



**BUILDING CHARACTER THROUGH SOCCER**

---

# **CONSTITUTION BY-LAWS**

---

**2020**

**The Long Island Junior Soccer League, Incorporated**

**Member of the  
Eastern New York Youth  
Soccer Association  
(ENYYSA)**

**Affiliated with the  
United States Youth Soccer Association  
(USYSA)**

**ORGANIZED 1966**

**LEAGUE FOUNDERS  
Long Island Football League  
Pat Ryder  
Jack Maher**

**FOUNDER GIRLS PROGRAM  
Liza Gozley**

**PAST PRESIDENTS  
Ron Campbell  
Bill Doyle  
Stan Hobson  
Tom Kenny  
Tony Perez  
Paul Bedell  
Dick Frazita  
Peter C. Collins  
Addie Mattei-Iaia**

**LONG ISLAND JUNIOR  
SOCCER LEAGUE, INC.**

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I - League Name**

The name of this League shall be the LONG ISLAND JUNIOR SOCCER LEAGUE, INC., hereinafter referred to as "LIJSL" or the "League".

**ARTICLE II - League Structure**

**Part 1. Mission** It is the mission of the League to foster the growth and development of youth through the sport of soccer to individuals under the age of nineteen at all levels of competition. The League shall administer the orderly management of governmental affairs of the game of soccer.

**Part 2. Established** This League shall be established as a nonprofit and educational organization.

**Part 3. Colors** The colors of the League shall be red, white, and blue.

**Part 4. Headquarters** The headquarters of the League shall be located on Long Island using the address of the League Office as the official mailing address.

**Part 5. Affiliation** This League is affiliated with the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) by maintaining membership with recognized US Soccer youth affiliates.

**Part 6. Duration of the League** The duration of the League shall be perpetual.

**Part 7. Corporation Dissolves** In the event that this corporation dissolves, all the funds remaining in its treasury, after the payment of all of its obligations, will be transferred to another organization duly qualified under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**ARTICLE III - League Membership**

Every Club in good standing with the Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association, Inc. shall be eligible for membership in the League.

**ARTICLE IV - League Management**

**Part 1. Board of Directors** The business of the League shall be conducted and managed by the Board of Directors, which shall consist of seven Directors. Each Director shall be at least twenty-one years of age. The Directors shall serve for a term of two (2) years. At the Annual General Meeting in June the Directors will be elected by the membership - three (3) during the even numbered years and four (4) during the odd numbered years.

**Part 2. Officers of the League** The Board of Directors shall appoint the officers for one year terms: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustees.

**Part 3. Fiscal Year Budget** The Budget Committee will prepare for the next fiscal year a budget, upon receiving from each operational Committee their respective budgets for their activities in the coming year. Budget approval must be carried by a majority of the Directors. Failure of a committee to submit a budget by the due date given by the Budget Committee will result in the Board of Directors imposing a budget upon said committee.

**Part 4. Records of the Corporation** The corporation shall maintain adequate and correct accounts, books and records of its business and properties. All such books shall be kept at its principle place of business and shall be open to the inspection of the Directors and authorized representatives of the Member Clubs.

## ARTICLE V – Meetings

**Part 1. Board of Directors Meetings** League business shall be transacted at Board of Directors meetings which shall be held at least six times a year. Each member of the Board of Directors in good standing shall have one vote.

a) Only the members of the Board of Directors shall cast a vote at the Board of Directors Meeting. Unless otherwise specified all actions of the Board of Directors become effective upon adoption.

b) Special meetings may be called as required by the President or by a majority vote of the Directors. All Board meetings shall be open to Member Clubs.

**Part 2. Semi-Annual General Meetings** There shall be a Semi-Annual General Meetings each year during the months of June and December. Notice shall be sent to Member Clubs at least thirty (30) days before said date.

## ARTICLE VI – Amendments

**Part 1. Amendments to the Constitution** The Constitution may be amended at either Semi-Annual General Meeting, by a two-thirds majority vote of the votes cast, a quorum being present, provided notice was given each Member Club at least thirty (30) days prior.

**Part 2. Proposals of Amendments** Proposals to amend the Constitution may be made by a Member Club, the Board of Directors or a Committee of the League.

**Part 3. League 60 Days** Any proposal to amend the Constitution must be made in writing to the League 60 days in advance of the December Semi-Annual General Meeting.

**Part 3.1 Board of Directors 45 Days** Proposals shall be submitted by the Rules Committee to the Board of Directors for their consideration 45 days prior to the December Semi-Annual General Meeting.

**Part 3.2 Member Clubs 30 Days** The proposals and recommendations from the Rules Committee shall be sent in writing to each Member Club 30 days in advance of the December Semi-Annual General Meeting.

**Part 4. Priority of Rules** No playing rule shall be passed by this League which is inconsistent with the rules adopted by the United States Soccer Federation and/or any respective US Soccer youth affiliate the League may be affiliated with.

**Part 5. Implementation of the Amendments to the Constitution** Amendments to the Constitution receiving two thirds majority vote shall be implemented on the first day of the month following their adoption; July 1<sup>st</sup> of the present calendar year for the June Semi-Annual General Meeting, January 1st of the following calendar year, for the December Semi-Annual General Meeting.

**Part 6. Voting** Each Club which is a member of the League in good standing shall have one vote. A Club's vote may be cast by an authorized member of that Club present. All ballots will be cast anonymously. Members of the League's Board of Directors are not eligible to vote.

**Part 7. Quorum** A quorum shall exist when fifty (50) percent of the voting power of the League is present at the Semi-Annual General Meetings.

**LONG ISLAND JUNIOR  
SOCCER LEAGUE, INC.**

**BYLAWS**

**ARTICLE I - Membership**

**Part 1. Petition the Board of Directors for Membership** Any Organization seeking to become a member of the League must petition the Board of Directors through the Membership Committee. The request for membership must be submitted to the Committee. The Board of Directors after reviewing the findings of the Membership Committee will decide upon the admissibility of the Organization.

**Part 2. New Membership** New membership will be granted to those organizations who meet the criteria. The criteria is established by the Membership Committee with the approval of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will give due consideration to the stability of existing Clubs and the best interests of the youth the League serves.

**Part 3. Renewal of Club's Annual Membership** Each Member Club must renew its membership annually. Renewal shall be contingent upon participation in League competition during the prior seasonal year. Clubs which have failed to participate in League competition during this period must apply as a new member in accordance with Article I, Part 1.

**Part 4. Failure to Renew** The Club's annual membership shall be renewed prior to the start of the seasonal year during the League's registration period. Failure to renew will cause the membership to lapse. Should this occur, the Club will be required to seek new membership under the League's guidelines.

**Part 5. Receipt of the League's Regulatory Material** Each Club upon being accepted as a member of the LIJSL shall receive a copy of the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations and the Guidelines, Regulations and Procedures of the League.

**Part 6. Suspend from Membership** The Board of Directors, may at its discretion suspend from membership, or expel, any individual, team, or Club who:

- a) Willfully refuses or neglects to fulfill any of its obligations as a member, or violates any of the provisions of the Constitution, Bylaws, or Rules and Regulations and the Guidelines, Regulations and Procedures of the League;
- b) Commits any act which is inconsistent with the principles and standards of good sportsmanship and fair play.

**Part 6.1. Member Show Cause** Suspension shall require a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. A member shall have an opportunity to show cause why such action should not be taken.

**Part 7. Reinstate a Member** The Board of Directors may reinstate a member or Club who has been suspended from the League.

**Part 8. Name of the Member Clubs** Member Clubs must be registered and known by the name of a Town, Community or School District. *Comment: The name of a Member Club, said Club being a member prior to January 1, 1988, shall remain.*

**ARTICLE II – Meetings**

The dates, times, and places of all meetings will be determined by the Board of Directors. **EXCEPTION:** The Semi-Annual General Meetings will be held during the months of June and December.

**Part 1. Semi-Annual General Meetings** There shall be Semi-Annual General Meetings each year, in June and December. Notification and a proposed agenda shall be given to Member Clubs at least thirty (30) days in advance. Member clubs which fail to have a representative present shall be subject to a fine, as listed under the fine schedule.

**Part 2. Convene a Special General Meeting** A Special General Meeting of the membership may be called:

- a) By the League President;
- b) At any time by a majority of the Directors present and voting at any duly convened meeting of the Board of Directors;
- c) By petition of at least 20% of the Member Clubs entitled to vote.

## ARTICLE III - League Officers

**Part 1. Nominations and Procedures** The President of the Board of Directors will appoint a Chairman of the Nominating Committee who is not a candidate. The Chairman will notify the membership in writing eight (8) weeks prior to the June Semi-Annual General Meeting. Nominations will be accepted by the Committee up to five (5) weeks prior to the meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. The Chairman of the Nomination Committee, assisted by two tellers and a secretary, will distribute, collect, and count the ballots and report the results. The ballots will be destroyed.

**Part 2. Term of Office - Members of the Board of Directors** shall be elected for a period of two (2) years, and may succeed themselves. During the even years, the three candidates receiving the highest individual totals of the votes cast shall be elected to the Board. During the odd years the four candidates receiving the highest individual totals of the votes cast shall be so elected.

**Part 3. Restrictions on Directors** No Director of this League shall hold office with any Member Club, nor be a paid employee or compensated agent of any Member Club. A compensated agent refers to a person who receives fees for services rendered, not a person who is reimbursed for expenses incurred in order to fulfill official duties in connection with the business of this League.

### Part 4. Duties of League Officers

**The PRESIDENT** shall be the executive officer of the League. The President will serve as Chairman of all meetings of the Board of Directors, the Semi-Annual General Meetings. The President will, with the approval of the Board, establish committees, appoint members of the standing and special committees, appoint and remove all committee chairpersons, and be a member of all committees. The President shall serve as the general representative of this League in all matters. The President shall have the responsibility for the general management of the affairs of the League and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors are carried into effect.

**The FIRST VICE PRESIDENT** shall succeed to the office of the President in the event the office becomes vacant. In the absence or disability of the President, the First Vice President shall perform the duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers and functions of the President.

**The SECOND VICE PRESIDENT** shall succeed to the office of First Vice President in the event the office becomes vacant. In the absence or disability of the President and the First Vice President, the Second Vice President shall perform the duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers and functions of the President.

**The SECRETARY** will be the official custodian of all the correspondence of the League. The Secretary shall send reports, notices and agenda of all meetings of the Board of Directors and the League to the proper persons, and shall keep a complete list of all members and their voting power. The secretary shall prepare copies of the minutes and maintain a complete reference file of same. The Secretary shall periodically update, maintain and distribute to the Club Presidents, the LIJSL's Committee Guidelines, Regulations and Procedures.

**The TREASURER** shall be the officer responsible for League finances. In performing his function he shall be the administrator of the League's financial accounts. The Treasurer shall:

- a) Report monthly, in writing, to the Board of Directors, on the state of League finances.
- b) Keep accurate and complete records of all financial transactions in accordance with recognized accounting procedures.
- c) Enforce League rules and procedures regarding fiscal matters.
- d) Expend and deposit moneys as directed by the Board of Directors.
- e) Secure an independent audit of financial accounts and transactions.
- f) Assist the Board of Directors in establishing a proposed budget.
- g) Prepare papers regarding the League's exempt status.

The treasurer shall perform additional functions relative to his general responsibility for finances, such as developing League or financial reports as directed by the Board of Directors and as required by state and/or federal regulations, and making available to the auditor(s) all fiscal information requested. All out-going checks above the amount of \$1000.00 shall carry the signature of two designated Board of Directors members.

**TRUSTEES:** The Trustees shall have duties as assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

**Part 5. Duties of the Board of Directors** The Board of Directors shall conduct the business affairs of the League, including but not limited to the following:

- a) Enforcing the Constitution, Bylaws, or Rules and Regulations and the Guidelines, Regulations and Procedures of the League;
- b) Approval of all competitions under the direct auspices of the League;
- c) Approval of all League promotional, educational, and training programs;
- d) Approval of the President's appointees to all Committees, and the President's appointment and removal of all committee chairpersons.
- e) The Board of Directors shall be empowered to conduct such investigation of the members of the League to establish that they are in compliance with all of the obligations imposed upon a member. If such investigation reveals that the member has not complied with the rules of this League, or the financial obligations imposed on the member, the Board of Directors *by two-thirds vote*, may adjudge the member to be not in good standing and may impose such penalties and/or sanctions as, in their sole judgment, is appropriate in the circumstances;
- f) Approval of amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, or Rules and Regulations and the Guidelines, Regulations and Procedures of the League.

**Part 6. Board Member Granted Permission to be Absent** A Member of the Board of Directors may be granted permission by the President to be absent from a scheduled meeting.

**Part 7. Board of Director Code of Conduct** The Board of Directors shall be held to the highest standards with regard to the operation of the league.

- a) An LIJSL Board member shall be required to sign the following each year; Conflict of Interest Statement, Code of Ethics and Rules of Conduct. Any action to the contrary to the League's Constitution, By-Laws and Rules and Regulations, Conflict of Interest Statement, Code of Ethics and Rules of Conduct are grounds for removal (See Article III, Part 8).

**Part 8. Removed from Office** A Director may only be removed from office and his/her position declared vacant by a two thirds vote of the other Directors.

**Part 9. Vacancies Declared** In the event of any vacancy, the President with a majority vote of approval from the Members of the Board of Directors may appoint a person to fill the vacancy. This person will serve until the next election, at which time the membership will elect a Director to complete the original term.

**Part 10. Resignation of a Director** Should a Member of the Board of Directors resign, the President shall declare a vacancy and appoint a successor in accordance with Article III, Part 9.

#### **ARTICLE IV - Committees**

Each Committee will establish guidelines that will describe the organization and procedures of that Committee in accordance with the Rules and Regulations to be reviewed by the Rules Committee and subsequently approved by the Board of Directors. These Guidelines will be distributed to each Club President by the December Semi-Annual Meeting. These Guidelines and any changes will be updated and maintained at a central location in the League Office for general usage by any of its members. Each Committee shall prepare an annual proposed budget of income and expenses, to be submitted to the Treasurer for approval of the Board of Directors.

#### **STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Part 1. Appeals Committee** Shall be responsible for hearing appeals pertaining to a decision rendered by the Arbitration Board and/or a decision rendered by a Standing Committee or Special (Ad Hoc) Committee.

**Part 2. Arbitration Board** Shall deal with all differences and controversies which may arise from League sponsored competitions.

**Part 2.1.** The Arbitration Board shall have the obligation to deal with violations of the Rules and Regulations of League sponsored competitions. They shall deal with misconduct by any Club, team, player, official, referee, member or spectator under its jurisdiction. They shall be directed by the Board of Directors to handle matters in any other event that such violation or misconduct is not dealt with by the proper organization or authorities in the proper manner.

**Part 2.2.** The Arbitration Board will also administer Game Protests and, at the direction of the Board of Directors, the Arbitration Board will attend to any matter not specifically addressed.

**Part 2.3.** The Arbitration Board shall have the jurisdiction after a hearing, to suspend or fine revoke or nullify the membership of any club officer, adult supervisor, player, registered trainer, or person serving in any capacity whatever, whose conduct is deemed by the Arbitration Board to constitute a grievous offense. Such conduct shall consist of the following:

- (a) The use by such person of any obscene language at any game, tournament, exhibition or competition which is under the jurisdiction of the League.
- (b) The use of physical force or threat thereof by any person at any event set forth in paragraph “(a)” hereinabove.
- (c) The attempt by any person to use the pass or credentials, or other means of identification, not his or her own, or the attempt to enter a player into game participation with the pass of another player or the representation that he/she is someone other than his/her true identity.
- (d) The commission of any act or acts which may embarrass LIJSL and/or inure to the detriment of its good name and reputation.
- (e) The commission of any act or acts which, in the opinion of the Arbitration Board, are indecent, heinous, or present a danger to the safety and well being, physical or mental, of the member player of the League.

**Part 3. Convention Committee** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the League’s Annual Convention, with the assistance and approval of the Board of Directors.

**Part 4. Games Committee** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the organization, coordination, and planning and regulating of all outdoor games sponsored by LIJSL.

**Part 5. Hall of Fame Committee** Their duty is to accept nominations and select individuals to be inducted into the Long Island Junior Soccer League Hall of Fame.

**Part 6. Membership Committee** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the application by organizations for membership.

**Part 6.1.** It shall request from the applicant any information it deems necessary.

**Part 6.2.** It shall examine and present this information with a recommendation to the Board of Directors for their approval.

**Part 7. Nominating Committee** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the nomination of candidates to the Board of Directors.

**Part 8. Player Development Program** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the development of LIJSL PDP Team Soccer Players registered in the Long Island Junior Soccer League.

**Part 9. Referees Committee** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the coordination and communications between the LIJSL and the Referee Association or group.

**Part 9.1.** It shall receive from the member teams an evaluation of the Referee’s performance, and report to the Board of Directors any evaluation that indicates a deficiency in the Referee’s actions.

**Part 9.2.** It shall report to the referee governing body any referee whose conduct is deemed by the Referees Committee to constitute a grievous offense against any club officer, adult supervisor, or player, or person serving in any capacity at all League sanctioned events.

**Part 10. Registration Committee** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the registration of all Member Clubs, teams, players and adult supervisors.

**Part 10.1.** It will receive all questions or situations that present uncertainty or difficulty from the Member Clubs in writing, and consult with the Rules Committee when deemed appropriate.

**Part 11. Rules Committee** Shall consider and propose amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Guidelines.



**Part 11.1.** It shall review all areas of the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and Guidelines to insure conformity. It shall draft and present to the Board of Directors for their approval, the recommended amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Guidelines. Upon approval of the Board of Directors, all proposed changes will be submitted to the membership for their approval

**Part 11.2** Any inquiry concerning a committee decision that is not addressed in the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Long Island Junior Soccer League shall be referenced to the approved committee guidelines. Said guidelines shall act as an addendum to the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Long Island Junior Soccer League.

**Part 12. Scholarship Committee** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the selection of the recipients and the distribution of the Scholarship Fund for registered players of the LIJSL.

**Part 12.1.** It shall recommend to the Board of Directors for their approval the recipient(s) of the Scholarship Fund.

**Part 13. Special Committees (Ad Hoc)** Special committees shall be appointed by the President with the assistance and approval of the Board of Directors.

**Part 14. Sportsmanship Committee** Shall manage all matters pertaining to the theme of Sportsmanship.

**Part 14.1.** It shall provide the methods to implement the League motto: *"Building Character Through Soccer"*. The Committee shall encourage the membership to abide by fair play and sportsmanship. They shall endeavor to instill in the membership a high degree of dignity and respect for one's fellow human being.

**Part 15. Tournament and Cup Committees (LIJSL Sponsored)** Shall organize, plan, establish, arrange, coordinate, and regulate the LIJSL sponsored Indoor Soccer Tournaments and LIJSL sponsored Outdoor Cup Competition(s).

**Part 16. Reserves the Right** The Board of Directors reserves the right to approve or disapprove, grant or deny, any and all proposals, plans, requests, suggestions and recommendations submitted by all Standing Committees and/or Special Committees not specifically described in the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the LIJSL.

## **ARTICLE V - Amendments**

**Part 1. Proposals and Amendments** Any proposal to amend the Bylaws and/or the Rules and Regulations of the League may be made by a Member Club in good standing, by the League Board of Directors, or by a committee of the League.

**Part 2. Amendments to the Bylaws and/or Rules and Regulations** may be at either Semi-Annual general Meeting by a two-thirds majority vote of the votes cast, a quorum being present. A quorum shall consist of fifty (50) percent of the membership, as defined in Robert's Rules of Order. All votes regarding amendments will be taken anonymously.

**Part 3. Proposals and Amendments** Changes by the membership from the floor at the December Semi-Annual General Meeting shall not be permitted. The sixty (60) days advance notice has priority.

**Part 4. Implementation of Amendments** to the Bylaws and/or the Rules and Regulations receiving a two-thirds majority vote shall be implemented on the first day of the month following their adoption; July 1<sup>st</sup> of the present calendar year for the June Semi-Annual General Meeting, January 1<sup>st</sup> of the following calendar year, for the December Semi-Annual General Meeting.

**Part 5. Accredited Vote** Only a Club President or his/her appointed alternate from a Club in good standing shall have the right to vote. The appointment of an alternate must be made in writing by the Member Club.

[www.ljsoccer.com](http://www.ljsoccer.com)



**"BUILDING CHARACTER  
THROUGH SOCCER"**