

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA SOCCER LEAGUE

CONSTITUTION

Article I

Name

The name of this organization (corporation) shall be Central California Soccer League (the league), with headquarters in Sacramento California, U.S.A.

1. This corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3), Internal Revenue Code.
2. No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distribution of statements) on behalf of any candidate for public office.
3. The property of this corporation is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes and no part of the net income or assets of this corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of the director, officer or member there or to the benefit of any private person. Upon the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation or corporation which is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3), Internal Revenue Code.

Article II

Purpose

- A. This corporation is a nonprofit PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law for Public & Charitable Purposes.
- B. The Central California Soccer League is organized for the purpose of governing soccer competition among its member teams and clubs. The formation of the League is intended to foster friendly and effective cooperation among its members, to foster good sportsmanship, and to develop a better public understanding and appreciation of the game of soccer.
- C. Central California Soccer League (CCSL) is affiliated with California Soccer Association North (CSA-N); the United States Soccer Federation (USSF); and the Federation Internationale de Futbol Association (FIFA).

Article III

Membership

Section A The League membership shall consist of all teams registered with the League.

Section B. A club may register more than one team. Each team has one vote. New members may be admitted to the League upon proper application by a representative of the applying team. Acceptance of new Members shall be approved by the League's Executive Board. The CCSL shall promptly notify California Soccer Association – North (CSA-N) about the acceptance of new members. The Executive Board may grant a League CCSL Divisional Membership. Divisional membership is for the purpose of CSA-N and USSF affiliation only.

Section C. All members must conform to and abide by the League's Constitution and Bylaws together with amendments hereafter made.

Section D. Team fees shall be based upon the projected cost of running their respective divisions. Returning teams must post a \$200 bond with the League at the Annual General Meeting to assure their division standing in the League for the coming season. In the event a Member is unable to field a team therefore unable to participate in the coming season, the bond shall be forfeited to the League.

Section E. New teams shall post a performance bond of \$300. The performance bond shall be returned to new members at the beginning of the second year of participation provided their performance in the League during the first year was acceptable, as determined by the Executive Board.

Section F. Returning members shall declare their intentions to participate and post the appropriate bond by the date of the AGM

Section G. Members wishing to withdraw from the League shall notify the Secretary of the League, in writing, at least thirty (30) days prior the start of the season the date they intend to withdraw.

Article IV

Government

Section A. This body shall be governed by duly elected officers who shall form the Executive Board.

1. The Executive Board shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall assume their duties five days after the date of the AGM.

2. The Executive Board shall consist of:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. 1st Vice President
4. 2nd Vice President
5. Secretary
6. Treasurer
7. Four Board Members at Large

1. Only Executive Board members or those appointed by the Executive Board may serve as delegates to the CSA-N Board of Directors.

Section B. Disciplinary Board

1. The League shall maintain a Disciplinary Board to discipline players and teams as necessary.
2. The Disciplinary Board shall consist of an odd number of members, but not less than three (3).
3. Disciplinary Board members shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Disciplinary Board and approved by the Executive Board.

Section C. Governing Rules

1. All interested individuals shall be eligible for nomination or appointment to the Executive or Disciplinary Board regardless of their affiliation with a team or other association.

2. Members of the League and of the Executive and Disciplinary Board have no rights in the property of the Association or League. In the event of dissolution, Members shall then share equally in the property of the league to be distributed. In the event a Member or a member of the Executive and Disciplinary Board resigns, withdraws, or is expelled, he shall have no interest whatsoever in the property of the League.

Article V

Meetings

- Section A. The Annual General Meeting shall be held prior to the commencement of the new meeting. Nominations and Election of officers shall be conducted at the AGM.
- Section B. A quorum for any Membership meeting shall consist of no less than one third (1/3) of the Membership that is in good standing at the time the meeting is called to order.
- Section C. Any member failing to attend a Membership meeting is subject to an automatic fine of \$75.00.
- Section D. Written notification of membership and Annual General Membership meetings shall be postmarked at least two weeks prior to such meetings. Notice shall include a proposed agenda for the meeting.
- Section E. The League's Executive Board shall meet at least once every month during the playing season. During the off season, and in case of an emergency, any member of the Executive Board may request a meeting of the Board by notifying the President. These emergency meetings shall be held if three (3) members or more of the Executive Board agree that the meeting is necessary. The Board will make every effort to notify all members of any meeting of the Board. A quorum for conducting business at Executive Board meetings shall consist of a majority of its members.
- Section F. Unless otherwise agreed upon Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the process of conducting business at all meetings of the League.

Article VI

Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

- Section A. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the League members in good standing.
- Section B. Proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws must be submitted to the League Secretary in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the League's Annual General Meeting. The League shall send copies of the proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws to the Membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- Section C. Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws shall be approved at the Annual General Meeting.

Central California Soccer League Bylaws

Article I

Executive and Disciplinary Boards

Section A. Members of the Executive Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. President

- a. Shall preside over all meetings of the Executive Board and League.
- b. Shall cosign all checks and assist the Treasurer in overseeing the League's finances.
- c. Shall be responsible for coordinating development of the game schedule for the season.
- d. Shall appoint any new officer, in case of resignation, with approval of the Executive Board.
- e. Shall in general be responsible for all League affairs.
- f. Shall be the highest ranking officer of the League and, in that capacity, shall represent the League in all formal affairs.
- g. Shall be responsible, with the assistance of the Vice President, for rescheduling postponed games.
- h. Shall appoint all Ad Hoc committees

2. Vice President

- a. Shall take the President's place in case of absence.
- b. Shall carry out all duties assigned by the President.
- c. Shall be responsible for assigning officials to all League games.
- d. Shall be the League's representative with the Referees' Association with two members of the Executive Board selected by the Executive Board, shall participate in all negotiations with that organization.
- e. Shall be responsible, with the assistance of the President, for rescheduling postponed games.
- f. Shall be responsible for compiling the league standings and records from the Referee's Reports and Game Cards.

3. First Vice President

- a. Shall carry out all duties assigned by the President.
- b. Shall be one of the two League representatives at the CSAN Board of Directors meetings.
- c. Shall chair the League's Disciplinary Board
- d. Shall assume all of the duties of the Vice President in his absence.

4. Second Vice President

- a. Shall carry out all duties assigned by the President.
- b. Shall assume the duties of the First Vice President in his absence

5. Secretary

- a. Shall keep all official records of the League.
- b. Shall keep all minutes of the Executive Board, General Membership, and AGM meetings.
- c. Shall take care of correspondence upon the President's request.
- d. Shall cooperate closely with the President in setting the League's game schedule and arranging any other games and activities as necessary.
- e. Shall be responsible for notifying the Membership and Executive Board of Executive Board, membership, and AGM meetings.

6. Treasurer
 - a. Shall make all bank deposits.
 - b. Shall provide the membership with written financial reports at all Executive Board, Membership, and AGM meetings and when otherwise requested.
 - c. Shall cosign all checks.
 - d. Shall prepare the League's annual budget.
 - e. Shall be responsible for arranging payments of all the League financial obligations.
 - f. Shall participate in all negotiations with the Referee Association.

Section B The Executive Board shall take any of the following actions regarding teams with delinquent League fees:

1. Withhold player registration materials from teams who fail to pay their first half League fees by the deadline established by the Executive Board, until such fees are paid.
2. Suspend from League competition teams who fail to pay their second half League fees by deadline established by the Executive Board, until such fees are paid.
3. Require League fees and fines to be paid to the League in cash, cashier's check, or money order under the following circumstances:
 - a. When payments are made by a team which has a history of writing bad checks, as determined by the Executive Board.
 - b. Under extraordinary circumstances, the Executive Board may consider a Member's written appeal regarding actions taken against a team for not paying league fees or fines on time.
4. Under extraordinary circumstances, the Executive Board may consider a Member's written appeal regarding actions taken against a team for not paying league fees or fines on time.

Section C. Disciplinary Board

1. The Disciplinary Board shall meet every two weeks during the season, starting from the second week of the season.
2. It shall be the duty of this Board to conduct a hearing on all cases where a player is sent off the field. Such a player shall be given a hearing before the Disciplinary Board. The Board shall impose a disciplinary measure which is, in the Board's opinion, appropriate to the offense.
3. The Disciplinary Board cannot levy monetary fines and/or bonds in excess of \$300.00 without the approval of the Executive Board.
4. All fines are due and payable by the date established by the Disciplinary Board. Teams must be notified inperson, or by certified mail that they have been fined.

Article 11

Laws of the Game

Section A. Games shall be played as called for by the schedules made by the League. The schedules will be made up in advance for the entire season.

Section B. The failure of any Member to participate in three (3) scheduled League games shall be suspended for

the remainder of the season and dropped to the next lower division.

- Section C. No new teams will be permitted to enter League competition after the schedule is announced.
- Section D. Postponed games will be rescheduled by the Vice President with the assistance of the President. The League shall notify each team manager at least five (5) days in advance of such scheduled games.
- Section E. The time for the start of all League games shall be arranged by the Executive Board. Only the traveling team shall be given a fifteen- minute grace period.
- Section F. No team shall agree to change a scheduled game without the permission of the President or his designee.
- Section G. When a team is awarded a forfeit for any reason, the opposing team will be awarded a win, unless the opposing team has also been awarded a forfeit.
- Section H. Positions in the standings shall be determined by the number of points to the credit of each team at the end of the season. A win shall count three (3) points, a tie one point and a loss or forfeit no points. If two or more teams are tied in total points for the League Championship, a playoff will decide the winner. All other positions will be decided by goal differential. If, on the basis of goal differential, the League cannot determine which team or teams should be relegated to the next lower division, a playoff shall decide which team or teams shall be relegated.
- Section I. All games shall be governed by the official soccer rules of the United States Soccer Federation.
- Section J. If a playoff game results in a tie at the end of regulation time, two overtime periods of fifteen minutes each shall be played. If no goals are scored in overtime, the game shall be decided by penalty kicks (kicks from the mark) in accordance with FIFA rules.
- Section K. No player shall be eligible to participate in a league game or playoff game unless he was registered with his team for three regular league games prior to the end of the regular season. A bye does not count as a regular league game. No player shall be eligible to transfer from one team to another new team after four (4) regular league games prior to the end of the regular season.
- Section L. All teams shall wear uniforms which consist of a jersey, shorts, and knee-length socks which reflect their primary team colors, as registered with the League's Secretary. In case both teams have similarly colored jerseys (not distinguishable by the referee), the home team must change. After registering colors with the League Secretary, a team must obtain permission from the Executive Board to change colors. All teams must play in jerseys that are numbered. Numbers must be visible on the back of the jersey and must be at least 8 inches in height. Each player must have a different number. The goalie is not required to have a number.
- Section M. Substitutions
1. A maximum of seven (7) substitute players shall be allowed at any time during the game.

(This includes regular and overtime periods).

2. Substitutes must report to the Referee before being allowed to participate.
3. A maximum of eighteen (18) individual players shall be allowed during a game by each team. These players may be substituted freely.
4. A player ordered from the field of play by the Referee may not be replaced.
5. Substitutions may only be made at the following times: after a goal, prior to a goal kick, prior to a throw in by the team awarded the throw in, when play is stopped because of injury to a player to replace said injured player, and at half time.

Section N. No team may start a game with less than seven players. Teams having seven or more players in uniform at game time must start at the order of the referee.

Section O. **72 hour rule---deleted**

Section P. Persons not participating in the game are not permitted on the field during playing time.

Section Q. The home team is responsible for regulation nets and corner flags.

Section R. The home team shall provide sufficient balls for the game which shall conform to regulations.

Section S. The League shall compensate game officials.

Section T. The home team shall see that regulation goals are in place and that the field is well marked.

Section U. Referees must be licensed by United States Soccer Federation.

Section V. Both teams and particularly club officers are responsible for the safety of game officials

Section W. A team will be held responsible for the conduct of its players and supporters.

Section X. Playing matches with clubs outside the League

1. Any team desiring to travel outside the jurisdiction of this League must make application in writing to the Board of this League, via the Secretary. No travel shall be allowed until approval of the application is given by the Board. Sufficient time must be allowed for processing the application and securing the necessary clearances from CSAN and the United States Soccer Federation.
2. Before arranging games with clubs outside the League, Members shall apply directly with CSAN or via the Secretary of the League, to ascertain whether the club or clubs against which the club intends to play are bona fide members of affiliated soccer. Seven-day notice must be given for requests for inter-league games; fifteen-days notice for inter-association games; and thirty-days notice for interstate and international games.
3. Disregard of this rule shall subject the violator to such penalties as the Executive Board shall deem appropriate.

Section Y. The following By-Law violations are cause for a game to be forfeited:

1. Failure to pay fees or fines.
2. Failure to field a team of seven or more players when called upon by the referee,

3. Playing an ineligible player.
4. Failure to change jerseys when called upon by the referee.
5. Playing more than 18 players. (Amended 9/06)
6. Registering more than 24 players. (Amended 9/06)
7. Causing a game to be stopped before completion of time.
8. Other situations where the Executive Board feels it is not in the best interest of the game and are not mentioned in these Bylaws.

Section Z. The following Bylaws violations are cause for a team to be fined:

1. All items in section Y.
2. Failure to attend meetings.
3. Failure to provide regulation nets and corner flags.
4. Failure to have a playing field in proper condition.
5. Not having uniforms in compliance with the Bylaws.
6. Failure to provide correct lineup card to the Referee on time.
7. Failure to provide regulation game balls.
8. Any item which the Disciplinary and/or Executive Board feels is not in the best interest of the game.

Article III

Players

Section A. All players must be registered with CSAN and must sign on the proper forms provided by the USSF.

Section B. Each team may register as many as twenty four (24) players and may not have more than that number on its` roster at any time. New players may be added to each team`s roster provided the total number does not exceed 24. Any player a team wishes to remove from the team must be released using the USSF release form.

Section C. No player shall be permitted to participate in any game unless he is in possession and presents a current registration card to the Referee.

Section D. No player may be registered with more than one team in the League at the same time. Any player who registers to play with a team in the League without securing his release from another team with which he is currently registered shall become ineligible and forfeits his right to play in this League.

Section E. The Referee shall hold all player`s passes delivered to him by the players and substitutes when entering the game. At the conclusion of the game, the Referee shall return all player passes except those of ejected players, which shall be mailed to the Chair of the Leagues Disciplinary Board.

Section F. A player desiring to play with another team, after securing written release from the manager, is eligible to play with any other team as soon as he has his new registration card.

Section G. No team is permitted to sign new players for League tournament play.

Section H. At the end of the season, all amateur players are automatically released and must be resigned for the following season. The rules governing professional players are set by the USSF.

Section I. Any player who willfully retains equipment which is the property of a club and, after due notice from said club, refuses to return such equipment to said club, may be notified by this League to appear for disciplinary action at a regular meeting of the Disciplinary Board.

Article IV

Hearing and Suspension of Players

Any player banished from a game by the Referee, or who receives three (3) yellow cards during the League season, shall be automatically suspended from one League game, or until he appears before the Disciplinary Board. He may waive this appearance if he is willing to accept the decision of the Board. The Referee's retaining a player pass shall be sufficient notice to a team that the player will face disciplinary action:

1. If a Referee ejects a player from further participation in the game, the Referee shall submit a detailed report on the official "Referee's 24 Hour Report". This report shall be postmarked no later than twelve o'clock noon of the day following
2. The Disciplinary hearing shall be in accordance with USSF Bylaws.
3. Only games scheduled by the League or by the State or National association will count toward fulfillment of player or team suspension.
4. A disciplined player or his club has the right to appeal to CSAN. The appeal can be made only after a final decision is received from the League's Disciplinary Board.

Article V

Protests and Appeals

Section A. All protests must be made in writing and lodged with the League Secretary within three (3) days after the game being protested. All protests shall be handled by the Executive Board.

Section B. Protests may not be made upon any decision made by the Referee on a point of play.

Section C. Protests regarding the amateur standing and eligibility of a player must be made to CSAN.

Section D. Each protest must be accompanied by a deposit \$50.00 which will be forfeited to the League in the event that the protest is reject .

Section E. In the event a team gives notice to the Referee that the game is being protested, the Referee must state the reason for the protest on the game card and have both managers sign the card.

Section F. After being notified of a Disciplinary Board decision, a player or team has the right to appeal through the team's representative. The appealing party must:

1. Write to the Secretary of the League within seven (7) days of receiving the Disciplinary Board's decision, stating the reasons for appeal.

2. Refer exclusively to the offense under consideration and include evidence of the circumstances of the incident and any mitigating factors not previously known to the Disciplinary Board. If, in the opinion of the Executive Board, an appeal has been submitted for frivolous or unsubstantiated reasons, the appealing party may be required to pay an administrative charge to cover the costs to the League.

Section G. The Executive Board will notify the appealing party, in writing, of its decision on the appeal.

Section H. If the appealing party does not accept the Executive Board's final ruling, the team may appeal to CSAN. For more detailed information regarding the CSAN's appeal procedures Members may contact CSAN directly at 1348 Silver Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134 or by phone at (415) 467-1881.

Article VI

Suspension of Members

- Section A. By a majority vote of the League Members, any Member may be expelled from the League or suspended for such time and under such conditions as the League Members may determine, if such Member has failed to conduct himself in an honorable manner in the prosecution of League activities, has conducted himself in a manner detrimental to the best interest of the League, or has calculated to bring the League or any of its Members into ill repute. The conduct of players comprising a Member team on the playing field shall be deemed to be the conduct of that Member team.
- Section B. Before any expulsion or suspension shall be ordered, a written statement of the charges shall be delivered to the Member team together with notice of the time and place of the meeting of the League at which time such charges are to be heard. Notice of the meeting and a statement of charges shall be sent by registered mail to the Member team in care of an officer of, or delegate representing, such team at least seven (7) days prior to such meeting.
- Section C. If the Member is suspended or expelled after such hearing he may appeal to the League for reinstatement by filing an appeal with the Secretary within ten (10) days after he is notified of his suspension or expulsion. If said appeal is denied or is not acted upon, within fifteen (15) days after such denial or failure to act upon same, the Member may appeal to the CSAN, of which this League is a Member. The CSAN shall have the right to affirm, modify, or reverse the order made by the League as to such suspension or expulsion. An appeal may be taken in the matter by either party from the decision of the CSAN to the United States Soccer Federation.
- Section D. No Member shall bring any action at law or in equity against the League until and unless he has exhausted all rights, remedies and appeals granted to him by the Constitution and Bylaws of the League or of the CSAN or of the United States Soccer Federation. If a Member brings any such action before having exhausted such rights, remedies and appeals, that Member agrees that the court before which such action is pending may allow the League as costs attorney fees it has incurred in the successful defense of such action.
- Section E. After investigation, the League shall have the authority to suspend the playing privileges of the team or Member if a Referee's report is filed charging the team with being guilty, in his opinion, of unsportsmanlike conduct and stating forth the facts consulting the same. Such suspension may be made immediately upon receipt of such report by the League and without other notice of hearing, providing that such suspension shall not stand for more than ten (10) days charges are filed against the Member whose team has been suspended arising out of said incident or incidents. If charges are filed, the team shall be suspended until such charges are heard and finally determined. All Members recognized the necessity of providing for such immediate suspension to prevent the development of playing conditions which will tend to disrupt the League and interfere with other teams engaging in soccer competition.

Article V11

All-Star Team

- Section A. The League may have an all-star team which will play opponents approved by the Executive Board.
- Section B. Team is to be selected from those teams that are Members of the League.
- Section C. Each team is to be notified at least seven (7) days in advance of all-star team tryouts.
- Section D. Final selection to be left to all-star coach and/or manager.
- Section E. Try out camp to be held as set by the Executive Board.
- Section F. All-star coach may make changes in personnel during the year as he deems necessary.
- Section H. Position of Manager to be filled by the Executive Board.
- Section I. Budget of \$1,000. to be allocated each season, as deemed available by the Executive Board.
- Section J. No player may receive payment from the League for participating on the all-star team, except that reasonable expenses may be paid.