

## **DISTRICT BY-LAWS & RULES**

September 17, 2005

### **NORTHEAST DISTRICT BY-LAWS**

The Northeast District of the Connecticut Junior Soccer Association (CJSA) is comprised of thirty-one towns in the Northeast corner of the State. It is one of seven districts that make up CJSA. The purpose of the district is to facilitate effective administration of CJSA rules and policies at the local level as well as encouraging the development of soccer at all levels.

The District Governing Board has the power to organize, administer, and/or finance teams, leagues, tournaments, competitions and related programs and establish rules, constitution, by-laws, or their equivalents that govern intra-district affairs, as it shall deem appropriate. As long as they are not in conflict with the rules, by-laws and jurisdiction of the United States Soccer Federation, the United States Youth Soccer Association and the Connecticut Junior Soccer Association.

It is the responsibility of each District Governing Board to promote the sport of soccer in beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels of play.

Within our District each member club and each team sponsored by a member club, in good standing, shall have the right to participate in or on any district sponsored team, league, tournament or competition subject to the rules adopted by the governing board of this district.

## **ARTICLE I**

The Northeast District is one of seven geographical areas the State of Connecticut is divided into by CJSA. The purpose of the Districts is facilitating administration and development of the game of soccer in Connecticut. The Northeast District is part of the corporation, Connecticut Junior Soccer Association Inc.

## **ARTICLE II**

The Northeast District will be made up of members representing each club in the Northeast District that is currently affiliated and in good standing with CJSA. Each club may be represented at District monthly meetings. Each club shall have one vote to cast on voting matter at the District meetings.

## **ARTICLE III**

District meetings will be held monthly except in July and October. The District Vice President will distribute the schedule for the monthly meetings to the clubs in

January of each year. Special meetings shall be called at the request of three members of the District Board of Directors, or by a written request of one-third of the member clubs, or by the District Vice President in an emergency. One-third of the total clubs currently affiliated and in good standing with CJSA shall constitute a quorum.

Written notice of the time and place of any special meeting shall be mailed to each club president if time allows, or they will be notified by phone.

## **ARTICLE IV**

**Members of the District Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors shall consist of the persons occupying the positions of Immediate Past District Vice President, District Vice President, District Secretary, District Treasurer, District Referee Administrator, District Representative and District Registrar, Director of Coaching and the Director of Competition..

**Powers:** The District Board of Directors is empowered to adopt and enforce rules and regulations within our district pertaining to any intra-district play. The Board of Directors is empowered to organize, administer, and/or finance teams, leagues, competitions and related programs. So long as the rules are not in conflict with CJSA, United States Soccer Federation or United States Youth Soccer Association.

**Elections:** The office of District Vice President is elected at the annual CJSA meeting in even numbered years. At this meeting only those clubs currently affiliated and in good standing in the Northeast District may cast votes for the Northeast District Vice President. The District will accept nominations for the office of District Vice President at the December monthly meeting prior to the annual CJSA meeting. Discussion and resolution of the Districts candidate for the office of Vice President will be resolved at this meeting.

Elections of all other Board positions will be done on an annual basis at the first District monthly meeting after the CJSA annual meeting.

**Vacancies:** In the event of a vacancy for any reason, the District Board of Directors may appoint a person to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term.

**Absence of District Vice President:** The District Representative shall assume the powers and responsibilities in the absence of the District Vice President.

## **ARTICLE V**

Officers and Duties

The officers of the Northeast District shall consist of the District Vice President, District Secretary, District Treasurer, District Referee Coordinator, District Registrar and the District Representative, the Director of Coaching and the Director of Competition.

The District Vice President shall preside at all meeting of the Board of Directors and monthly District meetings, but shall vote only to break a tie. The District Vice President shall appoint all non-elected committees and shall serve ex-officio on all committees.

The District Vice President is expected to attend the CJSA Board of Director meetings and represent the Districts interest at these meetings.

The District Representative: The District Representative shall assume the powers of the District Vice President in his/her absence. The District Representative is expected to attend the CJSA Board of Director meetings.

The District Representative shall be elected annually at the first monthly District meeting after the CJSA Annual General meeting. Nominations for District Representative shall be taken at the December meeting. .

District Secretary: The District Secretary shall record all minutes of the meetings of the District Board of Directors and the monthly District meetings. The Secretary shall distribute copies of the minutes to all persons and clubs on the district mailing list. The District Secretary shall also forward a copy of the minutes to the President of CJSA.

The District Secretary shall be elected annually at the first monthly District meeting after the CJSA annual general meeting. Nominations for Secretary shall be taken at the December District meeting.

District Treasurer: The District Treasurer shall have charge of all monies of the District of the District and shall keep a detailed account of the income and expenditures of the District. The Treasurer shall submit a monthly report at the District meetings. In addition at the January District meeting the Treasurer shall submit a Financial Plan forecasting income and expenditures for the upcoming year.

The Treasurer shall be elected annually at the first monthly District meeting following the CJSA annual general meeting. Nominations shall be taken for Treasurer at the December District meeting.

District Registrar: The District Vice President with the approval of the District Board of Directors shall appoint the District Registrar annually.

The District Registrar shall act as a coordinator with the assistant registrars in the District. He/she will be responsible for training the assistant registrars. The District Registrar is responsible for submitting on a timely basis to the State Registrar a list of all

the registered players and participating adults. If clubs are tardy in submitting to the District Registrar he/she shall report this to the District Vice President.

The District Registrar shall be empowered to sign player transfer requests.

The District Registrar shall annually at a monthly meeting conduct an informational session for all club registrars to inform them of the rules and regulations regarding proper registration of players. He/she will also be responsible for implementing any rule changes regarding registration.

District Referee Administrator: The District Vice President with the consent of the Board of Directors shall appoint the District Referee Administrator annually. He/she shall coordinated all activities relating to the selection and training of referees in the district.

The District Referee Administrator shall appoint all center officials to all State and Open Cup competition in the District. The DRA shall attend meetings as necessary called by the State Youth Referee Administrator. The DRA shall coordinate entry level and recertification clinics in the district. The DRA shall field complaints or concerns regarding referee issues in the District that are unable to be remedied at the club level.

Director Of Coaching: The District Vice President shall annually appoint a Director of Coaching approved by the Board of Directors. The Coaching Director will be appointed at the first monthly meeting following the CJSA annual general meeting.

The coaching Director will be responsible to coordinate coaching clinics throughout the District and promote the usage of clinics. He/she will also act as a representative for the coaches interests in the District. The coaching Director will be responsible for distributing information such as coaching kits to the district coaches.

Director of Competition: The Competition Director shall be appointed annually by the District Vice President with the approval of the Board of Directors. The Director of Competition will be responsible for the District League play. He/she may, with the consent of the Board of Directors, appoint league commissioners as needed to facilitate the District League play. The Director of Competition may also chair the Districts Competition Committee.

NON OFFICER Standing Positions:

District Recreational Director: Shall be appointed annually by the District Vice President with the approval of the District Board of Directors. The Recreational Director shall promote, coordinate and help implement recreational level programs. The Recreational Director may be required to attend state level meetings regarding recreational services such as America's Cup.

District Select Director: This position (or positions) shall be appointed annually by the District Vice President with the approval of the District Board of Directors. This position may be split into separate Directors for the Boys and Girls programs. The Director or Directors will be responsible for coordinating the District Select program. This includes coaching selection, arrangement of tryout, field use and philosophy for team selection.

The Director or Directors will be required to attend state meetings regarding the coordination of the District Select program, scheduling of games, and participation in the Nutmeg Games.

## **ARTICLE VI**

Amendments to these by-laws and/or rules shall be made at any monthly District meeting by at least a two-thirds vote of all the votes cast. Any proposed amendment to these by-laws must be submitted in writing and co-sponsored by at least two clubs or by at least two Members of the Board of Directors.

### **THE FOLLOWING ARE RECENTLY ADOPTED RULES THAT GOVERN THE PLAY IN OUR COMPETITIONS.**

#### **DIVISION III**

The highest level of play offered at a District level  
Will include teams relegated from Division II (State run league-formally known as the Qualifying League) and the most competitive teams in the Northeast District. May also include teams from other districts.  
Standings will be kept, and league champion will be announced.  
League champion will play in State tournament for potential promotion to Division II.  
Teams must meet the requirements for Open Cup eligibility  
Passes and Certified rosters are required  
Fall league will only be run for U-14. Spring league will be run for U-13, U-14, U-16 and U-19. Other age divisions may be added if a sufficient number of teams are entered.  
No player rostered to a Division III team may play on a Division IV or Division V team

#### **DIVISION IV**

Formally run league  
Standings will be kept, and league champions will be announced EXCEPT for the U-10 age group. The U-10 bracket will be a non-result orientated league,

no standings or champions will be announced. Scores of the U-10 games will be reported to the district and only be used to assess the strength of the teams and to monitor the play

Teams must meet requirements for State Cup eligibility

Passes and Certified rosters are required

Fall league will be run for U-10, U12, and U-14. Spring league will be run for U-10, U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-19. Other age divisions may be added if a sufficient number of teams are entered.

The U-10 age group will play 7v7. All other age groups will be 11v11.

Maximum roster size will be 22 for the U-11 to U-19 age groups, and 12 players for the U-10 age group.

No player rostered to a Division IV team may play on a Division III or Division V team.

To determine the League champions the following will be used: Three points for a win, one for a tie and zero for a loss. If a team wins by eight (8) goals or more that team will be penalized one match point and will only be awarded two (2) points for that "blowout" win. In the case of a tie in the standings between teams at the end of the season the first tie breaker will be head to head competition, the second tie breaker goal differential (a three (3) goal maximum differential will be allowed per game), the third tie breaker will be least goals allowed. If the teams are still tied after the tie breakers co-champions will be declared.

## **DIVISION V**

Non-results orientated league. Emphasis on player development

No scores or standings will be kept

Teams must satisfy the residence requirements for State Cup

Division V passes (multiple year) certified by the District Registrar and rosters certified by the club registrar are required

If a player transfers to a Division III or Division IV team, the Division V pass must be turned in to the District Registrar before a USYSA pass can be issued  
U-10, U-11 and U-12 play 7v7. U-13, U-14, U-16 and U-19 play 6v6. U-19 does not use a goalkeeper

Maximum roster size is 12 players. A minimum of 9 on the roster must be age specific

Each player must play 50% of the game

Fall and Spring leagues will be offered for U-10, U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-19.

Other age divisions may be added if a sufficient number of teams are entered. High School aged players may not participate in the league if they are playing on a school sponsored team.

No player rostered to a Division V team may play on a Division III or Division IV team.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

The District Competition Chairman is responsible for oversight of all divisions of District League play

The District Premier Director shall function as the Division III commissioner

The District Select Director shall function as the Division IV commissioner

The District Recreation Director shall function as the Division V commissioner

Division Commissioners shall be empowered to appoint girls or boys commissioners at their discretion

STARTING IN THE FALL OF 2001 the Northeast District will be running a more structured and formal league. As per the above rules standings will be kept and champions will be named in Division III and Div IV (except for U-10).

Each champion team will receive either a trophy or tee shirt.

Each team entering the district league will pay a fee of \$25

Each club that has team in any group will be assessed with a Performance Bond of \$100. This Bond will be forfeited if any of the clubs teams fail to report scores within 24 hours after the completion of a game, or if they fail to show up for a game, or give 72 hour notice to attempt to reschedule a game, or if that game is not made up by the end of the season.

The Bond will be returned to the Club at the end of the season (Fall for example), and a new Bond will be posted for the following season (Spring). Decision to forfeit the bond will be determined by the Divisions Coordinator in conjunction with the Competition Director and the District Vice President.

## SPECIFIC RULES OF PLAY

### Division IV U10 Rules

Applies to boys and girls U9 & U10 competitions

Maximum roster size 12 players per team

7v7 (six field players plus goalie)

Certified Referee is required for middle only. Can use club referees for lines.

No Coaches allowed on the playing field during the game.

Throw-ins FIFA rules apply to Div. IV: Illegal Throw-ins will NOT be retaken.

Offsides WILL BE enforced in accordance with FIFA rules.

Field dimensions (guideline)

1. 35 yds. min.: 50 yds. min.
2. 50 yds. min: 70 yds. max.
3. Penalty area 10 yds from endline and 10 yards wide of each goal post.
4. Goalie box/Area: 4 yards from endline and 4 yards wide of each goal post.

Corner kicks taken from edge/corner of field  
Goal kicks taken from within goalie box/area  
Penalty kicks from 8 yard line.  
On free kicks, defenders must be at least 6 yards from ball  
All teams play 30 minute halves  
Goalie restrictions applied in accordance with current FIFA rules

*Division V rules are the same as the above with the exception that illegal throw-ins will be retaken.*

**REFEREES MUST CHECK PASSES AND ROSTERS BEFORE EVERY MATCH, NO MATTER WHAT AGE GROUP OR WHAT DIVISION.**