



# QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY INDEPENDENT YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC. BYLAWS

## **Article I – Organization Name**

This organization, officially named Queen Anne's County Independent Youth Soccer Association, Inc., shall be known as the QA Soccer Club, herein after referred to as "QASC."

## **Article II – Objective**

The objective of QASC shall be to encourage children to have ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, respect and lifetime involvement in sports and physical activity. QASC is intended to provide the opportunity for children, to play at a high level of competition. QASC will be subject to and abide by the rules and regulations of US Soccer, US Youth Soccer, and the Maryland State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA).

## **Article III – Territory**

In the interest of promoting soccer, the league will be available to all residents of Queen Anne's County, Maryland and/or surrounding counties.

## **Article IV – Affiliation**

This league is affiliated with and is a member of Maryland State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA) and therefore agrees to abide by all rules, policies, and regulations of MSYSA, US Youth Soccer, and US Soccer. Additionally, QASC will register all players, coaches, and teams who participate in our organization's programs with MSYSA and other US Soccer members at least annually and pay the appropriate registration fees to comply with US Soccer's 100% affiliation rule.

QASC and MSYSA will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin.

## **Article V – Membership**

### *Section 1: Members:*

#### A. Eligibility.

Any person interested in active participation under the Bylaws of QASC and under the rules and regulations of USYSA and MSYSA.

*Section 2: Class of Members*

A. Non-Voting Members:

1. Player, Parent/Guardian Members:

Any player, or parent/guardian, affiliated with a team of QASC and registered under the Maryland State Youth Soccer Association. Any player member shall have no rights, duties, or obligations in the management of QASC or a team. All players shall be a resident of Queen Anne’s County and/or surrounding counties and carded with MSYSA.

2. In the event of suspension or revocation of membership, no member shall be entitled to a refund of any part of the fees paid to QASC.

B. Voting Members:

The voting Members shall consist exclusively of the Board as hereinafter constituted:  
The Board of QASC.

**Article VI – Board Meetings**

*Section 1: Regular Board Meetings*

The league shall hold regular monthly meetings of the Board for the purpose of appointing Board vacancies, approving amendments to the Bylaws, and conducting all business of the League as deemed necessary by the Board. The first meeting of the year shall be held in the month of March at a place and time to be specified by the President.

*Section 2: Annual Meeting*

The Board shall hold an annual meeting to allow non-voting members to express opinions and offer input regarding the league.

*Section 3: Board Meeting Business Conduct*

Board meetings shall be conducted in a safe and fair manner.

**Article VII – Government**

*Section 1: Board*

This league will be governed by a Board. The Board shall consist of between five (5) and twenty (20) members. The Board will hold regularly scheduled monthly meetings from March through November, and other nonscheduled meetings as needed, to conduct the business of the League. A quorum for the Board shall be half of Board Members in place.



## *Section 2: Board Responsibilities*

The Board shall be responsible for and have sole authority for the following:

- A. Establishing policies for the operation of the league.
- B. Enforcing and interpreting the Bylaws and League Policies.
- C. Ensuring compliance with the annual contract for use of county facilities between QASC and Queen Anne's County Parks.
- D. Shall from time to time make temporary rules and regulations for specific cases or occasions not provided for in the Bylaws or policies, but which are deemed necessary, by the Board, to carry out the objectives of this League. Where this takes place, the Board shall recommend an amendment to the Bylaws and/or policies.

## *Section 3: Discipline*

The Board shall have the right and authority to suspend, ban completely or otherwise discipline any player, coach, manager, league member or team official for violations of the league Code of Conduct, Bylaws, or other policies, or for any conduct that is unsuitable to the development of youth soccer players. The Board shall have the right and authority to suspend any of its own members for substantial failure to perform their mandated duties or for violation of the league Code of Conduct, Bylaws, and/or policies.

## **Article VIII – Officers of QA Soccer Club**

### *Section 1: Board Members*

The Board hereinafter mentioned shall consist of the following Officer positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer. Other Board positions include: Director of Coaching, Equipment Manager, Referee Coordinator, and Member(s) at Large. All Board positions shall be terms of two (2) years in length beginning at the first meeting of the Board in even numbered years. No Board Member shall hold more than two (2) positions. Each Board Member shall have one (1) vote, regardless of number of positions held. Upon vacancy of a Board position, the remaining Board Members shall elect a replacement.

- 1) President:
  - a) The President shall preside over all board meetings, call the meetings to order, conduct the order of business, moderate discussions, conduct a vote on all motions and close the meetings. The President shall have the authority to call a meeting at any time.
  - b) The President shall be cosigner of money to be disbursed by the league.
  - c) The President shall be responsible for the conduct of QASC in strict conformity with the Bylaws of QASC and the rules and regulations of USYSA and MSYSA.



- 2) Vice President:
  - a) In case of the absence of the President, and upon approval of the President, shall perform the duties of the President.
- 3) Secretary:
  - a) The Secretary shall ensure that meetings are effectively organized, and minutes are kept detailing a record of discussions, actions voted on by the Board, and actions taken as a result.
  - b) The Secretary shall maintain all records for the organization as well as complete any legal filings on behalf of the organization in a timely manner.
  - c) The Secretary shall assist the President in communication and correspondence of the League.
- 4) Treasurer:
  - a) The Treasurer shall receive the income of the league and disburse it upon orders of Board. The Treasurer will keep a detailed account of income and expenditures and have the authority to pay normal operating bills, per the budget. Any variance greater than ten (10) percent of a particular budget item, shall be put to a vote before the Board.
  - b) The Treasurer shall prepare and present an annual budget for the year and a Treasurer's Report for regularly scheduled Board Meetings.
  - c) There shall be dual signatures on all items requiring signature.
- 5) Director of Coaching:
  - a) The Director of Coaching shall act as the liaison between the Board and the individual coaches. This person shall be responsible for communicating important information to coaches from the Board. The Director of Coaching is to be a resource for coaches who have questions and need guidance throughout the season.
- 6) Equipment Manager:
  - a) The Equipment Manager shall be responsible for all soccer equipment inventory as well as distribution and retrieval to/from coaches. The Equipment Manager will make recommendation to the Board on needed items, and other duties as assigned.
- 7) Referee Coordinator:
  - a) The Referee Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that all rules are following during games as well as all communications with the referees. This includes, but is not limited to, conducting beginning of season referee meetings and trainings, scheduling of referees for all necessary games, distributing referee checks, keeping the President informed of all issues that arise, and other duties as assigned.
- 8) Member(s) at Large:



- a) Member(s) at Large shall assist the other Board positions and complete other duties as assigned.

*Section 2: Officer Appointments*

The officers of the league shall be elected by the Board (NOTE: only one (1) family member can hold a Board position in a given year).

*Section 3: Replacement of Board Members or Officers*

The Board may replace a board member for cause; such action shall take place at a meeting of the Board. Replacement of a board member shall require two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board. Any board member not attending regularly scheduled meetings for two (2) consecutive meetings without an excuse shall have his or her office declared vacant. The President shall then appoint a new member to fill the vacancy for that calendar soccer season.

**Article IX – Rules of Play**

*Section 1: Requirements and Guidelines for Rules of Play*

The rules of soccer as defined by the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) *Laws of the Game*, with *Modification for Youth Play* by QASC should not be altered, unless approved and not contrary to this Constitution, with exception; to the betterment and protection of the beginners, and younger boys and girls. Whenever the rules are altered or changed, they should be clearly explained to whomever it may concern.

**Article X – Limitation of Liability**

*Section 1: Limits of Liability*

The League shall not assume, nor be liable for the debts and/or the financial responsibilities, either implied or incurred, of any player, coach, manager, team official or referee, unless otherwise approved by a majority vote of the Board.

**Article XI – Subcommittees**

The Board will organize subcommittees as needed for the calendar year soccer season. Members of such sub committees will be non-voting members of QASC. Subcommittees are vital to QASC to get more involvement from its members as well as to get a better understanding on how QASC operates. Subcommittee members will have an opportunity to apply for an open Board Member position when one becomes available.



## **Article XII - Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part by a majority vote of the Board at any duly organized meeting of the Board of QASC.

