

Lubbock Soccer Association By-Laws

1. Chapter 1: By-Laws of the Lubbock Soccer Association

1.1. (ARTICLE I) NAME

The name of this association shall be the Lubbock Soccer Association, which may be abbreviated as the LSA.

1.2. (ARTICLE II) OBJECT

The object of the Lubbock Soccer Association, a non-profit association, shall be to promote outdoor youth soccer within the territory under the jurisdiction of the Association for male and female players. To promote outdoor youth soccer this Association will govern, coordinate, and administer all rules and regulations of all outdoor soccer play sponsored by and under this Association, and will provide for continuing development of youth soccer players, coaches, referees and administrators. This Association will provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of grievances.

1.3. (ARTICLE III) MEMBERS

1.3.1. Members.

All duly registered players and their parents/guardians, all referees, and all coaches within Lubbock County, Texas, who desire to be affiliated with the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) through the North Texas State Soccer Association (NTSSA), and all officers of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be members of the Lubbock Soccer Association. Incorporated and unincorporated clubs, club teams and the like, whose players are registered or under the jurisdiction of the Lubbock Soccer Association are considered part of the Lubbock Soccer Association. The Association shall provide an open and equal opportunity to athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, officials, and employees who are not under suspension or other disciplinary action, to participate in youth soccer competitions or seek employment without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin.

1.3.2. Members Entitled to Vote.

Members of the Lubbock Soccer Association entitled to vote in meetings of the membership are all officers of the Lubbock Soccer Association, all league commissioners, all head coaches (in good standing) of teams registered in the current season, and all referees 16 years old or older registered in the current season. In the event a head coach is unable to attend, the coach may delegate to an assistant coach or manager or parent of a player currently rostered to the team to attend and vote. Instructions and delegation forms will be available at the LSA office. Delegation forms must be submitted 24 hours prior to the Annual General Meeting to the Lubbock Soccer Association office.

1.3.2.1. If an individual holds more than one voting position, this individual may cast only one vote. If this individual is an officer or commissioner or referee and also a head coach (in good standing) he may delegate his team vote to an assistant coach or manager or a parent of a player currently rostered to the team to attend and vote. If this individual coaches more than one team he may delegate his other team vote(s) to an assistant coach or manager or a parent of a player currently rostered to the team to attend and vote per each team. Instructions and delegation forms will be available at the LSA office. Delegation forms must be submitted 24 hours prior to the Annual General Meeting to the Lubbock Soccer Association office.

1.4. (ARTICLE IV) GOVERNMENT OF ASSOCIATION

1.4.1. Government of Association.

The Board of Directors shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Lubbock Soccer Association between its business meetings. The Board of Directors shall be subject to the orders of the Lubbock Soccer Association, and none of the Board's actions shall conflict with action taken by the Lubbock Soccer Association.

1.4.1.1 The Lubbock Soccer Association Executive Board of Directors shall be comprised of all elected officers.

1.4.2. Affiliation with North Texas State Soccer Association.

This Association shall be a direct member and comply with the authority of the North Texas State Soccer Association and shall represent all its members and their respective interests in and before the North Texas State Soccer Association.

1.4.3. Superseding Authority of USSF & NTSSA Rules.

The Lubbock Soccer Association recognizes the superseding authority and precedence of the articles of incorporation, bylaws, policies, and requirements of the North Texas State Soccer Association, which comply with the authority of the United States Soccer Federation and its National Associations of which the North Texas State Soccer Association is a member, for those matters which are covered by the North Texas State Soccer Association, and the Lubbock Soccer Association and its members will abide by those articles of incorporation, bylaws, policies and requirements.

1.4.3.1. The Lubbock Soccer Association will not join any organization that has requirements that conflict with the North Texas State Soccer Association governing documents.

1.4.3.2. The Lubbock Soccer Association shall register all of its players, coaches, teams, referees, and administrators with the North Texas State Soccer Association at least once each year and will timely pay all dues and fees of the North Texas State Soccer Association.

1.4.3.3. The Lubbock Soccer Association shall provide to the President of the North Texas State Soccer Association an annual report on the activities of the Association and most current financial statements within 90 days after the start of the United States Soccer Federation's seasonal year.

1.4.3.4. The Lubbock Soccer Association will provide annually to the North Texas State Soccer Association copies of the Lubbock Soccer Association's Bylaws, rules, and other governing documents. The Lubbock Soccer Association will submit changes to those documents to the North Texas State Soccer Association for approval not later than 90 days after adoption. The Lubbock Soccer Association will make those documents available to Lubbock Soccer Association members.

1.4.3.5. The Lubbock Soccer Association will allow the North Texas State Soccer Association to review the documents and procedures of the Lubbock Soccer Association at the request of the North Texas State Soccer Association to determine compliance with the North Texas State Soccer Association governing documents.

1.4.4. Territory of the Association.

The territory under the jurisdiction of the Lubbock Soccer Association is defined as Lubbock County, State of Texas.

1.4.5. Jurisdiction.

The Lubbock Soccer Association shall have jurisdiction over all referees, coaches, players, and teams affiliated with the Lubbock Soccer Association.

1.5. (ARTICLE V) OFFICERS

1.5.1. Officers.

The officers of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be:

President Elected odd years

Executive Vice President Elected even years

Chairman of Discipline and Appeals Elected odd years

Vice President of Finance Elected even years

Chairman of Cups & Games Elected odd years

Secretary Elected even years

Coaches' Representative Appointed annually

Referees' Representative Appointed annually

Youth Commissioner Appointed annually

Boy's Group Commissioner Appointed annually
Girl's Group Commissioner Appointed annually
Little Tykes Director Appointed annually
Rules Chairman Appointed annually

These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these By-Laws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Lubbock Soccer Association, and such duties as may be assigned to them by the Board of Directors from time to time.

1.5.2. Nominating Committee.

At the regular Board of Directors meeting held in March, a Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the Annual General Meeting in May. The Nominating Committee shall report at the Board of Directors meeting in April. Each nominated candidate shall prepare a biography on the form provided by the Association for the Annual General Meeting. Any other person wishing to be considered for election to an open office must submit a biography (on the same form provided by the Association) to the Association registrar no later than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the scheduled time of the Annual General Meeting.

1.5.3. Term of Office.

The elected officers shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall be from June 1 through May 31. If a major event (such as a tournament sanctioned by the Association) is in progress on May 31 and June 1, those officers who are actively involved with the event (Chairman of Discipline and Appeals and Chairman of Cups and Games in this example) will continue in office until the event and all actions associated with it are concluded. Officers elected at an Annual General Meeting will immediately become members of the outgoing officer's staff and will assist the outgoing officer as a means of learning their new duties. Once the election has taken place, the outgoing officer cannot vote on the Board of Directors or make appointments. The newly elected officer will cast any vote required of the office.

1.5.4. Method of Election.

Elections shall be held at the Annual General Meeting with one-half (½) of the officers being elected each year. All elected officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the general voting membership attending the Annual General Meeting. If there are three or more nominees for any office and one nominee does not receive a majority of the votes cast, the nominee receiving the lowest number of votes will be dropped from the list of nominees before the next round of voting. All appointed officers shall be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the majority of the elected officers, after the election of officers at the Annual General Meeting. All appointed officers serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. It is recommended that all appointments be made before July 15.

1.5.5. Multiple Offices.

No member shall hold more than one office at a time. No member of the Board of Directors shall serve concurrently as a Group, League, or Conference Commissioner.

1.5.6. Written Reports.

With the exception of the President, all officers of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall report the functions of their office, in writing, at each regular meeting of the Association. For those officers who are chairmen of a committee or committees, the written minutes of the committee meetings shall suffice as the Officer's written report.

1.5.7. Playing Groups.

The Lubbock Soccer Association teams may be divided into at least two Groups in order to provide appropriate levels of play in order to accommodate the abilities of the novice, the intermediate, and the more experienced teams. Groups may be formed for each ability or skill level identifiable within the Lubbock Soccer Association whenever there are enough players and teams to organize effective competition at that level. Leagues will be formed within each Group for each playing age as defined by the North Texas State Soccer Association.

1.6. (ARTICLE VI) DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS

1.6.1. President.

1.6.1.1. The President of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall preside at all meetings of the Lubbock Soccer Association and of the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint, subject to the provisions of Article V, the appointed officers of the Board of Directors. The President shall appoint the members of all standing committees unless otherwise stated in these By-Laws. The President shall appoint such other committees as the President deems necessary. The President shall appoint a person to be a liaison between the Lubbock Soccer Association and the City of Lubbock Parks and Recreation Department. The President shall assign additional duties to members of the Board of Directors and the standing committees as required. The President is an ex-officio member of all committees except the Discipline Committee. As chief officer the President is charged with the overall executive functions of the Lubbock Soccer Association. The President is empowered to take prudent and reasonable action in cases not covered by these By-Laws. The President shall co-sign with the Vice President of Finance all Lubbock Soccer Association checks. The President shall submit an annual report, in writing, at the Annual General Meeting and said report shall become a part of the minutes of such meeting.

1.6.1.2. The President shall attend to the duties of affiliation with the North Texas State Soccer Association. The President may appoint a proxy as the Lubbock Soccer Association representative for this duty.

1.6.2. Executive Vice President.

1.6.2.1. The Executive Vice President shall succeed to the office of President in the event that office becomes vacant. The Executive Vice President shall serve as President until the next Annual General Meeting at which the office of President is scheduled for election. Upon becoming President the Executive Vice President shall call a special election to fill the office of Executive Vice President. The Executive Vice President shall assume the powers of the President during the temporary absence of the President at the direction of the President or of the Board of Directors. During the temporary absence of the President, the Executive Vice President shall co-sign all checks of the Lubbock Soccer Association with the Vice President of Finance. During the temporary absence of the Vice President of Finance, the Executive Vice President shall co-sign all checks of the Lubbock Soccer Association with the President.

1.6.2.2. The Executive Vice President is responsible for assisting the President. The Executive Vice President is an ex-officio member of all committees except the Discipline Committee and the Nominating Committee.

1.6.3. Chairman of Discipline and Appeals.

The Chairman of the Discipline and Appeals Committee is a Vice President of the Lubbock Soccer Association. The Chairman of Discipline and Appeals shall assume the powers of the President during the temporary absence of both the President and the Executive Vice President.

1.6.4. Vice President of Finance.

The Vice President of Finance shall serve as the chief financial officer of the Lubbock Soccer Association and shall be responsible for all the monies collected by the Lubbock Soccer Association. The Vice President of Finance shall provide a written report of the Lubbock Soccer Association's balance sheet, income statement, and comparison of expenditures with budget at each meeting of the Board of Directors. The Vice President of Finance shall submit a proposed Lubbock Soccer Association budget for the next fiscal year to the Board of Directors in April. The budget must be approved by the members of the Lubbock Soccer Association at the Annual General Meeting in May. The Vice President of Finance shall develop, manage, and administer continuing sources of funding for the programs of the Lubbock Soccer Association, including endowments and sponsorships. The Vice President of Finance shall review

and initial all contracts made by the Lubbock Soccer Association. The Vice President of Finance shall co-sign with the President all Lubbock Soccer Association checks.

1.6.5. Chairman of Cups and Games.

The Chairman of Cups and Games is a Vice President of the Lubbock Soccer Association. The Chairman of Cups and Games is in charge of organizing and operating tournaments for the Lubbock Soccer Association. The Chairman of Cups and Games shall recommend to the Board of Directors when a tournament should be sponsored or approved by the Lubbock Soccer Association and on what dates such a tournament should be scheduled. The Chairman of Cups and Games shall recommend changes to the Standard Lubbock Soccer Association Tournament Rules to the Board of Directors when necessary. Modifications of the Standard Lubbock Soccer Association Tournament Rules may be adopted by the Board of Directors only after an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the currently seated officers of the Board of Directors. The Chairman of Cups and Games is the Lubbock Soccer Association liaison with other Associations with regard to tournaments and shall work to minimize conflicts of dates between tournaments in the West Texas area and to help promote all tournaments in West Texas whenever possible. The Chairman of Cups and Games shall be responsible for encouraging local teams to participate in sanctioned tournaments and shall give coaches and teams every assistance possible to this end.

1.6.6. Secretary.

The Secretary is the recording officer of the Lubbock Soccer Association and of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall report the minutes of the previous meeting. The Secretary shall maintain a current roster of the Board of Directors and all standing and special committees. The Secretary shall attend to all correspondence. The Secretary shall keep the records of the Lubbock Soccer Association. If the Secretary is absent from a meeting, another member of the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the presiding officer to record the minutes of the meeting.

1.6.7. Coaches' Representative.

The Coaches' Representative must be an active coach of an Association team, preferably a coach who has achieved an advanced level of coaching license, or a member of the North Texas State Soccer coaching staff. The Coaches' Representative shall represent the coaches of the Lubbock Soccer Association in all meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors. The Coaches' Representative shall implement and administer the program of training and development of coaches for the Lubbock Soccer Association and its affiliated teams. The Coaches' Representative shall work to provide an opportunity for the youth of the Lubbock Soccer Association to compete for the state, regional, and national youth teams. The Coaches' Representative shall be responsible for maintaining communications with the North Texas State Soccer Association Coaches' Committee and coaching staff.

1.6.8. Referees' Representative.

The Referees' Representative shall be a currently registered United States Soccer Federation referee. The Referees' Representative shall be the liaison between the Lubbock Soccer Association and the local referees. The Referees' Representative shall be responsible for managing the affairs of the Lubbock Soccer Association referees. The Referees' Representative shall administer the regulations and programs for instruction, examination, grading, registration, and administration of all United States Soccer Federation referees within the territory of the Lubbock Soccer Association in compliance with the programs and policies of the North Texas State Soccer Association and the United States Soccer Federation National Referee Committee. The Referees' Representative shall appoint a currently registered United States Soccer Federation Referee to serve as a non-voting advisor to the Discipline and Appeals Committee.

1.6.9. Youth Commissioner.

The Youth Commissioner is responsible for the management and administration of the playing Groups, Leagues and Conferences in such a manner as to meet the needs of the players. The Youth Commissioner is responsible for representing the players to the Board of Directors. The Youth Commissioner shall enforce the Rules and Regulations of the Lubbock Soccer Association, the North Texas State Soccer Association, and the United States Soccer Federation and its National Associations

of which the North Texas State Soccer Association is a member. Group Commissioners shall report to and be responsible to the Youth Commissioner.

1.6.10. Commissioners: Group, League, and Conference.

Group Commissioners shall recommend individuals to be named as League and Conference Commissioners with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. Group Commissioners shall supervise and coordinate the activities of the League and Conference Commissioners assigned to their respective Groups, and shall represent the League/Conference Commissioners of their respective Groups to the Board of Directors. Group Commissioners shall inform the Youth Commissioner of any problems or concerns which affect the teams playing in the league or conference.

League and Conference Commissioners shall keep a complete list of teams, including coaches and other team officials, playing in the Commissioner's League or Conference. League and Conference Commissioners shall promptly notify the Registrar of any changes in the composition of the League or Conference teams, and of any address changes for players and coaches or other team officials. League and Conference Commissioners shall assign teams within the League or Conference to divisions within the League or Conference. League and Conference Commissioners shall assign players to the teams of the League or Conference in accordance with the Rules for Team Formation adopted by the Lubbock Soccer Association. League and Conference Commissioners shall recommend individuals to coach teams in the League or Conference and shall encourage all team coaches to participate in the Lubbock Soccer Association Development Program for Coaches. League and Conference Commissioners shall keep the Group Commissioner informed of the problems and concerns which affect the teams playing in the League or Conference. An individual shall not be appointed as the Commissioner of a League or Conference if that individual actively coaches a team playing in that League or Conference or if that individual is the parent/guardian of a player in that League or Conference.

1.6.11. Rules Chairman

Rules Chairman is responsible for maintaining the by-laws, playing rules, and policies of Lubbock Soccer Association. Rules chairman is responsible to assure Lubbock Soccer Association by-laws, playing rules, and policies are in compliance with those of North Texas State Soccer Association. Rules Chairman should attend meetings of North Texas State Soccer Association regarding bylaw, playing rules, and policy changes which could affect Lubbock Soccer Association. Rules Chairman will annually convene a committee meeting. Rules Chairman will be an ex - officio member of the Appeals and Discipline committee.

1.6.12. Administrative Assistant/Registrar.

The Board of Directors may establish qualifications for and hire such staff as is deemed necessary for the operation of the Lubbock Soccer Association. A staff member shall not hold any other office in the Lubbock Soccer Association and shall not have any vote in meetings of the Association or in meetings of the Board of Directors.

The Administrative Assistant/Registrar shall be a staff member of the Lubbock Soccer Association. The specific duties of the Administrative Assistant/Registrar are to:

- 1) Plan, recommend, and administer registration procedures for the soccer programs provided by the Lubbock Soccer Association.
- 2) Determine the eligibility of and properly register any player who wishes to play soccer under the auspices of the Lubbock Soccer Association.
- 3) Attend to the duties of registering all players and teams of the Lubbock Soccer Association with the North Texas State Soccer Association in accordance with North Texas State Soccer Association rules and regulations.
- 4) Maintain a complete and accurate list of all players, teams, and team officials.
- 5) Certify the rosters of teams from the Lubbock Soccer Association to other Associations who inquire and to the State Youth Commissioner or his deputy as requested.
- 6) Work with the Lubbock Soccer Association Youth Commissioner to ensure that all necessary paperwork concerning team formation and registration for both the Lubbock Soccer Association and the North Texas State Soccer Association is accurately completed in a timely manner.

7) Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President in order to assist other officers of the Board of Directors.

1.7. (ARTICLE VII) MEETINGS OF ASSOCIATION

1.7.1. Place of Meetings.

All meetings of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be held at such times and at such places as shall be determined by the President.

1.7.2. Annual General Meeting.

An Annual General Meeting of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be held each year on a day during the month of May to be selected by the President, and shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise.

1.7.3. Special Meetings.

1.7.3.1. Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

Special meetings of the Lubbock Soccer Association for any purpose or purposes, unless otherwise prescribed by statute or by these By-Laws, may be called by the President. Business transacted at all special meetings shall be confined to the purpose stated in the notice of the meeting.

1.7.3.2. Meetings of Association.

In the event that a ruling is required which applies specifically to a class of teams or a particular age group or groups or a particular group of individuals, then a separate vote shall be taken on that matter. The Board of Directors shall determine when a separate ruling of this nature is needed. In this situation only league commissioner(s), and head coaches of the affected class or group, referees registered in the current season 16 years old and older, and officers of Lubbock Soccer Association present shall have a vote on that matter.

1.7.4. Notice of Special Meetings.

Notice stating the place, day, and hour of a special membership meeting, and the purpose or purposes for which the meeting was called, shall be posted for seven consecutive days on the Lubbock Soccer Association web page, no less than seven (7) days and no more than thirty (30) days before the day of the special meeting; however, the President may direct that written or printed notice by email stating the place, day, and hour of a special meeting, and the purpose or purposes for which the meeting was called, be delivered not less than seven (7) nor more than thirty (30) days before the meeting, either personally or by email to each member of record entitled to vote at the meeting unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws.

1.7.5. Meetings of Association.

In the event that a ruling is required which applies specifically to a class of teams or a particular age group or groups or a particular group of individuals, then a separate vote shall be taken on that matter. The Board of Directors shall determine when a separate ruling of this nature is needed. In this situation only league commissioner(s), and head coaches of the affected class or group, referees 16 years old and older, and officers of Lubbock Soccer Association present shall have a vote on that matter.

1.7.6. Quorum.

Those members Present shall constitute a quorum at Association Meetings, except at a meeting for a vote of no confidence, which requires a number of members equal to 30% of the number of eligible voters for the last season for which registration has been completed to constitute a quorum.

1.7.7. Majority Vote; Withdrawal of Quorum.

When a quorum is present at any meeting, the vote of the majority present at such meeting shall decide any question brought before such meeting, except those involving amendments to the By-Laws and any other question specifically addressed in these By-Laws. The members present at a duly organized meeting may continue to transact business until adjournment, notwithstanding the withdrawal of enough

members to leave less than a quorum.

1.8. (ARTICLE VIII) BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1.8.1. The Executive Board of Directors

The Executive Board of Directors shall consist of the elected members of the Lubbock Soccer Association board of Directors.

1.8.2. Board of Directors.

The officers of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall constitute the Board of Directors, each of whom shall be entitled to one vote.

1.8.3. Management of Association.

The business and affairs of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Lubbock Soccer Association between its business meetings, fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Association, adopt and modify the General rules of the Lubbock Soccer Association, and shall perform such other duties as are specified in these By-Laws. The Board of Directors shall have the power to enforce the Laws of the Game, Rules of the United States Soccer Federation and its National Associations, Rules of the North Texas State Soccer Association, and the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the Lubbock Soccer Association. It also shall hear appeals of decisions of the Lubbock Soccer Association Discipline Committee.

1.8.4. Change in Number.

The officers shall be as stated in Article V hereof. A decrease in the number of officers shall require a change in Article V by the membership. The Board of Directors, by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting offices on that Board may temporarily create a new office and appoint an individual to fill that office until the end of the current year (June 1 through May 31). In order for the office to continue into later fiscal years, it must be proposed to the members as a change in Article V and adopted by the membership at an Annual General Meeting of the Lubbock Soccer Association.

1.8.5. Meetings.

The Board of Directors of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall meet not less than ten (10) times each year on a regular monthly schedule within the territorial limits of the Lubbock Soccer Association at a time and location set by the President of the Lubbock Soccer Association. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President. If one-third (1/3) of the Board of Directors request a special meeting of the Board, the President shall schedule that special meeting within seven (7) days.

1.8.6. Quorum.

A majority of the presently seated members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at meetings of the Board of Directors.

1.8.7. Removal.

1.8.7.1. Any member of the Board of Directors shall be required to resign following a vote of no confidence in his ability to remain in office. A number of the members of the Lubbock Soccer Association equal to 10% of the number of eligible voters for the last season for which registration has been completed may petition, in writing, for such a vote. The petition must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors which, in turn, shall review the petition and set the date, time, and place of a Special Meeting of the Lubbock Soccer Association where the hearing and the vote shall be held. The Special Meeting for a vote of no confidence must be scheduled within thirty (30) days after receipt of the petition by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall notify all members of the date, hour, place, and purpose of the Special Meeting either by publishing such notice for seven (7) consecutive days on the Lubbock Soccer Association web page, Texas, no less than seven (7) days and no more than thirty (30) days before the day of the special meeting; or the President may direct that written or printed notice be delivered not less than seven (7) nor more than thirty (30) days before the meeting, either personally or by mail to each

member of record entitled to vote at the meeting unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the member at the address as it appears on the records of the Lubbock Soccer Association, with postage thereon prepaid. The vote of no confidence must be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting members attending the Special Meeting at which the vote is conducted. A quorum at a Special Meeting for a vote of no confidence shall be a number of the members of the Lubbock Soccer Association equal to 30% of the number of eligible voters for the last season for which registration has been completed.

1.8.7.2. The Board of Directors may call for a vote of no confidence on an Officer whose actions have been resolved to be grossly negligent, or severely improper, or otherwise not for the good of the Association. The accused officer shall be accorded a full and complete hearing by the Board of Directors. A vote of no confidence requires that a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Board of Directors must vote no confidence in the Officer. If an Officer receives this vote of no confidence he is automatically suspended from the Board of Directors. The suspended Officer may appeal, in writing, to the membership of the Lubbock Soccer Association and the voters must then concur with a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those members attending providing a quorum of a number of the voters of the Lubbock Soccer Association equal to 30% of the number of eligible voters for the last season for which registration has been completed is present for the removal to be effective. If the suspended Officer does not give the Board of Directors notice of appeal to the membership of the Lubbock Soccer Association within thirty (30) days after his suspension, or if the suspension is upheld by the members of the Lubbock Soccer Association, the Office shall be considered vacant and filled in accordance with these By-Laws.

1.8.8. Attendance at Meetings.

An Officer not attending at least 80% of the regularly scheduled meetings of the Lubbock Soccer Association or the Board of Directors, shall have his office declared vacant unless the Board of Directors excuses such absences. His office shall then be filled in accordance with this Article.

1.8.9. Vacancies.

In the event any office of the Board of Directors becomes vacant, the President, with the advice and consent of a majority of the remaining members of the Board of Directors, shall appoint an individual to fill that office until the current term for that office expires.

1.8.10. Compensation.

Members of the Board of Directors shall serve without salary for their services. Any Board of Directors member may be reimbursed for expenses approved by the budget and/or the Board of Directors.

1.8.11. Procedure.

The Board of Directors shall keep regular minutes of its proceedings. The minutes shall be placed in the minute book of the Lubbock Soccer Association. A majority of the officers currently seated on the Board of Directors are required to attend a meeting in order to transact any business of the Lubbock Soccer Association.

1.8.12. Conflict of Interest.

Any member of the Board of Directors shall refrain from voting with the Board of Directors if the subject matter constitutes a conflict of interest. Conflicts of interest are those matters related to hearing protests or appeals related to the member's team, player, or coach, or voting on issues that would have an immediate impact on the member's team as opposed to all teams in general.

1.8.13. Emergency Meetings.

Subject to the provisions of applicable statutes and these By-Laws, the President and any three (3) voting members of the Board of Directors shall constitute an emergency Board of Directors on matters demanding immediate attention when it is impractical or impossible to call a Board of Directors meeting and shall report their actions to all Board of Directors members in writing. Decisions made at such an emergency meeting shall be ratified by a majority of the Board of Directors within seven (7) days or the decisions shall be null and void.

1.9. (ARTICLE IX) NOTICE

1.9.1. Manner of Giving Notice.

Whenever, under the provisions of the statutes or these By-Laws, notice is required to be given to any member of the Lubbock Soccer Association, and no provisions are made as to how such notice shall be given, it shall not be construed to mean personal notice. Such notice shall be given in writing, by mail, postage paid, addressed to such member at the address appearing on the records of the Association; or by posting on the Lubbock Soccer Association web page. Any notice required or permitted to be given by mail shall be deemed given at the time when the notice is deposited in the United States mail as aforesaid. If notice is required to be given to a large number of the members of the Lubbock Soccer Association, such notice may be given by posting on the Lubbock Soccer Association web page for seven (7) consecutive days.

1.9.2. Waiver of Notice.

Whenever any notice is required to be given to any member of the Association under the provisions of the statutes or these By-Laws, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated in such notice, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice. Attendance at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a person attends for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the ground that the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

1.10. (ARTICLE X) STANDING COMMITTEES

1.10.1. Standing Committees.

The Standing Committees of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be:

Discipline and Appeals Committee
Rules Committee
Publicity Committee

The Members of the Standing Committees shall be approved at the second Board of Directors meeting following the Annual General Meeting of the Lubbock Soccer Association. Vacancies on such committees shall be filled within thirty (30) days of occurrence of such vacancy. All committees shall report to the Board of Directors.

1.10.2. Discipline and Appeals Committee.

The Discipline and Appeals Committee shall be composed of the Chairman and other members recommended by the Chairman and approved by the Board of Directors. No Committee Member shall hear or vote on any disciplinary matter or appeal in which that Member has any vested interest. The Referees' Representative, shall appoint a currently registered United States Soccer Federation referee to be a non-voting advisor to the Discipline Committee. Three members of this Committee shall constitute a quorum. Should it be impossible for a quorum to be had in order for the Committee to make a ruling within the period set by these By-Laws or the Rules and Regulations of the Lubbock Soccer Association or the Rules and Regulations of the North Texas State Soccer Association, then the Chairman, or any other member if the Chairman is unavailable, shall appoint any impartial person(s) to serve temporarily on the Committee. The Chairman shall notify the Board of Directors, in writing, of the rulings of this Committee. For those rulings which require notification to the North Texas State Soccer Association, the Chairman shall immediately mail such rulings to the North Texas State Soccer Association office. Referee misconduct reports shall be mailed or delivered to the Chairman within the time allowed for such misconduct reports. The Committee shall provide a Discipline Committee for all tournaments sanctioned by the Lubbock Soccer Association, which committee shall be at the site of the tournament and ready to render whatever judgments may be required during tournament play.

1.10.3. Rules Committee.

The Rules committee shall be comprised of The Chairman of Rules, Vice-President Chair of Appeals and Discipline, the Youth Commissioner, the Boy's Group Commissioner, and the Girl's Group Commissioner.

The Rules Committee shall review, a minimum of annually, the By-Laws and the Rules and Regulations of the Lubbock Soccer Association and any proposed changes to same. The Committee shall make certain that the By-Laws and the Rules and Regulations of the Lubbock Soccer Association do not conflict with each other or with those of the North Texas State Soccer Association, the United States Soccer Federation, and the Federation International de Football Association, and to point out any such conflicts, along with a proposed resolution, to the Board of Directors. The Committee shall propose changes to the Board of Directors in accordance with Lubbock Soccer Association by-laws.

1.10.4. Publicity Committee.

The Publicity Committee shall consist of the Chairman and such members as he may recommend to the President for appointment to the Committee. The Committee shall develop, implement, and administer a program to give any player within the Association the chance to play soccer at any level to which that player aspires, to provide methods for the management of the Association to communicate with the members of the Association, and to promote the Association within Lubbock and the surrounding area.

1.11. (ARTICLE XI) HEARINGS AND APPEALS

1.11.1. The Lubbock Soccer Association will provide equitable and prompt hearing and appeal procedures to guarantee the rights of individuals to participate and compete and insure due process to the accused. In all hearings conducted, the parties shall be accorded:

1.11.1.1. Notice of the specific charges or alleged violations in writing and possible consequences if the charges are found to be true.

1.11.1.2. Reasonable time between receipt of the notice of charges and the hearing within which to prepare a defense.

1.11.1.3. The right to have the hearing conducted at a time and place so as to make it practical for the person charged to attend.

1.11.1.4. A hearing before a disinterested and impartial body of fact finders.

1.11.1.5. The right to be assisted in the preparation of one's case at the hearing.

1.11.1.6. The right to call witnesses and present oral and written evidence and argument.

1.11.1.7. The right to confront witnesses, including the right to be provided the identity of witnesses in advance of the hearing if requested.

1.11.1.8. The right to have a record made of the hearing if requested in advance, with all costs to be paid by the requester.

1.11.1.9. A written decision, with the reasons for the decision, based solely on the evidence of record, issued in a timely fashion and including appeal rights and procedures.

1.11.1.10. Notice of any substantive and material action of the hearing panel in the course of the proceedings.

1.11.1.11. Equality concerning communications, and no ex parte communication is permitted between a party and any person involved in making a decision or procedural determination except to provide explanations involving procedures to be followed.

1.11.2. The Lubbock Soccer Association will honor all orders of suspension of persons issued by the North Texas State Soccer Association or one of its Member Associations.

1.11.3. Decisions of the Discipline and Appeals Committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors of the Lubbock Soccer Association. Procedures for filing appeals with the Board of Directors shall be exactly as for filing with the Discipline and Appeals Committee except that all materials shall be submitted to the President as chairman of the Board of Directors, who shall notify all concerned parties of the receipt of the appeal and the time and place for the hearing. Decisions of the Board of Directors may be appealed to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee of the North Texas State Soccer Association by following the procedures set forth in the NTSSA Administrative Handbook.

1.11.4. All appeals must be submitted in writing and received by the presiding officer of the Committee or Board within five (5) days of the appealed decision. All appeals shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee (cash or cashier's check) as set by the Board of Directors. If the appeal is upheld by the Committee, the fee shall be returned. If the appeal is denied, the fee shall be forfeited to the treasury of the Lubbock Soccer Association. In the case of appeals regarding individual suspensions, the Discipline and Appeals Committee may waive the established fee.

1.11.5. The Committee, at its sole discretion, may, when requested in writing to do so, waive the time limit for filing appeals but in no case shall an extension of more than ten (10) days be granted.

1.11.6. All appeals to the Committee must be made in writing to the chairman of the Committee who shall then notify all the members of the Committee. In cases of controversy as to timely receipt of appeals, the post mark date (postage meter not acceptable) shall govern.

1.11.7. Upon receipt of appeal, properly submitted, the Chairman of the Committee shall set a time and place for the hearing and advise all appropriate parties. Such hearing settings are solely the responsibility of the Committee but all such hearings should be scheduled within ten (10) days of receipt of the appeal and the appealing party is bound to present all information and evidence relative to the appeal at the hearing.

1.11.8. Decisions of the Lubbock Soccer Association Board of Directors may be appealed to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee of the North Texas State Soccer Association. In no event shall any person or persons or organizations under the jurisdiction of the Lubbock Soccer Association resort to the courts until all appeal procedures, including appeals to the North Texas State Soccer Association and to the United States Soccer Federation, have been exhausted. For violations of this rule, the offending party shall be subject to the sanctions of suspension and fines as set forth by the United States Soccer Federation, and shall be liable for all expenses incurred by the Lubbock Soccer Association and its officers and members in defending each court action, including but not limited to court costs, attorney fees, reasonable compensation for time spent by LSA officers and members in responding to and defending against allegations in the action, including responses to discovery and court appearances, travel expense, and the expenses for holding special meetings necessitated by the court action.

1.11.9. All decisions at all levels of the appeal process shall stand and be of full force and effect until changed by a higher authority.

1.12. (ARTICLE XII) PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws and any special rules of order the Association may adopt.

1.13. (ARTICLE XIII) MISCELLANEOUS

1.13.1. Age Grouping for Play.

Age groups for league play within the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be the same as those defined by the United States Youth Soccer Association and accepted by the North Texas State Soccer Association for youth play.

1.13.2. Rules of Play.

The Lubbock Soccer Association will use the Rules of Play, modified as allowed for youth play, as specified by the North Texas State Soccer Association. The current copy of the playing rules of the Lubbock Soccer Association will be maintained in the Rules and Regulations of the Lubbock Soccer Association.

1.13.3. Conduct of the Association as a Nonprofit Corporation.

The Lubbock Soccer Association shall conduct its business in a manner conforming to the purposes set forth in Article II, being careful to comply with all rules and regulations as set forth under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code so as to maintain its status as a nonprofit corporation.

1.13.4. Dissolution of the Association.

Upon the dissolution of the Lubbock Soccer Association, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the Lubbock Soccer Association, dispose of all the assets of the Lubbock Soccer Association in such manner, or to such organization or organizations which are organized and operated for charitable, educational, humanitarian, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Rule or Regulation), as the Board of Directors shall determine. Any of such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the District Court of the County in which the principal office of the Lubbock Soccer Association is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

1.13.5. Distribution of Net Earnings.

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

1.13.6. Association Will Not Attempt to Influence Legislation.

No substantial part of the activities of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation, and the Lubbock Soccer Association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publication or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

1.13.7. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be from August 1 to July 31.

1.13.8. Books and Records.

The Lubbock Soccer Association shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep minutes of all meetings at its registered office.

1.13.9. Resignation.

Any director, committee member, officer, or agent may resign by giving written or verbal notice to the President. The resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or immediately if no time is specified. Unless otherwise therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective. If such director, committee member, officer, or agent disavows a verbal resignation at the next regular Board of Directors meeting after the President has caused the verbal resignation to be included in the minutes, the verbal resignation will be considered as null and void and the director, committee member, officer, or agent will continue in that office until the expiration of that term of office.

1.13.10. Members Bound by By-Laws.

All players, their parents/guardians, all coaches, all referees, all officers, employees, and agents, and all other members of the Lubbock Soccer Association, by their participation, agree to be bound by and subject to all the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the Lubbock Soccer Association as they now exist or may be amended.

1.13.11. Indemnity.

The directors, officers, employees, agents, referees, coaches, commissioners, and other authorized representatives of the Lubbock Soccer Association shall be indemnified and held harmless by the Lubbock Soccer Association in defending any legal action taken against said person for good faith acts or omissions by said person in the administration of the Lubbock Soccer Association so long as said person has not acted maliciously.

1.14. (ARTICLE XIV) AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be amended at the Annual General Meeting of the Lubbock Soccer Association by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been posted on the Lubbock Soccer Association web page for seven (7) consecutive days prior to meeting or given in writing to each member of the Lubbock Soccer Association at least one week before the meeting. Proposal to amend the by-laws of Lubbock Soccer Association may be made by officers of Lubbock Soccer Association, league commissioners, and head coaches, in good standing of teams in current season, and all referees 16 years old and older. Proposals must be submitted to the Board of Directors for consideration at the regularly scheduled meeting the month prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Board of Directors may only review and give recommendations to pass or fail the proposed amendment. Any proposed amendments that are approved at the Annual General Meeting shall immediately become part of the by-laws of Lubbock Soccer Association.

1.14.1. Bylaws adapted by North Texas State Soccer Association at the Annual General Meeting or Semi-annual General Meeting that require Lubbock Soccer Association to follow in order to be in compliance with North Texas State Soccer Association bylaws will become part of Lubbock Soccer Association by-laws.

1.15. The Lubbock Soccer Association adopts a philosophy that prohibits physical or sexual abuse of or by players, coaches, referees, administrators and spectators, and will take steps necessary to remove from further soccer activities any person found guilty of such.