



MALDEN YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

I. Name

This association shall be called the Malden Youth Soccer Association (MYSA).

II. Object and Philosophy

The object of the MYSA is to inform, cultivate and to encourage the playing of the sport of soccer for the youth and families of the city of Malden, Massachusetts. MYSA shall aid in the development of young people by giving them the opportunity to play soccer. MYSA will offer training for the development of individual skills, fitness, teamwork and fair play in soccer. No child or adult shall be denied the opportunity to play or instruct soccer in the MYSA based solely on sex, race, ethnicity and/or nationality.

III. Membership

Membership into the MYSA shall include:

- all coaches of MYSA teams;
- all assistant coaches of MYSA teams;
- all referees employed by or volunteering for the MYSA;
- all Board of Directors members of the MYSA;
- all parents/guardians of players within an MYSA program.

Except for the aforementioned requisites, no person shall be denied membership within the MYSA based solely on sex, race, ethnicity and/or nationality.

Membership is on a year-to-year basis.

IV. Government of the MYSA

The MYSA shall be governed by a Board of Directors (BD) and the General Committee.

The BD shall consist of the following fifteen (15) MYSA positions that are voted upon once every year:

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| 1. President | 9. Referee Coordinator/Coach Educator |
| 2. Vice President | 10. Webmaster |
| 3. Secretary | 11. U-6 Coordinator |
| 4. Treasurer | 12. U-8 Coordinator |
| 5. Equipment Manager | 13. U-10 Coordinator |
| 6. Registrar | 14. U-12 Coordinator |
| 7. Co-Travel Division Coordinator (A) | 15. U-14 Coordinator |
| 8. Co-Travel Division Coordinator (B) | 16. Field and Game Coordinator |

All members of the BD, with exception of the President, will have equal voting rights, motion rights and privileges. The President shall be allowed to vote only in order to break a tie. The President is not granted any motion rights and/or nomination rights.

The BD shall have complete control and management of the MYSA and its property.

The members of the General Committee shall consist of members of the MYSA that are in attendance at any particular General Meeting. All members of the General Committee will have equal voting rights, motion rights and privileges. The General Committee has the power to propose amendments to the Constitution and set policy guidelines.

Auxiliary committees may be formed by MYSA members for fundraising purposes, social functions or anything related to the enhancement of MYSA. Auxiliary committees, auxiliary committee members and auxiliary events must be approved by the MYSA Board of Directors. Auxiliary funds up to \$500.00 shall be kept in an Auxiliary checking account. Whenever the balance of the Auxiliary checking account exceeds \$500.00, with no outstanding bills, the excess must be turned over to the MYSA treasurer to be deposited into the MYSA account.

V. Meetings

There are two types of meetings that shall be held throughout the year at a place to be determined by the BD: General Meetings and Board of Directors Meetings.

A. General meetings are open to all members. The Secretary shall send notice two weeks in advance by mail, phone and/or any other means seen necessary to effectively publicize these meetings to all MYSA members. A quorum shall consist of nineteen (19) MYSA members (including the BD members). General Meetings shall be held at least twice a year:

- (1) July or August, for roster pickup of upcoming fall season.
- (2) December, for nominations, elections, review of policy and finalizing of the travel team rosters.

Additional General Meetings can and are encouraged to be held.

B. The BD shall convene at least once a month each year. The secretary shall send notice one week in advance by mail, phone and/or any other means necessary to effectively publicize these meetings to all BD members.

- A quorum shall consist of eight (8) BD members.

Additional Board of Directors Meeting can and are encouraged to be held.

Any action by the BD may be taken without a meeting if a written consent thereto is signed by all BD members entitled to vote thereon and is filed with records of the BD's meeting. Such consent shall be treated for all purpose as a vote at a meeting. If important issues affecting the general membership arise between Board meetings, action by consent is the way for the President to garner sufficient support for whatever initiative appears in order if a Board meeting is impractical.

All business conducted shall be in accordance with the **Robert's Rules of Order**.

VI. Election of Officers and Tenure

Elections for BD Members will be held during the December General Meeting. Normal quorum of 19 MYSA members must be present.

All positions on the BD, except for President and assistant positions, will be nominated and elected upon during the General Meeting.

The President will be appointed by the BD. The appointee must have served on the BD for one full year within the last two years. The position of President serves a one-year term and shall be eligible for limitless appointments by the BD.

All BD positions have a maximum term of one year (January 1 to December 31). Should a vacancy occur during the year, the BD shall have the authority to appoint a replacement to fill the position vacated for the remainder of the term. In the event of a vacancy in the BD, the remaining officers accept the powers of the full BD until the vacancy is filled.

Every position has no term limits.

A BD member may take more than one BD position, however every person, no matter how many positions he/she holds, is allowed **ONLY ONE VOTE**.

There must be at least 9 separate individuals elected to the BD before the General Meeting in December can be adjourned.

Not every age coordinator position must be filled. As participation rates fluctuate, the coordinators should be assigned for the age groups accordingly.

VII. Finance

By the February BD meeting, the Treasurer and the President will present to the BD an annual budget for the disbursement of funds in the year.

Funds will be raised by assessment of player's fee to be established each year by the BD, soliciting for sponsors each year by the BD and by fund raising activities to be arranged each year by the BD.

The BD will allocate the MYSA's funds with delegation to the Treasurer for operational expenses and seasonal expenses which must all be reported at the next meeting.

Funds of MYSA shall be withdrawn from the bank or banks with which they are on deposit by the signatures of the duly elected President and Treasurer, both of whom must be bonded. The President and Treasurer shall cosign checks.

Upon dissolution of this organization the BD shall, with the proviso that all expenditures, debts and/or payments have been finalized and/or provisioned, dispose of all MYSA's assets by giving them to an organization(s) that are organized and operated for charitable, educational and/or recreational purposes within the City of Malden.

In the case of extreme financial need of a player or his family, they may apply to the BD for a lesser player's fee or total exemption of the fee. A *Scholarship Committee*, consisting of the President, Vice President and Treasurer, will decide these cases.

VIII. Suspension and Expulsion

All MYSA members are under the direct supervision of the BD. The BD has the power to remove, restrict and replace members that have not acted in accordance to the rules set forth in this organization's constitution and/or within proper behavior.

Any MYSA member or player may be suspended or expelled from the MYSA and/or its BD by a resolution passed by not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the BD.

An additional or "special" BD meeting may be called for the proceedings of the expulsion or suspension. Notice of the proceedings shall be given in writing to the pertaining party/parties at least seven (7) calendar days in advance of the meeting. The individual(s) involved may make a statement to the BD before the resolution is brought forward for a vote.

The decision of the BD shall be binding on the individual(s). A full explanation for the suspension or expulsion must be given by the BD to the individual(s) within forty-eight (48) hours of the decision. A written document from the BD, sent to all pertaining parties within forty-eight (48) hours of the decision, will satisfy this requirement.

IX. Protests

Any dispute may be brought to the attention of the BD at any time. The BD shall decide protests that arise concerning:

- Events during play of games,
- Suspension of players,
- Suspension of MYSA members,
- Suspension of coaches,
- and in any other areas as may, from time to time, arise.

Unless otherwise noted, decisions will be rendered by the BD within no more than thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the protest. The decision of the BD shall be binding on the individual(s).

X. Season and Team Structure

In-house:

The fall in-house season will be held between Labor Day and Thanksgiving.

The BD shall approve the dates, times and locations of all games and/or play-off games.

The BD shall establish age groups, the number of teams and the number of players on each team.

Travel:

The BD shall set all requirements and standards in conjunction with those preset by the *Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association*.

The fall and spring seasons will also be held in conjunction with the dates, times, places and age groups preset by the *Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association*.

XI. Bylaws and Playing Rules

The BD from time to time may publish Bylaws and playing rules, which, providing they do not contradict this Constitution, shall be binding upon all MYSA members and MYSA teams. It is desirable, however, that the Bylaws should represent the wishes of the General Committee. Therefore, at the General Meeting in December the outgoing BD shall present to the General Committee any changes made during their term of office and any additional proposals they may have for further changes in the existing Bylaws.

Any MYSA member may propose changes to the Bylaws at any proper General Meeting or Board of Directors Meeting. The proposals of the BD and those of the MYSA members shall be discussed and voted upon. A decision shall be rendered by a vote cast in the affirmative by a simple majority of the number of MYSA members present.

In case of ambiguity between the Constitution and Bylaws, the Constitution shall take precedence as interpreted by the BD.

XII. Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments to the Constitution may not be voted upon at a Board of Directors Meeting. Amendments to the Constitution may only be voted upon at a General Meeting. No variation of the Constitution by addition, omission or amendment shall be adopted unless a proper quorum is present at a General Meeting.

Notice of such a meeting and the details of the proposed amendment shall be mailed, and/or by any other means seen necessary to effectively publicize this proposal, to all MYSA members at least two weeks in advance. The amendment shall not be carried unless supported by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at the meeting.

Reminder: The quorum shall be nineteen (19) MYSA members (including the BD).

XIII. Ratification of the Constitution

The ratification and adoption of this Constitution shall take place during a General Meeting. The Constitution shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present at the General Meeting. The quorum shall be nineteen (19) MYSA members. All efforts must be taken to effectively publicize this proposal at least two weeks in advance of the scheduled date. All MYSA members shall be given a copy of this document at least two weeks in advance so as to have time to review its contents and be informed of its intent and scope.