



GREAT LAKES WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE

BYLAWS

1 NAME AND ADDRESS: The name, as provided for in the Articles of Incorporation, is the Great Lakes Women's Soccer League, hereafter referred to as the GLWSL. The address of this organization shall be the mailing address as registered with the State of Michigan, with the agency currently known as the Corporations, Securities & Commercial Licensing Bureau.

2 PURPOSE: The purpose of the GLWSL, as reflected in the Articles of Incorporation, is to promote soccer for women in Michigan, to encourage and assist the growth of female soccer teams and programs, to encourage more women to become licensed coaches and referees, and to support any activities which encourage the "good of the game" for all soccer players regardless of sex or gender. Membership shall be open to any group of women, without regard to race, color or religion, which shall be a non-profit 501(c)(7) social club as provided under the Internal Revenue Code.

3 AFFILIATION: It is our intent to maintain affiliation with the Michigan Soccer Association, hereafter referred to as the MSA.

4 MEMBERSHIP: Membership is open to any group of women, without regard to race, color or religion, who qualify as a team under these Bylaws, and as further defined by the Rules and Regulations of this organization.

5 GOVERNANCE

5.1 Authority: The league GLWSL is governed by its Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Policies and Procedures, except when the MSA and/or United States Amateur Soccer Association (USASA) and/or United States Soccer Federation (USSF) supersede those.

5.2 Executive Board: The governing authority of this league is vested in an Executive Board as provided in these Bylaws.

5.3 Jurisdiction: The jurisdiction of this organization includes teams and players that join under the conditions set forth by this organization and the MSA.

5.4 Assets: No member has any rights to assets or funds of the GLWSL. In case of dissolution of the GLWSL, said assets shall be distributed as set forth by provisions of Section 501 (c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code.

5.5 Election of Officers: The Executive Board shall be elected by the members and holds office as prescribed in the Bylaws.

5.5.1 Executive Board: The Executive Board consists of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, a Registrar, two (2) Members-at-large, and the immediate past president.

5.5.2 Team Representatives: Each team will have a delegate and an alternate, one (1) of which will have the right to vote on proposed amendments and be elected to the Executive Board. At least one of them (the delegate or the alternate) must be a registered player, a team official, or any other individual appointed to that position by the team he or she represents.



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5.5.3 Delegate Duties: Each delegate or alternate will be responsible for attending meetings, registering the team and keeping the team in good standing.

5.5.4 Jurisdiction: All individuals who may reasonably be construed to be associated with the team, including spectators, are subject to the jurisdiction of this league. Any and all coaches and team officials are jointly and severally responsible for the actions of any individual(s) who violate the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, or Policies and Procedures, and who in the opinion of the Executive Board, is affiliated with or a supporter of that team.

6 EXECUTIVE BOARD

6.1 Board Powers and Duties: The property and affairs of the league shall be managed by the Executive Board. These powers and duties include:

- A. To have and exercise all the usual powers and duties of a business corporation, as well as the immediate governance and direction of the affairs of the league.
- B. Authorize the reimbursement of any reasonable expense incurred on behalf of the league, or in the accomplishment of its purpose when presented with a bill.
- C. Resolve any conflict regarding the interpretation of the League Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Policies and Procedures.
- D. Undertake any activities or make any rules seen as furthering the purposes of this League.
- E. Administer any Tournament the Executive Board approves

6.2 Board Operations: The Executive Board has the power to decide all questions raised by members in closed session. The voting positions of the Board shall not be made public.

- A. All decisions of the Executive Board are final and binding on all members, unless and until they are reconsidered and reversed by the Board, the MSA, the USASA, the USSF or other appropriate higher authority.
- B. No member of the Executive Board may vote on any appeal or issue involving a team for which he or she is a coach, player, or manager, nor may such conflicted Board member be present during such a vote.

6.3 New Positions: The Executive Board may create new positions, to be filled by the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

6.4 Vacancies: The Executive Board may fill vacancies occurring on the Board by majority vote as necessary.

6.5 Emergency Committee: The President, Vice-President and the Registrar may serve as an Emergency Committee to decide matters, which require immediate attention between Executive Board meetings. Their decisions are subject to Board approval at the next Board meeting.



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7 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

7.1 Term of Office: The election of the Executive Board members shall take place at the Annual General Meeting before New Business. Election of the President, Treasurer and one (1) Member-at-Large shall be conducted during the even numbered years. Election of the Vice-President, Secretary, and one (1) Member-at-Large shall be conducted during the odd numbered years. Registrar shall be elected annually.

7.2 Removal: Any Executive Board member may be removed from office for any or all of the following reasons:

- A. Missing three (3) consecutive meetings.
- B. Failure to perform her/his duties as specified.
- C. A majority vote of the Board.

7.3 Succession of President: The Vice-President shall serve as President until the next Annual General Meeting, in the event that a vacancy in the office of President should occur.

8 DUTIES OF OFFICERS

8.1 Duties of the President: Preside at all meetings and perform such duties usual to the office of President, including:

- A. Call special meetings of this League at her discretion.
- B. The duty to attend and represent the League at other soccer meetings.
- C. Vote on issues only in the event of a tie by the Executive Board.
- D. Appoint committees.
- E. Act as an *ex officio* member of all committees.

8.2 Duties of the Vice-President: In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall have all the powers and perform all of the duties of the President. In addition she will:

- A. Act as Chairperson of the Volunteer Committee.
- B. Assist the Treasurer and be bonded the same as the Treasurer.

8.3 Duties of the Secretary: The Secretary shall have the duties usually associated with the office of Secretary, including:

- A. Shall see that all the teams are advised of meetings and other important information.
- B. Shall keep the MSA advised of matters in the GLWSL.



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- C. Shall register the League with the MSA.

8.4 Duties of the Treasurer: The Treasurer shall have the duties usually associated with the office of Treasurer, including:

- A. Shall maintain a detailed record of income and expenditures.
- B. Shall collect all fees and fines.
- C. Shall present a current financial report at all Executive Board meetings.
- D. Shall sign the checks against the League's account(s).
- E. Shall render the annual Treasurer's Report and Account at the Annual General Meeting of the GLWSL. The Treasurer shall be bonded for an amount determined and paid for by the GLWSL Executive Board.

8.5 Duties of the Registrar: Shall have the duties usually associated with the office of Registrar, including:

- A. Shall register GLWSL players with the MSA.
- B. Shall keep the official records of team affiliation with the GLWSL (MSA / GLWSL Team Affiliation Form).
- C. Collect and record official team rosters and player eligibility (USASA / GLWSL Player Registration Form).
- D. Collect GLWSL Release Forms.
- E. Shall have the duty and responsibility to review line-ups when returned by the League Statistician. In the event that she discovers that an unregistered/illegal player has participated in a game, she shall have the authority to award a forfeit to the opposing team, and notify in writing, both teams, the League Statistician and the Secretary.

8.6 Duties of the Members-at-Large: Shall have the duties usually associated with the position of Member-at-Large. Duties shall be appointed by the President.

9 MEETINGS

9.1 Notice: The GLWSL shall hold meetings as provided in the Bylaws.

9.2 Parliamentary Procedure: Unless otherwise specified herein, Robert's Rules of Order, current edition, shall govern in all questions of parliamentary procedure.

9.3 Annual General Meeting: The GLWSL will hold an Annual General Meeting in January of each year. The time and place of the Annual General Meeting shall be determined by a majority vote of those eligible to vote at the Executive Board meeting following the close of the soccer season.



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9.3.1 Order of Business: The Order of Business at the Annual General Meeting will be as follows:

- A. Roll Call
- B. Minutes
- C. Communications
- D. Committee Reports
- E. Unfinished Business
- F. Election of Board Members
- G. New Business
- H. "Good of the Game"
- I. Adjournment

9.4 Scheduling Meeting: A Scheduling meeting will be held in April for the purpose of scheduling the coming summer season and to distribute information necessary to manage that season.

9.5 Failure to Attend: A delegate or alternate from each team must be present for the Annual General Meeting and the Scheduling Meeting under penalty of fine. [See Policies and Procedures: 4.9.1 -4.9.8]

9.6 Special Meetings: Special meetings may be called by the President or by one-third (1/3) of the Executive Board in accordance with the notice requirements set forth herein.

9.7 Notice: At least three (3) weeks' notice shall be given to all Board members at their addresses of record or e-mail for all regular meetings. At least ten (10) days' notice shall be given for all special meetings.

9.8 Quorum: A quorum at the Annual General Meeting or any Special Meeting shall be two-thirds (2/3) of all the members in good standing and eligible to vote.

- A. A quorum at the regular Executive Board Meetings shall be five (5) Board members.
- B. Elected Board Members shall have voice and vote at the Annual General Meeting.

9.9 Voting Qualifications of Members: To be eligible to have voice and vote at the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting of this league, a member must be:

- A. In good standing in the league; *i.e.* is neither suspended nor on probation.
- B. Current in all his/her obligations to the League and its members. Any team who is not current in its obligations to the League will forfeit voice and vote.



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- C. Any League member, who knows of any reason why a team or delegate should be denied its vote, must notify the Secretary in writing and send a copy of the notice to the team's delegate.

10 REVISION AND AMENDMENTS OF THE BYLAWS

10.1 Authority: The GLWSL Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed and new laws adopted at the annual General Meeting where a two-thirds (2/3) vote of delegates present and in good standing are in favor of amendment, providing each is first submitted, in writing, thirty (30) days before the Annual General Meeting.

10.2 Floor Submittal and Adoption: Amendments coming from the floor at the Annual General Meeting shall require the support of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership present and in good standing for adoption. Such amendments must be written.

10.3 Adoption: These Bylaws, upon adoption, supersedes in all respects the Bylaws previously in effect, and is concurrently revoked and rescinded.

11 MEMBERSHIP

11.1 Requirements:

- A. Application for membership by any team shall constitute acceptance of and approval of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of this League, the MSA, the USASA and the USSF. The Executive Board reserves the right to deny membership to any team in order to preserve the common good of the League.
- B. No member shall seek recourse outside of this League, or the MSA, or the USASA, or the USSF, until the process provided therefore in the rules of these associations has been exhausted.
- C. Membership in the GLWSL is open to any team who submits a written request for membership to the Secretary, accompanied by a check for a performance bond. Such requests must contain a roster of at least eleven (11) players, but not more than twenty-five (25); each of whom must be at least 18 years of age or a high school graduate. Requests for membership must be received by the Secretary forty- five (45) days prior to the start of any season. Membership will be granted to any team only after the above conditions are met, and the Executive Board has given its approval.
- D. Membership in this league will entitle each team to a vote and voice on behalf of its players at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and any Special Meetings of the league.

11.2 Affiliation: Official league affiliation may be accomplished at the AGM and must be completed no later than thirty (30) days prior to the Scheduling Meeting.

12 FEES AND DUES: The Executive Board shall determine the amount to be charged for the performance bond and affiliation fees, and any other fees required for the conduct of the business of this league.



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13 FISCAL AND SEASONAL YEAR

13.1 Fiscal Year: The Fiscal year shall be from the first day in January to the last day of December.

13.2 Seasonal Year: The Seasonal year shall begin Memorial Day and last until September 30.

14 PLEAS OF IGNORANCE: It is the responsibility of each player, coach, manager, and team official to know and understand the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Policies and Procedures. A plea of ignorance to the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and Policies and Procedures will not be considered an excuse for failing to follow them and will not be considered as a defense in any Disciplinary Hearing, and violators shall expect appropriate action by the Executive Board.

15 REVISION AND AMENDMENTS OF THE BYLAWS

15.1 Authority: These Bylaws in their initial form and content shall be effective upon approval by the Executive Board, and by their adoption, any other Bylaws shall be thereby declared to have been revoked, rescinded and rendered inoperative as the official Bylaws of the GLWSL.

15.2 Suspension: Any section of the Bylaws may be temporarily suspended by the action of three-fourths (3/4) of the active members attending any official meeting at which a quorum is present, provided that due and proper notice is given.

15.3 Revision: These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or replaced by action at the Annual General Meeting by support of two-thirds (2/3) of the membership present and in good standing, provided that said notice of intention to submit such shall have been included in the notice of that meeting, postmarked at least fourteen (14) days prior, including the language of said change.