

NASHOBA VALLEY YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE BYLAWS

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SECTION 1. PROCESS

1.01 : AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS [UPDATED JUN2019]

These printed Bylaws were last amended on June 9, 2019. Updates to these Bylaws since the last printing can be found at the Nashoba Valley Youth Soccer League website: www.nvysl.org . These Bylaws may be modified by a **two-thirds vote** of the NVYSL Board at any scheduled board meeting.

Additionally, Bylaws may be modified by a **two-thirds vote** of the NVYSL Board over email, in accordance with the following procedures :

- 1) Any Board member may make a motion, which is distributed by email to the entire Board.
- 2) Another Board member must second the motion. This second and all subsequent responses should use "reply all".
- 3) Once seconded, a discussion period is opened for 72 hours.
- 4) At that time, discussion ends and a voting period is opened for 72 hours.
- 5) At that time, the Chairperson (i.e., President) tabulates the votes and publishes the decision.

The NVYSL board may make a change in the operation of the league on a single season trial basis without changing the bylaws. If it does so, member clubs will notified of the change in a timely manner.

1.02 : DUE PROCESS

For any potential finding or action by the NVYSL more serious than proscribed by the bylaws against one of its members, the NVYSL will assure that said member is afforded due process in the form of an open public hearing on the matter in question. An NVYSL member is any one of a town club, a coach, a player or a club official, or a duly elected or appointed NVYSL board member, all of whom are affiliated with Mass Youth Soccer for the current soccer season. Said hearing must be scheduled to allow the party(s) involved the opportunity to attend the hearing, with a minimum of 72 hours notice required. If the party(s) decline to attend with good cause and do not propose an alternative date and time, they waive their right to due process.

Similarly, a town club as a member of the NVYSL will assure due process for any potential finding or action against one of its members or the NVYSL itself.

Any action by the NVYSL or its officials in exact compliance with written bylaws is not subject to due process. Examples of actions to which due process does not apply include one-match player or two-match coach suspensions for dismissal from a match, match forfeiture fees, late score reporting fines, and town club probationary status for failure to meet required obligations to the league or to Mass Youth Soccer.

SECTION 2. MEMBER CLUBS

2.01 : MANDATORY LEAGUE MEETINGS

The league requires mandatory attendance by a town soccer club official (e.g. League Representative, President, Vice President, Referee Director, Registrar) duly registered with Mass Youth Soccer at each of two scheduled pre-season meetings prior to the fall and spring seasons. Town soccer clubs not in attendance at a mandatory meeting will be fined 10% of its team registration fee for that season, plus any expenses incurred by the league to provide printed and other materials to the club. The fine may be waived by unanimous vote of the NVYSL board if there are extenuating circumstances.

Pre-season meetings provide necessary direct contact between league and town officials, and they provide the means to distribute league books, approved team rosters and other materials to town clubs.

Clubs registering only high school 8v8 teams in the fall season or recreational 11v11 teams in the spring season are exempted from attendance, are encouraged to attend, and may be required to attend a separate mandatory organizational meeting.

2.02 : CLUBS IN GOOD STANDING

A NVYSL member club is in good standing with the League if :

- a) It has satisfied all its financial obligations to NVYSL and Mass Youth Soccer; AND
- b) It is not under suspension by NVYSL.

If a club is not in good standing at the date of COMPLETION of the scheduled spring season, then teams from that club are not eligible to represent NVYSL in the MTOC or other tournament. The NVYSL replacement team shall be selected from the other teams in the division in accordance with League Standings Bylaw.

2.03 : EXPECTATIONS OF CLUBS

1. Promote good sportsmanship.
2. Do not tolerate unsportsmanlike behavior by coaches, players or spectators.
3. Promote good soccer through the development of ball and game skills.
4. Maintain rosters.
5. Provide a list of potential candidates for voting and nonvoting members of the Board.
6. For the FALL playing season, ensure that all players on all teams play at least half of each game. For all Rec teams, ensure that all players play at least half of each game in both the Fall AND Spring seasons. Exceptions shall only be for injuries, sickness or discipline.
7. A player shall only play for one team in the Nashoba Valley Youth Soccer League.