

Sacramento Adult Soccer League Bylaws

I. PURPOSE

The Sacramento Adult Soccer League, a non-profit organization, hereinafter referred to as "The League", shall operate and exist for the purpose of organizing recreational soccer matches for member sides, known as "Teams" that comply with the eligibility and participation requirements set forth herein.

The league is not a business, but rather a repository for funds for future disbursements for League activities.

II. PLAYING SEASON

The Soccer Year shall begin on September 1, and shall continue until August 31 of the following calendar year.

The soccer year shall be divided into periods known as seasons as determined at the annual general meeting and/or any planning meeting.

There will be no matches scheduled Thanksgiving weekend, Easter Sunday, Mother's Day, or Memorial Day weekend unless the Board of Directors decides otherwise at the annual general meeting and/or any planning meeting.

III. ORGANIZATION

The governing body of The League shall consist of a Board of Directors comprised of one representative from each Team. Each Team representative shall have one vote.

The Board of Directors shall select, by majority vote, an Executive Committee composed of a President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Secretary, and as needed a Registrar, First vice-president, Second vice-president, and Third vice-president whose duties are defined below.

Officers for the soccer year shall be selected at the annual general meeting to be held no later than August 31. The Officers term shall be from September 1 to August 31 of each soccer year.

President: Shall be The League's Representative, shall schedule timely board meetings, shall ensure that information is distributed to Team representatives and officers, and shall assist the registrar in the compilation of Team and roster information.

Vice President: Shall preside in the absence of the President and shall also preside as the chair of the Protests, Appeals, and Discipline (PAD) Committee.

Treasurer: Shall make payments as required for field permits, referees and such other expenses as authorized by the Board of Directors of SASL. Shall provide an accounting of deposits and expenses at each organizational meeting prior to the start of each season.

Secretary: Shall record and preserve the minutes of actions taken by the Board of Directors. Shall timely distribute the minutes to members of the Board of Directors. Shall maintain season standings and distribute to Team representatives at least twice during the season.

Registrar: Shall obtain all pertinent player registration information from Teams. Shall obtain a

properly completed Team roster from each Team. Shall prepare all player passes. Shall distribute rosters and player passes.

The First, Second, and Third vice-presidents shall at the request of the President and Vice President assist in the duties of league operation and management including but not limited to field coordination, liaison to the referee representative, equipment storage, equipment maintenance, equipment repair, and/or equipment replacement.

Note: The Executive committee may be selected from the Board of Directors or the community at large, and serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The Secretary, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, and Treasurer are ex-officio members of the Board of Directors and as such may not vote at Board Meetings unless they are also Team representatives and are therefore members of the Board of Directors in their own right and allowed a vote.

The Board of Directors shall have an organizational meeting at least 25 days prior to the new season.

IV. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

A Team shall be deemed eligible to participate in The League when its representative agrees and complies with the following:

1. Each Team shall be limited to twenty-five (25) registered players. A Team may only play the first eighteen players listed on the game card. No changes/substitutions will be allowed to the game card after the match has started.
2. No player shall be younger than twenty-one (21) years of age at the date of registration.
3. Except as otherwise provided for tournaments, no player shall be concurrently registered with a team in the Central California Soccer League (CCSL) and/or any other competitive league affiliated with CSAN and/or any other professional soccer league. Once registered in the CCSL and/or any other competitive league affiliated with CSAN and/or any other professional soccer league, a player shall be ineligible for registration in The League until the beginning of the next Soccer Year, except under the following conditions:
 - a. A written release from California Soccer Association-North (CSAN) and/or professional league has been submitted to the Registrar, and sixty (60) days have elapsed since the date of release.
 - b. No more than 4 CCSL players per team who were registered during the current year with CCSL are eligible.
 - c. Condition "a" above and all other registration requirements are met prior to March 1st.
4. Each Team shall have some kind of identifying uniform and each player on the Team shall wear a uniform with a unique identifying number.

V. TEAM PARTICIPATION

A Team deemed eligible may participate if its representative(s) provide(s), the following:

1. A roster including the following information:
 - a. Name of Team
 - b. Coaches/Managers names, phone numbers and addresses.
 - c. Representatives names, phone numbers and addresses.

d. Players names, a valid form of picture identification, date of birth, addresses, and social security numbers.

2. Player registration information as set forth in Section VI of the Bylaws.

3. Season fee(s) agreed upon by the Board of Directors at the organizational meeting.

4. A Team may elect not to participate in a season. A Team may return to The League subject to being placed in a lower division at the discretion of the Executive Committee provided the following conditions exist:

a. The Team is not on suspension. If the Team is on probation, the Board of Directors must find that all conditions of the probation have been fulfilled.

b. The Team name is not changed.

c. No more than one (1) year has elapsed since the last game played by the Team in The League.

d. At least eight (8) players from the active roster of the Team, as of the last game played, are submitted for re-entry as active players.

e. All Player Passes outstanding have been returned to the Registrar

5. A team representative, or a member of the team designated to act on behalf of the team shall attend each properly noticed pre-season meeting and the properly noticed annual general meeting. If a team fails to have a designated team representative present at the above referenced meetings, the team shall be fined \$25.00. Records of the fines shall be kept by and payments shall be made to the Treasurer within 30 days of the notice of the fine. Failure to timely pay the fine will result in the forfeiture of that team's next game and each game thereafter until said fine is paid.

VI. PLAYER REGISTRATION

The following policies govern the registration of new players and the transfer of existing players between teams.

1. All requests for player registration must be addressed to the League or otherwise sanctioned Registrar and include a copy of the players drivers license or any valid form of picture identification such as but not limited to a passport, immigration papers or other equivalent identification; a recent passport-type photograph trimmed to a size measuring at least 3/4" x 3/4", but not larger than 1" x1", marked with the players name and team on the back. The photograph may not be a xerographic copy, thermal processed or such composition as to be unstable when trimmed to size. The photograph shall not have been previously laminated and must not be held together with tape, glue or similar techniques. A processing period of at most 10 days is required for all new players registrations and re-activation of reserve players. The registration process will not begin until all materials are submitted and in acceptable form.

2. A player may transfer from one Team to another provided that a written release has been obtained from his former Team and his Players Pass has been returned to the Registrar as well as complying with VI.1. above.

3. A replacement Players Pass will be issued for a lost Pass if a written request is submitted with a new photograph as specified in VI.1. of the Bylaws, if the request is received no later than five (5) days prior to the next match, a \$5.00 replacement cost will be assessed.

VII. PROTESTS, APPEALS, AND DISCIPLINE (PAD) COMMITTEE

The PAD committee shall be comprised of a chairperson, who shall be the Vice President, and at least two (2) other members selected by the Chairperson. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Chairperson. A member will be disqualified from participating in any action to which he is

one of the parties. A substitute member will be designated by the Chairperson of the PAD Committee to constitute a disinterested party for that hearing.

The committee Chairperson will receive reports from the Referee Coordinator as submitted by game officials, and schedule meetings of the Committee in person or by telephone to take the appropriate action. A quorum of at least 3 persons is required to make a decision. The majority vote of the PAD committee shall be the decision of The League.

Any affected party may submit a written statement of fact. The Committee may solicit such additional testimony and information, as they deem necessary.

Any protest shall be filed with the Chairperson of the Committee within 48 hours of notification of the PAD committee decision with a statement of fact(s) along with a \$20.00 non-refundable fee payable to The League.

Any decision of the PAD committee can be appealed to the Executive Committee. The appeal shall be in writing and made within 48 hours of notification of the PAD committees decision. Nothing in these by-laws shall affect the right of any person and/or team to appeal decisions of the PAD Committee, Executive Committee, and/or The Board of Directors to CSAN.

The following items are minimum mandatory disciplinary assessments to which the PAD Committee may append such additional penalties, as they deem appropriate for the infraction. The PAD Committee may assess lesser penalties only if significant mitigating circumstances are shown to have existed.

1. First ejection within a season - A minimum of one (1) game suspension.
2. Second ejection within a season - A minimum of two (2) game suspensions.
3. Third ejection within a season - Suspension for the remaining soccer year.
4. Three cautions within one soccer year- One (1) game suspension.
5. Verbal abuse and/or physical assault of a referee - Jurisdiction assumed by CSAN.
6. Any player or team found guilty of violating League Bylaws or any decision of the PAD Committee, Executive Committee, and/or the Board of Directors will be subject to discipline by the PAD Committee, Executive Committee, and/or the Board of Directors. Discipline can include, but is not limited to;
 - a. Forfeiture of all affected games.
 - b. A \$100.00 fine payable to The League, prior to the next game. Suspension of the team and/or player from further play until the fine is paid.
 - c. Exclusion from post-season tournament play.
 - d. One year probation for the team. An additional violation may result in expulsion from The League.
7. If a game is stopped by the Referee because of violent or dissentious acts by one team, or such acts of one or more players of a team, the PAD committee will award a win to said team's opponent. The score will stand if the opponent is ahead; the score will be set at 1-0 in favor of the opponent if the opponent is behind at the point of the stoppage of the game. If, in the opinion of the Referee, both teams are involved in such acts, the score will be set at 0-0 with no points awarded to either team. The team will be placed on two years probation. A repeat offense during the period of probation will cause the team and all players to be suspended immediately pending a report by the PAD Committee setting the terms of dissolution of the team and suspension of all players.

VIII. FEES AND PAYMENTS

The fees and payments for the positions and services set forth herein below shall be set annually by the Board of Directors.

1. An initiation fee, payable to The League, will be assessed to each new Team and any returning Team that cannot comply with re-entry requirements stated in Section V.4 of the Bylaws.
2. A Season fee, payable to The League, will be assessed to each Team participating in the Season.
3. The Referee Coordinator will be paid a fee by The League for each match that referees are scheduled and supplied.
4. The Registrar will be paid a fee by The League for each player registered.
5. The Treasurer will receive a fee as approved by the Board of Directors.
6. Referees and Linesman will be paid at approved rates by The League for each match allotted.
7. The League may authorize other expenditures, and will reimburse any individual for out-of-pocket expenditures so authorized.
8. The Executive Committee may, by majority vote of an established quorum at a called Executive Committee meeting, make business decisions and authorize expenditures for the benefit of the Sacramento Adult Soccer League. Such authorized expenditures will be expeditiously disbursed by the Treasurer. The Executive Committee may also select one Division Coordinator from each division to facilitate communications between each divisions' Team Representatives and the Executive Committee.

IX. LEAGUE POLICIES AND CONVENTIONS

The following items shall provide an operating structure for The League activities:

1. The Team listed first on the schedule is considered the "Home Team".
2. The Home Team shall have the right to provide the match ball. If the Home Team is not able to provide a ball acceptable to the referee, the referee may solicit a ball from the Visiting Team. The Home Team shall provide a match card. The Home Team shall yield in the event of a conflict in uniform colors.
3. The Home Team of the first scheduled match at a site is responsible for obtaining the field equipment from the Equipment Manager and setting up the field for play. The Visiting Team of the last scheduled match at a site is responsible for removing The League's equipment from the field and returning it to the Equipment Manager. Equipment replacement cost or a fine of \$100.00 shall be imposed against any team that fails to comply with this provision. Said fine shall be payable within 10 days of the failure to comply with this provision.
4. A match may be re-scheduled to another time and/or location providing both Team Representatives, the Referee Coordinator, and such other parties whose participation in The League may be affected agree. The request must demonstrate that the scheduling represented an undue hardship on at least one of the Teams. The League must first approve any rescheduled match.

5. Starting time for a match is stated on the Season schedule. A grace period for either team of 10 minutes is allowed to obtain a legal Team of seven (7) players. The match will begin as soon after the designated starting time that each team has a minimum legal Team. If one Team fails to field seven players within the grace period, the match is called a forfeit and no match will be played. The prevailing team will be awarded a 1-0 victory. A team forfeiting a match will be assessed a \$50.00 fine, payable to The League. If both Teams fail to field seven players the PAD Committee will be advised by the Referee Coordinator and take action as it may deem appropriate. The fine will be credited to the team that won the forfeit.

6. A valid Player Pass is required for each player participating in a match. There is no substitute document that will allow participation. Attempting to play a player without a valid Player Pass constitutes a registration violation. However, a player known to be currently registered and otherwise eligible to participate and who presents valid picture identification may participate without a player pass upon approval from the President, Vice-President, and/or Registrar.

7. A manager shall be fully accountable for the eligibility of members of a team. Listing or attempting to play an ineligible player shall be subject to sanctions described in section VII.6 above.

8. A team may not concede a match; this constitutes a forfeit and the team conceding the match is subject to a \$50.00 fine, payable to The League. If The League determines that a team knowingly and/or intentionally conceded a match, the matter will be reviewed by the PAD Committee for possible disciplinary action. The fine will be credited to the team that won the forfeit.

9. FIFA rules, with the following exceptions, will apply:

a. There shall be no sliding tackles except in twenty-one and over (+21) and the First Division of the thirty and over play.

b. CYSA goalie protection/possession law.

c. Any player may substitute into a game at any stoppage of play after having received permission to enter the game from the referee. A stoppage of play, as defined by FIFA, is any dead-ball situation.

10. The League does not allow sliding tackles except in twenty-one and over (+21) and the First Division of thirty and over (+30) play. The League defines a sliding tackle as follows: a player may not play, or attempt to play the ball by sliding on the ground within the playing presence of another player. This includes both offensive and defensive play against either an opponent or a teammate. This infraction constitutes dangerous play. Repeat violations shall be dealt with as ungentlemanly behavior. It is however, perfectly legal to play the ball in such a manner away from other players.

11. In the event a player is expelled from a match by the Referee, the offending team's remaining personnel shall enforce the ruling without argument or incident. The expelled player must leave the playing area and surrounding areas.

12. In the event #11 above is not complied with, the Referee is entitled to call the match and notify the PAD Committee, through the Referee Coordinator for further action consistent with the provisions of Section VII.

13. Each Team shall be responsible for field clean up at the conclusion of their match.

X. TOURNAMENTS

The League may from time to time hold a tournament. A committee will be formed for the purpose

of establishing a suitable format for competition (i.e. age limits, rule variations, level of competition etc.) and hospitality and make their recommendations for the Board of Directors.

XI. AWARDS

A trophy or other awards will be given on a regular basis to the Team who has completed the regular season in first place. The FIFA point system will be utilized - 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss. Ties will be broken on head to head results; followed by goal difference. Other awards may be authorized by the Board of Directors.

XII. AMENDMENTS

To amend these Bylaws, the following procedures must be followed:

1. The content of the proposed amendment must be presented to all members of the Board of Directors for review at least (10) days prior to the meeting of the Board of Directors in which the action is to be taken.
2. A quorum consisting of one-half (1/2) of the members of the Board of Directors must be present at the meeting.
3. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote is required for passage.

END