

## **I MEMBERSHIP**

### **1. Life Membership**

- a) Life Members shall be admitted from time to time at the discretion of the Association.
- b) The admission of a Life Member shall require the affirmation of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the voting delegates present at a General Meeting of the Association.
- c) All Life Membership nominations shall be submitted in writing thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- d) No incumbent Officer of the Association shall be eligible for nomination to Life Membership.

### **2. Associate Membership**

- a) Associate Members shall be admitted from time to time at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- b) The acceptance of new or renewing Associate Members is subject to the conditions of membership as outlined in the SOSA Membership Policy.
- c) Associate Members are not entitled to the services of The Association except at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

## **II LEAGUE REGISTRATION**

Shall be in accordance with OSA Published Rules.

- a) As a condition of membership, all leagues (including club leagues, multi-jurisdictional leagues, district leagues, senior or youth recreational leagues, and indoor leagues) will provide a League Discipline Summary to The Association within sixty (60) days of the conclusion of the league's season.
- b) League Terms of Operation shall be received by the district no later than March 31 for outdoor and no later than Sept 30 for indoor.

## **III CLUB REGISTRATION**

Shall be in accordance with OSA Published Rules. In addition:

### **1. Clubs (General)**

- a) Each Club shall register no fewer than four (4) youth teams. These teams shall be outdoor teams containing no less than fourteen (14) players each, four (4) outdoor mini

teams containing no less than eleven (11) players each, or four (4) indoor teams containing no less than eight (8) players each. None of these teams shall have an age spread greater than three (3) years.

b) Senior Clubs shall register one team of senior classified players to be eligible for membership. This team shall be either an outdoor team containing no less than fourteen (14) players, or an indoor team containing no less than eight (8) players.

c) The Association may approve or require the amalgamation of adjacent clubs

## 2. Youth Clubs

Any clubs wishing to operate a youth program is subject to the following:

i. Shall identify its proposed area of operation. New member clubs must have their proposed area of operation approved by the Board.

ii. Shall assume responsibility for all youth soccer development within its approved area of operation.

iii. Shall operate a youth development program consisting of a club (house) league or operate and/or participate within a multi-jurisdictional club (house) league.

iv. May affiliate with an adjacent club to meet the requirement in (iii) above

v. A Club must have a recreational league with a minimum of four divisions with each division having a minimum of forty-four (44) players in order for that Club to be eligible to register competitive teams. Clubs may affiliate with a recreational Club belonging to SOSA and consisting of the minimum number of Divisions and players in order to satisfy this requirement.

\*Exemptions to these rules can be brought to the SOSA board for exemption. Exemptions will be based on the determination as to whether granting an exemption enhances the good of the game\*

## **IV TEAM REGISTRATION**

i. Shall be in accordance with the OSA Published Rules

## **V PLAYER, TEAM OFFICIAL & ADMINISTRATOR REGISTRATION**

Shall be in accordance with OSA Published Rules. In addition:

1. Registration Deadlines

2. Outdoor Season - The deadline for registration of all Youth and Senior players shall be July

31st for all teams playing in leagues affiliated with SOSA.

3. Indoor Season - The deadline for registration of all Indoor players shall be January 31st of the current season for all teams participating in Indoor Leagues affiliated with SOSA.

## **VI TRANSFER OF PLAYERS**

Shall be in accordance with OSA Published Rules.

1. In addition, any player transferring to a team within the Club he/she is currently registered with shall complete the OSA Player Transfer Form and submit the appropriate fee.

2. The fee payable for transfers shall be determined annually by the Board of Directors. The fee together with a copy of the transfer form, shall be sent to the OSA by the Association within seven (7) days of such a transfer.

## **VIII AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The Board of Directors may approve and publish Rules and Regulations which are not inconsistent with the By-Law and are not inconsistent with the Rules and Regulations of a higher level governing organization.

Amendments to the Rules and Regulations may be made by a majority vote of the Board of Directors or the Members at a General Meeting. If the Rules and Regulations are amended by the Board of Directors the amendment shall be presented for ratification at the next Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting called for that purpose. If the amendment is not ratified, it is of no effect and the previous Rules and Regulations are then in effect.

## **IX DISCIPLINE**

All discipline matters shall be conducted in accordance with the OSA Discipline Policies and Procedures.

1. Players and club or team officials reported for misconduct shall be dealt with by The Association's Disciplinary Committee, except as stipulated by the OSA.

2. The Association has the right to take corrective action in dealing with the conduct of its members. Corrective action is defined as, but not limited to, penalties etc. prescribed by a higher body where applicable or where not defined shall cover suspension, fine, ejection from The Association, posting of bonds, deduction of points, re-assignment within the categories/divisions of play, or any combination. Posting of bonds or other sureties shall not exceed \$6,000.00.

## **X PROTESTS**

Protests on games shall be made according to the rules of the competition in which the game was played.

## **XI APPEALS**

Shall be in accordance with the O.S.A Published Rules.

1. Any registrant individual or active member, directly affected by a decision made by a governing organization may, appeal that decision to the next higher organization.
2. Appeals of decisions made by the Leagues or The Association Discipline Committee shall be submitted, as a receipted request to The Association It is the responsibility of The Association to inform all relevant parties and to provide them with a copy of the appeal.
3. The letter of appeal must be accompanied by the correct fee of one hundred dollars (\$100) in the form of a cheque or money order, together with the Canada Post registration receipt (or a copy thereof) and a copy of the decision being appealed.
4. The letter of appeal must be postmarked no more than five (5) business days from the receipt, in writing, of the decisions being appealed and the rights of appeal information.
5. Any appeal, which is not submitted in compliance with all of the preceding regulations, will be ruled out of order and will not be heard.
6. If an appeal is upheld, the appeal fee shall be refunded.

## **XII COACHES**

Shall comply with the Published Rules established by the Ontario Soccer Association.

## **XIII CUP COMPETITIONS**

1. The Association may establish policies and procedures governing the hosting of Cup Competitions within its jurisdiction.
2. Any member of The Association wishing to host a Cup Competition shall apply annually, in writing, for the approval to host said competition. A copy of the competitions rules must accompany the application.
3. The Association reserves the right to deny the application of a member that does not fulfill the requirements established in the policies and procedures.

## **XIV TOURNAMENTS AND FESTIVALS**

Tournaments and festivals are to be conducted as per the Ontario Soccer Association Policies and Procedures and the "Tournament Application - Conditions for Approval" policy of the Association.

## **XV FEES FOR SERVICES**

The District Association may, at its discretion, levy fees for the provision of services to its members.

## **XVI DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES**

Where not specifically forbidden to do so by the regulations of a higher authority, the District Association may, at its discretion, delegate the operational responsibility for any function within its jurisdiction.

The Board of Directors of the District Association may delegate to any of its committees the authority to make binding decisions on its behalf unless forbidden to do so by any higher authority.

## **XVII GENERAL RULES**

1. The Association's competitions shall take precedence over all other competitions in the Province, except those arranged by the OSA or by the Canadian Soccer Association.
2. Any club or league desiring to arrange an exhibition game involving a team from another district association must apply to do so on a form supplied by the Association and according to the requirements of the OSA sending a copy of the request to the (District) Association.
3. In all games played under the jurisdiction of the Association all competitively registered players shall wear numbered shirts. No two players on a team shall wear the same number. No player may change his number during the game without the permission of the referee.
4. All clubs under the jurisdiction of the Association shall place their players at the service of the Association.
5. Any clubs having two or more players selected for an Association representative team, a Provincial team or a CSA National team may have any affected games within The Association's jurisdiction postponed.
6. The Association shall issue identification cards to its Officers, Directors, Life members and

other persons acting on its behalf, and holders of such cards shall be admitted to the grounds of all affiliated clubs or sanctioned competitions upon its presentation.

7. The Board may declare up to two (2) closed dates per calendar year in the Association's Region. On those dates no soccer other than the game(s) for which the closed dates have been called shall be played in the Association Region. A minimum of three (3) weeks' notice shall be given of such closed dates.

8. Any Club wishing to enter a team in a league outside its normal jurisdiction shall apply in accordance with OSA Published Rules. In addition, any applicant club and/or team must be a member in good standing of The Association.

9. Whenever a postmark is a qualifying requirement it shall be construed to mean a postmark affixed by Canada Post. Metered postmarks shall not be accepted.

*Last revised Nov 24, 2019*