

NARRAGANSETT YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

(A Non-Profit Corporation)

BY-LAWS

REVISED AND RESTATED

EFFECTIVE

March 18, 2026



ARTICLE I - NAME

- 1.1 **Organization Name:** This organization shall be known as the Narragansett Youth Soccer Association (NYSA) and shall be a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Rhode Island/
- 1.2 **Mailing Address:** The mailing address of NYSA shall be:
Narragansett Youth Soccer Association
PO Box 614
Saunderstown, RI 02874

If a physical address (not a PO Box) is required for any reason, the address of the current President will be provided.

ARTICLE II - AIMS AND PURPOSES

- 2.1 **Aims:** To encourage and to promote the game of youth soccer.
- 2.2 **Opportunities:** To provide an opportunity for youth to participate in the organized, supervised team play, and to improve their skills in the game to the highest level. The purpose of NYSA is to promote, foster, perpetuate and administer the game of soccer on the youth level (3 to 19 years of age) within the geographic boundaries of the Town of Narragansett, Rhode Island in accordance with the constitutions, by-laws and applicable regulations of the governing State Association (SRI), USYSA, and USSF. NYSA shall do so by providing a positive athletic experience, teaching open cooperation, good sportsmanship and teamwork, improving the individual skills and building the self-esteem of all players participating in NYSA programs.
- 2.3 **Ideals:** To teach all participants the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, and safety.
- 2.4 **Terms:** For the purposes of these By-Laws:
- NYSA – Narragansett Youth Soccer Association also referred to as the Corporation
 - BOD – NYSA Board of Directors
 - SRI – Soccer Rhode Island also referred to as “State Association”
 - USYS – United States Youth Soccer Association
 - USSF – United States Soccer Federation
 - AGM- Annual General Meeting
 - Good Standing – defined in Section

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 **General Members:** The parents and/or guardians of Registered Playing Members (See Section 3.2) for the then current Seasonal Year (see Section 8.1 hereof) and all officers, directors and coaches of NYSA shall be General Members of NYSA. General Members are

voting members and shall be entitled to one (1) vote and may cast his or her vote if present at a General, Special or Annual meeting held during said Seasonal Year. The names of all General Members for the current Seasonal Year shall be maintained by the Registrar and shall be available for inspection at all Meetings of NYSA.

3.1.1 Any person, 18 or older, who indicates a willingness to serve in some capacity to further the aims and purposes of NYSA, may apply for General Membership at any meeting of the General Membership other than at the Annual Meeting. These applicants may become a member after a majority approval of the General Membership present at a General Membership meeting.

3.1.2 All parents, coaches and other interested adults (18 years of age or older) other than players seeking General Membership must complete and submit a NYSA membership application and pay all membership/registration fees set forth by NYSA.

3.1.3 The term for Player and General Membership shall be one seasonal year.

3.1.4 All coaches, assistant coaches, coordinators officers, directors, board members, and other NYSA volunteers must be in "GOOD STANDING" to serve in the designated position. The intent of this provision is to encourage active participation in NYSA. As such, those individuals that are active and members of "GOOD STANDING" will retain the voting privilege and ultimately form the foundation for defining the direction and organizational structure of the overall association.

3.1.5 To be considered a General Member in "GOOD STANDING" the following criteria MUST be met:

- The General Member must be properly registered and have paid the Association's annual membership dues/registration fee for the current seasonal year.
- The General member must have attended a minimum of three (3) NYSA general membership meetings during the previous twelve (12) month period.

3.2 Registered Playing Members: All soccer players who are members of teams formed under NYSA supervision shall, upon registration and/or payment of their registration fees, become Registered Playing Members of NYSA. Registered Playing Members cannot become General Members.

3.2.1 All individuals seeking Player Membership in an NYSA program must initially submit the required participation form, provide a certificate of birth documenting legal age, provide all requested medical information and complete the corresponding medical and legal liability waivers, and pay all related registration fees set forth by NYSA. All membership and/or registration documents for players under the legal age of 18 must be completed and signed by the player's parent or other legal guardian prior to acceptance by NYSA.

3.3 Transfers During the Seasonal Year: If during the Seasonal Year a Registered Playing Member transfers from NYSA to another soccer association, that player shall no longer be a Registered Playing Member of NYSA and the parents and/or guardians

of that player shall no longer be General Members of NYSA. Any registration fees that have been paid are non-refundable, however the departing member can request a prorated return of the registration fee if less than half of the season is completed.

- 3.4 **Membership Conduct:** All members shall be required to follow normal socially accepted rules of behavior and are subject to the Code of Conduct and NYSA Handbook.
- 3.5 **Membership Revocation:** Based upon the recommendation of a majority of the Executive Board, any General Member or Registered Playing Member may have his/her membership revoked at any meeting of the General Membership, other than at the Annual Meeting, for cause. For this purpose, cause only shall mean refusal of the General Member or Registered Playing Member to accept and adhere to the By-Laws and rules established and published by NYSA pursuant to Section 4.3 hereof.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND LEAGUE DIRECTORS

- 4.1 **Officers:** The Officers of the Narragansett Youth Soccer Association shall be as follows and shall comprise the Executive Board and Board of Directors. Together they make up The Board:

Executive Board - elected

- a. President – Executive Board
- b. Vice-President – Executive Board
- c. Secretary – Executive Board
- d. Treasurer – Executive Board

Board of Directors (BOD) - appointed

- e. Registrar
- f. Competitive Director
- g. Recreational Director
- h. Fundraising / Sponsorship Director
- i. Referee Coordinator
- j. Facilities and Equipment Director
- k. Director of Parks and Recreation (Town of Narragansett, RI)

- 4.2 **Officers – Term of Office:** The term of office for each Executive Board Member shall be two (2) Elected Years and each Director shall be two (2) appointed years. An Elected Year shall consist of the period from February 1st to January 31st of the following year. See Article VII for election schedule.
- 4.3 **Executive Board:** The Executive Board shall consist of the four Officers, specifically the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Executive Board shall serve as the operational and policy-making body for NYSA, being its main governing body. It shall have full power to transact all business for NYSA that

falls within the scope and purposes of NYSA. Executive Board members are expected to attend all Meetings of NYSA. Neither the Executive Board acting together nor any Officer acting alone shall have the power to incur any obligation on behalf of NYSA which is in excess of either:

- a. The total cash assets then held by the Treasurer and not otherwise pledged or required to meet other fixed or current obligations; or
- b. The annual budget adopted as provided in Section 4.4 below or such additional expenses as approved by the General Membership during the Seasonal Year.

The Executive Board shall adopt playing and general rules which shall be binding on all NYSA members, players, coaches, and officials.

4.4 Duties and Powers of the Officers: The authority of NYSA shall be vested in the Executive Board and Board of Directors (BOD). The Officers are empowered to conduct the business of NYSA between meetings of the general membership. The Officers shall be empowered to:

- 4.4.1 Exercise all of the enumerated powers of NYSA in accordance with the NYSA Constitution and By-Laws, and the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures of SRI, USYS and/or USSF.
- 4.4.2 Determine and annually set as budgetary components of the association for adoption by the General Membership at the AGM or other special meeting designated to address such business, the amounts for, player registration fees, individual program fees and any other fees in NYSA.
- 4.4.3 Approve expenditures of the NYSA funds (by means of the budget) and assumption of liabilities and contracts.
- 4.4.4 Approve the transfer of funds within the NYSA budget subject to ratification by the General Membership.
- 4.4.5 Monitor the financial status of the association and set a predetermined maximum amount for issuing any individual checks and/or making banking withdrawals from NYSA accounts by the Treasurer and/or any other NYSA officer(s). IN cases that exceed the maximum amount set by the BOD, individual checks and/or banking withdrawals from NYSA accounts must be co-signed by the Treasurer and the President. IN the absence of either one, then the others authorized to sign, in descending order shall be the: Vice-President, Registrar and Secretary.
- 4.4.6 Approve the acceptance of any coach to NYSA.
- 4.4.7 Provide information and support to the Town of Narragansett to commence or defend litigation in the name of NYSA.

4.4.8 Institute and negotiate contractual relationships subject to a majority approval of the voting General Membership. Relationships can only be entered into on behalf of the NYSA, and in no way are these relationships to bind or include the Town of Narragansett in any manner.

4.4.9 Maintain member discipline.

- Suspend or otherwise discipline any player, team(s), coach, trainer, manager, official, administrator or director of any programs and/or leagues administered by NYSA or others to which NYSA is a participating, for any misconduct, related to affiliated soccer matches, event, practice or league administration in accordance with the NYSA Constitution, and SRI, USYS and USSF Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures. In this regard, all final suspensions and/or other disciplinary actions issued by the BOD against any individual(s) or team shall be subject to the due process

4.4.10 The Officers may change any fee or authorize the expenditures of funds not in the NYSA budget or assumption of any liability so long as the majority of the sitting BOD and Executive Board agree by majority vote.

4.4.11 **Uniforms:** A BOD Member shall be responsible for all team uniforms and that Committee may distribute or coordinate the distribution of all Traveling Team numbered jerseys and other items that belong to NYSA.

4.4.12 **Coaches:** If needed, the BOD will appoint a coaches committee who shall assist with the recruitment, development and training of coaches.

4.5 **Annual Budget:** The annual budget for the Seasonal Year shall be adopted by the General Membership at the April Quarterly Meeting.

4.6 **Duties of the Executive Board**

4.6.1 **President**

- Call and preside at all Meetings of the General Membership, Executive Board, and Board of Directors.
- Be an ex-officio member of all Committees
- Cast a vote only in case of a tie at an Executive Board or Board of Directors meeting
- Present, at each annual meeting of NYSA, an annual report of the work of NYSA
- Appoint all Committees, temporary or permanent
- Appoint a chairperson for each standing Committee

- See that all books, reports, and certificates, as required by law, are properly kept or filed
- Perform the duties of the Treasurer when the Treasurer is not available.
- In conjunction with the Officers, prepare an annual budget for presentation to and adoption by the General Membership.
- Annually appoint all committee chairpersons, committee members, administrative and clerical positions, and coaches, subject to the approval of the Officers.
- Schedule all NYSA meetings and preside at all meetings.
- Prepare a written agenda for all meetings.
- Review committee reports.
- Be one of the officers who may sign the checks or drafts of NYSA
- Be responsible for the general welfare of NYSA
- Confer with the Executive Board of NYSA when situations arise which are not covered by the By-Laws and try to resolve NYSA problems
- Upon leaving the office of President, turn over all records of NYSA to successor

4.6.2 Vice-President

- Assist the President in every possible way
- In the absence of the President, or when requested to do so by the President, assume the duties of the President
- Ensure that all business transactions of NYSA are in full compliance with these By-Laws and with the aims and purposes of NYSA
- Act as Parliamentarian at all NYSA meetings
- Entitled to vote at all meetings
- Assume all other duties delegated to this office by the President, Executive Board, BOD and/or General Membership
- Upon leaving the office of Vice-President, turn over all records of NYSA to successor

4.6.3 Secretary

- Record and keep the minutes of all meetings of the General Membership and all meetings of the Executive Board and Board of Directors
- Inform the members belonging to the Executive Board and BOD of regular and special meetings
- Inform the General Membership of the annual meeting and any other General Membership meetings
- Assist the League Directors in maintaining records for their respective leagues
- Upon leaving the office of Recording Secretary, turn over all records of NYSA to successor
- Conduct all official correspondence of NYSA

- Inform the General Membership of NYSA news through a Newsletter which will be issued at least four (4) times a year.
- Inform coaches regularly of NYSA news and meetings
- Assist the Treasurer by communicating with the various Sponsors
- Be responsible for all NYSA press releases, advertising for special events, etc.
- Upon leaving the office of Secretary, turn over all records of NYSA to successor

4.6.4 Treasurer

- Maintain one checking account containing working capital and one investment account in which will be kept the excess funds of the league.
- Collect all money due to NYSA and deposit such funds into the appropriate League accounts as established by the Officers.
- Collect all money in the name of and to the credit of the Narragansett Youth Soccer Association, Inc. in such bank as shall be directed by the Executive Board
- Pay, upon approval of and in a manner designated by the Executive Board, all bills owed by NYSA
- Be responsible for a true and correct account of all receipts and disbursements
- Submit a written report of such receipts and disbursements and identify the financial standing of NYSA at each regular meeting, or at any time that such a report is asked for by the Executive Board
- All checks, drafts, or other orders for payment of money issued in the name of, or payable to NYSA, shall be signed or endorsed by such person or persons and in such manner as, from time to time, shall be determined by resolution of the Executive Board
- Serve as a member of the Fund-Raising Committee
- Upon leaving the office of Treasurer, turn over to successor all books, papers, and money belonging to NYSA

4.7 **Directors:** The directors of the Narragansett Youth Soccer Association shall be as follows:

- Registrar
- Competitive Director
- Recreational Director
- Fund-Raising / Sponsorship Director
- Referee Coordinator
- Facilities and Equipment Director
- Director of Parks and Recreation (Town of Narragansett, RI)

4.8 **Duties of the Directors**

4.8.1 Registrar

- Receive, validate, record, and process all registration and membership forms for NYSA competitive / travel teams.
- Responsible for the accurate registration of all NYSA Player Members and General Members of the association, and the coordination of the same with the State Association.
- Maintain current membership lists throughout the NYSA membership year and an updated list of those individuals that are members in “GOOD STANDING” and eligible to vote on NYSA matters.
- Keep a current list of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of all members (Officers, League Directors, Committees, Coaches, General Members and Players) of NYSA
- Maintain a master roster of all Registered Playing Members for each player for the Fall, Indoor and Spring Leagues
- Keep statistics and League standings throughout the Seasonal Year
- Have available at all meetings of the General Membership a roster listing the names of all General Members
- Upon leaving the office of Competitive Registrar, turn over all records of NYSA to successor

4.8.2 Competitive Director

- Responsible for team submission to SuperLiga which includes coach information and team placement.
- Attend all preseason meetings as required by SuperLiga.
- Ensures all players are properly registered with confirmation from the Registrar with current player photos and birth certificates.
- Oversees team placement and presents to the Officers for approval before disseminated to the General Membership.
- Coordinates and hosts tryouts.
- Responsible for all team rosters for proper player placement
- Tracks any dual rostered players per League rules.
- Administer duties and be responsible for any functions or matters that pertain to tournaments either sponsored by NYSA or sponsored by other Associations and entered by NYSA teams.
- Provide a copy of all team rosters for his/her League to the Registrar

4.8.3 Recreational Director

- Receive, validate, record, and process all registration and membership forms for NYSA recreational teams.
- Responsible for the accurate registration of all NYSA Player Members and General Members of the association,
- Keep statistics and League standings throughout the Seasonal Year
- Prepare and issue all In-House League schedules
- Responsible for assigning coaches and teams
- Responsible for coordination of referee training and scheduling of all referees

for weekend games.

- Collaborate with Sponsorship Coordinator for team sponsors.
- Upon leaving the office of Recreational Director turn over all records of NYSA to successor

4.8.4 Fund-Raising / Sponsorship Director

- Arrange events for the sole purpose of raising money for NYSA
- Contact and solicit all past and current businesses for their financial support and sponsorship of NYSA.
- Seek out and attract new businesses for sponsorship.

4.8.5 Referee Assignor

- Be responsible for the recruitment of Officials for NYSA, recommend selection and evaluation criteria and provide for the training of the Officials.
- Must pass the referee certification course as required by USYS. Must maintain annual re-certification
- Assigns all referees for competitive games per SuperLiga rules for games ages U7-U12.
- Responsible for the development and oversight of all certified referees living in Narragansett.
- Submit a list of selected officials to the Executive Board for approval.

4.8.6 Facilities and Equipment Director

- Responsible for setting up and maintenance of all the playing fields. They shall be responsible for all NYSA equipment other than uniforms. They shall disburse and collect the equipment to/from the coaches of each team. They shall inventory and recommend new equipment for replacement.

4.8.7 Director of Parks & Recreation

- Ex-officio member of NYSA and it's BOD.
- Provide annual information to the Officers on fields, equipment, available funding, and any other municipal support to be provided to NYSA.
- Inform the Officers on coordination of all maintenance functions with Town Personnel for upkeep of program equipment and fields.
- Provide input to the Officers to ensure coordination with other private and town sponsored programming.
- Provide support for short and long range planning for NYSA.
- Assist the Officers in administrative functions of NYSA as needed.

4.9 **Voluntary Nature of Offices**

- Holding any office in NYSA is a voluntary basis. The NYSA Officers, subject to a majority vote of the BOD, may authorize payments of employee salaries for certain administrative and secretarial work and other support work, such as coaching, as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES

- 5.1 **Appointed Committees:** Each seasonal year the President may appoint on an as needed basis the following listed Committees, which appointments shall be confirmed by the Executive Board at the next meeting of the Board following an appointment.
- 5.2 **Committee Authority:** All committees shall report to the Executive Board.
- 5.3 **Nomination Committee:** The Nominating Committee shall consist of one (1) member of the Executive Board, who shall be an Officer whose office is not to be decided at the next Annual Meeting, and three (3) General Members appointed by the President and confirmed by the Executive Board at the next meeting of the Board following their appointment.
- 5.4 **Additional Committees:** The President shall appoint additional Committees as he/she deems necessary. These Committees shall be confirmed by the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

- 6.1 **General/Annual Meetings:** The President shall be required to call at least two (2) General Meetings each year, one of which shall be the Annual Meeting. The meeting dates and times shall be established by the Executive Board and shall be held twice a year, preferably with one meeting being held every January. The January meeting shall be the Annual Meeting to be held for the purpose of electing a new slate of officers as well as other business of NYSA. All Meetings shall be advertised via email to general membership, NYSA social media accounts and the NYSA newsletter at least a week before the meeting date.
- 6.2 **Board Meetings:** The President shall be required to call at least ten (10) Executive Board Meetings a year to conduct NYSA business. The President may call Executive Board Meetings by his/her own initiative as he/she sees a need for them. In addition, the President shall be required to call an Executive Board meeting when three (3) or more members of the Executive Board request such a meeting.
- 6.3 **Special General Membership Meetings:** The President may call additional Special Meetings of the General Membership by his/her own initiative as he/she shall see a need for them. The President shall be required to call a Special Meeting of the General Membership within thirty (30) days after ten (10) or more General Members request such a meeting. Announcements of such meetings shall be advertised using social media and/or email at least a week before the meeting.
- 6.4 **Quorums and Votes:** A quorum for a meeting requires a majority attendance of the full Board (exception made for vacant positions). For example, if the Board consists of seven (7) members at least four (4) members must be present to constitute a quorum at all General, Annual or Special Meetings of the General Membership, for the transaction of business of NYSA. All decisions of the General Membership, except to amend the bylaws of NYSA, which shall require a two-thirds vote under Section 10.1 hereof, shall be by a majority vote of those

General Members at the meeting at which a Quorum is present. Three (3) members of the Executive Board shall constitute a Quorum for the transaction of business at a BOD meeting. All decisions of the Executive Board or BOD shall be by majority vote of those members at the meeting at which a Quorum is present. Voting can occur via e-mail, phone or Zoom when appropriate. Meetings may occur virtually when appropriate.

6.5 Voting Privileges: In order to maintain voting privileges in NYSA on any matter, a General member must be a member of “GOOD STANDING”. Each General Member shall have one (1) vote.

- a. To participate in any votes relating to NYSA matters, except for the annual election of officers where properly submitted absentee ballots will be accepted and registered accordingly, the Member in “GOOD STANDING” must be personally present. Proxy voting is NOT allowed.
- b. In the case of absentee ballots cast for the election of officers, the absent Member must submit a written “vote” clearly indicating his/her name and voting position. Said “vote” must be submitted to the President or Vice President prior to the start of the meeting to which the “vote” pertains. Said vote may be electronically cast via Google form or similar format and should be labeled as to the member’s name, the matter to which the vote pertains, and the meeting date (i.e. From John Doe - VOTE for NYSA President - meeting date 01/01/00). The Member may provide a separate sealed and properly labeled envelope for each absentee ballot cast in writing instead of electronic means. The absentee ballot envelope(s) will be opened in the presence of the General Membership present at the same time as the vote being taken.

6.6 Meeting Agenda: All Membership Meetings shall be conducted with the following agenda:

- a. Minutes
- b. Financial Report
- c. Director Reports
- d. Committee Reports
- e. Old Business
- f. New Business

6.7 Rules of Order: During all Meetings, the Robert's Rules of Order shall resolve all controversies over proper Parliamentary procedures.

ARTICLE VII – ELECTIONS

7.1 Election of Officers: All Officers of NYSA shall be elected for a term of two years. The President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected. The remaining officers and/or directors are appointed. If an Officer is not due for re-election chooses to run for a position that is up for election, and such person is elected to that new office, the

vacant office shall be filled by electing another person to fill the remaining term of one year. Candidates must be of good standing to seek election to the Board.

- 7.1.1 Election of Officers shall be held at the Annual Meeting in January of each year when such Officers term is reaching its two-year anniversary or the President may call a special meeting to address Officer vacancies.
- 7.2 **Majority Vote:** A plurality (that is majority) vote of the General Members of NYSA present at the Annual Meeting shall elect each Officer and in the event of a Special Meeting then a plurality shall vote for the election of any such vacancy. (The Executive Board shall be entitled to vote as General Members at such election).
- 7.3 **Resignation:** An Officer may resign by giving written notice to the Executive Board.
- 7.4 **Vacancies:** If, for any reason, there shall be a vacancy on the Executive Board, the vacancy shall be filled by the appointment of a replacement member by the President with the consent of the remaining members of the Executive Board. Such replacement member shall serve for the unexpired term of the Officer who has resigned.
- 7.5 **Removal:** Any Officer, BOD or Executive director may be removed from office with cause after a reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard before the Executive Directors, then with the following process.
- a) Initial Offense. The Executive Directors will state a verbal warning to the offending Officer. At the following Board meeting, the Executive Directors will summarize the conversation with the Officer.
 - b) Final Offense. The member will be removed from his/her position on the Board with verbal notification of removal by vote of a majority of two-thirds of the Officers then in office.
 - c) Other grounds for removal of a director shall be the following:
 - i. Continued, gross, or willful neglect of the duties of the office
 - ii. Failure or refusal to disclose necessary information on matters of organizational business
 - iii. Unauthorized expenditures, unauthorized signing of checks, or misuse of organization funds
 - iv. Misrepresentation of the organization and its officers to outside persons
 - v. Conviction to a felony or multiple misdemeanors pertaining to simple assault and battery, police elusion, DWI, DUI, and resisting arrest.
- 7.6 **Board Attendance:** All members of the Board are expected to be in attendance at all meetings. If a member of the Board cannot attend a meeting, he/she must notify the Executive Directors at least eight (8) hours before the meeting begins. Failure to notify the above people, and/or failure to attend three meetings, and/or failure to attend meetings in such a manner as to consistently cause a quorum to not be established, will be handled by the Executive Board as follows:
- a) Initial Offense: The member must state his/her reason for absence to the Board in person at the next scheduled Board meeting, intentions on where he/she stands with serving as a Board Member and request permission to remain on the Board.
 - b) Final Offense: The member will be removed from his/her position on the

Board with verbal notification of removal.

It will be required that after removal from office, all correspondence, material, receipts, financial data, equipment, monies due, etc. with respect to the NYSA must be returned to the association within seven (7) days. All returns must be made to a member of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII – SEASONAL LEAGUE STRUCTURE

(See Exhibit A)

- 8.1 Seasonal Year:** The Seasonal Year shall consist of the period from August 1st through July 31st of the following year.
- 8.2 Fall Competitive Program:** The Fall Competitive program shall use teams made up of selected players chosen by the team coach, and the Competitive Director with the approval of the Board. The selection criteria for players may include, but shall not be solely based upon, team tryouts. The age divisions may consist of Under 7 through Under 19. Those divisions may be changed by the SRI. The schedules and locations of games shall be determined by SRI. This season may begin in August and finish in November or otherwise as prescribed by SuperLiga
- 8.3 Fall Recreational/Developmental Program:** The Association shall hold the Fall program, which shall also be known as the Recreational/Developmental program. This program may consist of player age divisions from Under 3 through Under 12. Those age groups may be further divided into all Boys or all Girls Divisions depending on player availability for that Seasonal year. The Fall Season may run from August to November.
- 8.4 Spring Competitive Program:** The Spring Competitive program shall use teams made up of selected players chosen by the team coach, and the Competitive Director with the approval of the Board. The selection criteria for players may include, but shall not be solely based upon, team tryouts. The Coach reserves the right in a competitive season to not accept all age eligible players to the roster. The age divisions may consist of Under 7 through Under 19. Those divisions may be changed by the SRI or SuperLiga. The schedules and locations of games shall be determined by SuperLiga. This season shall begin in March and finish in June for games, but the preseason training may begin in January if appropriate and sufficient gym time is secured for the teams.
- 8.5 Gansett Tykes:** Gansett Tykes is a fun developmental league run twice a year (fall and spring) for players aged 3 years old through kindergarten. This is meant as a league to foster the love of the sport, develop the players basic foundational skills and encourage play. This program is meant for player and parent participation and is typically held once a week. The head coach will determine the schedule (days/time) but the program may last between 6 – 8 weeks long.
- 8.6 Tournaments:** NYSA shall encourage teams from different age groups to enter various tournaments. Coaches and parents shall organize the teams to play the weekend tournaments, which are played at a highly competitive level. These tournaments shall

provide the opportunity for the younger players to see different styles of Soccer played, to learn from other players, and to see for themselves how well they can compete with teams from outside of Narragansett. NYSA will pay tournament team registration fee for one tournament per year per team. Any additional tournaments or festivals must be paid for by the team parents.

8.7 Soccer Day Camp(s): NYSA may sponsor a soccer day camp(s) each seasonal year. The Soccer School shall provide the opportunity for the children to develop their soccer skills. NYSA may outsource the summer soccer camp to local soccer coaches to run in its entirety (registration, coaching, inclement weather, etc.)

8.8 Selection of Duties and Coaches: All coaches shall be selected by the Competitive Director. Each coach may select an assistant coach and a team parent/manager. Coaches and assistant coaches may get free soccer registration for the child they coach.

ARTICLE IX – NYSA RULES

- 9.1 Laws and Jurisdiction:** NYSA shall adhere to the rules of the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) and shall be under the jurisdiction of Soccer Rhode Island (SRI) Rules (Playing and Game). Rules for the NYSA program shall be determined by the Executive Board. Those Rules shall be published in the form of a booklet called NYSA Handbook. A NYSA Handbook shall be given to each coach and shall be made available to all General Members. All other Seasonal League rules shall be determined and administered by SRI and/or SuperLiga.
- 9.2 Age Divisions:** Age groups shall be comprised of youth players who are of age per the USYS guidelines. Those Divisions may be divided into all Girl, all Boy or coed divisions depending on player availability, or two or more divisions may be merged.
- 9.3 Requests to Move-Up in Age Divisions:** In general, a player shall not be allowed to play up from his age division as set forth in Section 9.2 above. Any request to move up to a higher age division shall be made by the player's parent, guardian and/or coach and shall be addressed to the Competitive Director. A favorable recommendation from both the player's parent and a coach of the age division which is the subject of the request must be attached to that request. The Competitive Director shall review the request and such other information that is available on that player and shall send a recommendation either for or against the player moving up to a higher age division to the BOD which shall decide either to approve or deny the request and shall notify the Competitive Director and the player of its decision.
- 9.4 Colors:** NYSA colors for competitive play and other interplay outside of the administrative boundaries of NYSA shall be red, white, and grey.
- 9.4.1** NYSA colors for Recreation/Developmental programs shall utilize as many color combinations as warranted by the number of teams in any given program level and shall be assigned annually by the BOD, colors may be requested by the sponsor however they are subject to BOD approval.
- 9.5 Registration:** All players must be registered with NYSA to be eligible to participate in

the programs of NYSA and for his/her parent and/or guardian to be a General Member, unless such parent and/or guardian otherwise qualifies as a General Member under Section 3.1 hereof.

- 9.5.1 All players are required to formally register prior to each season and present either a birth certificate, or Board of Health records, or a passport, or Alien registration card issued by the US Government, or Certificate of Naturalization issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Services as a proof of age.
- 9.5.2 A Parent or Legal Guardian must sign NYSA liability release form for the player to be legally registered.
- 9.5.3 Registration shall be announced via electronic forms of news, social media, school affiliation and NYSA newsletter.

9.6 Fall Team Selections

- 9.6.1 All registered players shall be placed into their respective division player pool and depending on the number of teams, will be distributed evenly among the number of teams in the divisions. Coaches, after agreeing to the equality of the teams, will draw from a hat the team number that they will coach.
- 9.6.2 When a player is assigned to a team, any brothers and/or sisters in the same age group also will be placed on the same team, unless the players' parents request otherwise.
- 9.6.3 Children of head coaches shall be placed on their parent's team. However, all children will be ranked in the event of a draft. The parent coach agrees that whatever rank their child is assigned will determine which round they are skipped. So, for example, if a child is a third-round pick that coach skips selection in the third round.
- 9.6.4 Late registrants shall be placed on a waiting list and assigned to a team when a vacancy exists in the proper age group.
- 9.6.5 When team selections have been completed, late registrants shall be assigned to a team by league officers. Special situations may occur when roster changes are necessary, and this will be accomplished at an Executive Board meeting. Parents and coaches affected will be notified immediately after said Board meeting.

9.7 Competitive Team Selections (Fall, Indoor and Spring)

- 9.7.1 The selection of players for the Traveling Teams shall be made as set forth in Sections 8.3 and 8.5 hereof.
- 9.7.2 Any player dropping off the team for reasons other than illness, injury, academic deficiencies, or excused absence by the Executive Board shall not be allowed to play for a traveling team for the next seasonal year, unless the Executive Board grants an exemption to said player.

9.9 Conduct of Conduct

- 9.9.1 This code of conduct shall apply to all General Members, Spectators, Players, Parents, Families, Coaches and all other participants involved in an NYSA event, and/or practice.
- 9.9.2. Three (3) Strike Rule applicable to all. When a complaint is made to

the Board, a Coach, and/or a Referee regarding a General Member, Spectator, Player, Parent, Coach, or Family Member regarding any inappropriate behavior, then the offending individual will be provided with a first (1st) verbal warning. The second (2nd) event will lead to a written warning which may be by electronic mail to the email account used to register the player or a physical address if an address was provided, such choice of notice whether electronic or via physical mailing is made at the election of the Board. Upon the third (3rd) event, the offending individual will be either ejected from Membership and/or not permitted to participate, attend and/or be involved with any NYSA programs.

Exceptions. Violence, verbal assault, abuse, visible intoxication, and/or any criminal activity will result in immediate removal from game, field, premises, practice and/or event. If the offending party does not leave voluntarily the police department will be called to respond accordingly and NYSA will reserve the right to pursue the offending party for civil trespass.

9.9.3. **Fouls and Misconduct.** NYSA adheres strictly to the Superliga rules and the Laws of the Game as defined by FIFA and detailed in the Superliga handbook regarding fouls and misconduct.

a) **Player Ejections.** Any player ejected from a match due to fighting or unsportsmanlike behavior, as deemed by the match referee, will face the following disciplinary actions:

First Offense:

- Three-game suspension
- If the offense involves referee abuse, the incident will be reported to Soccer Rhode Island for review and potential additional suspension in accordance with USSF Policy 531-9.
- The NYSA Competitive Director, along with the player's coach, the player, and a parent/guardian, must schedule a meeting before the player becomes eligible to return. This meeting will review the Player Code of Conduct.
- NYSA reserves the right to extend the suspension until the meeting has taken place.

Second Offense:

- Suspension for the remainder of the season and/or tournament.
- If the offense involves referee abuse, it will be reported to Soccer Rhode Island and subject to further disciplinary action per USSF Policy 531-9.
- NYSA may decide to permanently dismiss the player from the association. In such cases, no refund of registration fees will be issued.

b) **Coach Ejections.** Any coach ejected for fighting or unsportsmanlike behavior, as determined by the referee, will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

First Offense:

- Three-game suspension

- \$100 fine payable to NYSA from the coach, which will be forwarded to Superliga as required.

- If the offense includes referee abuse, the incident will be reported to Soccer Rhode Island and may result in further suspension under USSF Policy 531-9.

Second Offense:

- Suspension for the remainder of the season and/or tournament
- \$200 fine payable to NYSA from the coach for submission to Superliga.

- As with players, NYSA reserves the right to remove the coach permanently from the association. No reimbursement of any fees will be provided.

c) **Spectator Conduct.** All spectators supporting NYSA teams are expected to uphold appropriate decorum when attending events and to model positive behavior for youth athletes. To ensure a safe, respectful, and positive environment for youth athletes, all spectators are required to adhere to the following conduct standards at all NYSA practices, games and/or at any related events. The behaviors listed below are strictly prohibited and may result in immediate removal from the premises, suspension from future events, or further legal action as deemed necessary by the NYSA Executive Board.

1. Verbal Misconduct

- Using obscene, offensive, or discriminatory language or gestures.
- Shouting insults, taunts, or derogatory comments at players, coaches, referees, or other spectators.
- Arguing with officials over decisions in a disruptive manner.

2. Physical Misconduct

- Entering the field of play without explicit permission from the referee.
- Throwing objects toward the field, players, officials, or other spectators.
- Engaging in any physical confrontation, aggressive posturing, or unwanted contact.

3. Threatening or Intimidating Conduct

- Making verbal or physical threats toward any participant, spectator, or official.
- Following, confronting, or harassing referees, coaches, or players during or after the event.

4. Interference with Play

- Standing in restricted areas, such as behind the goal, or too close to the sidelines.

- Coaching players from the sidelines in a manner that contradicts team staff instructions or disrupts the game.
 - Using whistles, air horns, or other distracting devices during play.
5. Unsportsmanlike Behavior
- Ridiculing youth athletes for mistakes or performance.
 - Encouraging or applauding dangerous, reckless, or unsportsmanlike play.
 - Celebrating opponent injuries or penalties.
6. Substance Use
- Consuming alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances at or near the event venue.
 - Attending events while visibly intoxicated or impaired.

9.9.3. Appeals Process. The appeals process will only be triggered when an offending individual is barred from participation.

a) An individual who has been barred from participation must file his/her written appeal with the NYSA BOD within ten (10) days of removal/ejection. An appeal must be in writing and sent to the NYSA BOD via email to narragansettsoccer@gmail.com.

b) Upon receipt of the appeal, the BOD will appoint a member to meet with the appealing party within ten (10) days.

c) The meeting between the appealing party and the appointed BOD member will occur ten (10) days thereafter. After said meeting, the appointed BOD member will present their findings and recommendations to the BOD within ten (10) days, a quorum of the BOD will then determine whether to confirm the decision to terminate the individual, reinstate the individual or impose a lesser sanction.

d) Any and/or all of these meetings may take place in person or virtually.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

10.1 Proposed Amendments: Proposed amendment(s) to these By-Laws, may be submitted in writing to the Secretary. General Members may propose changes so long as a minimum of twenty-five (25) General Members support, sign off on and then submit any such request in writing. Further the Board of Directors may at any time determine that said By-Laws should be amended. Whether a request by the Board of Directors or the General Membership, the President shall cause such proposed amendment(s) to be voted upon at the next meeting of the General Membership upon proper notice to the General Membership and Board. No By-Law changes shall be considered or voted upon less than thirty (30) days' notice to General Members and the Board of Directors.

10.2 Two-Thirds Vote to Amend By-Laws: These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the General Membership, by a two-thirds (2/3rds) vote of the General

Members of NYSA present at that meeting (As is the case on any vote, the Executive Board and Board members shall be entitled to vote at that meeting for or against any amendment(s) as part of the General Membership).

ARTICLE XI – INSURANCE AND INDEMNITY

- 11.1 **Property Members:** The private property of the members shall not be subject to the payment of corporate debts to any extent whatsoever.
- 11.2 **Indemnity of Directors and Officers:** Any person (and the heirs, executors and administrators of such person) made or threatened to be made a party to any action, suit or proceedings by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director or officer of the Corporation shall be indemnified by the attorney(s fees and disbursements, incurred by him or her (or by his/her heirs, executors or administrators) in connection with the defense or settlement of such action, suit or proceeding that such director or officer is liable for negligence of misconduct in the performance of his/her duties. Such right of indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which such director or officer (or such heirs, executors or administrators) may be entitled apart from this Article.
- 11.3 **Reliance in Good Faith:** Each director and officer of the Corporation shall, in the performance of his/her duties, be fully protected in relying in good faith upon the books of account of the Corporation, written reports made to the Corporation by any of its officers or employees or by counsel, accountants, appraisers, or other experts, or consultants selected with reasonable care by the directors, or upon other records of the Corporation.
- 11.4 **Liability and Directors and Officers Insurance:** . Premise/ General Liability Insurance in an amount not less than \$ 1 million shall be maintained by the Corporation. Directors and Officers Insurance shall also be maintained by the Corporation.

ARTICLE XII – DISSOLUTION OF CORPORATION

12.1 **Dissolution of Corporation:** Upon the dissolution of the Corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the Corporation is then located, exclusively for the purposes or such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes

Exhibit A

SEASONAL LEAGUE STRUCTURE

FALL	WINTER	SPRING	SUMMER
Recreational / Developmental (Narragansett) August – November (All Players) \$			Soccer Day Camp (Narragansett) July – August (All Players) \$
Traveling (Statewide) August - November (Selected Players) \$		Traveling (Statewide) March – June (Selected Players) \$ Optional Pre Season January (indoor when available)	
		Tournaments (Statewide and Out-of-State) May – October (Selected Players) \$	

Note: “\$” denotes that a separate registration fee may be required.