - The responsibilities of the Communications Committee Chairperson shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Communications including maintenance of the Club website;
 - (2) Electronic and print communication with Club members;
- (c) DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON – The responsibilities of the Development Committee Chairperson shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Marketing;
 - (2) Fundraising/Grant writing;
- (d) TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON – The responsibilities of the Tournament Committee Chairperson shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Administration and coordination of all Club sponsored tournaments.
- (e) TRYOUT CHAIRPERSON – The responsibilities of the Tryout Committee Chairperson shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Administration and coordination of annual club tryouts.
- (f) COACHES COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON – The responsibilities of the Coaches Committee Chairperson shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Interview and Place Coaches annually
 - (2) Replace coaches as needed during the season
 - (3) Review Coaches at the end of Tournament play and at the end of the League season.

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ARTICLE X – COACH SELECTION

SECTION 1: PERSONAL CRITERIA:

- (a) An understanding of the specific age group characteristics of the players being coached;
- (b) An ability to develop individual and team confidence;
- (c) An ability to maintain the confidence and trust of parents;
- (d) A cooperative attitude towards colleagues;
- (e) A willingness to commit the necessary time;
- (f) Coaches, assistant coaches, and all persons working with the team shall adhere to the WSYSA coaches' code of Ethics (608.2 WSYSA Coaches Code of Ethics) in its entirety and sign an affidavit of compliance.
- (g) Coaches, assistant coaches, and all persons working with the team shall pass a Washington State Patrol background check and obtain WSYSA Risk Management certification before he/she will be allowed to coach in the Club.

SECTION 2: SKILL CRITERIA:

- (a) Have a minimum of three years soccer coaching experience.
- (b) Demonstrate orally a working knowledge of soccer skills and game strategy.

SECTION 3: APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

- (a) New Coaches applying to the Club must submit a letter of application to the Executive Committee. This should include a resume of soccer coaching and playing experience. Application may be made and considered at any time during the year.

SECTION 4: COACH SELECTION:

- (a) New Coaches will be selected by the Coaches Committee. This committee will consist of five to nine members and will include at least two members of the Executive Committee. The committee will conduct interviews with each coach prior to placement with a team.
- (b) Coaches currently coaching with the Club will remain with their current teams provided that:
 - 1. the Coach is willing to continue with their current team;
 - 2. the Executive Committee, Coaches Committee and the Parent Ombudsman determine that the current Coach is the appropriate Coach for the team for the following year.

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(c) Once current coaches have been placed with their returning teams, all other coaching assignments will be made by the Coaches committee. The criteria for Coach selection will include but not be limited to the coach's:

availability

other commitments (i.e. school coaching)

previous history with the Club

willingness/ability to coach the age/gender team available

training and experience

(d) Previous coaching with the Club does not guarantee a coach a coaching position in future years. The Club will place the most appropriate coach with each team.

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ARTICLE XI – PLAYER SELECTION

SECTION 1: Application is open to all players in the U-11 age division and older.

SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS:

- (a) Notification of player tryouts will be mailed to all registered soccer players in the SKVYSA.
- (b) There shall be at least two tryouts for the viewing of interested players.
- (c) The Tryout Committee Chairperson shall organize and oversee tryouts and assist in evaluating players.
- (d) Coaches shall encourage players to participate during tryout periods only. Coaches recruiting players from other teams after the players have registered with another team or club will be subject to possible disciplinary action by the Club. Coaches will do the following when contacting a previously registered player.
 - (1) Contact player’s parents/guardians;
 - (2) Contact player’s current coach;
 - (3) Contact player’s current club registrar to notify of player’s intent to transfer.
- (e) A player may not be recruited until after his/her team has completed the current season, which includes State or local tournaments. After the beginning of the new season (September 1) no player may be recruited from another team. If a player wishes to transfer to another team they must get permission from their current team coach. Each team is allowed 4 transfers during the season. Players that are not playing in another WSYSA affiliated team may be added at any time.
- (f) After tryouts before independent evaluators, the head coach or a panel of coaches comprised of the head coach and at least one assistant coach selected by the head coach shall make selection of team players.
- (g) Players will be notified of the selection results within three days of their age groups last tryout. Players will not be notified at tryouts.
- (h) Players must qualify annually.
- (i) The coach selected by the Board to coach the returning, highest-level team (“Red” team) of each age group shall have the first option for selection of players. The “Red” team coach and the “White” team coach should work in collaboration to assure that each player is placed on the appropriate team.
- (j) Players have the right to decline a selection for whatever reason. Having once been selected and declining that selection, does not automatically qualify or disqualify a player for another selection.

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ARTICLE XII – FINANCES

SECTION 1: The Club is and shall be a non-profit organization. The Club shall maintain its tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code.

SECTION 2: FISCAL YEAR - The fiscal year of the Club shall begin at 12:00 a.m. on March 1, and end at 11:59 p.m. on February 28, of the following year. All financial rules and regulations are in effect during the twelve (12) months of the fiscal year.

SECTION 3: BUDGET

(a) The Treasurer, with the support of the Executive Board, shall prepare a proposed budget for the next fiscal year. Copies of the proposed budget, by line item, shall be submitted to the Board of Directors at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which it is adopted. Copies of the approved budget, by line item, shall be printed in the Annual Report.

(b) The budget shall be limited for any given year to expected income plus reserve for that year. The total budget shall include no less than a 10% contingency fund each year.

SECTION 4: AUDIT - The financial books and accounts of the Club, maintained by the Treasurer, shall be audited annually immediately following the Treasurer's current term of office. The auditor may not be a member of the Board of Directors or the staff of the Club.

SECTION 5: FINANCIAL REPORTS - A current fiscal year statement of Income and Disbursements of Funds will be included in the Club Annual Report. An audited fiscal year statement of Income and Disbursements of Funds shall be prepared and distributed to the Club Board of Directors.

SECTION 6: DISBURSEMENT FUNDS - Any disbursements of funds raised from sources other than Club fees (e.g., grants, donations, etc.) shall first be authorized by the Board of Directors. All amounts shall be paid by check, which shall be signed by two (2) Club Officers, signers to be designated by the President.

SECTION 7: FEES FOR CLUB EVENTS - Fees for events under the direct control of the Club shall be determined by the Chairman of that committee and approved by the Executive Board.

SECTION 8: DISSOLUTION - Should the Club be dissolved, all monetary assets remaining after payment of all debts shall be turned over to any remaining Member Teams which have qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the US Internal Revenue Code, and shall be divided proportionally to the number of registered teams. Physical assets shall be held in trust by remaining Member Teams.

SECTION 9: FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY – Skagit Storm Select Youth Soccer Club specifically disclaims financial responsibility for, and shall not assume nor be held liable for, the debts or the financial obligations, either expressed or implied, of any affiliated Member Team, or any of the coaches, managers, officers, officials, or members of any affiliated team.

SECTION 10: NO-RISK POLICY – Skagit Storm Select Youth Soccer Club shall not institute programs or services that are not covered by either a budget item or by assured funds from outside sources or by funds generated by properly implemented Club programs.

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SECTION 11: FINANCIAL PLANNING

- (a) For the purpose of long-range financial planning, funds from outside sources, funds generated through Club programs or through investment of the Club, moneys can be budgeted for specific future Club programs or projects (“earmarked”) over a period exceeding the (one) fiscal year. Any such plans identified by the Executive Board require Board of Directors’ approval.
- (b) The transfer of unused budgeted funds to the next fiscal year for the same program (budget to the Council for approval at the budget meeting (see Section 4) with a thirty (30) day item) is allowed. Any such plans must be identified by the Executive Board and presented notice.

SECTION 12: FUNDRAISING - Any fundraising programs or marketing activities in the name of the Club and/or using the logo of the Club require Board of Directors’ approval.

SECTION 13: SKAGIT STORM LOGO USE RESTRICTIONS

- (a) The Skagit Storm logo shall be protected by Trademark regulations, and no outside organization, business firm, or person shall be allowed to use the logo without the expressed approval of the Executive Board.
- (b) The Skagit Storm logo - or any other form of expressing approval or endorsement - shall not be used for programs, projects that are unsafe, discriminatory, or not in accordance with the fundamental policies outlined in the Club Bylaws.

SECTION 14: BUSINESS CONFLICT OF INTEREST – No members of the Club shall engage themselves in a Club position or function in an effort to secure an advantage for another organization or for their personal or business gain. Any potential conflict of interest shall be declared in a disclosure statement to the Executive Board, either voluntarily or upon the request of the Executive Board. If a conflict of interest is evident, the Executive Board shall request the withdrawal of the person or recommend an investigation by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XIII – MEETINGS

SECTION 1: The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of all members of the Club shall be held for the primary purpose of electing the Executive Board.

SECTION 2: Meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Board are considered business meetings and shall be called as defined in the Bylaws.

SECTION 3: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

- (a) The Club AGM shall take place during the fourth quarter of each year. Notification and agenda of this meeting shall be mailed to Members of the Club thirty (30) days prior to the AGM date.

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- (b) Members of the Board of Directors should submit an annual report covering their respective activities no later than one month prior to the AGM date, or as requested by the Secretary, for inclusion in the Club Annual Report.
- (c) Input for the Nominations Committee regarding recommended candidates for Executive Board positions should be submitted at least one month prior to the AGM. The last order of business at the AGM shall be the election of Officers. Regular Minutes of the AGM will be published.

SECTION 5: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS - The Board of Directors will meet a minimum of twelve (12) times per year to conduct the business outlined in Bylaw Article BOARD OF DIRECTORS, herein. Regular Minutes will be prepared and published. Special meetings may be called as required by the President, Executive Board, or one-half (1/2) of the Board of Directors. Reasonable notice of all meetings will be provided.

SECTION 6: EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

- (a) The Executive Board (Officers) will meet a minimum of four (4) times per year to conduct the business outlined in Bylaw Article EXECUTIVE BOARD, herein. Executive Board Minutes will be compiled for reporting at the Board of Directors' meetings.
- (b) Special meetings may be called as required by the President, or by two (2) or more Officers. Reasonable notice of all meetings will be provided.

SECTION 7: ORDER OF BUSINESS - The order of business at all meetings shall be as follows:

- (a) Roll Call
- (b) Credentials
- (c) Minutes
- (d) Reports
- (e) Communications
- (f) Officers' Report
- (g) Unfinished Business
- (h) New Business
- (i) Proposals
- (j) Election (AGM)
- (k) Adjournments

SECTION 8: All meetings of the Club shall be conducted using the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order" as a guide.

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ARTICLE XIV - VOTING AND QUORUM

SECTION 1: VOTING

- (a) Executive Board Meetings:
 - (1) Officers shall have one (1) vote each.
- (b) Board of Directors' Meetings:
 - (1) Officers (Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, & Ombudsman) shall have one (1) vote each.
 - (2) Team representatives shall have one (1) vote each.
- (c) At all Club meetings, the President shall vote in the event of a tie.

SECTION 2: QUORUM

- (a) Executive Board Meetings - A quorum for all Executive Board Meetings shall consist of at least the President, or Acting President, and two (2) additional Officers.
- (b) Board of Directors Meetings - A quorum for all Board of Directors Meetings shall consist of at least the President, or Acting President; one-half (1/2) of the Board of Directors.
- (c) Loss of Quorum - The regular members present at duly called or duly held meetings at which a quorum is present may continue to transact business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough members to leave less than a quorum, if any action taken (other than adjournment) is approved by at least a majority of members required to constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XV – INSURANCE

SECTION 1: LIABILITY INSURANCE - The Club shall provide Liability Insurance covering Officers, all Board Directors, Team Representatives, Club Committee Directors, and Coaches for performing acts and responsibilities directly related to the Club.

ARTICLE XVI - HEARINGS, APPEALS AND LITIGATION

SECTION 1: The Club will provide equitable and prompt hearing and appeal procedures to guarantee the rights of individuals to participate and compete. These procedures shall include that all grievances involving the right to participate and compete in activities sponsored by the Club and its members may be appealed to the SKVYSA Appeals Committee that shall have jurisdiction to approve, modify or reverse a decision.

SECTION 2: No member, official, team, player, coach, administrator or referee may invoke the aid of the courts in the United States or of a State without first exhausting all available remedies within the Club, SKVYSA, and as provided within the WSYSA.

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SECTION 3: For violation of this bylaw, the offending party shall be subject to suspension and fines, and shall be liable to Skagit Storm Select Soccer Club for all expenses incurred by Skagit Storm Select Soccer Club and its officers in defending each court action, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) court costs.
- (b) attorney's fees.
- (c) reasonable compensation for time spent by Club officials and employees in responding to and defending against allegations in the action, including responses to discovery and court appearance.
- (d) travel expenses.
- (e) expenses for holding special board meetings necessitated by the court action.

ARTICLE XVII – YEAR

SECTION 1: The Seasonal Year of the Club shall begin on March 1, and end on February 28, of the following year. Insurance coverage shall be for the same period of time.

SECTION 2: The Fiscal Year of the Club is identified in Bylaw Article XI FINANCES, Section 2.

ARTICLE XVIII – AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Proposed changes or amendments to these Bylaws can be effected at the Club Annual General Meeting (AGM) or with 30 days written notice.

SECTION 2: Such proposed changes or amendments can be made by any individual or organization member of the Club in good standing, and must be submitted in writing to the Club Secretary, at the Club office address.

SECTION 3: The Secretary shall immediately transmit to the Executive Board all proposed amendments received.

* Every coach agrees to abide by the WSYSA Coaches Code of Ethics when they accept the privilege of the role of coach within WSYSA. Serving as a coach is a unique opportunity to mold and grow the future of our youth, of soccer and of our organizations through example. WSYSA coaches are expected to portray and teach the highest example of good citizenship and sportsmanship as they teach the game of soccer. Coaches are therefore expected to accept the responsibilities that are implicit in this role, both to their players and their families and to the organizations that support them. These responsibilities are outlined in the WSYSA coaches Code of Ethics.

608.2 WSYSA Coaches Code of Ethics

Purpose:

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(a) This code of ethics has been developed to clarify and distinguish approved and accepted professional, ethical and moral behavior from that which is detrimental to the development of soccer within the Washington State Youth Soccer Association (WSYSA).

(b) Article I – Responsibilities to Players

1. Coaches shall never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
2. Coaches shall instruct players to play within the written laws of the game and within the spirit of the game at all times.
3. Coaches shall not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players.
4. Coaches should not tolerate inappropriate behavior from players regardless of the situation.
5. Demands on players' time should never be so extensive as to interfere with academic goals or progress.
6. Coaches must never encourage players to violate WSYSA recruitment, eligibility or players rules and policies.
7. Coaches should direct players to seek proper medical attention for injuries and to follow the physician's instructions regarding treatment and recovery.
8. Coaches should take an active role in educating their players about sports nutrition, fitness and about prevention of tobacco use. Coaches should avoid the use of all tobacco and tobacco related products when in the presence or view of players at WSYSA sanctioned events and related activities.

(c) Article II – Responsibility to WSYSA and Member Associations

1. Adherence to all WSYSA and Member Association rules and policies, especially those regarding eligibility, team formation and recruiting are mandatory and should never be violated. It is the responsibility of each coach to know and understand these rules.
2. Any problems that cannot be resolved between coaches should be referred to the appropriate WSYSA or Member Association officer or committee.

(d) Article III – Responsibilities to the Laws of the Game

1. Coaches should be thoroughly acquainted with and demonstrate a working knowledge of the Laws of the Game.
2. Coaches are responsible to assure their players understand the intent as well as the application of the Laws.
3. Coaches must adhere to the letter and spirit of the Laws of the Game.
4. Coaches are responsible for their players' actions on the field and must not permit them to perform with intent of causing injury to opposing players.
5. The coach must constantly strive to teach good sporting behavior.

(e) Article IV – Responsibility to Officials

1. Officials must have the support of coaches, players and spectators. Coaches must always refrain from criticizing officials in the presence of players or spectators.
2. Professional respect, before, during and after the game, should be mutual. There should be no demeaning dialogue or gestures between official, coach or player.
3. Coaches must not incite players or spectators or attempt to disrupt the flow of the game.
4. Comments regarding an official should be made in writing to the appropriate organization assigning the official.

(f) Article V – Responsibilities Regarding Scouting and Recruiting

Skagit Storm Youth Soccer Club

BYLAWS

1. All WSYSA rules pertaining to recruiting shall be strictly observed by coach, manager or any team representative.
2. It is inappropriate to recruit player(s) actively playing for another team.
3. It is unethical for a player to be recruited or enticed from the Olympic Development Program (ODP) setting, either by his ODP coach or any other coach, manager, player, parent or team representative.
4. When discussing the advantages of his/her organization, the coach has an obligation to be forthright and refrain from making derogatory remarks regarding other coaches, teams and organizations.
5. It is unethical for any coach to make a statement to a prospective athlete which cannot be fulfilled; illegal to promise any kind of compensation or inducement for play; and immoral to deliver same.
6. Coaches shall not scout any team, by any means whatsoever, except in regularly scheduled games.

(g) Article VI – Responsibility of Public Relations

1. Coaches have a responsibility to promote the game of soccer to the public. Comments and critiques of governing bodies, teams, coaches, players, parents or media should be positive and constructive.
2. Coaches have the responsibility to assist their players in conducting themselves properly when in public when representing their team, member association and WSYSA.
3. Coaches must not attempt to influence member associations or WSYSA in political or financial dealings outside the framework of their own rules and bylaws.

(h) Article VII – Other Responsibilities

1. A coach's behavior must be such as to bring credit to himself, his organization and the sport of soccer.
2. While the concept of rivalry is wholly embraced, it cannot take precedence over exemplary professional conduct.
3. The attitude and conduct of the coach towards officials, players, spectators and coaches should be controlled and undemonstrative.
4. It is unacceptable for a coach to have any verbal altercation with an opposing coach or bench before, during or after the game.
5. Coaches must use their influence on his/her spectators that demonstrate intimidating and/or unacceptable behavior towards officials, player(s) and opposing team members.

I _____ agree to adhere to Washington State Youth Soccer Associations Coaches Code of Ethics. Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____