



Bylaws

Somerset West Soccer Club, Inc.

Revised January 9, 2019

BYLAWS FOR THE SOMERSET WEST SOCCER CLUB, INC.

ARTICLE I – NAME

- A. The name of this organization shall be the “Somerset West Soccer Club, Inc.” hereinafter referred to as “SWSC,” or the “Club.” The Club is a non-profit organization and is incorporated within the state of Oregon. The Club will maintain tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.
- B. The Club shall engage in lawful activity, none of which is for profit, pursuant to Chapter 65 of the Oregon Revised Statutes and §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE II – AFFILIATION

- A. The SWSC is a member of, and will comply with the bylaws and policies of, the Oregon Youth Soccer Association (OYSA) and the Tualatin Hills Junior Soccer League (THJSL).
- B. The SWSC is also affiliated with the Federation Internationale des Football Association (FIFA), Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF), United States Soccer Federation (USSF), and US Youth Soccer (USYS).
- C. The SWSC shall maintain its bylaws and policies in compliance with the bylaws and policies of OYSA, USYS, and USSF. In the event of any conflict between the bylaws and policies of the Club and the bylaws and policies of the organizations of which it is a member, the provisions of the organizations of which the Club is a member shall take priority.

ARTICLE III – PURPOSE

The purpose of the SWSC is to operate a non-profit recreational soccer organization that seeks to teach, govern, and promote the game of soccer for youth players. The Club recognizes that some of its youth players may desire to seek a higher level of play than is afforded by a recreational program, and will assist those players by referring them to clubs with competitive programs.

ARTICLE IV – OBJECTIVE

The objective of the SWSC is to promote sportsmanship and a sense of fair play within the framework of a team sport and to develop an interest in and a working knowledge of the game of soccer.

ARTICLE V – NON-DISCRIMINATION

The SWSC will comply with all applicable state and federal laws governing non-discrimination and will be open to participation by any individual, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, citizenship, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status.

ARTICLE VI – MEMBERSHIP

A. Definition of Membership

1. Youth Player

An amateur player who is eligible under current USYS playing rules to compete in the U-19 or younger age division for the current season. The SWSC will not accept players under the age of five (5) years unless the following applies: the player is 4 years of age and entering kindergarten during September of the current season.

2. Adult Member

Any person actively engaged in fostering the game of youth soccer within the SWSC, such as parents or guardians of participating youth players, coaches, and SWSC board members.

B. Qualification of Membership

1. Youth players typically live within the boundaries of the SWSC; however, living within the club boundaries is not a condition of membership. The club boundaries are the attendance areas of the following schools: Bethany Elementary, McKinley Elementary, Rock Creek Elementary, Elmonica Elementary, Springville Elementary, and Lenox Elementary.
2. Youth players must be registered with the SWSC and pay the required club fee. Players living outside the boundaries of the Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District (THPRD) must also pay an out-of-district fee to THPRD.
3. Every adult member serving in an official club capacity (e.g., coach, assistant coach, board member) must be registered with the SWSC and pay the required OYSA fee. It is the policy of the Club to pay these OYSA fees from club funds.
4. All members must abide by applicable club, THJSL, and OYSA policies and procedures.

ARTICLE VII – GOVERNANCE

- A. The SWSC shall be governed by a Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board, consisting of elected officers and appointed board members.
- B. The elected officers serve as the officers of the corporation. Their duties are:

- 1. President

The President is the presiding and general representative of the Club and Chair of the corporation. The President meets with the Board regularly throughout the year and with the general membership at least once a year at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The President develops an annual club calendar for Board approval. The President guides development of a yearly club program and appoints persons and/or committees to organize and implement specific tasks. The President also co-signs checks with the Treasurer consistent with club policies and limitations and oversees all areas of operation. In addition, the President serves as the Club's Risk Management Coordinator.

- 2. Vice President

The Vice President assists the President in completion of his/her duties. Specific duties include conducting club affairs as necessary in the absence of the President, fundraising, and coordination of picture day. The Vice President also chairs the Club's Risk Management Committee and manages disciplinary actions in accordance with the Club's judicial procedures.

- 3. Secretary

The Secretary keeps accurate minutes of all Board and general meetings and handles all club correspondence. The Secretary assists the President by informing all Board members of upcoming meetings and prepares a written notice for each adult member of the Club three weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting with information about the date, time, and location of the meeting and a slate of officers to be elected at that time. The Secretary also assists with the organization and implementation of registration.

- 4. Treasurer

The Treasurer is in charge of the financial affairs and activities of the Club, keeps an accurate, informative, timely, and verifiable record of all moneys received and disbursed by the Club, all assets owned or controlled by the Club and all debts owed by the Club. Specific responsibilities of the Treasurer include:

- a. Maintain a checking account with signature authority vested in no fewer than three (3) club officers with dual signatures required for any expenditure in excess of \$500.

- b. Disburse funds for authorized purposes in accordance with adopted procedures.
- c. Prepare and submit annual financial information to the membership at the Annual General Meeting and provide financial statements at each regular meeting of the Board.
- d. Prepare, or cause to be prepared, all documents required to allow the Club to maintain its tax exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code and the laws of the state of Oregon.
- e. Serve on the Club's Risk Management Committee.

1. Registrar

The Registrar oversees all aspects of the Club's online and manual registration processes and performs specific duties related primarily to the G2-G8 program. This includes contracting for online services, registration form development and distribution for the microsoccer and G2-G8 programs, collection and completeness checks of manually-submitted G2-G8 registration forms, data entry for manually-submitted G2-G8 registration forms, formation of G2-G8 teams, and preparation of rosters for those teams. The Registrar is also responsible for submission of all forms required by the THJSL and the OYSA for registration of SWSC teams, players, and coaches, and for signing rosters for any SWSC team requiring an approved roster for tournament or other purposes.

6. League Representative

The League Representative serves as the liaison between the SWSC and the THJSL. The League Representative is empowered to vote for the SWSC in all matters that come before the THJSL Board.

7. Microsoccer Coordinator

The Microsoccer Coordinator manages all aspects of the Club's microsoccer (GK and G1) program. The Microsoccer Coordinator is assisted by the Microsoccer Assistant, Registrar, Equipment Manager, Field Representative, and Head Coach. The Microsoccer Coordinator is specifically responsible for management of microsoccer player registration (including collection, completeness checks and data entry for manually-submitted microsoccer registration forms), formation of microsoccer teams, microsoccer coach recruiting, microsoccer game scheduling, coordination of the microsoccer jamboree, and compilation of the microsoccer coaches' packets.

C. The appointed members of the Board and their duties are:

1. Head Coach

The Head Coach organizes annual coaching and player clinics, works with the coaches and assistant coaches during the season, and helps to recruit new coaches and assistants for all of the Club's programs. The Head Coach also acts as a central reference point for technical questions from coaches and parents, handles disciplinary actions in accordance with the Club's judicial procedures, serves on the Club's Risk Management Committee, acts as the liaison between the SWSC and the THJSL Referee Coordinator, and works with the Board to identify the contents of the coach packets.

2. Equipment Manager

The Equipment Manager oversees the management of club equipment including procurement, distribution, collection, maintenance, and storage. The Equipment Manager also prepares an annual equipment inventory for use in budget development.

3. Director at Large

The Director at Large attends Board meetings and the Annual General Meeting, provides advice and assistance necessary to facilitate club administration, and carries out special projects assigned by the Board and/or the President. Such projects may include apparel purchase and sales, tournament coordination, and support of other club programs.

4. Field Representative

The Field Representative serves as the liaison to the THPRD Field Committee and represents the Club's interest in all matters related to field development, use, and maintenance. The Field Representative also coordinates the acquisition and assignment of fields for the SWSC microsoccer program and the assignment of practice fields for SWSC G2-G8 teams.

5. Microsoccer Assistant

The Microsoccer Assistant helps the Microsoccer Coordinator complete the general responsibilities of the position. Specifically, the Microsoccer Assistant helps with coach recruiting, the microsoccer jamboree, and field and game coordination.

6. Website Coordinator

The Website Coordinator is responsible for the design, development, programming, and updating of the SWSC website. The Website Coordinator

works closely with the other members of the Board to decide what information to put on the web site.

7. Assistant Registrar

The Assistant Registrar helps the Registrar complete the general responsibilities of the position.

8. High School Rec Coordinator

The High School Rec Coordinator manages all aspects of the Club's high school recreation program and coordinates the Club's program with that of the THJSL. The High School Rec Coordinator is assisted by the Registrar, Equipment Manager, Field Representative, and Head Coach. The High School Rec Coordinator is specifically responsible for management of high school rec player registration (including collection, completeness checks and data entry for manually-submitted high school rec registration forms), formation of high school rec teams, high school rec coach recruiting, and compilation of the high school rec coaches' packets.

9. The Chair of any Standing Committee

D. Election, Appointment, and Terms of Office

1. The President will appoint a nominating committee of at least three (3) adult members to propose a slate of candidates for the elected positions on the Board. The committee will submit its proposed slate of officers at least one (1) month prior to the Annual General Meeting.
2. Club officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting by a majority vote of the adult members in attendance. Candidates may appear on the slate submitted by the nominating committee or be submitted by nomination from the floor. Election to office shall be for a period of one (1) year, beginning at the Board meeting following the Annual General Meeting. No person may serve in the same elected position for more than four (4) consecutive terms. Exceptions to the four-term limitation may be made on a case-by-case basis when other qualified candidates are unavailable. Such exceptions must be approved by a majority vote of the adult members in attendance at the Annual General Meeting.
3. With the concurrence of the other elected officers, the President will appoint the following members of the Board: Head Coach, Equipment Manager, Referee Coordinator, Field Representative, Microsoccer Assistant, Director at Large, Website Coordinator, Assistant Registrar, and High School Rec Coordinator. The appointed members of the Board are not restricted in their terms of office.

4. Elected officers cannot concurrently serve in two or more elected (i.e., voting) positions. They may, however, concurrently serve in an elected and an appointed position.
5. A person currently under probation or suspension under the SWSC, THJSL, or OYSA Judicial Procedures is not eligible to be nominated for, elected to, or appointed to any position on the Board.

E. Removal of Board Members:

1. A Board member may be suspended or removed from office for failure to meet responsibilities or for otherwise acting in a manner detrimental to the interests of the Club.
 - a. Appointed Board members may be removed from office by a majority vote of the eligible voting members of the Board at any Board meeting.
 - b. Elected members of the Board may only be removed from office under this section following a disciplinary hearing held in accordance with the procedures below.
2. If the Board receives a complaint regarding the conduct of an elected officer or otherwise becomes aware of allegations of misconduct regarding an elected officer:
 - a. The President or Vice President will appoint an impartial committee of fact-finders to review the allegations within 15 days.
 - b. The committee will conduct a hearing in accordance with the procedures outlined in applicable Club and OYSA procedures.
 - c. The committee will present a report on the findings of the hearing to the Board within 30 days following appointment.
 - d. If the committee's report recommends removal from office, the Board will vote whether to call a special membership meeting to consider removal of the elected officer.
 - e. If the Board votes to call for a special meeting of the members, the Board will set the time and place for the meeting and send notice of the meeting to all eligible members of the Club.
 - 1) The notice will be sent at least seven days prior to the date of the scheduled meeting.

- 2) The notice will state the date, time, and place of the meeting and indicate that the purpose of the meeting is to consider the removal of the named officer from the Board.
 - f. The vote of a majority of the eligible voting members present at the special membership meeting shall be sufficient to remove a person from office.
 3. If an elected office is made vacant by the removal of a person from the Board, the Board shall by majority vote appoint someone to fill the position until the next Annual General Meeting is conducted.
- F. Responsibilities and Authority of the Board:
1. Adopt and execute a budget and establish a fee structure.
 2. Develop policies and procedures necessary for effective management and operation of the Club.
 3. Enforce club bylaws, policies, and procedures.
 4. Fill the vacancy of any elected position until the next Annual General Meeting.
 5. Discipline club members in accordance with club and THJSL policies and judicial procedures, and those of higher authority (e.g., OYSA, USYS, and USSF).
 6. Refer violations of THJSL policies and procedures by club members to the THJSL Board for resolution.
 7. Remove or censure any member of the Board with a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the elected members of the Board.
 8. Authorize reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred for club activities.
- G. All members of the Board must submit to a criminal records check on an annual basis.

ARTICLE VIII – STANDING AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES

- A. Standing committees are established to handle ongoing or long term club projects or processes. The Club's standing committees are:
1. Risk Management Committee
 - a. The Risk Management Committee is responsible for implementation, oversight, and enforcement of policies created pursuant to the Club's Risk Management Program.

- b. The Risk Management Committee is comprised of three permanent members of the SWSC Board of Directors, namely the Vice President, who serves as the committee chair, the Treasurer, and the Head Coach. The Registrar and the Equipment Manager serve as alternates in case one or more of the permanent members is unable to serve.
- B. Ad-hoc committees are established by the President to handle short-term club projects or processes.

ARTICLE IX – CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

- A. The Board shall hold regular monthly meetings and such additional meetings as are necessary to properly administer the affairs of the Club.
- B. At any Board meeting, a majority (50% plus one) of the elected members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. All elected members of the Board have one (1) vote, except the President, who will only vote in case of a tie.
- C. At least one general meeting of the SWSC shall be held annually. Additional general meetings may be held at the discretion of the Board for specific reasons. All adult members shall be notified of these meetings and their purposes at least three (3) weeks prior to the established dates. At the Annual General Meeting, new officers shall be elected, a financial report shall be presented, and a report prepared by the Board shall be delivered.
- D. All adult members in attendance at general meetings, except the President, shall have one (1) vote. The President will only vote in case of a tie.
- E. The business of the SWSC shall be conducted according to the “Roberts Rules of Order.”

ARTICLE X – COACHES

- A. Selection and Assignment
 - 1. The Registrar, Head Coach, Microsoccer Coordinator, and High School Rec Coordinator will work together and with other members of the Board to identify, select, and assign coaches for all SWSC teams.
 - 2. Preference in assignments will be given to returning coaches and others who have demonstrated the knowledge, skills, abilities, and temperament to manage youth players in a team environment.
- B. Background Checks

1. All SWSC coaches and assistant coaches must submit to a criminal records check on an annual basis.
2. Pursuant to club and OYSA policies, the Board of Directors will investigate and take appropriate action whenever a criminal records check reveals derogatory information.

C. Responsibilities

1. The primary duty of the team coach is to teach the game of soccer to youth players. Working with such assistants as the coach selects, the coaching staff will focus on the development of individual and team skills and foster good sportsmanship regardless of playing conditions and/or game results.
2. The coach shall assure that every youth player assigned to the team plays at least one half (1/2) of every game for which the player suits up. Exceptions may be made for illness, injury, repeated failure to practice, and unsporting behavior. However, the coach shall ensure that any restriction in playing time for behavioral or disciplinary reasons is conveyed to the player's parent(s) or guardian(s).
3. The coach shall ensure that his/her behavior on the playing and practice fields is beyond reproach. Similarly the coach shall hold himself/herself accountable for the actions of team players and parents on and around the playing field.
4. The coach shall be responsible for all club property assigned to the team.

ARTICLE XI – TEAMS

A. Team Formation

1. Grade levels GK and G1. Teams are gender specific and consist of players from both kindergarten and first grade. Teams will be formed by the Microsoccer Coordinator according to policies adopted by the Board.
2. Grade levels G2 through G8. Teams are gender and grade specific unless otherwise requested and approved by the team coach and the Registrar. Teams will be formed by the Registrar according to policies adopted by the Board and the THJSL.
3. High School Recreation grade levels. Teams are co-ed and consist of high school players in grades 9 -12. Teams will be formed by the High School Rec Coordinator according to policies adopted by the Board and the THJSL.

B. Team Size

Team size will be regulated under policies adopted by the Board and the THJSL. Any team may exceed the standard with approval from the team coach and the appropriate age group program coordinator (i.e., Microsoccer Coordinator, Registrar, or High School Rec Coordinator).

C. Team Names

1. Microsoccer (GK and G1) team names will be assigned by the Microsoccer Coordinator using the theme “Cartoon Characters.”
2. Names for G2-G8 teams will be determined by the team coach with approval of the Registrar.
3. Names for high school rec teams will be determined by the team coach with approval of the High School Rec Coordinator.

D. Registration and Medical Information

No youth player will be allowed to practice or play with a SWSC team until the team coach has received:

1. Written or verbal confirmation from the appropriate age group program coordinator (i.e., Microsoccer Coordinator, Registrar, or High School Rec Coordinator) that the player has been registered with OYSA.
2. A medical information form and statement of parental consent for emergency medical care for the player.

ARTICLE XII – RULES AND REGULATIONS

A. Rules of the Game:

1. The FIFA “Laws of the Game,” as modified by the USYS, OYSA, and THJSL for regular season and tournament play, provide the basic rules for games played by SWSC G2 - G8 and High School Rec teams.
2. The FIFA “Laws of the Game,” as modified by the Club for regular season play, provide the basic rules for games played by SWSC microsoccer teams.
3. Violations of the rules of the game by youth players, coaches, and spectators will be dealt with as the FIFA Laws and THJSL and SWSC Judicial Procedures dictate.

B. Precedence:

1. To the extent permissible under applicable law, the USSF articles of incorporation, bylaws, and its binding rules and policies, including interplay, take precedence over and supersede the governing documents and decisions of the SWSC, and the Club will abide by the USSF articles of incorporation, its bylaws, and its approved binding rules and policies.
2. To the extent permitted by governing law, the SWSC will respect and enforce the statutes, regulations, directives, and decisions of FIFA and CONCACAF

C. Judicial Procedures of the SWSC:

The Club shall maintain judicial procedures to define procedures for the handling of disciplinary problems arising from club-related activities. Such procedures shall be consistent with USYS, OYSA, and THJSL judicial procedures.

D. Abuse:

The SWSC does not tolerate any form of physical or sexual abuse.

E. Power to Suspend:

The SWSC has the power to suspend a member as deemed necessary in accordance with Article VII paragraph F.5.

F. Consistency in Action:

The SWSC will recognize, and enforce, the disciplinary actions of USSF and other organizational members of the Federation that have been included in a Disciplinary Action Report.

ARTICLE XIII – RISK MANAGEMENT

- A. The Board will establish a Risk Management Program and adopt policies implement the program and guide the Club's risk management efforts.
- B. The Club will comply with the provisions of the OYSA Risk Management Policy and OYSA Risk Management Manual.
- C. The President shall be the Club's Risk Management Coordinator. In this capacity, the President:
 1. Has the authority to enter into a Conditional Approval Agreement with the OYSA Risk Management Coordinator only upon approval of the Board.

2. Will consult with the OYSA Risk Management Coordinator regarding any concerns about the criminal history of any person who is, or has applied to become, a club coach or administrator.
3. Will promptly notify the OYSA Risk Management Coordinator upon learning that any club coach or administrator has been formally charged with, or has been convicted of, a crime.

ARTICLE XIV – GRIEVANCES, HEARINGS, AND APPEALS

A. Complaints:

1. All complaints must be submitted in writing and indicate the specific charges or alleged violation, and the resolution desired.
2. The Club and its Board of Directors will follow procedures for handling complaints in accordance with the principles of due process.
3. The Club will adopt and follow policies and procedures for the handling of complaints consistent with applicable OYSA policies and procedural manuals.

B. Hearing Procedures:

1. Hearings will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the applicable OYSA procedural manual.
2. The Board will adopt policies as needed to supplement applicable OYSA manuals.
3. Grievances will be heard by the Board as scheduled by the President. Procedures for conducting the hearing will be set by the Board based upon the nature of the issues presented and the parties involved in the grievance.

C. Appeals Process:

1. Appeals of the results from any hearing conducted by the Club must be submitted to OYSA as required by the applicable OYSA procedural manual. There shall be no appeals of Club hearing decisions heard by the Club.
2. The decisions or sanctions imposed by the Club will remain in effect until the time limit of the sanction has expired, or the decision is overturned on appeal.

ARTICLE XV – DISPUTES

- A. No member of or participant in the SWSC, be it an official, league, member club, 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 SWSC and organizations of which the Club is a member.

- B. For violation of this provision of the bylaws, the offending party shall be subject to suspension and fines, and shall be liable to the SWSC for all expenses incurred by the Club and its officers and members of the Board of Directors in defending each court action, including the following:
 - 1. Court costs;
 - 2. Attorney's fees;
 - 3. Reasonable compensation for time spent by SWSC officials and employees in responding to and defending against allegations in the action, including responses to discovery and court appearances;
 - 4. Travel expenses; and
 - 5. Expenses for holding special SWSC meetings necessitated by court action.

ARTICLE XVI – FISCAL YEAR

The SWSC 's fiscal year shall be from January 1 to December 31.

ARTICLE XVII – FINANCIAL PRACTICES

- A. The Board will adopt financial control policies that provide details for the handling of the Club's financial affairs.
- B. The Board will establish an annual budget at the beginning of the each fiscal year.
- C. The Board will ensure that a review of the Club's financial statements is conducted annually by an independent source.
- D. The Board will ensure that tax reports are prepared and submitted to the IRS and the state of Oregon in accordance with IRS and Oregon rules for non-profit and tax exempt organizations.

ARTICLE XVIII – AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

- A. Except as indicated below, these bylaws can only be amended by a majority vote of the adult members present at a general meeting.
- B. Proposed amendments must be transmitted to eligible voting members of the Club not later than fifteen days prior to the general meeting at which they will be considered.
- C. The Board, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, may make provisional bylaw changes necessary to address issues or situations not otherwise covered by the bylaws. Provisional changes are temporary and must be submitted to the membership for ratification at the next general membership meeting

ARTICLE XIX – DISSOLUTION

- A. In the event of dissolution of the SWSC, all remaining fund balances will be placed in trust with the THPRD for the exclusive use of a youth soccer program.
- B. Should the Club merge with another, all assets shall be transferred to the surviving entity by the end of the Club's fiscal year.