

Minnesota Senior Soccer League (MSSL) Bylaws

1. Name

A. The name of the "League" shall be the Minnesota Senior Soccer League. (MSSL)

2. Purpose

A. The purpose of this League shall be the promotion, development and regulation of soccer for players age 40 years and over in Minnesota.

3. Affiliation

A. This League shall be affiliated with the United States Soccer Federation, Inc. (USSF), the Minnesota Soccer Association (MSA) and shall recognize the authority, rules and laws of those bodies.

4. Jurisdiction, Territory

A. This League shall have jurisdiction over all members, officials and players associated herewith and over all matters connected with this League in the State of Minnesota.

5. Membership

Members

1. Teams are the members and shall be eligible for membership. Each team must make a separate application for a team membership.
2. Teams are the voting members of the League. Each team has one vote.
3. Each team that is a member of the League shall advise the Secretary in writing of the name and contact information of a designated team representative and of any alternate representative eligible to vote on League matters.
4. Each team shall be liable for such dues and assessments as are levied by the Board of Directors of the League, and shall not be eligible to vote during such time as they are delinquent in the payment of such dues and assessments, or during such time as they are delinquent in the payment of any fines.
5. Dues and assessments shall be established and collected by the Board of Directors.

B. Application for Membership

1. For application of membership, a payment of any deposits, dues, or fees shall be accepted and approved or rejected as determined by the Board of Directors from time to time.

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2. The Board of Directors of this League may terminate the membership of any member who fails to pay dues, assessments, registration fees or fines on a timely basis. Such termination may be effected without a hearing by giving notice to the member, provided that the member may void such termination by purging itself of said delinquency and the payment of any late fee or reinstatement fee within ten days of such notice.
3. The Board of Directors may by majority vote of all Executive Committee eligible to vote, terminate the membership of any member for good cause. Such termination shall not take place without providing an opportunity for the member to present evidence on his/her or its own behalf, including the right to cross-examination of witnesses presenting evidence against the member. Where the member is a team, reasonable steps should be taken to give notice to other team members in addition to the designated team representative.

6. Board of Directors

- A. The Board of Directors (the "Board") shall consist of the members, the Executive Committee (the Officers of this League) and a Representative from each team.
- B. Directors may voluntarily resign at any time. However, such resignation shall not relieve such member of liability for any unauthorized acts which he or she supported while acting as Director.
- C. The Executive Committee for the Board of Directors may make regulations as needed to implement these By-laws regarding:
 1. The conduct of business of this League;
 2. Team competition;
 3. Dues, assessments, registration fees and fines.
- D. Rules and Regulations made by the Executive Committee may be rescinded or amended by the Board of Directors.

7. The Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee of this League shall consist of a Commissioner, a Deputy Commissioner, a Secretary, a Treasurer, MSSL Representative for the MSA and the Division Representative. No person may hold more than one office at a time, save that the MSSL Representative may serve in another capacity.
- B. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the voting members at the annual meeting of this League.
- C. Any person with a commitment to serving the goals of the League shall be eligible for election as an officer.
- D. The voting members may by a two-thirds vote of all members present at a special meeting held after at least ten days advance notice stating the purpose of the meeting remove any Executive Committee member for cause. The person subject to removal must also be given such advance notice of the purpose of the meeting and be afforded an opportunity to address the members at such meeting before voting.
- E. Should an Executive Committee member resign or be removed from the Board before the annual meeting at which his/her term of office would otherwise expire, the remaining Executive Committee members shall appoint a replacement to serve for the remainder of such term. If the replacement chosen to fill the vacant position is a standing Executive Committee member, the Board may appoint another replacement for the office vacated.
- F. The Executive Committee member may make regulations as needed to implement these By-laws regarding:

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1. Registration of teams, players, and referees;
 2. Disciplinary matters;
 3. Protests and appeals;
- G. Rules and Regulations made by a Executive Committee members may be rescinded or amended by the Executive Committee with a two-thirds vote.
- H. Commissioner
1. When in attendance, the Commissioner of this League shall preside at all meeting of the Executive Committee and at all meetings of the Board of Directors.
 2. The Commissioner of this League shall pass upon and approve all disbursements by the League.
 3. The Commissioner shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors.
 4. The Commissioner shall set the agenda for any meeting of the Board.
 5. The Commissioner shall have jurisdiction to act upon all matters described under Article 12. 6. Maintenance of records of disciplinary actions related to team competition.
- I. Deputy Commissioner
1. The Deputy Commissioner shall obtain referees for the League by contracting and coordinating with a referee scheduler.
 2. The Deputy Commissioner shall ensure that officials are aware of and agree to enforce league rules.
 3. The Deputy Commissioner ensure that referees make timely reports of game results, injuries are reported to the MSA, and any disciplinary actions (red and yellow cards) teams must take are related to the teams.
 4. Address any concerns regarding referee performance.
 5. When the Commissioner is not in attendance, the Deputy Commissioner shall preside at meetings of the Executive Committee, and at meetings of the Board of Directors.
 6. In the event of a vacancy in the Office of Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner shall have the authority of the Commissioner until a new Commissioner is appointed by the Board or elected at the next annual meeting.
- J. Secretary
1. The Secretary shall be responsible for registration of teams, players, and maintenance of records thereof; including maintenance of records of team rosters and player eligibility.
 2. The Secretary shall be responsible for announcement of match cancellation.
 3. The Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation and maintenance of the season schedule.
 4. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping the web site content current.
 5. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meeting of the Executive Committee members and the Board of Directors and shall make a record of all actions.
 6. The Secretary shall attend to all correspondence of this League and keep all records of this League. With the Secretary's consent, the Secretary may maintain all or some of the records required to be maintained by the Commissioner or the Deputy Commissioner.
- K. Treasurer
1. The Treasurer shall maintain a detailed account of the income, expenditures and property of this League and shall provide a current statement thereof at the annual meeting and as requested by the Board at any of its regularly scheduled meetings.

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2. The Treasurer shall maintain all funds of this League in a bank account in the name of this League.
3. Upon approval by the Commissioner, and pursuant to a budget and/or guidelines approved by the Board, the Treasurer shall pay the bills of this League from the bank account of this League.
4. The Treasurer shall coordinate with the field managers to get field assignments and payment.
5. The Treasure shall pay the MSA affiliation fees and pay the referee assigner for their service.

L. MSSL Representative for the MSSL

1. The MSSL Representative for the MSA shall be responsible for keeping the MSA website (League Apps) current.
2. The MSSL Representative for the MSA will represent the best interest of the MSSL to the MSA Board. The MSSL Representative is a member of the MSA Board.

M. Division Representatives (Elective Representative of Each Division in the MSSL)

1. The Division Representatives are the first contact for division issues
2. The Division Representatives collect information on incidents within the division and present the issues to the Executive Committee for review.
3. The Division Representatives update weekly the scores during play season on the MSA website (League Apps)
4. The Division Representatives update the Yellow/Red cards on the *Cards Tracker MSSL* and inform the Deputy Commissioner of any player suspension and injuries.
5. The Division Representatives police the Leagueapps team and player profiles and inform team managers of any MSSL By-Laws and Rules and Regulations (R&Rs) inconsistencies to be corrected. Any persistent non-compliance is reported to the Deputy Commissioner.

8. Meetings

- A. An annual meeting of the members shall be called by the Commissioner and held in Minneapolis, St. Paul, or a suburb thereof.
- B. Other meetings of the members may be called from time to time by the Executive Committee, by the Commissioner, or upon written or via email demand by two-fifths or more of the members. In the latter case, the Commissioner shall call the meeting to be held within two weeks of such demand and notice of the meeting shall be emailed within seven days of such demand; provided that the purpose of such meeting is described in such demand.
- C. The Commissioner shall call a meeting of the Board of Directors at any time deemed necessary.
- D. The Executive Committee may make regulations setting penalties, up to and including the levying of fines, the imposition of higher dues, and/or the termination of membership, against members who fail to attend meetings.
- E. The Secretary shall provide notice of all meetings to all members of the Board of Directors.
- F. Notice of all meetings shall be emailed by the Secretary 14 days, or as deemed NECESSARY by the Commissioner before the date of the meeting. Notice of the meeting will be posted on the League website. Anyone wishing to attend a meeting must notify the Secretary 48 hours in advance of the

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- meeting. Anyone wishing to be added to the agenda must notify the secretary a minimum of 48 hours in advance.
- G. A quorum must be present at a meeting of the Board of Directors in order for a vote to be taken at that meeting.
 - H. A quorum must be present at a meeting of the Executive Committee in order for a vote to be taken at that meeting.
 - I. A quorum shall be 2/3rds or more of the persons able to vote at a given meeting.
 - J. The League may conduct votes of the members by email, provided that the matter to be voted upon is described in writing on an email ballot submitted to all the voting members, and further provided that each ballot counted is emailed to the Secretary. If 51% or more of the eligible email ballots are returned in time specified by the email deadline, this shall be sufficient for quorum purposes for the vote to be counted.
 - K. Except as otherwise provided in these By-laws in a meeting (G) a quorum, a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to carry a motion.
 - L. For election to be on the Executive Committee a person must receive a majority of the votes cast. If no person receives such a majority upon the first ballot, a run-off ballot will be held between the two people with the most votes.
 - M. There shall be one vote per voting member. If there is more than one designated representative present at a meeting for a team, such representatives shall be responsible for determining between themselves how the one vote will be cast.

9. Registration

- A. Each team shall require each of its players to be registered with the Minnesota Soccer Association (MSA) Federation.
- B. Team and player registration, and the payment of any required fees, shall be as specified in the Rules & Regulations promulgated by the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Senior Soccer League (MSSL).
- C. The term of all player registrations shall expire as set forth in the Rules and Regulations.

10. Disciplinary Matters, Protests, and Appeals

- A. The Board of Directors shall establish its Rules and Regulations and grounds for disciplinary actions, protests, and appeals.
- B. The Executive Committee of this League shall have the authority (1) to levy suspensions, fines, revocations of membership, affiliation, and/or registration, and (2) to order forfeiture, replay, cancellation of games; except that an amateur player may not be fined for conduct as a player.
- C. The Commissioner of this League shall consider allegations of said violations or misconduct by teams, by players and officials thereof, and by spectators under the jurisdiction of this League. The Commissioner takes appropriate disciplinary action authorized and/or required by the Rules and Regulations promulgated by the Board of Directors of this League.

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- D. The Deputy Commissioner of this League shall act in lieu of the Commissioner in considering any matter affecting a member of this League with which the Commissioner is affiliated, or affecting the position in the standings of the League or any members with which the Commissioner is affiliated.
- E. The Board of Directors of this League shall promulgate regulations specifying the procedure to be followed by the Commissioner in considering allegations of said violation or misconduct.
- F. Any player, team, or referee may appeal a disciplinary action to the Minnesota Soccer Association pursuant to their bylaws.

11. Referees

- A. All officials officiating games sponsored by this League must be registered with the Minnesota Soccer Association (MSA) or an affiliated association.
- B. Referee disciplinary matters shall be determined by the Board of Directors or such person appointed by them.
- C. The Minnesota Soccer Association has original jurisdiction for referee abuses or assaults.

12. Effective Dates of Notice, ...etc.

- A. The effective date of any notice, permission, or other communication by any officer of this League which is emailed, shall be the date of the email.
- B. The date of any telephone notice shall be the date of any actual conversation with such person or recorded message.
- C. The timestamp of any email transmission shall be considered the date of the vote.

13. Amendment of By-Laws

- A. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Minnesota Senior Soccer League Board of Directors.
- B. Copies of all amended by-laws shall be distributed to the members via email to the team.

14. Effect of Enactment

- A. These By-Laws shall be effective immediately upon their enactment.
- B. The Executive Committee of this League upon date of enactment shall continue in the same office following enactment.
- C. Teams and individuals affiliated with this League upon enactment of these By-Laws and then in good standing with this League shall continue as members of the League without having to reapply for membership.
- D. Upon enactment of these By-Laws, any Rules and Regulations of this League inconsistent with these By-Laws are repealed.
- E. Should any section or sections of these By-Laws be adjudged null and void by the Minnesota Senior Soccer Federation or by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other sections of these By-Laws shall remain in effect.

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15. Communication

- A. Wherever written communications are referenced to by these by-laws this explicitly includes electronic communication (email, website, ...etc.).