

# **Biloxi Soccer Organization**

# **Constitution and By-laws**

# **Article I: Organization**

- A. The name of the organization will be Biloxi Soccer Organization, Inc. (Commonly referred to as BSO)
- B. Purpose: The purpose of BSO is the control, regulation, promotion, and development of, and education for, youth soccer in the Biloxi, Mississippi area at all levels of play. The Corporation\* is organized exclusively for the development, regulation, education and promotion of the sport of soccer to children at the youth level.

The purposes for which the Corporation is organized include, but are not limited to: to promote the development of soccer through training and education, formation of teams in age-appropriate soccer permitted under the Mississippi Youth Soccer Association, including but not limited to Division II, and Division III.

The Corporation shall have the power, either directly or indirectly, alone or in conjunction or cooperation with others, to do any and all lawful acts and things and to engage in any and all lawful activities which may be necessary, useful, suitable, desirable, or proper for the furtherance, accomplishment, fostering, or attainment of any and all purposes for which the Corporation is organized, and to aid or assist other organizations whose activities are such as to further, accomplish, foster, or attain any such purposes.

No part of the income of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the Corporation, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the Corporation affecting one or more of its purposes), and no member, trustee, officer of the Corporation, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the Corporation.

In the event of the liquidation or dissolution of the Corporation, whether voluntary or involuntary, no member, trustee, or officer of the Corporation shall be entitled to any distribution or division of its remaining property or proceeds.

In such event, all of the remaining assets and property of the Corporation shall, after payment of the necessary expenses thereof, be distributed to such organizations as shall qualify as exempt organizations as a non-profit organization, as now or hereafter amended, and the regulations there under, as the same now exist, or as may hereafter be amended from time to time.

No part of the activities of the Corporation shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, or participating in, or intervening in (including publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

BSO is a not for profit organization formed to bring youth soccer players together to learn the sport of soccer through instruction, teaching, and education. BSO invites all youth players to participate in a competitive recreational soccer league.

Where solicitations or contributions are made, they are made solely by its membership. BSO annually requests local corporations and businesses to sponsor team and league activities to help defray the cost of uniforms, tournament fees, clinics, training and league operations. BSO does not use paid fundraisers.

- C. **Headquarters:** The headquarters of BSO will be in Biloxi, Mississippi. The boundaries are the city of Biloxi to include Keesler AFB, and Zip Code 39532 excluding the City of D'Iberville.
- D. **League Colors:** The Biloxi Soccer Organization uses a variety of colors for various purposes.
- E. **Operation:** BSO will operate as a non-profit organization and will comply with all state and federal regulations.
- F. **Membership:** Membership in BSO shall be open to any Seasonal Year BSO volunteer, in good standing, or any parent or guardian of a BSO or Biloxi Express Soccer Club (BXSC) player in good standing. Examples of BSO volunteers are, but not limited too, positions identified in Articles II through V of this document.
- G. **Participating Divisions:** BSO participates in the MYSA divisions of soccer play as set forth in the MYSA Rules and Regulations. The BSO does not participate in Division I. The Mississippi Youth Soccer Association provides soccer programs in four (4) divisions for youth soccer players. Division II and Division III are the Intermediate and recreational program for ages U5, U6, U7, U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, and U19.
- H. **Affiliation:** BSO will be affiliated with the Mississippi Youth Soccer Association (MYSA), the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA), and the United States Soccer Federation (USSF). It will be an integral part of these associations and will at all times recognize the authority, rules, and laws of these bodies.
- I. **Parliamentary Authority:** All BSO meetings will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.
- J. **Regular Meeting Schedule:** The BSO shall meet at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month unless deemed unnecessary by the Board of Directors.

K. **Dissolution:** In the event of dissolution of BSO, all assets, accounts receivable, etc., shall be distributed to the Parks & Recreation Department of the City of Biloxi subject to the provisions of Section B above.

### Article II: Soccer Boards: Board of Directors & Executive Board

A. BSO strives to achieve equal representation from its members. This is done through the election process held at the General Membership meeting. The Biloxi Soccer Organization shall be governed by the Board of Directors.. The Board shall consist of the following officers: The President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar, Director of Athletic Specialists of Biloxi, Age Group Directors, Information/Technology Director, Equipment/ Safety Director, Head Referee, and up to 8 At-Large members. The Executive Board consists of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

### **B.** Executive Board Membership:

- 1. Must have/expect to have a child registered AND playing in BSO or BSXC for the Seasonal Year in which they are seeking a position on the Executive Board. A member of the Executive Board shall be removed for failure to have a child registered AND playing in BSO or BSXC during the Seasonal Year.
- 2. The Executive Board may vote on behalf of the Board of Directors on urgent issues related to safety or discipline. A unanimous vote of the Executive Board is required. The President does not vote on Executive Board decisions.

### C. Board of Directors Membership:

- 1. A member of the Board of Directors may be removed from the board for failure to perform his/her assigned duties, for missing 3 consecutive board meetings without reasonable excuse AND notification or for missing more than ½ of the meetings of the board for the current term by a majority vote in favor of removal.
- 2. Must be willing to dedicate/participate in all aspects of the operations pertaining to the operations of BSO. This includes but is not limited to: Registration, Opening Ceremonies, Monthly and Special Called Board Meetings, Field Marshall Duties, Club Sponsored Tournaments, Uniforms, Fundraising, Closing Ceremonies and other duties as needed.
- 3. A member may hold only one (1) voting position on the Board.

- 4. Resignation of Board members shall be submitted in writing to the President prior to the time of resignation. Upon resignation of the Treasurer, the appropriate books and records shall be reviewed. Vacancies shall be filled as provided in the Bylaws, Article VII.
- 5. The Board of Directors shall approve current monthly financial statements of the Treasurer, minutes of previous meetings and review committee reports.
- 6. The Board of Directors shall have the power to establish rules governing BSO teams, divisions, competitions, and tournament participation.
- 7. Copies of the minutes of the Board Meetings shall be available upon request by any active member.
- 8. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to approve all organizational coaches and referees.
- D. **Records and Reports:** The following records and reports are required to be maintained by BSO. All registration forms, kid safe forms, team rosters, treasurer reports, minutes of meetings, financial records, personal property inventory records, correspondence, and notices issued by the Board of Directors. All records shall be maintained by each officer responsible for preparing or maintaining said reports/records, to be kept until such time as they are to be turned over to the incoming officer for the next fiscal year.

  Records/reports of BSO are available for inspection upon request by any Board member, with the exception of any information protected from disclosure by any state or federal rule or regulation.
- E. The President: The President shall be the Chief Officer of the Organization and shall, subject to the control of the Board, have general supervision, direction, and control of the business and officers of the Organization. He/she shall preside at all meetings of the Board members. He shall attend, as required, District and State MYSA meetings. The President shall be in charge of preparing the annual operations budget and requesting of needed funds from the City of Biloxi. He shall be a member ex-officio of all committees, except the Nominations Committee, and shall have general and active management of the business of the Organization. He shall appoint the chairman of all committees, except those chairman designated in these by-laws. He shall see that all resolutions and orders of the Board are carried into effect. He shall make and execute with the Secretary all agreements and contracts in the name of the Organization as authorized by the Board of Directors. He shall execute and also carry out all other duties as are required by law and

as may from time to time be assigned to him by the Board. The position of President only votes in the case of a tie.

#### F. The Vice-Presidents:

- 1. The First Vice-President: The First Vice-President shall, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, be responsible for the Boys Recreational Soccer program. He shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President, and assume the office of President should the vacancy occur. He/she shall be responsible for coordinating with the Equipment/Safety Director, the procurement of all needed supplies for the Boys' Division. He/She shall be responsible for other duties as assigned by Board.
- 2. Second Vice-President: The Second Vice-President shall, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, be responsible for the Girls Recreational Soccer program. He/she shall be responsible for coordinating with the Equipment/Safety Director, the procurement of all needed supplies for the Girls' Division. He/She shall be responsible for other duties as assigned by the Board.
- G. **The Secretary:** The Secretary-shall be the custodian of the constitution, by-laws, minutes and other books and records of the Organization, with authority and responsibility for authenticating the records of the Organization. He shall keep true and correct minutes of all meetings of the Board, and of the membership of the Organization. He shall execute with the President all agreements and contracts in the name of the Organization as authorized by the Board of Directors. He shall perform all other duties as may be required by the Board.
- H. The Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have the care and custody of and be responsible for all the funds, securities, evidences of indebtedness, and other valuable documents of the Organization, and shall deposit all such funds in the name of the Organization in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories, or in such safe deposit vaults as the Board of Directors may designate. He shall receive and give receipt for monies due and payable to the Organization from any source whatsoever. The Treasurer shall endorse in the name of the Organization all checks, notes, drafts, bills of exchange, acceptances and other instruments for the payment of money received by the Organization, and pay out, and disburse the same and receipt therefore under the direction of the Board. He shall keep the books of the Organization in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, consistently applied. He shall present a report of receipts, disbursements and cash on hand at every meeting of the Board, and at such other times as may be requested by the Board. He shall present an annual report in writing when required by the Board,

which shall consist of an income statement and balance sheet, prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, consistently applied, and certified as being true and correct by the Treasurer. The Treasurer's annual report may be examined by an auditor or an auditing committee, who, if satisfied that the Treasurer's annual report is correct, shall so certify at the end of the Treasurer's report. In general, he shall perform all other duties incident to the office of Treasurer, and such other duties as may be assigned by the President, or the Board of Directors.

## **Article III - Duties of Appointed Representatives**

- A. The Head Referee/Assigner: The Head Referee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, and shall have general supervision over all referees of the Organization. He/She shall be a USSF Certified Referee. He/She shall be responsible for recruitment, training, scheduling and ultimate control of all referee's working for BSO during the regular and any tournament games. He/She shall also be responsible for validating time cards for submission to BSO for payment. He/she shall make sure that age group appropriate referee's are calling games.
- B. **The Age Group Commissioner:** The Age Group Commissioner will be responsible for communication with the appropriate VP on all issues regarding his/her age group. This includes Uniforms, Scheduling, rosters, player contact issues, etc. Age Group Directors will also work closely with the Registrar on rosters and player info as well. He/She will also be responsible for other duties as assigned by the President.
- C. **The Scheduler:** The Scheduler shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. He/she shall be responsible for scheduling all fields and games. He shall be responsible for furnishing a copy of the schedule, and any revisions to the schedule, to the Head Referee, Web Master, all Age Group Commissioners, and all Vice-Presidents.
- D. **Director of Recreational Coaching:** The Director of Recreational Coaching shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. He/she shall be responsible for the distribution of pertinent rules and regulations to Division II and III coaches. He will hold meetings and clinics as necessary. He will be responsible for obtaining City of Biloxi and Kid Safe forms and keeping records of forms submitted to MYSA and the City of Biloxi.
- E. **Information/Technology Director:** The Information/Technology Director shall maintain the BSO website, and other duties as may be directed by the Board of Directors.
- F. **The Registrar:** He shall serve as registrar of the players registered with the Organization. He shall prepare and file all rosters, requests for player transfer, releases and other

documents, and all amendments thereto, with the Mississippi Youth Soccer Association within the time and in the manner prescribed by the Constitution and By-laws of the Mississippi Youth Soccer Association. He shall also carry out such other duties as may be required by the Board of Directors.

- G. **Division II/PDP Director:** The Division II Director shall run the Division II program. He/she shall set up registration, tryouts and oversee the programs overall direction. He/She shall set fees with board approval, work with managers to complete required forms and player passes, and arrange tournament for teams to attend. He/She report to the board each meeting the status of the program. All Division II proposals must be presented to the Board of Directors for approval.
- H. **Equipment/Safety Director:** He/She shall be responsible for the communicating with the Parks &Recreation Department regarding ordering of uniforms, equipment, supplies and calling for maintenance of the fields. He is also in charge of assuring the fields are maintained in a safe manner consistent with small children being present. He shall report all issues to the Parks & Recreation Department.
- I. At Large Members: At Large members are voting members of the Board of Directors. Duties of At Large members, though not defined by title, are to assist in various committees such as Tournament, Nomination, Sponsorship, Field Marshall, Protest, Discipline, Team Liaisons or other assignments as needed. At Large Members may be nominated as Assistant Age Group Directors.

# **Article IV - The Standing Committees**

- A. Following the election of officers the President shall appoint the Standing Committee Chairpersons with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- B. Standing Committee Chairpersons shall attend all meetings and shall submit reports to the Board.
- C. Standing Committee Chairpersons shall appoint such committee members as necessary.
- D. Standing Committee Chairpersons shall maintain the committee notebook.
- **E.** Each committee shall submit to the Board of Directors its annual budget for consideration and approval.

#### F. Duties of Standing Committees:

### 1. Discipline and Protest Committee:

- a. Shall consist of the Head Referee, the respective Age Group Commissioner, and a Chairperson. The Vice-president shall serve as an advisor.
- b.A fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) may be asked to accompany the the written protest for it to be accepted.
- c. The primary responsibility of this Committee is to settle all issues regarding protests, misconduct, and violations of this Constitution and Bylaws in an expeditious and informal manner. In the event an informal settlement cannot be reached the Committee will reduce its decision to writing and present the written decision to the person(s) involved.
- d.The Chairperson will notify the person(s) involved of the meeting taking place.
- e.Decisions by the Committee will be final unless the person(s) involved exercise their right to appeal.
- f. Shall report all pertinent information and recommendations in writing to the Board of Directors.

### 2. Public Relations Committee:

- a. Shall consist of a Chairperson from the board and open to volunteers from the general membership.
- b.Shall publicize announcements of BSO happenings to include but are not limited to registration and Annual General Meetings.
- c.Shall maintain the soccer complex bulletin board.
- d.Shall be responsible for an organizational newsletter when needed.
- e. Shall be responsible for obtaining a photographer for team pictures.

- f. Shall publicize and promote organizational activities and General Membership meetings.
- g. Notice of meetings provided by these articles may be waived in the event of natural disaster, act of war, or other emergency circumstance preventing adequate notice.

#### 3. Awards Committee:

- a. Shall consist of a Chairperson from the board and open to volunteers from the general membership.
- b.Shall investigate and make recommendations to the Board of Directors for all awards to be presented by the organization.
- c. Shall make all necessary preparations for an end of season awards ceremony.

### 4. Program Committee:

- a. Shall consist of a Chairperson from the board and open to volunteers from the general membership.
- b.Shall be responsible for arranging any player and/or coach clinics.

### 5. Ways and Means Committee:

- a. Shall consist of a Chairperson from the board and open to volunteers from the general membership.
- b. Shall have the responsibility of obtaining concessionaires and restroom maintenance.

#### 6. Fundraiser Committee:

- a. Shall consist of a Chairperson from the board and open to volunteers from the general membership.
- b. Shall have the responsibility of the sale and recording of sponsorships of all BSO teams.

- c. Shall be responsible for the purchase and delivery of appropriate plaques for sponsors with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- d.Shall be responsible for any additional fundraising events.

#### 7. Tournament Committee:

- a. Shall consist of a Chairperson from the board and open to volunteers from the general membership.
- b.Shall has the responsibility with all publications and scheduling needed to host a first class BSO tournament.

## **Article V - Special Committees**

#### A. Guidelines:

- 1. A Special Committee may be formed by the President for a specified purpose and shall cease to exist after its purpose is completed.
- 2. Special Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board.
- 3. Shall include Leveling and Nominations Committees.

### **B.** Duties of Appointed Representatives:

- 1. The duties of each Special Committee shall be outlined by the Board of Directors on a case-by-case basis.
- 2. All appointed committee chairmen shall attend all board meetings and submit a report, as needed, to the Board.
- 3. A member of a Special Committee may be removed for failure to perform his or her assigned duties, for missing three consecutive committee meetings without a reasonable excuse, or for missing more than half of the meetings of the committee during the preceding year, by a majority vote in favor of removal by the Board.

## **Article VI - General Membership Meeting and Elections**

- A. An Annual General Membership Meeting (AGM) will be held once a year for the purpose of electing a Board of Directors and making any necessary changes or additions to the Constitution and Bylaws. Those in attendance will constitute a quorum. The AGM shall be held during the first two weeks of June.
- B. The Constitution and Bylaws may only be amended by a two-thirds majority vote at the AGM except in cases of emergency or to protect the provisions of Article I, Section B of this Constitution and Bylaws. In these special cases any BSO policy may be temporarily suspended, amended, or added at any Board meeting by a two-thirds majority of the entire Board. In order for any such action to become a permanent part of this Constitution it must be ratified at the next AGM.
- C. The Public Relations Committee will publicize the AGM at least seven (7) days prior to the scheduled date.
- D. The Board shall be elected and serve a one (1) year term.
- E. The election shall be by secret ballot (unless dispensed with by unanimous consent) and by a plurality of votes cast.
- F. The board shall take office on July 1 of each year.

### **Article VII - Vacancies and Successions**

- A. Should an elected officer, appointed officer, or standing Committee Chairperson be unable to fulfill his duties, said individual shall tender his resignation to the Board of Directors.
- B. The First Vice-President shall fill a vacancy in the office of President.
- C. A vacancy in any other office shall be filled by an active member appointed by the President with approval of the Board.
- D. Successors shall hold office until the next election.

### **Article VIII - Finances**

- A. >MISSING TEXT< taxes, licenses, ordinances, etc., to the extent, which may be >MISSING TEXT<
- B. An annual financial statement shall be submitted by the Treasurer at the end of the fiscal year.
- C. An annual audit shall be performed at the conclusion of each fiscal year.
- D. Registration and sponsorship fees shall be determined by the Board at the beginning of the fiscal year.

### E. Moneys:

- 1. All moneys shall be deposited in the BSO checking account.
- 2. All expenses shall be paid from the BSO checking account.
- 3. All checks shall require two (2) signatures-President, or in his/her absence, 1st Vice President and Treasure.
- 4. Receipts must accompany all requests for reimbursement.

### **Article IX - Policies and Procedures**

- A. These policies and procedures shall govern team operations, coaches, game play, personnel conduct, and registration.
- B. **Seasonal Year:** The seasonal year of BSO will commence on July 1 of each year.

### C. Registration:

- 1. All team members, hereinafter referred to as players, must be registered before playing or practicing with a BSO team.
- 2. Registration shall be under the direction of the Registrar.
- 3. Registration must be accomplished using an approved registration form.

- 4. All team members that are not a resident of the City of Biloxi shall pay fees at the time of registration.
- 5. Proof of date of birth is required for initial registration, or upon the request of the Registrar.
- 6. Players will be assigned to an age group based on their age as of July 31 of the current soccer year. Requests to play in a higher age division must be approved by the Board of Directors. In considering such requests the Board will take into account the skill level of the player relative to the higher age group, as well as any family ties to the higher age group, but the primary consideration will be the benefit or lack thereof to the player. The issue of loss of skills to the lower age group team will not constitute a reason for denying the request, and the existence of family ties to the higher age group will not constitute a reason for automatic approval.
- 7. A parent or legal guardian will be present and sign the application at the time of registration.
- 8. Out of city registration fees shall not be refunded after issuance of the uniform.
- 9. A player may register for two teams only when in compliance with MYSA rules and regulations.
- 10. Late registration will be accepted from players after official registration closing date with the understanding that the player will only be placed on a team if an opening in his/her age division occurs. The Board will determine any late registration fee each year.
- 11. The Leveling Committee shall place players in accordance with MYSA leveling procedures.

### **D.** Team Operations:

- 1. Teams shall be grouped by age in accordance with current MYSA policy.
- 2. A player may transfer from one team to another only when all of the following stipulations have been met:

- a. Approval of the player and parent.
- b. Approval of the respective coaches.
- c. Approval of the Registrar and applicable Age Group Commissioner.
- d.Fifty percent of the scheduled games have not been played.
- 3. In the case of team dissolution the transfer rules in Article IX, Section C, Paragraph 2, do not apply.
- 4. Each player will be issued a numbered jersey. The issuance of shorts and socks will be at the discretion of the Board of Directors after yearly budget requirements and registration fees are set. Each player will be responsible for his or her individual shoes and shin guards. Shin guards are mandatory.
- 5. Shoes must be worn in all competition. Soles of shoes may be smooth, or have studs or bars, or a combination of both. Molded studs or bars shall be composed of rubber, plastic, or similar soft material, and shall conform to FIFA rules. Footwear will be examined closely by the referee prior to play to ensure that it is in safe repair.
- 6. Goalkeepers may wear long trousers on the field; other players must obtain permission from the referee.
- 7. Teams shall practice no more than three times per week.
- 8. All players in attendance at Recreational or Intermediate Division games must participate unless under disciplinary action.
  - a. Such participation is to be assured by the coach.
  - b.Each player must play the equivalent of one-half of the game time. This will include all tournament play.
  - c.A player with an unexcused absence from practice or games or a player who disrupts practices by not complying with the instructions of the coach or otherwise disrupts the normal performance of the coach may be disciplined by reduction in the required playing time at the next game. The

coach must inform the player's parents and Age Group Commissioner of any disciplinary action at least twelve hours before the game.

- 9. Each team coach will be notified that the BSO Constitution and Bylaws is posted on the BSO website.
- 10. Teams shall not be allowed to borrow a player from another team while participating in a sanctioned game.
- 11. Any team playing an ineligible player will forfeit that game.
- 12. Upon dissolution of a team the result will be a 1-0 loss for the games played and games remaining to be played.
- 13. All tournament participation not sponsored by BSO shall require authorization by the Vice President of their division.
- 14. All BSO tournament participation shall be governed by FIFA and tournament rules set forth by the sponsoring organization.

#### E. Coaches:

- 1. The Head Coach of each team must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- 2. A coach shall attend all practices and games.
- 3. A coach or team parent shall inform players and parents/guardians of their rights and responsibilities as stated in the Constitution and Bylaws.
- 4. A coach shall transfer a player only as stated in Article IX, Section C, Paragraph 2, of these Bylaws.
- 5. A coach shall stress player participation, encourage sportsmanship, and enforce the rules and regulations of BSO.
- 6. A coach shall under no circumstances use alcohol or tobacco in any form during games and practices.
- 7. Violations will be handled by the Board of the Directors with the possibility of suspension.

- 8. A coach playing or practicing a non-registered player shall be held liable for any and all damages and injuries.
- 9. BSO coaches shall attend the city-sponsored certification clinic.

### F. Game Play:

- 1. Game play will be governed by the BSO adopted modifications to official FIFA Laws of the Game for each age division. A copy of said modified rules will be issued to each coach.
- 2. The length of games shall be in accordance with the MYSA rules and regulations.
- 3. Substitutions of players during game play shall be in accordance with the MYSA rules and regulations.
- 4. Play with unaffiliated teams is not allowed unless specifically approved by the Board of Directors.
- 5. No alcoholic beverages will be allowed at any game sites.
- 6. Any protests shall be in writing to the Discipline and Protest Committee in accordance with Article IV, Section F, Paragraph 1b.
- 7. All games shall be played as scheduled unless a change is agreed upon by the coaches of each team, the Head Referee, the Scheduler and Age Group Commissioner at least forty-eight hours prior to the scheduled game.
  - a. If the above conditions are not met the team failing to appear for the scheduled game shall forfeit the game.
  - b.If both teams fail to have the minimum number of players a double forfeit shall be recorded.
  - c.Inclement weather and or field conditions constitute an exception to the above and will be decided by the game referee.
- 8. All rescheduled games require a minimum of forty-eight hours notification. The Scheduler shall be responsible for notifying the Age Group Commissioner who

- will contact the Head Coaches in their age divisions, and the Head Referee who will contact the game referees.
- 9. All games shall begin within five minutes of the designated time unless delayed by circumstances beyond the control of either team. Any team unable to comply shall forfeit the game.
- 10. Coaching from the sidelines, that is, giving direction to one's own team on points of strategy and position shall be allowed under the following conditions:
  - a. Mechanical devices shall not be used.
  - b. The tone of voice shall be informative and the instructions positive.
  - c. Negative coaching, such as the following, shall not be allowed
    - 1) Berating players.
    - 2) Degrading remarks.
    - 3) Blatant criticism.
  - d.A spectator restraining line will be marked two yards back from and parallel to each sideline. No spectators are allowed behind the end lines or goals. Coaches and players will remain within fifteen yards of either side of the centerline.
  - e. A coach, substitute, or player shall not incite in any manner disruptive behavior.
  - f. A coach, substitute, player or spectator shall not use profane language.
- 11. Failure to comply with all requirements in Article IX, Section E, items 5 through 7, may require the referee to caution/expel (card not shown) the offending coach and/or spectator(s).
  - a. If the game was stopped to award the caution or expel an individual, the game will be restarted with an indirect free kick taken by the opposing side at the point where the ball was when the play was halted.
  - b.Misconduct/interference after receipt of a caution may be dealt with an ejection of the offending coach and/or spectator. A referee is not required

- to caution/warn a coach/spectator(s) prior to ejection. The referee may stop, suspend or terminate a match because of interference of any kind. If a match is terminated, a forfeit shall be recorded for the offending team.
- c.Should 11b occur, the referee shall report in writing the incident and circumstances to the Board of Directors through the Head Referee.
- 12. A coach shall be responsible for the action of his/her players and spectators and shall be responsible for taking all necessary precautions to prevent players and or spectators from threatening or assaulting officials and or players before, during, and after the game.
  - a. A violation of this rule shall result in the suspension or termination of the game by the referee.
  - b. Should the above occur, the referee shall report in writing the incident and circumstances to the Board of Directors through the Head Referee.
- 13. If a player is sent off the field of play by the referee (red carded or ejected) that player will not play in the balance of the game in progress, and must sit out the entire next game his/her team actually plays. This punishment will automatically follow the first and second ejections. If a player incurs a third ejection in the same season then that player, his/her coach, and the player's parents must appear before the BSO Discipline and Protest Committee before the player will be allowed to play in any further competitions. The decision to allow further play will be made by this committee. Referees shall report all ejections to the Head Referee. The Head Referee will notify the BSO Discipline and Protest Committee when a player receives his third ejection.
- 14. Any player, coach, or spectator who physically assaults a referee will be suspended from participation in any BSO activities for a minimum of one calendar year from the date of the assault with the possibility of permanent suspension. This is to include all BSO tournaments and exhibition games in which any BSO team or individual player participates. The decision of the Discipline and Protest Committee may be forwarded to the City of Biloxi Recreation Department.
- 15. No one shall enter the field of play without the expressed permission of the referee. The only exception to this rule is in the U6 age division as per that division's modified rules.

#### G. Personnel:

#### 1. Referees:

- a. A referee shall enforce the laws of the game.
- b.A referee shall conduct himself/herself in a manner that reflects good sportsmanship and fair play.
- c. A referee shall be a current USSF Certified Referee and wear the official uniform.
- d.A referee shall appear for a scheduled game to which he/she is assigned at least fifteen minutes prior to game time.
  - 1) If a scheduled referee fails to appear by the scheduled game time a referee shall be appointed by agreement between teams. The referee must be a BSO approved referee if available.
  - 2) Upon arrival at the field of play of an approved referee (in the event a substitute referee is not an approved referee), the game will be halted at the next stoppage of play at which time the approved referee, or a person mutually agreed upon by both teams, will assume control of the game.
- e. Should the referee become incapacitated during a game for any cause, he/she shall turn over control of the game to any other approved referee or a person mutually agreed upon by both teams.
- f. A referee shall officiate all games according to FIFA rules except where amended by BSO Constitution and Bylaws or modified rules.

#### 2. Linesmen:

- a. When only one referee is available each team shall provide one linesmen per game.
- b.Linesmen shall be responsible to the referee. The referee shall make the final decisions.

### H. League Standings:

### 1. Regular Season:

- a. League standings will be determined by awarding three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero points for a loss.
- b.If teams finish the regular season with the same number of points, the following tiebreakers shall be used in order until the tie is broken:
  - 1) Head to head records (Used only when comparing only two teams)
  - 2) Season goal differential. Goal differential (GD) is determined by subtracting goals "for" by goals "against." The maximum per game GD is plus or minus eight (8). Teams winning by more than 8 goals will have their GD reduced by 1 point for every GD greater than eight. Example: A team wining a game 12-2 would receive a +6 GD. The losing team would still receive a -8.
  - 3) Coin toss
- c.Regular season standings, as determined by Article IX, H.1, will be used to determine seeding for the post-season tournament.

#### 2. Post-Season Tournaments:

- a. At the conclusion of the regular season a tournament will be held in each age group represented at the Southern District Tournament. The purpose of this tournament is to determine the representative(s) to District.
- b.If a tie exists for the right to play in the Southern District Tournament the following procedure will be applied:
  - 1) Winner of head to head competition.
  - 2) Kicks taken from the penalty spot.
- c. All Star teams may be formed for the purpose of representing BSO at the Mississippi State Games. Formation of these teams will be at the

discretion of the Board of Directors on an annual basis. If formed, the selection process for both coaches and players will be in accordance with written rules attached to the Modified Rules for each age division.

### **Article X - Miscellaneous**

- A. In the event that any provision of the Constitution and Bylaws shall be deemed illegal or contrary to FIFA, USSF, USYSA, or MYSA, such portions shall be changed administratively.
- B. Any additions or amendments to this Constitution and Bylaws shall not be effective until they are set down in writing and physically appended to this document as a part hereof.

The foregoing was adopted as the Constitution and Bylaws of the Biloxi Soccer Organization on the 1 Aug 06.
Secretary Biloxi Soccer Organization, Inc.
Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_President Biloxi Soccer Organization, Inc.