

# **GALVESTON COUNTY YOUTH SOCCER CONSTITUTION Spring 2022**

## **ARTICLE 1: NAME Revised 4/11/12**

The name of the organization shall be Galveston County Youth Soccer and hereinafter referred to as GCYS or the Club.

## **ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE Revised 4/11/12 and 6/01/20**

The purpose of GCYS shall be to develop, promote, and administer the game of soccer among the youth under 19 years of age from the cities of Galveston, Texas City, Dickinson, Hitchcock, La Marque, and surrounding areas. This purpose shall include the recruiting of players, collecting of fees and sponsorship, and any other legitimate activity appropriate to conducting a soccer program. These purposes shall be achieved through the game of soccer to teach youth players, good sportsmanship, loyalty, courage, honesty and teamwork.

## **ARTICLE 3: COLORS**

The representative colors of this club shall be determined as needed by the majority votes within the club during a regular business meeting. All teams registered under the GCYS shall adhere to these colors unless specified otherwise by the GCYS Board (referred to as the Board in this document). The Board must approve any color variations in advance.

## **ARTICLE 4: AFFILIATION Revised 4/11/12**

The GCYS will be affiliated with the Bay Area Youth Soccer Association (also known as BAYSA) and South Texas Youth Association (also known as STYSA) and any further affiliations derived from membership in either of these entities. It shall also support players and teams who compete in the Division Two level of play who may be associated with Eastern District Division 2 League (EDD2L), along with Division One level of play who may be associated with the Dynamo Dash League or any other Division I established organization authorized by STYSA.

## **ARTICLE 5: MEMBERSHIPS AND CLUB AREA Revised 4/11/12 and 6/01/20**

Members are defined as GCYS coaches and parents of a registered child and/or children and board approved volunteers. Fees or dues for youth soccer players shall be established by GCYS and be sufficient to defray the cost of the program. GCYS fees or dues may change from time to time as warranted by expenses and experience. The club area shall be the geographic areas served by the Dickinson, Hitchcock, Galveston, La Marque, Santa Fe, and Texas City Independent School Districts. This combined geographical area is the operational area where facilities and practices should be located, but does not limit membership in GCYS. Players from other areas will be encouraged to play in clubs in the area in which they reside but will be eligible for membership in GCYS.

The GCYS reserves the right to refuse membership to any person requesting membership to the club.

## **ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS, DUTIES AND TERMS OF OFFICE**

**Revised 4/11/12, 6-02-2015, and 6-01-2020**

The officers of the GCYS shall consist of a board with a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Coach Development Discipline & Protest, Scheduler, and Scorekeeper. The GCYS County Committees shall be as follows: Webmaster, Pictures Coordinator, Uniforms Coordinator, Publicity chair, Scholarship chair, Tournament Director, Competitive teams Coordinator, Referee DOT (director of training,) Fundraising & Sponsorship Chair, Spring Season Chair. The Vice-President will coordinate committees for the management of the club in their assigned club area. City Committees will be established and overseen by the Vice-President. The suggested city committees shall be as follows: Parks Coordinator, Equipment Coordinator, Fundraising Coordinator, Galveston Coordinator, Mainland Coordinator, Picture & Trophy Coordinators, Publicity Coordinator, Referee Coordinator, Registration Assistant, Sponsorship Coordinator, and Uniform Assistant. Under all of the coordinators, chairs and directors can be additional volunteers as needed to carry out the responsibilities of each city committee.

Any special committee can be appointed by the President or the GCYS Board to help conduct GCYS business for the upcoming year. Each committee will have the authority to add additional members as required to conduct their business. Each committee will, as their first orders of business, determine the process that will govern the committee and its functions. The process shall be in compliance with GCYS bylaws and policies and be subject to board approval.

These officers shall comprise the directors of GCYS and shall meet monthly at the regular meeting, and these officers are authorized to represent GCYS between meetings of the club. The officers shall serve from January 1 until the election and qualification of their successors. The detailed description of the volunteer positions can be found in the GCYS Volunteer Handbook.

The business of GCYS will be managed by a Board, which will exercise all powers of the GCYS, except as otherwise provided by Law, the Articles of Organization, or the Constitution and Bylaws. ~~The GCYS is~~ required by its bylaws to elect Board members at the Annual General Meeting. A nominating committee shall provide a proposed slate of officers before the meeting. Members may also make nominations from the floor. The Board positions shall be two-year terms. The positions shall be organized in a rotation that will be comprised of odd and even years as specified in the Election Section of the Constitution. This is to assure that half of the board remains each year to provide consistency in the management of GCYS. The Executive Board of Directors for GCYS shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Discipline and Protest, and Registrar.

- A. DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT: The President shall preside at all meetings of all nature and shall be general manager of the club. With approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint such committees as may be required for the proper operation of GCYS, and shall appoint representatives to BAYSA and its committees as required. The President shall be responsible for seeing that the club is properly represented at all BAYSA meetings
- B. DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT: The Vice President shall be responsible for the management and coordination of activities of the City Committees in the geographical areas to which they are assigned, including representing their assigned area at every Board of Directors meeting. The Vice-President shall act in the absence of the President with the same powers and authority and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the president.
- C. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY: The Secretary shall keep the record of minutes of

all meetings of GCYS, shall attend to all club correspondence, ~~and~~ shall give notice to meetings when required, and shall maintain records of GCYS. The Secretary shall also be responsible for reserving any needed spaces or locations for club use.

- D. **DUTIES OF THE TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall receive and account for all funds of GCYS, which shall be kept in a bank or banks designated by GCYS. The Treasurer shall reimburse funds at the discretion of GCYS or as authorized by GCYS, shall present detailed reports of income and expenditures of current finances at the regular meetings, and shall prepare a written report annually for the annual meeting, which will depict the ending financial status and the transactions for the preceding year. The Treasurer shall also at notice submit for review or audit all financial information for GCYS. The Treasurer shall inform the President of any expenditures over the amount that is specified by the GCYS Board.
- E. **DUTIES OF THE REGISTRAR:** The Registrar is responsible for all GCYS player registration including management of player grants for registration as described in the Finance Section of this Constitution. The Registrar coordinates registration and effects player adds, drops, transfers, club insurance papers, medical forms for player, player passes and other documentation to players and coaches. The Registrar will work with the President and city Vice-Presidents to coordinate registration dates.  
(Computer/knowledge of Excel required)
- F. **DUTIES OF THE D&P REVISED 6-01-2020:** The Discipline and Protest Chair provides two basic functions. The first function of the D&P is to assist the President and Vice President with the enforcement of the rules and procedures set forth by the South Texas Youth Soccer Association (STYSA), the Bay Area Youth Soccer Association (BAYSA), and the GCYS. The D&P will convene an appeal hearing anytime a person wishes to dispute the punitive actions levied by the GCYS President and/or Vice-President. The second function of the D&P is to represent the club at BAYSA level D&P meetings /hearings.
- G. **DUTIES OF THE CITY COORDINATORS REVISED 6-02-2015:** These duties shall include organizing work parties to be performed with volunteers from player's families; recruiting coaches, overseeing drafts, and working with the Registrar on team formations. They will seek out and recruit any help needed. They shall be responsible for making sure the coaches under them adhere to all duties appointed to them. The coordinator shall be required to share in a timely manner all information pertaining to each team and coaching their city and age divisions. All coaches shall report to their city coordinators.

Any Board member may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the eligible voting Board. Any officer that misses three (3) consecutive scheduled Board meetings can be removed at the conclusion of the third missed meeting.

## ARTICLE 7: ELECTIONS

Elections of officers of GCYS shall take place at the December meeting.

- A. **Nominations:** The President shall appoint a nominating committee at the October meeting to seek out qualified candidates for offices for the following year. Each member shall have the right to nominate candidates for any office. The nominating committee shall have the duty to ascertain from each nominee that if elected he will be willing to serve. The nominating committee shall report its results at the November meeting. Nominations from the floor may be made during the election held at the December meeting with the provision that persons nominated from the floor shall be present and affirm the willingness to serve if elected or such person

shall have stated the intention in writing and this intent is presented to the President at the time the nomination is made.

- B. ELECTIONS: GCYS elections shall be by the members with each member present casting one vote; with normal voting by show of hands. At the request of any member present, voting shall be made by written secret ballot. In case of secret ballot, the President shall appoint a committee from those present to collect, tabulate, and report results of the balloting.

Elections for the following board positions will be held in December of even years for the Upcoming odd year season: President, Treasurer, Scheduler, Coaching & Development, and Registrar. Elections for the remaining board positions: Vice Presidents, Scorekeeper, Discipline & Protest and Secretary will be held in December of odd years for the upcoming even year season. **Revised 4/11/12**

- C. FILLING OF VACANCIES: When a vacancy occurs in any of the offices of GCYS except the office of President, the President shall nominate a person to fill the vacancy with the approval by GCYS at the next regular meeting. Should GCYS fail to approve nominations, the President shall select again and the process continue until a successor has been confirmed. When the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall succeed to the office of President and the vacancy of Vice President shall be filled as stated above.

## ARTICLE 8: RULES OF PROCEDURE

Unless specifically called out in this Constitution and Bylaws or state or national association rule, Robert's Rules of Order (Current Edition) shall apply to conduct GCYS business at regular or special meetings.

## ARTICLE 9: MEETINGS OF GCYS

The club shall meet regularly on a monthly basis. The President or majority of the board can call for a meeting at any time. Emergency meetings will usually be of little notice and will require all board to attend if possible.

- A. REGULAR MEETINGS: Regular meetings shall be scheduled at the regular time and place made known to each member. No notice of regular meetings shall be required unless a change of time or place is required. A team representative will be encouraged to attend meetings during playing seasons. **Revised 4/11/12**
- B. SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings may be called by the President and or a majority of the board of GCYS. At least 3 days' notice shall be given so that members may attend. The special meetings shall take up only the specified business for which the meeting is called. The board shall reserve the right to have a private board meeting if it is needed.
- C. EMERGENCY MEETINGS: In emergencies, no notice will be given. The board will simply be contacted as soon as possible and informed as to the time and place of the emergency meeting.
- D. QUORUM REQUIREMENTS: A quorum shall consist of the members present at any special or regular meeting. A majority of the governing board members who are in good standing shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the governing board.
- E. VOTING: Each GCYS member shall have one vote.

- F. MINUTES OF MEETINGS: The Secretary shall record suitable minutes of each regular or special meeting. Such minutes shall be presented by the Secretary at the following meeting. Any corrections and or additions shall require members to approve before acceptance. A complete set of minutes of the meetings shall be preserved by the Secretary as part of GCYS records.

## **ARTICLE 10: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION Revised 6-02-2015**

The constitution may be altered, amended, or repealed by 2/3 of the members present providing that the amendment be presented to the club in writing at a regular meeting to be voted on at the next regular meeting. Changes to the constitution must be voted on and accepted on or before the April board meeting.

The ratified constitution on the date of the first Fall competitive tryout will be the constitution used for the Fall season.

## **ARTICLE 11: FINANCES**

- A. REGISTRATION FEE: The club shall have the authority to determine appropriate registration fees to permit it to carry out its functions. These fees will cover such items as association, state, and national registration fees for players and coaches; office expenses which are authorized by the board of directors; publicity and public relations expenses for the promotion of GCYS and soccer activities; equipment and uniforms, trophies and awards; insurance and other items deemed appropriate by the club. Unless otherwise stated, these fees shall be determined by the board of directors prior to the registration of each new soccer season and will be collected at the time of registration.
- B.
- C. GRANTS: The club will provide a Player Fees Grant Program for the Fall Season ONLY. Players applying for the grant program will be approved or disapproved on a case by case basis by the GCYS Board Members at their monthly meetings. Each of the Grant Players will have their registration fees waived or reduced in exchange for Parental services and contributions. These services will be determined by the GCYS Board Members and will be documented on the Grant Application Form. If the services are not fulfilled during the season the player applied for the grant, the player will be ineligible for future grants until services are fulfilled. Revised 4/11/12
- D. EXPENDITURES: Expenditures shall be paid by check or electronic fund transfer and said transaction shall require the signature of either of the following - President or Treasurer. Expenditures must be presented in form of an invoice before monies or a check will be issued. Exceptions are the reimbursement of approved expenses, and these require the receipts from the expense be accompanied by a GCYS expenditures form when submitted to the treasurer.
- E. NON-PROFIT STATUS: The club shall obtain and maintain a non-profit status with the Internal Revenue Service and shall be in accordance with BAYSA requirements'
- F. TAX EXEMPT STATUS: GCYS shall obtain and maintain exempt status from the Texas Sales Tax.
- G. COMPENSATION: All officers shall serve without pay or compensation.
- H. COMPENSATION OF SPECIAL EXPENSES: Compensation for expenses shall be available for extraordinary circumstances as seen needed by the GCYS President & Board.

## **ARTICLE 12: PRECEDENCE OF GCYS RULES**

In any case where any portion of the Constitution & By-Laws of the GCYS may conflict with the Constitution and Bylaws of Bay Area Youth Soccer Association or their parent organizations the latter shall prevail.



## ARTICLE 13: FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the club shall be the period beginning January 1 and ending on December 31 of each year.

## ARTICLE 14: DISSOLUTION Revised 4/11/12

Upon dissolution of the club, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for payment of all outstanding liabilities of the club, transfer all remaining assets of the club according to the following terms and conditions:

- A. If the dissolution occurs after two years of the formation date of GCYS, the remaining assets shall be returned in equal portions to non-profit youth soccer clubs forming or operating in the same geographic areas.
- B. If there are no non-profit youth soccer clubs forming or operating in the same geographic areas, then the remaining assets should be donated to non-profit or government entities for the express purpose of promoting youth soccer in the same geographic area.

## ARTICLE 15: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the conflict of interest policy is to protect this tax-exempt organization's interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private Interest of an officer, director, member of the organization, or might result in a possible excess benefit. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any applicable state and or federal laws governing conflict of interest that is applicable to non-profit organizations.

### A DEFINITIONS:

- a) Interested Person: Any director, officer, or member, who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person.
- b) Financial Interest: A person has a financial interest if the he/she has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family:
  - i) An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which the club has a transaction or arrangement
  - ii) Compensation has been arranged with the club or with any entity or individual with which the club has a transaction or arrangement
  - iii) A potential ownership or investment interest in, or arranged compensation with any entity or individual with which the club is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.
  - iv) Compensation includes direct or indirect payments received, as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial.
  - v) A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest. A person who has a financial interest may have a conflict of interest only if the board decides that a conflict of interest exists.

### B Procedures

- a) Duty to Disclose: In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest and be given the opportunity to disclose all facts that are material to the board.
- b) Determination the Existence of a Conflict of Interest: After disclosure of the material facts of a financial interest and discussion with interested person(s), said person(s) shall leave the meeting of the board while determination of a conflict of interest is reviewed, discussed, and voted upon.
- c) Procedures for Addressing the Conflict of Interest:
  - i) An interested person may make a presentation to the board. After presentation, said person(s) shall leave the meeting during discussion of, and vote on, the transaction(s) or arrangement(s)

involving the possible conflict of interest.

- ii) The ranking officer of board shall, if necessary, appoint a disinterested person(s) to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction(s) or arrangement(s).
- iii) ) Upon exercising due diligence, the board shall determine whether the club can obtain with reasonable efforts, a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from an entity or person that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.
- iv) If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement cannot be reasonably found of which a conflict of interest is not produced, then the board shall determine by majority vote of the disinterested board members. The disinterested board members shall determine if the transaction(s) or arrangement(s) is in the club's best interest, beneficial, and fair and reasonable. In compliance with the above determination, the board shall make its decision as to whether to enter the transaction(s) or arrangement(s).

**C Violations of the Conflicts of Interest Policy**

- a) If the board has reasonable cause to believe a member has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the member(s) of the basis for such belief and allow the member an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
- b) Board shall notify member(s) with possible violation(s) of the conflict of interest policy by Certified Mail to appear at a formal hearing no sooner than 6 days after notice has been served.
- c) If, after hearing the member(s) response, and after further investigation that may be warranted by the circumstances, the board determines that the member(s) failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action.

**D Records of Proceedings**

- a) As per Section 3 - Procedures, for any and all proceedings of the board, proper minutes shall be taken and will contain the following:
- b) The name(s) of the person(s) who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a financial interest in connection with an actual or potential conflict of interest, the nature of the financial interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the board's decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact exists.
- c) The name(s) of the person(s) present for the discussion of and votes relating to the transaction(s) or arrangement(s), the content of the discussion, any alternatives to the proposed transaction(s) or arrangement(s), and a formal record of any vote(s) taken in connection with the proceedings.
- d) The results of any proceedings will be mailed via Certified Mail to the person(s) involved in the alleged violations of the conflict of interest policy. Such results shall include the final judgment of the board along with any corrective actions the board has deemed necessary.

## Galveston County Youth Soccer By-Laws

### BY-LAW 1: Registration Rules

1. Player registration shall conform to the current BAYSA guidelines.
  2. Players must be registered with accompanying birth certificate or a GCYS approved document, which will state the legal birth date of said player. Separated or divorced parents having joint custody must both sign the registration form.
  3. GCYS will not be a party in custody or guardian disputes, and disruptions to the player's team or to the board from such disputes may result in the board suspending membership for the player and parents. Reinstatement of membership in these circumstances will be at the discretion of the board.
  4. GCYS reserves the right to refuse any application for registration for the current registration year. Applicants can reapply each year and the current board will make a decision on a case by case basis.
- Revised 4/11/12

### BY-LAW 2: Team Formation

1. Teams will be formed along age groups and team sizes as directed in the current BAYSA Handbook, available online at [www.baysa.org](http://www.baysa.org), and coaches must conform to league requirements for training and background checks. Additional laws within this by-law shall be enforced where not in conflict with the current BAYSA Handbook.
2. Divisions and levels of play will be as defined by BAYSA, and currently are as defined below.

Game Size	Division	Level of Play	Age Range
3-aside	Division IV	Instructional	U-5 and U-6
5-aside	Division IV	Instructional	U-7 and U-8
7-aside	Division IV	Instructional	U-9
7-aside	Division IV	Instructional	U-10
9-aside	Division III	Recreational	U-11 and U-12
9-aside	Division II	Competitive Classic	U-11 and U-12
11-aside	Division III	Recreational	U-13 to U-19
11-aside	Division II	Competitive Classic	U-13 to U-19
11-aside	Division Super-2	Inter-association Competitive	U-13 to U-19
11-aside	Division I	Inter-association Competitive	U-13 to U-19

Table Revised 4/11/12

#### Division IV - Recreational -Under-10 and younger players

Children learn the basics of soccer through positive, fun training sessions that include coach demonstrations and lots of participation. The primary goal of this play level is fun and the opportunity to play. There is a requirement that coaches make every effort to play each player at least 50% of each game.

#### Division IV - Academy /Recreational Plus -Under-8through Under-10players

The Recreational Academy Program is designed to allow trainers to teach individual skills to Under-8, Under-9 and Under-10 players in a team training format. This program may allow for players to be tested and assessed for skill level. In place of blind draft for this program, teams may be formed based upon grouping players with similar skill levels. Revised 4/11/12



**Division III - Recreational -Under-11 through Under-14**

Designed for players who enjoy the sport for the social aspect as well as developing their skills, recreational teams in these age groups are formed through assignment of all interested participants to a team. There is a requirement that coaches make every effort to play each player at least 50% of each game.

**Division II – Competitive – Under-11 through Under-19**

This introductory level of competitive play is designed for those who enjoy the social aspect of the game and want to continue to develop their skills through better competition. Player selection is based on talent and ability. There is a requirement that coaches make every effort to play each player at least 50% of each game.

**Super II -Competitive -Under-11 through Under-19**

Selection of players based on talent and ability is permitted and generally includes a pool of players from a broader spectrum. Teams participate in the Super II league within the District which requires more commitment with regard to travel and expense. There is a requirement that coaches make every effort to play each player at least 50% of each game.

**Division I-Competitive -Under-11 through Under-19**

Recognized as the highest level of play within the state, players may be selected from across the state based on their ability, skill and commitment to the sport including a more demanding practice and game schedule. There is no play time requirement at this level.

3. Super 2 and Division I teams shall follow the by-laws of their leagues wherever the rules are in conflict with GCYS by-laws.
4. Current team sizes are below, and may be changed as BAYSA requirements change.

<b>Age</b>	<b>Playing Format</b>	<b>Maximum Roster Size</b>
U5/U6	3v3	6 players
U7/U8	5v5	10 players
U9/U10	7v7	12 players
U-11/U12	9v9	16 players
U13-U19 Fall	11 aside	22 players (only 18 in uniform at any one game)

Table Revised 4/11/12

5. No player shall be registered who will not be at least 4 years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup>.
6. All Division III and Division IV players will be selected for teams by a blind draft at each field size change (i.e. 3v3, 5v5, 7v7, 9v9, 11v11) in the requested city of the registered player. Every effort will be made to place the players in the city requested on the registration form. If a team cannot be formed in the requested city, then the player will be placed on a team in the closest proximity of his/her city. Division II teams will be formed according to By-Law 4. **Revised 04/21/08**
7. Draft Rules **Revised 04/21/08**
  - a) The Registrar or current City Coordinator will conduct the blind draft. Player names are selected at random and placed on teams. Final rosters are reported to the registrar for that city (U6-U 10) along with a copy to the head registrar. U-11 and up will be sent directly to the head Registrar. **Revised 4/11/12**
  - b) All players attached to the team from the prior fall season (if not moving up to another field size) will return to the same team, unless his or her parent/guardian has requested in writing to be

placed in the blind draft for the spring season.

- c) During the draft, for teams with 2 (two) age groups; the player's application should be arranged by age and drafted as equally as possible to all teams in that age group.
- d) For all age groups, this will allow for players to remain on the same team during the spring season IF all players registrar before late registration deadline. NO PLAYER WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY RETURNED TO THE SAME TEAM IF THE PLAYER HAS NOT REGISTERED.
- e) All new registered players will be placed in the draft; no team request will be honored. Exception is stated in 7f.
- f) Sibling and Hardship cases: Siblings can be linked as a single selection that will count as two consecutive player selections for the respective team in the draft. Hardship situations should be a rarity and approved by the Board for two non-sibling players to be joined as a single selection.
- g) A player/parent can request not to be placed on a single, specific team or with a certain coach. The only exception is one coach and one assistant's children will count as the first and/or second pick in the draft.
- h) Teams are formed prior to the beginning of each fall.
- i) Spring season: Unless a player requests otherwise, a player will be assigned to their fall team for the spring season. Individual players whose team does not return for the spring season will be placed in a player draft for team formation. Players requesting to not return to their fall team, new players to the club, and players transferring from other BAYSA clubs will be placed in the draft pool for team formation. Returning players retain the right to their spot on their fall team provided they are registered with the club by the spring registration deadline.

## BYLAW 3: COACHES AND TRAINERS

### Applications and Selection

- 1 Coaches and trainers that apply to coach or train teams within GCYS will be selected by the Board.
  - a) Prospective trainers must submit a written application to the President of GCYS by the last Saturday in May. Incomplete applications may not be considered.
  - b) Prospective coaches must submit an electronic application through the current GCYS Registration program by the last Saturday in May.
  - c) The President will review the applications and make his recommendations to the GCYS Board at which time the GCYS Board will vote to agree with the recommendations or to refuse the proposed recommendations.
  - d) The recommendations can at this time be amended if the Board chooses to do so.

### 2 Licenses and Education

- a) Coaches and trainers are required to have a license for the module that pertains to the age group they are coaching/training.
- b) All 11-aside coaches are strongly encouraged to take a referee clinic. Coaches are required to attend a coaches meeting. Revised 4/11/12

### 3 Conduct

- a) At any time, a volunteer is wearing a GCYS coaches jersey, the perception to the public is that this person is a representative of the GCYS club, and shall follow the Code of Conduct outlined by STYSA, BAYSA, and the GCYS.
- b) At any time, a volunteer is at a gathering of GCYS players, and the perceptions to the parents or public is that the volunteer is a coach of the GCYS, then too, the volunteer shall follow the Code of Conduct for a coach.
- c) Coaches and Trainers are required to follow and enforce the rules set forth by GCYS, BAYSA, and STYSA. Failure to comply with the rules will result in an official written warning, followed by game suspensions for the coach, and fines for the Trainers.

**BYLAW 4 - TEAM SELECTION- Competitive Divisions I and II-Revised 4/11/12**

1. At least two tryouts must be held before each fall season to select players. All players are encouraged to participate in the tryouts. The advertisement of tryouts will be set by the Board or Board representative responsible for team selection. All age groups will have the same tryout dates and will be advertised on the club's website at least 2 weeks prior to the tryout dates, along with the clubs other social media outlets.
2. No player shall be forced to play on a Division II team or upper level, until they reach the U-16 age bracket.
3. No player may be selected on a Division II team unless the player has attended a tryout.
4. The Board shall assign a representative to assist coaches at the tryouts.
5. Date for the Division II level tryouts will be announced at registration.
6. Division II level teams will be formed prior to the formation of any team within the Division III level.
7. Any player not assigned to a Division II team will be returned to the Division III draft pool

Any team not represented at tryouts will be formed as a recreational team. The board may elect to register the team as a Division 2 team, based on Eastern District playoff eligibility, and current season scheduling constraints, but the team will be formed using the recreational blind draft team formation guidelines.

**BYLAW 5: CHANGES**

Changes to the Bylaws require the change to be proposed at a regularly scheduled board meeting and placed on the agenda for a vote at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**BYLAW 6: PLAY UPS**

~~Due to the unique level of play and team formation of competitive teams, players wanting to "play up" into a higher age group must get Board approval.~~ **(BAYSA and STYSA no longer require this)**

**BYLAW 6: ABUSE**

- 1) Verbal Abuse: The verbal abuse of any persons involved with the operations of the GCYS will not be tolerated. These individuals include; board members, committee members, coaches, assistant coaches, trainers, referees and anyone recognized by GCYS as working in a capacity of volunteer. Anyone reported to have engaged in verbally abusing someone involved with GCYS will be asked to meet with the President or designated representative or both in order to resolve any disputes or issues. The degree of the abuse and the disciplinary actions to be imposed by the club will be at the discretion of the President or Vice President; they will decide which of the following measures will be taken:
  - a) One-time verbal warning that will be recorded for future reference. This warning will be in effect until the next year begins.
  - b) Suspension from any games or practices held by GCYS teams for a period of two weeks, and notification of a D&P Hearing to remove the volunteer from GCYS, if warranted.
  - c) A second verbal warning to same offender will be grounds for suspension for the remainder of the year. They may not attend games, tournaments, or practices hosted by the GCYS. Authorities will be used if necessary, to enforce the rule.
- 2) Physical abuse: Physical abuses at any event (including practice or travel representing GCYS) under the control of GCYS will be asked to immediately leave and will not be allowed to associate with the club in any capacity without approval from the GCYS board. Authorities will be used to remove said personnel from buildings, fields of play, or parking areas associated with the GCYS event or practice if necessary. Any filing of criminal charges will be at the discretion of the individuals involved.
- 3) If anyone wishes to appeal any decision of the President or Vice President, they may ask to come

before the GCYS Board and state their case.

- 4) In cases in which individuals involved with the GCYS are the abusers, they will be required to report before the Board and state their case at which time a ruling may be made. This may be board members, committee members, coaches and or any volunteers.
- 5) Definitions of Abuse:
  - a) To use wrongly or improperly; to misuse.
  - b) To hurt or injure physically by maltreatment.
  - c) To assail with contemptuous, coarse, or insulting words; revile.
- 6) Zero Tolerance
  - a) GCYS enforces a Zero Tolerance for abuse, and reserves the right suspend a player or coach for committing an abusive act.
  - b) The Zero Tolerance suspension will be in addition to any suspensions levied by BAYSA, but will not exceed 3 games.
  - c) In the event the team's spectators are deemed abusive, GCYS reserves the right to remove the spectators from the sideline

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## Change Log

Version	Ratified	Description
Spring 2022	2/10/2022	Removed Santa Fe, Added Change Log, Added Duties of D&P, Added Coach's conduct paragraph, Added Zero Tolerance section to BYLAW 6