

Kansas Youth Soccer

Chapter 3: Rules

DEFINITIONS

1.0 AFFILIATED AND ALLIED MEMBERS

1.0.1 AFFILIATED MEMBER -- means any league, club or association that is a structured group of four (4) or more teams joined for the purpose of inter-team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules. Each affiliated member must register every player and coach of every soccer team that is sponsored, financed, coached or administered by its organization with KSYSA. An affiliated member is a sanctioned league with voting rights based on the number of players registered with KSYSA. All coaches and other club administrators must meet KSYSA Risk Management guidelines per KSYSA Rule 3.5.

1.0.1.2 ALLIED MEMBER -- means any league, club or association that is a structured group joined for the purpose of inter-team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules. Each allied member must register every player and coach of every soccer team that is sponsored, financed, coached or administered by its organization with a USSF Affiliate. An allied member is not a sanctioned league but has voting rights based on the number of players registered with KSYSA. All coaches and other club administrators must meet KSYSA Risk Management guidelines per KSYSA Rule 3.5.

1.1.2 AMATEUR COUNCIL -- means the administrative body for all amateur State Associations containing leagues and teams not engaged in youth soccer competitions. It is the coordinating body for all adult amateur soccer in the United States as delegated by the USSF.

1.1.3 ASSOCIATE MEMBER -- means a local chapter of any multi sport or single sport organization which independently conducts soccer programs in the United States at the national or lesser levels, or a recognized group of soccer coaches or referees formed for the purpose of advancing a particular aspect of soccer, but not responsible for the recruitment, training, fielding, and funding of soccer players, that is affiliated with the USSF and/or USYSA.

1.1.4 AT LARGE PLAYER -- means a registered player who is registered as an individual member of KSYSA but is not currently rostered to a team.

1.1.5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- means the regulatory board of directors described in Article VII of the KSYSA Constitution.

1.1.6 CLUB -- an organization, which has an identifiable membership of youth soccer players on whose behalf the organization, conducts or engages in youth soccer activities. A club (sometimes referred to as a "league" or "local association") is the basic administrative unit of the Kansas State Youth Soccer Association. Players may register to a club (club pass/roster) rather than a team.

1.1.7 DISTRICT -- a geographical subdivision of KSYSA.

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1.1.8 FIFA -- means the Federation Internationale de Football Association, which is the world-wide governing body of soccer.

1.1.9 FREE AGENT -- means a player that is free to tryout for any soccer team without restrictions. During the free agent period a player is released from a contract or agreement executed on the player's behalf.

1.1.10 GUEST PLAYER -- means a registered player who is participating in a competition for a Club to which the player is not rostered for the purpose of league play.

1.1.11 INVOLUNTARY RELEASE -- means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of team authorities.

1.1.12 LEAGUE -- means a structured group with the authority to register players, coaches and administrators, joined for the purpose of inter-team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules.

1.1.13 MEMBER PASS -- shall mean the pass issued to a player or team official without which the player or team official may not participate in a sanctioned event.

1.1.13.1 COACH PASS -- A Coach Pass shall be issued by the State Office to each team official appearing on a club or team roster. To be issued a pass the coach must comply with KSYSA risk management policies and pay the required fee established by KSYSA. A club may have a pass issued to its director of coaching or designee(s) which shall be recognized as a coach's pass for any team in that club for purposes of league or tournament play in Kansas. The club shall pay a fee set by KSYSA for each coach issued a Club Coach's Pass. The coach may also be listed on each club team roster, if requested. The coaches appearing on the rosters of teams participating in the National Championship Series shall be limited as provided in Rule 2.2.2.

1.1.13.2 PLAYER PASS - means the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) Member Pass issued by the State Registrar or his/her representative. The Member Pass must be signed or stamped by the State Registrar or his/her representative. When completed, the Member Pass should have a current picture of the player.

1.1.14 NATIONAL COUNCIL -- means the legislative body of the United States Soccer Federation.

1.1.15 POLICY -- the recommendations of KSYSA to assist in governing the administration of Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Teams and their officers, players, coaches and other members. The Policies of KSYSA shall not be binding on all KSYSA Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Teams and their officers, players, coaches and other members and may be modified or changed. In the event an Affiliate's, Association's, Club's, League's, or Team's rules or administrative regulations do not address an issue provided in a KSYSA policy, the KSYSA policy shall be binding

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on the Affiliate, Association, Club, League, or Team and their officers, players, coaches and other members. When a team enters into any competition outside its home League or when there is a conflict between the rules of Affiliates, Associations and Leagues within KSYSA, the Policies of KSYSA shall supercede any conflicting Affiliate, Association or League rules, and if necessary, the Rules and Policies of KSYSA, USYSA, and USSF will govern a resolution of the conflict.

1.1.16 REGION -- for the purposes of the administration of US Youth Soccer. There are currently four geographical Regions: Region I -- East, Region II -- Midwest, Region III -- South, Region IV -- West.

1.1.17 REGISTRATION -- youth players and coaches are deemed registered for a seasonal year from the moment the coach, player or the player's representative executes the Registration form and pays the appropriate fees.

1.1.18 ROSTERING -- means assignment of a registered player to a team or club. A player is considered first rostered to a team or Academy when the player first participates for the team or with an Academy in any sanctioned event (tournament, game or practice) by a National State Association or its member leagues, clubs, or teams. A club may roster players to the club without assigning the players to teams. A "Game Roster" means the list of names of players who may participate in a particular game. A Game Roster, subject to the rules of the event, may include players not registered to the team, including Loaned or Guest Players and players appearing on a Club Roster who did not initially first participate for the team.

1.1.19 RULE(S) -- the regulations governing the administration of Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Teams and their officers, players, coaches and other members. The Rules of KSYSA shall be binding on all KSYSA Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Teams and their officers, players, coaches and other members and may not be modified or changed. Any rule, regulation or policy of a KSYSA Affiliate, Association, Club, League, or Team that contradicts or differs from a Rule imposed by KSYSA shall be null and void and shall not be enforced in a disciplinary proceeding.

1.1.20 SANCTIONED -- shall mean an event, including but not limited to tournaments, league play, friendly game, or practice authorized by KSYSA or its Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, or Leagues and their members. To be "sanctioned" an event must be limited to entities and/or individuals who are members of USSF or FIFA Affiliated organizations. If the event involves two or more teams, there must be a center referee certified by the appropriate USSF or FIFA Affiliate for the event to be "sanctioned."

1.1.21 SUSPENSION -- means the temporary withdrawal of rights and privileges such as, but not limited to, the right to play, coach or otherwise administer or participate (directly or indirectly) in the game of affiliated soccer. Any person or group (team, club, league, Board, etc.) that has been suspended shall be in less than good standing for the entire term of the suspension with all rights and privileges withdrawn unless specifically stated otherwise by the suspending authority.

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1.0.21.1 TARGETED RECRUITING -- means contact which is made with specifically-targeted registered individual players (or their parents or guardians) or specifically-targeted registered Teams (as opposed to the public generally or soccer players, including competitive soccer players generally) which contact attempts to cause the targeted specific players (or their parents or guardians) or Teams to leave their current affiliation for the current seasonal year or the following seasonal year. For purposes of this definition and Rule 3.13.5, contact is not limited to personal contact, but will include contact by phone, text, e-mails and social media messages. Targeted Recruiting specifically excludes (i) contact during the free agency period and (ii) advertising, marketing, information sessions and promotion made to the public generally or to soccer players (including competitive soccer players) generally and contact which results from responses thereto.

1.1.22 TEAM -- means a recognized entity organized for the purpose of playing the sport of soccer.

1.1.23 TEAM CLASSIFICATION FOR REGISTRATION -- Teams are classified by how they were formed and placed in one of the following classifications:

1.1.23.1 CLASSIC TEAM -- A team is classified as a Classic Team if the team participates in a league in which: (a) the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is permitted; and, (b) there are no regulations requiring that the coaches be licensed.

1.1.23.2 TEAM -- A team is classified as a Premier Team if the team participates in an interclub league in which no rule restricts the manner in which players may be rostered to participating teams, except for rules which: (a) define and prohibit unethical recruiting behavior; or (b) limit the participation of players previously rostered to another team.

1.1.23.3 REATIONAL ALL-STAR TEAM -- An Intra-club Tournament Team whose roster only includes players selected from teams, which participate in the same Recreational League.

1.1.23.4 REATIONAL TEAM -- A team is classified as Recreational if the team participates in an inter-club or intra-club league in which: (a) the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited, and the coach may not exclude any previously rostered player; (b) the clubs administering the league accept as participants in the league any and all eligible youths (subject to reasonable terms of registration) and will be responsible for assignment of players to teams; (c) there is an established league rule requiring that each player play at least one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, discipline or reasonable cause; and (d) teams are required to accept player assignments provided there is room on the roster.

1.1.23.5 SELECT TEAM -- The official select (all-star) team of USYSA or any of its regions, affiliated National State Associations or any district or geographical subdivision thereof, or any league.

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1.1.23.6 TOURNAMENT TEAM -- A team, which includes guest players and is put together for the sole purpose of playing in a tournament or other sanctioned nonleague competition.

1.1.24 TRANSFER -- means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player, and the subsequent addition of the player to the roster of another team.

1.1.25 UNITED STATES YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION (USYSA) -- is a national member of the United States Soccer Federation (USSF). KSYSA is an Affiliate of USYSA.

1.1.26 U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE -- means the corporation created pursuant to the Amateur Sports Act, which oversees all amateur athletic activity in the United States.

1.1.27 USSF -- means the United States Soccer Federation, Inc. USSF is the United States Affiliate of FIFA.

1.1.28 VOLUNTARY RELEASE -- means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player.

1.1.29 YOUTH COUNCIL -- means: the administrative unit of the United States Soccer Federation, which consists of State Associations and National Associations that are members of USSF.

1.1.30 YOUTH SOCCER ACADEMIES -- means A "Soccer Academy" is a group of Under 8 through Under 19 registered KSYSA recreational players who desire to participate with other players without following the recreational team formation rules. Players must register with their home association and may or may not be on a recreational team. Academies are to be governed by KSYSA Youth Associations, and KSYSA Youth Associations may host as many Soccer Academies as they deem desirable. Academy teams are governed by the league in which they participate. Coaches, trainers, administrators, etc., of Soccer Academies must have satisfactorily passed the criminal background check and information sent to KSYSA. Soccer Academy play is in addition to recreational play. Players may join any Soccer Academy of their choosing within their age group, and are not required to obtain a release from their KSYSA recreational team to participate on an Academy team. Players must present a form of proof of registration signed by their home association registrar each time they participate with an Academy. Players may join as many Soccer Academies as they like as long as the Soccer Academy is recognized by a Kansas State Youth Soccer Association affiliated League. The Academies may charge a fee to cover expenses in addition to the player's recreational soccer registration fees. Member Associations may provide league play if they have enough teams, or may coordinate with other Member Associations to provide a league or games between Soccer Academy teams from different home associations. Age division play will be designated as Under 9 or Under 10. Under 8 teams and/or players must play in the

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Under 9 division to participate. Scores and standings should not be kept. Soccer Academy teams are not considered "registered teams," and therefore do not have to follow recreational team formation rules. Soccer Academy teams may not enter KSYSA sanctioned recreational tournaments unless the tournament has specified a "Soccer Academy" bracket. In that event, players must declare which Soccer Academy team they will play with in the tournament and may only play for one team in a tournament. Soccer Academy teams may enter competitive tournaments that allow Soccer Academy teams or "tournament teams". Soccer Academy teams may not travel out of KSYSA as a team to play in tournaments.

Soccer Academy rosters may change from week to week to accommodate players desiring to change Soccer Academies, or to accommodate players who want to play on one team one week and another team the next week.

The purposes of the Soccer Academies are to:

Provide recreational players who have aspirations of becoming a more accomplished player an avenue to test and enhance his or her skills.

Provide recreational players an opportunity to train with experienced coaches.

Provide recreational players an opportunity to investigate the level of play with which they are comfortable, which players they would like to play with, and for which coaches they would like to play.

Recruiting is not allowed on Soccer Academy teams. Soccer Academies are to be used for training, not recruiting.

All players participating in a Soccer Academy who are also registered with a KSYSA member youth association recreational team shall, in the event of a conflict, consider the KSYSA recreational team to be their primary team and the Soccer Academy as a secondary commitment.

2.0 RULES GOVERNING GAME PLAY.

2.1 RULES OF PLAY.

2.1.1 Except as provided by the USSF or its affiliates, the FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall apply to any and all sanctioned competition conducted by any KSYSA registered Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, or Teams.

No League Rule may be adopted which is in violation of these KSYSA Rules or in violation of the spirit and intent of the KSYSA youth soccer program.

2.2 AGE GROUPING.

Leagues shall establish play among teams of specified age grouping(s). Age Divisions shall be comprised of players who are, before the first day of January of the immediately preceding seasonal year: Under 19 years of age. Under 18 years of age. Under 17 years of age. Under 16 years of age. Under 15 years of age. Under 14 years of age. Under 13 years of age. Under 12 years of age. Under 11 years of age. Under 10 years of age. Under 9 years of age. Under 8 years of age. Under 7 years of age. Under 6 years of age. Under 5 years of age. Under 4 years of age. Under 5 years of age and younger shall play no more than five per side. Age division requirements may be waived by the District Commissioner for recreational indistrict or in-league play

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for humanitarian reasons, i.e. mental or physical impairment. Leagues may combine one or more age groups for play. Players shall be allowed to play in older age groups, but absent a waiver from the District Commissioner, no player shall play in a younger age group than their own.

2.2.1 GAME ROSTER LIMITATIONS. No games involving teams Under 12 or younger will be sanctioned, unless those games are conducted with not more than 8 players on each side. It is highly encouraged that Member Associations limit playing formats consisting of small sided games for U12 and below (See, USYSA Rule 301, Section 2).

2.3.1 MAXIMUM GAME ROSTER SIZES FOR CLASSIC, PREMIER, SELECT AND RECREATIONAL ALLSTAR TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN INTERLEAGUE COMPETITION:

U-6 and younger: 6 players

U-7 and U-8: 8 players

U-9 and U-10: 12 players

U-11 and U-12: 16 players

U-13 and older: 22 players

Leagues shall have the flexibility to adjust intra-league roster format for recreational teams involved exclusively in intra-club league play. In the event a recreational team desires to attend a tournament, the recreational team shall abide by the tournament's rules and formats. Flexibility shall be given to the tournament directors to adjust roster sizes exclusively for the participation of recreational teams.

2.3.2 MINIMUM ROSTER SIZES:

Under 13 and older teams: No team shall have fewer than seven (7) players on its roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Under 11 through Under 12 teams: No team shall have fewer than six (6) players on its roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Under 6 through Under 10 teams: No team shall have fewer than four (4) players on its roster at any given time during the seasonal year.

2.3.3 COACHES. No more than three (3) registered and rostered coaches and no less than one (1) registered and rostered coach shall be on the sideline during any game.

2.4 USE OF INELIGIBLE PLAYERS.

2.4.1 PENALTY FOR ANY TEAM USING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER. A team shall forfeit each game of the team in which - (1) an unregistered player was with the team at the game in a (team) uniform; or (2) a player was improperly entered on the team's roster or if the player's name is listed on the game card, he/she shall be considered as taking part in the game regardless of his/her actual participation on the field of play. (See USYSA Rule 209.)

2.4.2 PENALTY FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY WHO INTENTIONALLY REGISTERS AN OTHERWISE INELIGIBLE PLAYER(S). Falsification of records, documents, player identification passes, or in any other matters or manner, shall be grounds for immediate suspension from further participation and membership in KSYSA or any League, team or club, pending a hearing. After a hearing a person or entity found to have intentionally registered an ineligible player shall be suspended for a period of not less than two years. **LEAGUE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.** Each League shall be responsible for insuring the proper registration of players on individual registration forms as designated by the KSYSA State Office and the KSYSA Treasurer.

3.0 REGISTRATION AND ROSTERING.

REGISTRATION MUST BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE RULES.

All registrations will be in accordance with these rules and KSYSA Registration Policies and Procedures. Prior to competing with any team in a sanctioned event, a player must be first registered and be either rostered with the club or accorded guest player as provided in these Rules.

3.1 NON-DISCRIMINATION IN REGISTRATION; ALL PLAYERS AND COACHES MUST BE REGISTERED. All teams, clubs, leagues, associations, and organizations affiliated or associated with KSYSA are to allow only players, coaches, and teams (including members of traveling teams, competitive teams, intramural programs, recreation programs, or house players) registered with KSYSA or another USSF Affiliate to participate in their events. A player may not be restricted as to the team he/she may play for due to his/her race, religion or national origin.

3.2 SEASONAL YEAR. The seasonal year shall be from September 1, to August 31, of the following year. Youth players registering (in the customary practice and form adopted by the member league/association) with a team between July 15, and August 31, for sanctioned competition which will continue into the subsequent soccer year will, at the time of registration, be deemed registered to the team for the subsequent year. After July 15 in a seasonal year, a player who has submitted registration material for the upcoming seasonal year to a team has the option of playing and rostering with either the team he was rostered with for that current seasonal year or the team he has submitted registration papers with after July 15 of the upcoming seasonal year, and no release is required.

3.4 YOUTH PLAYERS. A youth player is one who has not reached the age of nineteen (19) years prior to January 1, immediately preceding the start of any seasonal year. A player who reaches his nineteenth (19th) birthday on or after January 1st of the current seasonal year shall be allowed to complete the seasonal year. A Player must present proof of age to register.

3.4.1 Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the United States, a birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency or board

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of health records, a passport, an alien registration card issued by the United States Government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, a current driver's license, an unexpired federal, state, or local government identification card (if documentation of date of birth is required), or a certification of a United States citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal, or religious certificates will not be accepted. (See, USYSA Rule 204.)

3.5 RISK MANAGEMENT. All coaches and team officials representing any team, club, league, association, or organization participating in a KSYSA Affiliate or Associate event shall comply with the KSYSA Risk Management Policies. Failure on the part of a coach to comply with the Risk Management Policies shall result in the team, club, league, association or organization forfeiting any games the coach participated in and the coach being placed under suspension until such time as Kansas he/she is in compliance with KSYSA Risk Management Policies. All affiliate Board Members and any club or team official (including club registrar, team manager) must have background screenings done on the same basis as coaches, referees and others in the State.

3.6 WHEN REGISTRATION MAY CEASE FOR A SEASONAL YEAR. The KSYSA Board of Directors may fix a date in each year when the registrar may cease to register players.

3.7 WHERE PLAYERS MUST REGISTER. A player must register with any member of KSYSA regardless of where the player resides. Other registration rules may apply for participation in certain competitions, such as the National Championship Series, and events, like the Olympic Development Program.

3.8 WHERE COACHES MUST REGISTER. A coach must be registered in the state in which he or she resides.

3.9 FEES DUE TO KSYSA BY AFFILIATES.

Membership registration fees may be set by the Board of Directors, to include, but not be limited to: player registration fees; transfer of players, multiple rostering of players, and duplicate player cards.

3.10 PERMISSION REQUIRED FOR PLAYERS AND TEAMS REGISTERED WITH ORGANIZATIONS OTHER THAN KSYSA.

Any player or team wishing to compete in a league sanctioned by KSYSA who is not registered with KSYSA, must receive written permission from: (1) the KSYSA Registrar or the State Registrar's designated representative; and (2) the other State Association where the player resides or from the USSF Affiliate with whom the player is registered. Such Permission must be obtained each seasonal year (September 1 - August 31). Player registration fees are paid to the USSF Affiliate in which the player is registered.

3.11 INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCES. As required by USSF Policy 601-6, as amended, a player who comes to the United States on or after the player is 12 years of age, must request and receive an International Clearance in the manner and form required by the USSF, before he/she is eligible to be registered as a player. A player born

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within the United States who is registered with a FIFA Affiliated team outside of the United States and returns to the United States after the player is 12 must also obtain an International Clearance. However, an international clearance is not required of a player who is 12, 13, 14, 15, or 16 years of age if the player and the player's parents sign a statement that the player has not signed a professional contract or received money from a professional team for playing soccer. (See, USYSA Rule 207).

3.12 MULTIPLE ROSTERING.

3.12.1 A player may be rostered to two or more teams simultaneously during the Kansas Youth seasonal year. Unless the teams involved are members of the same Club and the Club rosters its players to the Club rather to individual teams, such a player is a "Multiple Roster" player.

3.12.2 A player will be counted as a "transfer" when rostering to any team after the player has first been rostered to another team for that seasonal year.

3.12.3 Any player wishing to be multiple rostered must complete a KSYSA Multiple Roster Request form. This form will designate the player's "primary" and "secondary" teams and must be signed by the player, his/her parent or legal guardian, and a coach from each involved team. There will be no need to complete such a form if the second team the player associates with is the State Select Team. Whenever a player appears on an Official State Roster as a "secondary" player, that player will also be deemed and listed on the Official State Roster as a transfer. The completion of a KSYSA Multiple Roster Request Form shall be deemed to be a rostering event as defined in Rule 1.0.18.

3.12.4 In the event that the coaches of the involved teams disagree on the designation of the primary team, the player may not play until the issue has been resolved.

3.12.5 A player may change his/her "primary" designation at any time during the seasonal year by submitting a revised KSYSA Multiple Roster Request form, complete with all applicable signatures. A change in designation between the "primary" and "secondary" will result in the player being listed as a transfer player thereafter on both rosters.

3.12.6 In the event of any schedule conflict, the games for the "primary" team will take precedence, unless written permission is given by a team official of the primary team for the player to participate with the secondary team. The one exception to this rule would be if there is a schedule conflict with a State Select team event, in which event the player may play for the State Select team.

3.12.7 If both teams enter the same competition (State Cup, tournaments, etc.), the player must play for his/her primary team.

3.12.8 If a player who is multiple rostered wishes to be a "guest player" for another team, the Player Loan Agreement must be approved by the coaches of all teams to

which the player is rostered before the form can be officially approved.

3.12.9 A multiple rostered player will be issued a USYSA member pass for each team to which he/she is rostered. Each member pass shall indicate whether the team is primary or secondary.

3.12.10 A copy of each Multiple Roster Request form must be sent to the KSYSA State Office.

3.13 FREE AGENT PERIOD, TRYOUTS, AND PLAYER RECRUITMENT

3.13.1 Free Agency Period: There will be one open free agency period once each year.

A. The free agency period for ages U10 and younger will begin the first Friday in June after the completion of the State Cup tournament. The free agency period for ages U11 and older will begin the first Saturday in June after the completion of the State Cup tournament. Players shall remain free agents until July 15th, or until a formal acceptance is made (written or electronic signature) to an offer from a club or team. After July 15th, a player will still be considered a free agent until such time a formal acceptance is made (written or electronic signature) to an offer from a club or team. There are no transfer fees allowed during this time and no forms required to try out for a team. Players may be required to pay fees to any clubs/teams to which they have committed per written contract with that club/team. Clubs may not open tryout registration or advertise their tryouts prior to March 15th.

B. Clubs/teams may not hold open tryouts except during the free agency period as defined in Rule 3.13.1, subsection A.

C. Once a player has made a formal acceptance (written or electronic signature) to an offer from a club or team, they are bound to that club/team for the seasonal year until the free agency period following the seasonal year unless a release is requested and approved. A Player shall have ten (10) days from the date of their acceptance in which to rescind their commitment to the club/team change their mind without penalty, financial or otherwise.

D. For any player requesting a release, a KSYSA Drop/Transfer form must be submitted to their current coach and club Registrar. After the 10-day rescission period players are bound by any signed financial or contractual obligations with their current club/team. Clubs/teams may elect to charge a drop/transfer fee not to exceed \$500 to cover actual fees already incurred; provided however, if clubs/teams provide a written statement of expenses that the team will reasonably incur over the course of the year to players during tryouts and prior to the player executing registration forms, and this statement notifies players that the club/team will rely on players to pay their share of these expenses even if the player should leave the team, then the player is bound to the team for such expenses, up to \$500, and shall not be transferred or released if a request for release is contested until such expenses are paid to the club/team.

E. If a player release is contested, a request for a review must be submitted to the State Office. A three-member panel from the district involved shall review the reasons and determine if they are valid. If the panel finds the reasons to be valid, that player is removed from roster and becomes a transfer to any other team.

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F. Player, clubs, coaches or teams not adhering to free agency rules and time frames listed in Rule 3.13 and 3.14 and found to be in violation of same are subject to penalties described in Rule 5.5.3.

3.13.2 Players may register and roster to recreational teams within a member organization prior to July 15 when that entire association has an earlier registration. Any player rostered to a recreational team prior to July 15, will still be considered a “free agent” between the period of the first Saturday after the completion of the State Cup tournament, and July 15, under the provisions of these rules, and may try out for a classic or premier team without a written release during that time period.

3.13.3 Unless a player is a free agent, coaches, teams and/or clubs must have a written release from the player’s coach, playing association or State President if the player is to try out, practice, or be placed on a roster.

3.13.4 Clubs, Teams and coaches may market, promote, and advertise generally (including advertisements of tryouts) and provide information about themselves (including through information sessions and other public events), in any manner or medium, so long as: (1) no inaccurate advertising or information is used and (2) such Clubs, Teams or coaches do not violate

3.13.5 Targeted Recruiting, as defined in Rule **1.0.21.1**, is strictly prohibited except as expressly permitted in this Rule 3.13.5. Individuals, Teams or Clubs who engage in Targeted Recruiting in violation of this Rule 3.13.5 are subject to penalties as described in Rule 5.5.3. For clarity, it would constitute Targeted Recruiting for a coach who moves from one Club to another Club during a seasonal year, or at the end of a seasonal year, if the coach (or anyone acting on the coach's behalf) attempts, prior to the start of the free agency period, to induce a registered player (or their parent or guardian) of any Team, or registered Team as a whole, to leave their current affiliation during the current seasonal year or for the following seasonal year.

If any Responsible Representative is contacted, prior to the start of the free agency period, by a player, parent (or guardian) of a player, or Team as a whole inquiring about switching affiliations during a seasonal year or for the following seasonal year, such Responsible Representative may provide information relating to the Club's or Team's tryouts and general information about the Club or Team. A player may attend training sessions or practices of a Team or Club (or their coaches or other affiliates) only if the attendance was initiated by the player or their parent (or guardian) (including by response to an advertisement, information session or marketing material that is not provided in a manner that would otherwise constitute Targeted Recruiting) and the player has written permission from their current coach. Responsible Representatives are those individuals acting on behalf of, and with authority from, a Club or Team and may include parents (or guardians) of players, trainers, Team managers, coaches or other representatives.

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Contact by Clubs with players on independent Teams (i.e. Teams which are not part of a Club) that would otherwise constitute Targeted Recruiting is permitted (and will not be deemed Targeted Recruiting) if the contact is approved (prior to the contact) by the coach of such independent Team or by the State Office.

Contact by Clubs with players on other Clubs that would otherwise constitute Targeted Recruiting is permitted (and will not be deemed Targeted Recruiting) if the contact is approved (prior to the contact) by the Club at which the player is rostered at the time of the contact or by the State Office. Any Club, Team, coach or player may request a determination in writing (which may be by e-mail) by the State Office as to whether a proposed contact with a player or Team would constitute Targeted Recruiting in violation of this Rule 3.13.5 prior to such contact, and shall be entitled to rely (as to the specific instances of proposed contact described) on any such written determination by the State Office that the proposed contact does not violate this Rule 3.13.5. The Board of Directors may always subsequently clarify that any such contact does or does not constitute Targeted Recruiting (such clarification to be applicable to contact occurring after the date of publication of the clarification by the Board of Directors).

3.14 PLAYER TRANSFER AND RELEASE.

3.14.1 A player may be released from a team involuntarily only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons: (1) the player has violated rules of the KSYSA, USSF, FIFA or one of their Affiliates; (2) the player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance; (3) the player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the seasonal year.

3.14.2 A player may be released from a team involuntarily only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons: (1) the player has violated rules of the KSYSA, USSF, FIFA or one of their Affiliates; (2) the player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance; (3) the player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the seasonal year.

3.14.3 When a team disbands and that fact is officially recognized by KSYSA, any player of that team may register at once with another team but shall be considered a previously rostered (transferred) player.

3.14.4 A Contract that is substantially in the following form shall be deemed Approved by KSYSA. Any Contract that does not have all of the following terms shall have to be submitted to KSYSA for approval.

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APPROVED CONTRACT

PLAYER NAME: ___TEAM: _____

Congratulations on being selected to join _____ Competitive Soccer Program (hereinafter "CLUB") for the 20__ seasonal year! As part of the registration process, we want to ensure that you understand the obligations and commitments associated with accepting a position with the CLUB. Please initial the points below to acknowledge your understanding of these expectations, then sign and date the last page when completed.

A. Amount of Registration Fee.

The anticipated registration fee for the 20____ season is \$.00.

The registration fee covers the following:

- Kansas State Youth Soccer Association (KSYSA) fees, US Youth Soccer fees and United States Soccer Federation fees;
- League and Referee fees for regular season league games;
- Indoor and/or Futsal League and Player Registration Fees;
- Club Administrative fees;
- Team entry fees for _____ Tournaments;
- Field operations and overhead costs, including: insurance, equipment repair/replacement, lighting, field maintenance, and Director of Coaching and Director of Training salaries, Goalie training, lights, mailings, website expenses, board insurance, fictitious name, phone line expenses, coach's uniform;
- Uniform fees; and, the following:

_____ The Player understands that the CLUB will incur these expenses if the player leaves the CLUB before the end of the season. The Player's membership is being accepted with Kansas Youth Soccer Chapter 3: Rules

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the understanding that the Player and their representatives will be responsible for the entire Registration fee even if Player leaves the CLUB before the end of the season and Player will not be allowed to register with another club or play in any KSYSA or USYSA event until all obligations to the CLUB have been satisfied.

_____ **Player's initials** _____ **Player's Representatives' initials**

B. Payment of the Registration Fee.

The Registration Fee shall be paid as follows:

An initial payment of _____ .00 due by _____. And the following checked options:

_____ Monthly payments of _____ .00 due the 1st of each month payable starting _____.

_____ Quarterly payments of _____ .00 due the 1st of _____, _____, _____ and _____ payable starting _____.

_____ A lump sum of _____ .00 due _____. In addition, the following fees are due if checked:

_____ Uniform fee of _____ .00 due _____. It is understood that Player is responsible for their Uniform and Player and Players' Representatives will owe the CLUB for its costs in securing a replacement for any damaged or lost uniform.

_____ If checked Player and Players' Representatives understand that they will be liable for the costs incurred by CLUB's coaches in attending tournaments and league games, including

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but not limited to lodging expenses, meals and travel costs such as mileage, tolls and air fare. These costs are not included in the Registration fees and are estimated to be _____ .00.
Other: (Describe) _____ . A

modified payment structure may be granted by the CLUB based solely on financial need. Such requests must be submitted to the CLUB's officers in writing and are approved on an as need basis. Player's granted scholarships may have additional obligations to the CLUB that are conditions of the scholarship.

_____ **Player's initials** _____ **Player's Representatives' initials**

C. TIME TO RESCIND THIS CONTRACT.

PLAYER AND PLAYER'S REPRESENTATIVE SHALL HAVE THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM SIGNING THIS CONTRACT TO RESCIND IT FOR ANY REASON WITHOUT PENALTY AND RECEIVE A FULL REFUND OF ALL FEES PAID TO CLUB. AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE (30) THIRTY DAY PERIOD PLAYER AND PLAYER'S REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE REQUIRED TO PLAY THE ENTIRE AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 'A' BEFORE BEING ALLOWED TO TRANSFER TO ANOTHER TEAM OR CLUB. SEE KSYSA RULE 3.13.4.

_____ **Player's initials** _____ **Player's Representatives' initials**

D. Missed Training Sessions and Games.

If a player misses a team training session or game, they will not be allowed to start the next game. If two sessions or games are missed in a three-month period players will not play the next game. If absences are excused, they may be made up in a manner approved by the CLUB's training staff. Excused absences include; school functions, church functions, family emergencies and illness, provided that the appropriate CLUB representative is notified at least two hours in advance of the absence. Player and Player's Representative understand that Player is being accepted by CLUB as part of a unit and unexcused absences make it difficult for other players to benefit from the CLUB's training and games. Player and Player's Representatives also understand that one of the benefits of youth sports is teaching responsibility and honoring commitments and this provision is designed to help Player learn responsibility and the need to honor commitments.

_____ **Player's initials** _____ **Player's Representatives' initials**

E. Injuries

If an injury occurs and a player cannot play for a two month period, fees will continued to be paid. If an injury occurs lasting over two months, fees will no longer need to be paid.

_____ **Player's initials** _____ **Player's Representatives' initials**

F. Financial Obligations and Payments in a Timely Manner

Player and Player's Representatives understand that accepting the position offered and completing the registration documents obligates then to pay the full registration fee provided in Paragraph "A" above. It is Player and Player's Representatives obligation to pay the Registration Fee in full, after the expiration of the thirty (30) day grace period, regardless of whether Player later leaves CLUB prior to the end of the season.

Player and Player's Representatives understand that failure to fulfill their financial obligations to CLUB will result in the Player's pass being taken away to prevent competing in games. The player will be placed in "Not in Good Standing" with KSYSA, which will result in the player's playing privileges being suspended until all the contract obligations are fulfilled.

\$25 fee will be charged for any check that is returned for insufficient funds.

Player's initials _____ Player's Representatives' initials

G. Player and Parent Conduct

Players and their Parents/Guardians will conduct themselves in accordance with CLUB, KSYSA, USYSA, USSF, and FIFA rules at all times, or will be subject to disciplinary action.

Player's initials _____ Player's Representatives' initials

Other Club Information and Requirements

I understand that since this is a premier competitive environment, there is **NO** guarantee of minimum playing time.

There is a "24 hour "No Contact Rule" in place after games regarding contact with a coach, face to face, via e-mail, or phone after the game. I / we will follow the correct protocol if a meeting is desired for conflict resolution with the Coach.

Other

Player's initials _____ Player's Representatives' initials I understand and agree with the above requirements and obligations.

Player's Representative's name (print) Player's Representatives' signature Date

Player's Representative's name (print) Player's Representatives' signature Date

Player's name (print) Player's signature Date

Club's Representative's name (print) Club's Representatives' signature Date

3.15 MEMBER PASSES AND ROSTERS.

3.15.1 USYSA Member Passes (ID cards), complete with current photo are required for all teams participating in a USYSA/KSYSA sanctioned tournament.

Teams must carry an official KSYSA computer-generated roster, signed and/or stamped by the appropriate registrar, which includes all players and team officials. Kansas Youth Soccer Chapter 3: Rules

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3.16 LOANED/GUEST PLAYERS. Every KSYSA registered player has the right to participate as a loan/guest player for other affiliated teams during non-league play, unless participation as a loan/guest player will: (1) result in the player engaging in a sanctioned event with the host team on the same day as a sanctioned event is scheduled with the player's rostered team; (2) require the player to miss a sanctioned event with the player's rostered team due to travel or a similar event; or, (3) the player is serving a suspension.

3.16.1 Each KSYSA member league shall establish their own rules governing loan/guest players during league play.

3.17 YOUTH PLAYERS AND TEAMS PLAYING IN ADULT GAMES.

A youth player may play an unlimited number of adult games without losing his or her youth eligibility. The youth player must notify his or her youth coach or other authorized team official of the player's intention to play adult games. The youth player shall request, in writing, (1) eligibility clearance from KSYSA, and (2) permission from the appropriate Adult State Association or other United States Adult Soccer Association ("USASA") Affiliate. When the clearance and permission have been granted, the Adult State Association or other USASA Affiliate has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play adult games and will be responsible for establishing the procedures under which the youth player will be allowed to play. In the event of a conflict between an adult game and a youth game, the youth game shall take precedence. A youth player who is required to sign an adult form shall retain youth eligibility. (See, USYSA Rule 208, Section 1)

3.17.2 A youth team with the written permission and mutual consent of both the KSYSA and Adult State Association may play in an adult-approved league and not lose its youth eligibility to compete in the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. If the youth team's players are required to sign an adult form, the team shall retain its youth eligibility. The youth team will be required to play under the rules of the KSYSA concerning registration, roster rules, transfer rules, and any additional qualifications that are required to be eligible for the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions (See, USYSA Rule 208, Section 2).

4.0. PROTESTS, APPEALS & DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS.

4.1 PURPOSE.

The Ted Stevens Amateur Sports act requires that KSYSA must provide, with fair notice, the opportunity for a hearing to any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official before declaring such individual ineligible to participate. To meet these requirements, the Kansas State Youth Soccer Association, Inc. has the authority and responsibility to handle appeals of adverse action against players, coaches, managers, officials, officers, teams and members by their member leagues and associations or organizations or committees of the Kansas State Youth Soccer Association.

Every member league and club of the Kansas State Youth Soccer Association shall be responsible for taking action for any misconduct by any member of their Kansas Youth organization for matters that occurred within the control of its organization. All member leagues and clubs and Kansas State Youth Soccer Association organizations and committees must provide a procedure to provide for the due process of its members.

It is the policy of KSYSA to provide due process to all members of KSYSA. All involved individual(s), that are subject to the provision of this Rule, in any appeal process shall be entitled to have copies of all materials involving the incident, to have the process conducted within the time lines established by the entity (KSYSA member league or club) that held the initial hearing in the matter under appeal, and to have the right within the designated time limits established to provide comment and/or evidence concerning the incident. In addition, if any member league, club, or KSYSA Committee, pursuant to

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their own rules or procedures, holds a hearing on a person, team or club not listed above, then that person, team or club has a right to appeal any adverse decision reached by the member league, association or KSYSA Committee using the procedures as outlined in this Rule.

Failure to comply with any procedural requirements as outlined in this Rule may result in a reversal of any adverse decision that is reached by the entity that held the initial hearing and / or in any disciplinary sanctions being imposed.

For the purposes of this Rule, the Appealing Party in a dispute shall be the person(s) or entity(ies) which is the subject of disciplinary or procedural action and the Responding Party is the entity which took the disciplinary or procedural action that is the subject of the appeal.

If the Responding Party does not meet the required time deadlines in handling the reported incident, then the matter will be decided in favor of the appealing party. If the Appealing Party does not meet the required time deadlines, the appeal will be dismissed.

If there should be any conflict between the provisions of these rules and the provisions of the USSF Bylaws and Policies concerning Appeals, Protests or Grievances, the USSF Bylaws and Policies shall be controlling.

4.1.1 DEFINITIONS UNIQUE TO THIS RULE.

4.1.1.1 APPEALS.

Appeals arise as a result of an adverse decision from a protest hearing, administrative action, disciplinary hearing or other lower-level hearing. Only those parties to the original action shall be allowed to appeal. No decision, which arises out of a competition, which is made in the course of the competition, and has no consequence beyond the competition, shall be appealable.

The fee to file a Level Two (District) or a Level Three (State) Appeal is \$100, See Rule 4.2.3.2. Appeal fees are not refundable.

4.1.1.2 PROTESTS.

Protests are related to a specific game or administrative action and are filed by one of the involved team officials. Only those teams involved are permitted to protest a game result. Protests, on a specific game, cannot be filed by a third party, such as coaches from other teams, leagues or state officials. Protests must be filed in accordance with the protest procedures including time limits of the competition or the KSYSA Rules or FIFA Laws of the Game. Competition is defined as league play, tournaments, state tournaments (cups) or any games played for standings or awards. The right to protest must be exhausted within the rules of that competition before being appealed to a higher authority.

The fee to file a Protest where the State has original jurisdiction, such as National Championship Series games (State Cup), is \$100. Protest Fees are refundable if the Protest is sustained.

4.1.1.3 DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS.

These hearings are the result of allegations of misconduct. Such misconduct must be a violation of a published rule, regulation or procedure. Disciplinary hearings may also be called in cases where an individual is alleged to have violated KSYSA Risk Management policies. A disciplinary committee shall only hear allegations of misconduct against individuals within their authority. Parties accused of misconduct have the right to face their accuser at the hearing.

4.1.1.4 GRIEVANCES.

Grievances are complaints that are not specific to the Laws of the Game or do not otherwise fall under the Protest and Appeals Rules. These may be heard informally by the appropriate competition authority or league.

4.2 APPEALS

4.2.1 APPEALS COMMITTEE.

The Rules Committee Chairman shall serve as the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee and shall appoint, as needed, an Appeals Committee consisting of at least three (3) individuals. The Appeals Committee shall be responsible for investigating and hearing any accepted appeal of actions taken by member leagues and associations or other committees or organization of Kansas State Youth Soccer Association.

4.2.1.2 No member of the Appeals Committee may be connected with any member of an organization involved in an issue brought before the Appeals Committee.

4.2.1.3 When possible the Appeals Committee should be comprised of individuals of different primary backgrounds, such as referee, coach, and administrator and should be from different KSYSA Districts.

4.2.1.4 The Appeals Committee Chairperson shall be a non-voting position responsible for providing interpretation of the rules and regulations for organizations involved in the appeal. In the event that the Appeals Committee Chairperson is directly involved in the matter that is before the Appeals Committee, the KSYSA President shall appoint an alternate Chairperson for the appeal that is before the Appeals Committee.

4.2.1.5 The Appeals Committee shall conduct the appeals only through a review of the documents and statements submitted by the Appealing and Responding parties to the appeal. No "in person" hearing(s) with the Appealing and /or Responding Party(ies) will be held by the Appeal Committee except as provided in Rule 4.2.3.13. No additional testimony beyond that was gathered at the initial hearing will be reviewed by the Appeals Committee.

4.2.3 MANNER OF APPEAL.

4.2.3.1 Appeals beyond the level of the club, league or association shall be made by filing a notice of appeal (see sample form), in a form designed by KSYSA. The Appealing Party shall send the Notice of Intent to Appeal to the Kansas State Youth

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Soccer Association Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the KSYSA Office.

4.2.3.2 The Notice of Intent to Appeal shall be complete and shall be signed by the appealing party. The Appealing Party(ies) shall file his/her Notice of Intent to Appeal, in writing, with the Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the KSYSA office **within seven (7) calendar days of the date of receipt of written notification** of adverse action from his/her member Club or League or KSYSA committee or organization. A \$100.00 fee is to accompany the Notice of Intent to Appeal when it is submitted. At the same time, a copy of the Notice of Intent to Appeal shall be sent by the Appealing Party to the other (Responding) party in the matter under appeal.

4.2.3.3 The Notice of Intent to Appeal shall also include a list of documents placed in evidence at the original hearing, using the form (Appeal Document Directory) as prescribed by KSYSA. The directory shall indicate what documents are held by the Appealing Party and what documents are held by of the Responding Party. The documents shall be numbered sequentially starting with document #1 as the original appeal and document #2 as the decision rendered following the initial hearing. Additional documents that are relevant to the matter under appeal are also to be listed on the Appeal Document List and numbered in the order that they were received by the Appealing Party.

4.2.3.4 The Appealing Party(ies) may request copies of all material held by the Responding Party that is connected to the appeal. The Responding Party must furnish copies of the material requested by the Appealing Party(ies) at the same time that the material is submitted to the Appeals Committee. If the Responding Party does not furnish the Appealing Party(ies) the material within the time specified below, a decision shall be entered in favor of the Appealing Party(ies).

4.2.3.5 Failure of the Appealing Party(ies) to provide copies of all material to the Responding Party within the time period specified will result in dismissal of the appeal.

4.2.3.6 The Responding Party shall mail all relevant material to the Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the KSYSA office, within **fourteen (14) calendar days** after receipt of the submission by the Appealing Party(ies). Copies of this submission and requested material held by the Responding Party that was requested by the Appealing Party(ies) must be given to the Appealing Party(ies) within this same time limit. If the Appealing Party(ies)'s requested material is held by the Responding Party, the Appealing Party(ies) has fourteen (14) calendar days following the receipt of the material held by the Responding Party to submit material based on the new information provided by the Responding Party.

4.2.3.7 The actual appeal, which may be in letter or memorandum form, must be sent by the Appealing Party to the KSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson, in care of the KSYSA office, within **fourteen (14) calendar days** after the Notice of Intent to Appeal was first sent to the KSYSA Appeals Chairman. A copy of the actual appeal must also be sent to the Responding Party at the same time.

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must include a statement of errors that have been made in the case which provide the basis for the appeal, including the specific rule of the KSYSA member league or club, or the rule of the KSYSA organization or committee, or the rule of KSYSA, or the rule of US Youth Soccer, or the bylaw or policy of USSF that was not followed, if any, in rendering the decision that is under appeal. The statement must specifically include all grounds for the appeal and must refer to the documents listed in the Appeals Document Directory.

4.2.3.8 Either Appealing or Responding Parties may submit additional written material (other than the opportunities to submit materials as outlined above) concerning the appeal or material submitted by either party. However, all material must be received by the Appeals Committee prior to the Appeals Committee's review of the appeal. Copies of any such material submitted to the Appeal Committee Chairperson must be provided to the other party to the dispute within the same time limits.

4.2.3.9 All reports to the Appeals Committee Chairperson shall be in writing. All correspondence sent to the Appealing Party, the Responding Party and to the KSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson or KSYSA office in all matters concerning an appeal shall be sent via certified U.S. Mail with a return receipt.

4.2.3.10 The Appeals Committee must review the appeal within sixty (60) calendar days from the time the Notice of Intent to Appeal was first sent to the KSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the KSYSA office.

4.2.3.11 All parties to this appeal shall be notified of the action of the Appeals Committee within **thirty (30) calendar days** after the appeal is reviewed by the Appeals Committee. At all levels of the appeal process, if a decision is not reached within 30 days of receipt of the written appeal, the party filing the appeal may submit the appeal to the next higher level without determination. The appeal fee submitted will be applied at the next level.

4.2.3.12 Any penalty assessed by the member league or club or KSYSA organization or committee shall be stayed until the Appeals Committee notifies the Appealing Party and the Responding Party of its decision. If the decision of the Appeals Committee upholds or modifies in part the determination by the KSYSA member league or club or KSYSA organization or committee that held the initial hearing, then the penalty assessed following the initial hearing or as modified by the Appeals Committee shall be imposed, effective immediately. If the Appeals Committee completely overturns the penalty that was imposed following the initial hearing then no penalty may be imposed by the Responding Party against the Appealing Party for the matter under consideration in the appeal. The Appeals Committee may also remand the matter for a rehearing by the entity which took the disciplinary or procedural action that is the subject of the appeal.

4.2.3.12 In any matter that is brought to the KSYSA Appeals Committee involving the current year's US Youth Soccer Kansas State Cup in which either the Appealing Party or the Responding Party has not been eliminated from the competition, the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee shall be empowered to hold an expedited "document only" review or at

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the discretion of the Appeal Committee Chairperson an "in-person" hearing to resolve the issue in a timely manner as to have a minimal impact on the US Youth Soccer Kansas State Cup Championship. In order to hold the expedited hearing, the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee is authorized to call a meeting of the KSYSA Appeals Committee within **72 hours of receipt** of the Notice of Intent to Appeal. The appeal and all relevant documentation may be delivered to the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee in care of the KSYSA office either by certified U.S. Mail with a return receipt or by hand delivery. Any person having an interest in the appeal may present any relevant documentation to the Appeals Committee for their consideration. The Appeals Committee shall render its decision within 48 hours of the conclusion of the expedited hearing.

4.2.4 FURTHER APPEAL RIGHTS

4.2.4.1 The decision of the Appeals Committee may be appealed to the USSF. Written appeal must be filed within **five (5) calendar days** of the receipt of the decision as rendered by the KSYSA Appeals Committee. The Notice of Intent to Appeal must be given to the Responding Party(ies) (both the original party and KSYSA) at the same time. The Appeal to the USSF must follow the procedure established by the USSF Administrative Rules Book. Copies of these procedures are available upon request from the Kansas State Office.

4.2.4.2 For good cause and to prevent manifest injustice, the Appeals Committee Chairperson may extend the deadlines provided in these Rules, except the time provided in Rules 4.2.3.2 and 4.2.4.1, upon written application of a party.

4.2.5 APPEALING PARTY OBLIGATION AND APPEAL DOCUMENTATION.

4.2.5.1 Within **fourteen (14) calendar days** after the mailing of the Notice of Intent to Appeal, the Appealing Party shall send the actual appeal in the form as described in **Rule 4.2.3.4** to the Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the KSYSA office and to the Responding party.

4.2.5.2 Appeal documentation shall include the following:

- a) Copies of all documents stated on the Notice of Intent to Appeal to be in the hands of the appealing party. No additional evidence, not listed in the Notice of Intent to Appeal, may be submitted without the advance permission of the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee.
- b) Arguments supporting the appealing party's position on each of the issues.
- c) Statement that a copy of the appeal documentation has been mailed or delivered to the Responding party.

4.2.6 RESPONDING PARTY OBLIGATIONS.

4.2.6.1 **Within fourteen (14) calendar days** after receipt of the Notice of Intent to Appeal the Responding Party shall send the Appeals Committee and the appealing party(ies) copies of the documents stated in the Notice of Intent to Appeal to be held by Responding Party or an explanation of the absence of the documentation.

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4.2.6.2 Within **fourteen (14) calendar days** after receipt of the actual appeal in the form as described in **Rule 4.2.3.4** the Responding Party shall send its arguments of the issues to the Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the KSYSA office and the appealing party(ies).

4.2.7 POWERS OF THE KSYSA APPEALS COMMITTEE.

4.2.7.1 The Appeals Committee is not empowered to require any member league, club, or KSYSA organization or committee to change any of their procedures for handling disputes that would be subject to the KSYSA Appeals Procedures. The KSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson may make such recommendations on behalf of the Appeals Committee to the member league, club, or KSYSA organization or committee and/or to the KSYSA Board of Directors.

4.2.7.2 The Appeals Committee is not empowered to rule on the credibility of the testimony provided at the initial hearing. The determination as to the credibility of the witnesses and of written documentation presented at the initial hearing shall be the sole province of the entity that held the initial hearing.

4.2.7.3 Questions regarding KSYSA appeals procedures must be submitted, in writing, to the KSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson.

4.2.7.4 Consideration of appeals will be limited to the specific facts, rules and procedures at issue. Matters not relevant to the appeal will not be considered by the KSYSA Appeals Committee.

4.2.7.5 The Appeals Committee may not increase the severity of any suspension or penalty determined by a lower level panel, though it may reduce the severity of the penalty.

4.3 ORIGINAL HEARINGS INVOLVING PROTESTS, DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS OR GRIEVANCES.

4.3.1 US SOCCER BYLAW 701 - HEARING PROCEDURES.

US Soccer Bylaw 701 sets minimum standards for original hearings and does not apply to appeals. In some cases KSYSA provides for procedures that are more strict than those provided by US Soccer. These are the minimum standards to be followed in Original Hearings conducted by leagues, clubs and KSYSA Committees:

- 1) notice of the specific charges or alleged violations in writing and possible consequences if the charges are found to be true;
- 2) reasonable time between receipt of the notice of charges and the hearing within which to prepare a defense;
- 3) the right to have the hearing conducted at a time and place so as to make it practicable for the person charged to attend;
- 4) a hearing before a disinterested and impartial body of fact finders;
- 5) the right to be assisted in the presentation of one's case at the hearing;

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- 6) the right to call witnesses and present oral and written evidence and argument;
- 7) the right to confront witnesses, including the right to be provided the identity of witnesses in advance of the hearing;
- 8) the right to have a record made of the hearing if desired; and
- 9) a written decision, with reasons for the decision, based solely on the evidence of record, issued in a timely fashion.

4.3.2 COMMITTEE COMPOSITION.

Hearing Committees or Panels shall be comprised of at least three (3), but no more than five (5) members PLUS an Administrator. Each Committee member shall have one vote, with the exception of the Administrator who should only vote in the case of a tie. It is acceptable, in emergency situations, for the Administrator to act as one of the panel members and vote. However, if that vote is tied, the matter shall be immediately forwarded to the next level along with a statement of the status of the previous hearing. The Hearing Panels shall be comprised of persons having no conflict of interest in the matters being heard and having no association with the principal parties in the matters. No person shall adjudicate a matter at more than one level.

Hearing Panels convened at the District Level shall be Administered and appointed by the District Commissioner or his or her designee.

Hearing Panels convened at the State Level shall be Administered and appointed by the Vice President of Competitive or his or her designee.

4.3.3 USE OF EMAIL.

The use and reliance on email in matters before a Hearing Committee should be strictly regulated and shall never be the exclusive manner of communication with a party or witness.

4.3.4 USE OF ATTORNEYS IN PROCEEDINGS.

The party of record shall represent their side of any hearing and may request to seek advice from legal counsel or another person of their choice. Such a request will be granted unless the request is unreasonable due to the length of a requested recess to obtain counsel or because a party has made previous requests for counsel and then discharged those attorneys in what appears to be an attempt to the Hearing Administrator to be an attempt to delay the proceedings. The Hearing Panel shall not be required to follow federal, state and local Rules of Evidence or Civil Procedure.

4.3.5 LINE OF JURISDICTION.

The line of jurisdiction for protests, appeals, and disciplinary hearings, in ascending order, shall be:

4.3.5.1 LEVEL ONE: CLUBS, LEAGUES, TOURNAMENT AUTHORITIES.

1. These bodies shall hear original protests, appeals and allegations of misconduct arising from events within their jurisdiction.

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2. These bodies shall establish their own protest, appeal and disciplinary hearing procedures. Such procedures must be in writing and must include notification of the right to appeal to higher authority and the procedure for doing so. All such local bodies' rules shall offer rights that are not less than those provided in this Rule.

4.3.5.2 LEVEL TWO: DISTRICT APPEALS AND PROTESTS COMMITTEE.

The District Commissioner is the Administrator of the District Appeals and Protests Committee, which shall hear original protests, appeals, or allegations of misconduct filed by those persons, clubs, leagues or tournaments under their jurisdiction.

Matters arising from game protests will not be heard at Level Two until a Level One protest and appeal procedures have been exhausted.

4.3.5.3 LEVEL THREE: APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS WHERE ORIGINAL JURISDICTION IS WITH THE STATE.

1. Appeals of Level Two decisions and such other matters as covered under the rules of USSF/USYSA/KSYSA, or as directed by the KSYSA Board of Directors.

2. The original jurisdiction to adjudicate all official protests concerning recruitment of registered players shall be at Level Three only in the event there is no Level One rule governing recruitment, or the rules and/or regulations of various Level One Authorities are in conflict.

3. All Level Three Hearings shall be chaired by the Rules Committee Chairperson.

4.3.5.4 LEVEL FOUR: USYSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Appeals not involving activities sponsored by the USSF, State Associations or their members may be appealed to the USYSA Board of Directors. This will principally involve matters arising out of participation in the Olympic Development Program, the Midwest Regional League or the National Championship Series (State Cup).

4.3.5.5 LEVEL FIVE: USSF APPEALS COMMITTEE.

The USSF Appeals Committee shall hear and determine appeals from decisions rendered by State Associations relating to activities sponsored by the Federation and the State Association or its members. The decisions of the USSF Appeals Committee are final.

4.3.6 USE OF AUDIO/VIDEO TAPES.

Hearing Panels are not required to accept or review audio or video tapes. If either party seeks submission of an audio or video tape into the record, they should submit four copies and provide as a witness the individual who recorded the audio or video tape. The individual who recorded the audio or video tape should testify before the Hearing Panel that the audio or video tape accurately records the events and has not been edited or altered. The party submitting the audio or video tape shall also be required to provide the mechanisms required for viewing the tape. The copies of the audio or video tapes will NOT be returned.

4.3.7 PROTESTS.

4.3.7.1 FILING.

Protests are filed by a team official or other wronged party. Filing consists of serving a letter/written statement (herein after referred to as a filing) on the party who allegedly committed the wrong, and with the competition authority, league, club or KSYSA Committee responsible for hearing the Protest. Filings must state the specific rule or policy that the protester alleges is being violated or misapplied. Protest filings must also include the appropriate filing fees.

4.3.7.2 ESTABLISHING A PROTEST HEARING.

Upon receipt of the filing and filing fee, the Administrator for the hearing body shall:

1) Conduct a review of the allegations and if the allegations do not state a cause upon which any action may be taken, dismiss the charges and terminate the proceeding. If the charges state a claim, the Administrator shall schedule a hearing as soon as reasonably possible. The review of the allegations should include at least the following:

a. Identify the principal parties involved. Are they affiliated members in good standing?

b. Do these parties have a right to lodge a protest as specified under Rule 4.1.1.2? Is the issue protestable, or is it just a grievance? If it is determined that it is just a

c. grievance, it should be returned to the filing party with an explanation and instructions as to whom it should properly be submitted.

Determine whether the matter has been filed with the proper authority under the rules.

Determine that specific charges are made, the rules allegedly violated are cited and the desired resolution has been stated.

Schedule the hearing. The hearing may either be held as a “face to face” or conference call, depending on the circumstances of the case; however, if one party is to attend, then the other party **MUST** be invited to attend.

Notify, in writing, all parties of hearing time and location. All correspondence between the parties and the Hearing body shall be by certified/return receipt mail or some other form of post that will provide the administrator with proof of mailing and delivery.

If circumstances warrant, the administrator of the Hearing may also seek additional written documentation from either party prior to the hearing.

4.3.7.3 HOLDING A PROTEST HEARING.

At the hearing each side should be accorded the opportunity to present their case and ask questions if they desire. Both parties shall be treated equally.

Listed below is a sample hearing format. The times listed are flexible and can be extended/contracted as necessary. If a party is making valid points, and is not being repetitive, the administrator may allow additional time as he sees fit.

Opening Statement - Protesting Party.....15 minutes

Opening Statement - Protested Party..... 15 minutes

Statement - Protesting Party..... 5 minutes

Rebuttal/Closing Statement - Protested Party..... 5 minutes

Questions from the Hearing Panel.....Unlimited time

At the conclusion of the hearing the parties shall be dismissed so that the Panel may debate the issue freely. Parties should be informed, prior to their leaving, that they will be notified by mail within **seven (7) days** of the outcome of the hearing.

4.3.7.4 RENDERING THE DECISION.

Within seven (7) days the administrator must mail, to each party, the findings and decision of the panel. All correspondence shall be by certified/return receipt mail or some other form of post that will provide the administrator with proof of mailing and delivery. That Decision Letter should contain a statement of:

- 1) The original reason for the protest;
- 2) The Committee's decision;
- 3) The Committee's reasoning; and,
- 4) The proper course of appeal for the parties.

4.3.8 DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS.

4.3.8.1 INITIATION.

Any Disciplinary action taken by a league, club, competition authority or KSYSA Committee that may result in the accused person, team, league or club being suspended from play for a period of time greater than three (3) games or fined in excess of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300) shall be initiated as a Disciplinary Hearing in accordance with these Rules. Disciplinary Hearings may be held for other matters and appeals de novo of administratively imposed fines, Protests, and sanctions imposed by referees during competitions that alleged to be in violations of the Laws of the Game shall be held as Disciplinary Hearings. A Disciplinary Hearing proceeding is initiated by the filing of a complaint that sets forth the violation or basis of the appeal de novo by the appropriate official or wronged party. Filing consists of serving a letter/written statement (herein after referred to as a filing) on the opposing party, and with the competition authority, league, club or KSYSA Committee responsible for hearing the Protest. Filings must state the specific rule or policy that the Complainant alleges was violated or misapplied.

4.3.8.2. REVIEW OF THE CHARGES AND NOTICE OF A DISCIPLINARY HEARING.

Both the accused and the accuser shall be present for any Disciplinary Hearing; provided, however, in cases where the Administrator of the Hearing has a reasonable belief based on sworn testimony that there is a real threat of physical harm to one of the parties by the other, the Administrator may hold the hearing and accept testimony outside of the presence of the parties. Upon initiation, the Administrator for the hearing body shall:

- 1) Conduct a review of the allegations and if the allegations do not state a cause upon which any action may be taken, dismiss the charges and terminate the proceeding. If the charges state a claim, the Administrator shall schedule the hearing within **fourteen (14) days**. The review shall consider at least the following items:
 - a. Identify the principal parties involved. Are they affiliated members in good standing?
 - b. Determine if the charges are based on a violation of written rules, that the rules are

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cited and that such rules are specific and can withstand a challenge that they are too vague.

- c. Determine whether the matter has been filed with the proper authority under the rules.
 - d. Determine that the desired resolution has been stated.
- 2) Notify, in writing, all parties of hearing time and location. It is vital that all correspondence be by certified/return receipt mail or some other form of post that will provide the Administrator with proof of mailing and delivery. The Notice shall also include the following:
- a. A condensed restatement of the cause of action, which should contain specific charges or alleged violations in and possible consequences.
 - b. The date, a time and place of the hearing, which allows reasonable time to prepare a defense.
 - c. Whether the hearing shall be open or closed.
 - d. A copy of **KSUSA Rule 4.0. PROTESTS, APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS.**
- 3) In the Notice of the Hearing or subsequently at the request of a party, the Administrator shall establish deadlines for the submission of any written evidence by the parties prior to the Hearing. All written evidence to be submitted to the Hearing Committee shall be: numbered sequentially starting with document #1; supplied to the opposing party at least three days prior to the Hearing, unless a different date is specified in the Notice of Hearing by certified/return receipt mail or some other form of post that will provide the Administrator with proof of mailing and delivery; and, at least two copies of the written evidence shall be provided to the Administrator at least three days prior to the Hearing, unless a different date is specified in the Notice of Hearing by certified/return receipt mail or some other form of post that will provide the Administrator with proof of mailing and delivery.

4.3.8.3 HOLDING A DISCIPLINARY HEARING.

At the hearing, each side shall be accorded the opportunity to present their case and ask questions if they desire. Listed below is a sample hearing format. The times listed are flexible and can be extended/contracted as necessary. If a party is still making valid points, and is not being repetitive, the Administrator may allow additional time.

Opening Statement - Complainant.....	15 minutes
Opening Statement - Responding Party.....	15 minutes
Rebuttal/Closing Statement - Protesting Party.....	5 minutes
Rebuttal/Closing Statement - Protested Party.....	5 minutes
Questions from the Hearing Panel.....	Unlimited time

Either party has the right to have witnesses speak on their behalf, however those witness statements should be given within the time accorded each party. At the conclusion of the hearing the parties must be dismissed so that the Panel may debate the issue freely. Parties should be informed, prior to their leaving, that they will be

notified by mail within seven **(7) days** of the outcome of the hearing.

4.3.8.4 RENDERING A DECISION.

Within **seven (7) days** the Administrator must mail to each party the findings and decision of the Panel. All correspondence should be accomplished by certified/return receipt mail or some other form of post that will provide the Administrator with proof of mailing and delivery. Suspension of clubs, teams, players and officials shall be imposed only for stated reasons, and for a definite period of time, and no player or official of any club or team so suspended shall continue under suspension for an offense committed by the management of the club or team unless proof is submitted connecting such player or official with the offense committed. A suspension imposed by the USSF or any affiliated division or association shall be recognized by all affiliated organizations after proper notification. The letter sent by the Administrator shall contain:

- 1) The original reason for the hearing;
- 2) The Committee's decision;
- 3) The Committee's reasoning; and,
- 4) The proper course of appeal for the parties.

4.3.8.5 EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION FOR MATTERS INVOLVING REFEREE ASSAULT.

All cases of alleged referee assault **MUST** be handled at the State level. The Complainant in cases of Referee Assault shall be either the SRA or the SYRA.

4.3.9 GRIEVANCES.

Grievances may be heard informally or formally. If a formal hearing is to be held, the Grievance shall proceed in the same manner as a Disciplinary Hearing. In either case, all decisions on Grievances shall be in writing accomplished by certified/return receipt mail or some other form of post that will provide the Administrator with proof of mailing and delivery. Any Intent to Appeal an adverse decision shall be filed within the time specified by **Rule 4.2.3.2**.

4.4 EVIDENCE AND TESTIMONY.

4.4.1 All evidence, such as identification cards, team rosters, referees, game reports, letters, proof of age documents and other sources of written or printed information, shall be original or official only. No copies (e.g., photo, xerographic or other reproductions) shall be acceptable.

4.4.2 Proof of age documents shall conform to the rules of competition under USYSA/KSYSA rules.

4.4.3 Notarized documents shall attest to the validity of the signatures thereon, and shall not attest to the validity of the information contained in the document.

4.4.4 All testimony shall be limited to the principal parties, eyewitnesses and recognized authorities on the subject (such as registrar on registration matters).

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4.4.5 If a witness cannot appear at an open hearing, written testimony shall be accepted. The statement of any witness not appearing at the hearing shall be sworn under oath with the signature attesting to the validity of the statement notarized.

4.4.6 Character witnesses and other third-party witnesses shall not be allowed.

4.4.7 In the case of open hearings, testimony may be restricted with respect to time.

4.4.8 A document directory as described in Rule **4.2.3.3** shall be established at Level 2 and maintained at each level thereafter. The establishment of this document directory at Level 1 is strongly recommended.

4.4.9 Documents, other than Official Government records such as Birth Certificates and Passports, not submitted in English shall not be considered as part of the official record. Any party wishing to submit evidence in a language other than English shall have the evidence translated into English.

4.4.10 Hearing Panels are not required to accept or review audio or video tapes. If either party seeks submission of an audio or video tape into the record, they should submit four copies and provide as a witness the individual who recorded the audio or video tape. The individual who recorded the audio or video tape should testify before the Hearing Panel that the audio or video tape accurately records the events and has not been edited or altered. The party submitting the audio or video tape shall also be required to provide the mechanisms required for viewing the tape. The copies of the audio or video tapes will NOT be returned.

4.5 REQUIREMENT TO EXHAUST REMEDIES.

No KSYSA league, club, coach, administrator, team, referee, player, member or their representative may invoke the aid of the Courts of State of Kansas, or of the United States, without first exhausting all available remedies as set forth in USSF Rule. If any person described in this **Rule 4.5** invokes the aid of the courts as specified above, then such persons are subject to the penalties provided in **Rule 5.2.11**.

4.6 INTIMIDATION OF HEARING WITNESSES AND REPRESENTATIVES.

Any person who directly or indirectly attempts to, or threatens, dissuades, interferes, influences or impedes any witness, party or KSYSA Hearing Panel Member or representative in connection with any Protest, Appeal and Disciplinary Hearing investigation, hearing or appeal is subject to the sanctions of probation, suspension, and fines as provided in **Rule 5.5.1**.

A. INDIVIDUAL/ORGANIZATION FILING PROTEST/APPEAL

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone: Home (____) _____ Work (____) _____
Affiliation of person or organization filing protest or appealing a decision:
Check one: (____) Player (____) Coach (____) Team (____) Club (____) League (____)
Other (describe) _____

B. NAME OF PERSON OR ORGANIZATION PROTEST FILED AGAINST OR PRINCIPAL OFFICER OF ORGANIZATION RENDERING ORIGINAL DECISION:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone: Home (____) _____ Work (____) _____

C. IF PROTEST, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS REQUESTED: (Complete additional data on separate sheet if necessary.)

- 1) Nature and specifics of the complaint:
- 2) Listing of rules, policies, or procedures, which have been violated:
- 3) Statement of the desired resolution:

D. IF APPEAL, THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS REQUESTED:

- 1) This is an appeal of the decision of: () Club () League () District () Other _____
- 2) Date of decision being appealed:
- 3) Date decision was received by party filing appeal:

(Notice of Intent to File an Appeal must be postmarked within 7 days after receipt of decision and must be accompanied by a \$100 appeal fee. See Rule **4.2.3.2**. The time limits for filing Protests are set by the competition authority and maybe less than an hour.)

- 4) Grounds for appeal (check as many as apply):
(____) Failure to comply with Bylaws, Rules, Regulations or Laws of the Game
(____) Disagreement as to facts as determined by the organization whose decision is being appealed
(____) Failure of the organization whose decision is being appealed to provide the party appealing with due process.
(____) Other _____

I hereby certify that all information given in this document is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have included the appropriate protest/appeal fee.

Date Signature of Person Filing Protest/Appeal

5.0. MISCONDUCT PENALTIES.

5.1 EXPULSION FROM GAME.

5.1.1 A player or team official who has been ordered from the field of play or from the sidelines by the referee shall automatically incur the penalty or penalties for the given offense or offenses as stipulated in these rules.

5.1.2 The referee's game report shall automatically initiate the action against the ejected individual.

5.1.3 In accordance with the policies and procedures as outlined in the USYSA Travel and Tournament Manual, all disciplinary measures imposed by the host organization in a tournament shall be limited to placing restrictions upon an individual's group participation in the tournament. It is the responsibility of the host organization of the tournament to record the issuance of all red and yellow cards and other matters involving the conduct of a team, its players, coaches or supporters. This information shall be reported immediately to the home state association and the home club/league *except that all matters involving referee assault (or abuse) shall be referred immediately to the host state association.*

The home state association and the home club/league shall, except in the case of referee assault, have the responsibility for imposing, should circumstances warrant, additional sanctions within their respective jurisdictions with regard to any matters arising from the tournament.

5.2 SUSPENSIONS AND BAD STANDING

5.2.1 A player, while under suspension or bad standing, shall not be released by his club until the completion of the team's playing season or the end of the seasonal year, whichever comes first.

5.2.2 A team official, while under suspension or bad standing, shall not change his team/club affiliation.

5.2.3 Players who are ejected from any U. S. Youth Soccer National Championship series game shall not be allowed to participate in the next immediately following U. S. Youth Soccer National Championship series game played by the player's team. A player may receive more than a one-game suspension. For the purposes of this **Rule 5.2.3**, the U.S. Youth National Championship shall include the Kansas State Cup and Region II Tournament of the USYSA National Championship games.

5.2.4 All periods of suspension shall run continuously. Game suspensions in effect at the termination of one playing season or seasonal year shall remain in effect, even into the following playing season or seasonal year until the full period of suspension has been served.

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5.2.5 The suspension is to be served by the suspended individual at the next previously scheduled game that the player's team is involved in. In the event the player's team disbands or the player leaves the team prior to being able to serve the suspension, the player shall serve his suspension during the first sanctioned game(s) the player's subsequent team plays.

5.2.6 In order for a game to count as a suspension game, it must be a regular duration time game or a USYSA sanctioned tournament game.

5.2.7 Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein, including cautions, ejections and standard suspension. Any other individuals who may be reasonably construed as being associated with a team, such as relatives and spectators, shall also be subject to the jurisdiction and authority of this Association.

5.2.8 Coaches and other team officials shall be held responsible for the actions of any individual(s), at any match that in the opinion of the referee is a supporter of that team.

5.2.9 No player or team official, while under suspension, shall participate in any activity under the jurisdiction of KSYSA or any sanctioned activity under USSF or any of its affiliated organizations until the full period of suspension has been served.

5.2.10 A multi-rostered player receiving a Red Card with their Secondary Team that cannot be served prior to State Cup may serve the penalty with the Primary Team.

5.2.11 PENALTY FOR FAILING TO EXHAUST REMEDIES. A violation of **Rule 4.3**, the offending party shall be subject to the sanctions of suspension and fines and may be liable to USSF and KSYSA for all expenses incurred by USSF and its officers, and KSYSA and its officers, as appropriate, in defending each court action, including but not limited to the following:

- (1)** Court costs
- (2)** Attorney fees
- (3)** Reasonable compensation for the time spent by USSF and KSYSA Officers and employees in responding to and defending against allegations in the action, including responses to discovery court appearance
- (4)** Travel expenses
- (5)** Expenses for holding special National Youth Council and KSYSA Board of Directors meetings necessitated by Court action.

5.2.12 SUSPENSIONS/SEND OFFS

Any coach who is ejected from any competition shall remain under suspension until the penalty is served with the team the coach was coaching when ejected; provided,

however, the coach is not charged with referee assault or abuse, in which case **USSF**

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policies 531-9 and 531-10 shall apply. If after seven (7) days and the penalty has not been served, the coach may be allowed to coach other teams to which (s)he was rostered at the time of the ejection provided payment of any associated fines has been satisfied. In addition, for the first ejection in any seasonal year the coach shall be assessed a fine of not less than Seventy Five Dollars (\$75.00) to be collected by the competition authorities and paid to KSYSA; for a second ejection in any seasonal year the fine shall increase to an amount not less than One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) to be collected by the competition authorities and paid to KSYSA; and, for a third and any additional ejection(s) in any seasonal year the fine shall increase to an amount not less than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) to be collected by the competition authorities and paid to KSYSA. A failure to pay the fine within seven days of the ejection shall result in the coach remaining under suspension until such time as the fine is paid. Nothing in this rule precludes the competition authority from imposing additional penalties and fines beyond those provided by this Rule.

5.2.13. PLAYER BAD STANDING

Club/League intending to place a player in bad standing must hold a hearing in compliance with **US Federation policy 701-1** and **KSYSA rules, section 4.0**, within **two (2) weeks** after written notification has been provided to the participant of their intent to place in bad standing with the state association. The state association must be notified within **two (2) weeks** after the club/league hearing has been held with the participant. No action will be taken by the state association should this timeline not be followed.

After the state association has deemed full compliance in accordance with **KSYSA rules 4.0 and policy 701-1 of the US Federation**, the participant will be placed on bad standing with the state association for a period not to exceed one seasonal year or earlier with notice given the state association by the club/league withdrawing their request to place the participant in bad standing.

A player may be kept in bad standing for subsequent years provided that the organization seeking to impose the sanction has sent the individual a notice of how to cure the issue, and if requested holds a hearing on removing the bad standing determination.

5.3 MISCONDUCT TOWARD GAME OFFICIALS.

5.3.1 Misconduct against referees may occur before, during and after the match, including travel to and from the match. Misconduct may occur also at later times when directly related to duties of a game official as a referee.

5.3.2 As used in this Rule a "Referee" includes the following:

- (1)** all currently registered USSF referees, assistant referees, 4th officials or others duly appointed to assist in officiating in a match
- (2)** any non-licensed, non-registered person serving in an emergency capacity as a referee; and
- (3)** any club assistant referee.

5.3.3 Referee assault is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon a referee.

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Assault includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting at, or on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; head butting; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee's uniform or personal property, i.e., car, equipment, etc.

5.3.4 Referee abuse is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact, which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment. Abuse includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee; using foul or abusive language toward a referee that implies or threatens physical harm; spewing any beverage on a referee's personal property; or spitting at (but not on) the referee.

5.3.5 When any player, coach, manager, club official or game official assaults or abuses a referee, and the occurrence is related to a game under the jurisdiction of KSYSA, the original jurisdiction to adjudicate the matter shall vest immediately in this Association.

5.3.6 When an allegation of assault is verified by KSYSA, the person is automatically suspended from all USSF/USYSA-sanctioned activities until the hearing on the assault.

5.3.7 In the case of abuse or assault, a hearing must be held within thirty (30) days of the verification by KSYSA of the abuse or assault. If a hearing is not held by KSYSA within that period of time, original jurisdiction shall immediately vest in the USSF National Appeals Committee to adjudicate the matter, to which the same provisions as to the term of suspension shall apply. Failure to hold the initial hearing shall not rescind the automatic suspension.

5.3.8 In the event an assault on or abuse of a referee occurs in an event or tournament outside the alleged offender's home state, the referee shall
(A) immediately notify the Event/Tournament Chairman, and

(B) forward a copy of the game report and his/her comments on the incident to the Event/Tournament Chairman. The Event/Tournament Chairman shall have the right to immediately convene a hearing at the site of the Event/Tournament, and the following procedure must be followed:

- (1)** The alleged offender, the coach of the alleged offender when the offender is a player, and the game official should be present
- (2)** Information presented at the hearing, including the referee's report, shall be promptly relayed to the alleged offender's State Association President, both orally and in writing; however, failure to provide written information shall not restrict the offender's home State Association from taking action with regard to any referee abuse or assault
- (3)** Final jurisdiction shall vest with the alleged offender's home State Association. A hearing shall be held by that Organizational Member within **thirty (30) days** of the receipt of the initial report of the abuse or assault on a referee.

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5.3.9 The player, coach, manager, or official committing the **referee assault** is automatically suspended from all USSF/USYSA-sanctioned activities as follows:

- (A) For a minor or slight touching of the referee or the referee's uniform or personal property, at least 3 months from the time of assault; except as provided in clause (i) or (ii),
- (B) for any other assault, at least 6 months.
- (C) For an assault committed by an adult and the referee is 17 years of age or younger, at least 3 years;
- (D) Except as provided in clause (i) or (ii) for a minor or slight touching of the referee or the referees uniform or personal property, at least 3 months from the time of the assault;
- (E) Except as provided in clause (i) or (ii) for any other assault, at least 6 months from the time of the assault.
 - (i) for an assault committed by an adult and the referee is 17 years of age or younger, at least 3 years; or
 - (ii) for an assault when serious injuries are inflicted, at least 5 years.

Shorter periods of suspension may not be given, but, if circumstances warrant, KSYSA may provide a longer period of suspension. See **KSYSA Policy 2.3(A)**.

5.3.10. The minimum suspension period for **referee abuse** shall be at least **three (3) scheduled matches** within the rules of that competition. KSYSA may provide a longer period of suspension when circumstances warrant (e.g., habitual offenders).

5.3.11. A player, coach, manager, or official who is found to have committed the assault or abuse may appeal to the USSF Appeals Committee by following the procedures of **USFF Bylaw 705** within **ten (10) days** from receipt of the decision from KSYSA.

5.3.12. Referees shall transmit a written report of the alleged assault or abuse, or both, within **48 hours** of the incident (unless there is a valid reason for later reporting) to the designee of the Organization Member and the State Referee Administrator.

For tournament or special events, the referee shall transmit a written report to the tournament director on the day of the incident and to the home state SRA within **10 days** of the incident.

5.3.13 Club/League intending to place a player in bad standing must hold a hearing in compliance with **US Federation policy 701-1** and **KSYSA rules, section 4.0**, within **two (2) weeks** after written notification has been provided to the participant of their intent to place in bad standing with the state association. The state association must be notified within **two (2) weeks** after the club/league hearing has been held with the participant. No action will be taken by the state association should this timeline not be followed.

After the state association has deemed full compliance in accordance with **KSYSA rules 4.0** and **policy 701-1 of the US Federation**, the participant will be placed on bad standing with the state association for a period not to exceed one seasonal year or earlier with notice given the state association by the club/league withdrawing their

request to place the participant in bad standing.

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A player may be kept in bad standing for subsequent years provided that the organization seeking to impose the sanction has sent the individual a notice of how to cure the issue, and if requested holds a hearing on removing the bad standing

determination.

5.4 MISCONDUCT OF GAME OFFICIALS.

5.4.1 When any game official is accused of having committed misconduct toward another game official, participant, or spectator at a match under the jurisdiction of KSYSA, or of having a conflict of interest, the original jurisdiction to adjudicate the matter shall vest immediately with the State Association or Member Organization through which the accused game official is registered.

5.4.2 When any game official, referee, referee assistant or referee development program person is accused of unethical conduct, misuse or abuse of authority, or conflict of interest in any matter within or as authorized by the USSF, or any member organization of USSF, the matter shall vest immediately in the State Association through which the accused game official is registered or through which the referee development program person is appointed.

5.4.3 Any allegation of misconduct or of conflict of interest by a game official as described in Rule 5.4.1, or any allegation of unethical conduct, misuse or abuse of authority or conflict of interest as described in 5.4.2 of this Rule, shall be made in writing to KSYSA.

5.5 OTHER PENALTIES.

5.5.1 Penalties for improper conduct may include any combination of probation, suspensions or fines. Penalties prescribed herein are minimum penalties. KSYSA and/or its affiliated subordinate organizations may assess penalties greater than those established herein. Severity of the incident, provocation and prior history, including offenses, cautions, suspension and/or probationary status shall be considered in assessing greater penalties. If any penalty established by KSYSA conflicts with any other rule of USYSA or USSF, the more restrictive penalty will prevail.

5.5.2 A team or club who submits false or inaccurate information to affect a player transfer or to prevent an otherwise legitimate player transfer shall be placed on probation for one (1) year.

5.5.3 Targeted Recruiting is considered a serious offense by KSYSA, and any Club, Team or individual found to have committed Targeted Recruiting in violation of Rule 3.13.5 is subject to the following serious penalties:

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1st offense | Six (6) month suspension. |
| 2nd offense | Twelve (12) month suspension & \$1,000 fine. |
| 3rd offense | Thirty Six (36) month suspension & \$2,500 fine. |

6.0. GOVERNANCE OF LEAGUES, TOURNAMENTS, TRAVEL AND OTHER SANCTIONED EVENTS.

6.1 NONDISCRIMINATION. An Affiliate, Association, League or tournament, shall not discriminate against the participation of players or teams on the basis of that player or

team's membership in, or affiliation with, another organization affiliated with the USSF, including any team or Club affiliated with KSYSA. **(USSF Bylaw 603.2)** The only exception to this Rule shall be for Tournaments hosted directly by KSYSA and specifically restricted to teams registered with KSYSA.

6.2 FEES THAT MAY BE CHARGED TO NON-KSYSA OR USYSA TEAMS PARTICPATING IN KSYSA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS. A tournament sponsor may charge each non-KSYSA team an additional fee of not more than \$25 to participate in the tournament. **(USSF Bylaw 603.2)**

6.3 STATE CUP AND OTHER TOURNAMENTS HOSTED BY KSYSA.

6.3.1. KSYSA hosted tournaments are divided by age group, gender, and division.

6.3.2. Youth teams shall designate the classification of competition that the team will participate in at the time of registration with KSYSA (Premier, Classic or Recreational).

6.3.3. The classification indicated serves to designate the State Cup that the team may participate in for that seasonal year.

6.3.4. The divisions of competition are:

- (1)** State Cup, exclusively for premier teams, winners advance to the Region II Competition in the USYSA National Championship series
- (2)** Kansas Classic Cup, open to all classifications; and
- (3)** Kansas Recreational Cup/Festival, exclusively for recreational teams.

6.3.5. A team may play in only one age division of the State Cup Tournament.

6.3.6 A player may participate on only one team in the State Cup Tournament in a seasonal year.

6.3.7. Teams must declare their intent to advance to all rounds that the team qualifies for of the State Cup Tournament, including to the Region II competition, prior to the team's first preliminary match.

6.3.8. The KSYSA Board of Directors shall determine the site and entry fee for each cup competition.

6.3.9. Only teams registered with KSYSA are eligible for participation in Cup Tournaments.

6.3.10. The KSYSA Board of Directors shall determine the format for the State Cup Tournament. The KSYSA State Office may establish the format of recreational tournaments/festivals.

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6.3.11. Except as otherwise provided in this Rule 6.3 and its subsections, the USYSA

POLICY ON US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, shall govern eligibility to play and play in the State Cup Tournament.

6.3.12. Entry form, fee, and performance bond for State Cup entries must be RECEIVED in the KSYSA office no later than the established date and time for entry. If mailed an entry must be received in the State Office no later than the established date and time for entry. It is recommending that all mailed entries be sent registered with return receipt. This deadline is firm and no exceptions will be made.

6.3.13. The KSYSA State Office may establish and modify such Rules as are necessary for the Classic Cup and the Recreational Cup/Festival.

6.4. TRAVEL PROCEDURES.

6.4.1. For teams wishing to travel within the United States, Mexico, or Canada, permission of KSYSA, utilizing the appropriate *Application for Travel* form, is all that is required.

6.4.2. If travel is being requested outside North America, additional time and fees will be necessary. Applications must be submitted **at least ninety (90) days in advance of your departure date** (must be the original - NO FAXES), **incomplete applications will be returned**. A copy of the official brochure, pamphlet, invitation or other applicable material of the Tournament or Games host must be submitted with the application. An additional fee of \$25.00 (check made payable to US SOCCER) must be included. If an application is submitted to USYSA **less than sixty (60) days** in advance of the travel dates, the following non-refundable late fees must be enclosed, made payable to US Youth Soccer:

- (1)** less than sixty (60) days but more than thirty (30) days advance notice - \$25.00
- (2)** less than thirty (30) days advance notice - \$50.00.

KSYSA will forward all copies to USYSA. USYSA will file all applicable fees and documents with US SOCCER, which will then notify the national association in the country or countries to which your team is traveling that your team is properly affiliated and has permission to travel. A copy of the approved application will be returned to KSYSA and also to the traveling team. The permission to travel form must be carried with the team while traveling.

6.4.3. Forms without the proper processing fees and rosters will be returned.

6.4.4. A team, which travels without securing approval of its Application for Travel, shall be subject to penalties imposed by KSYSA and USYSA, including the possible prohibition of future travel or suspension of the parties responsible.

6.4.5. USYSA Player Passes, complete with photo, must be carried when playing in all tournaments.

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6.4.6. Teams must carry notarized an authorization properly executed with required signatures for each player to allow emergency medical treatment and emergency contact information.

6.4.7. Teams must carry an official roster, which includes all traveling players and team officials, signed and/or stamped by the appropriate registrar. *KSYSA Guest Player Forms*, are required for all guest players.

6.4.8. Travel forms are not necessary for teams traveling to Regional and/or National Cup games. They are mandatory for all other teams (including ODP) traveling out-of-state for tournaments or friendly games.

6.5. HOSTING PROCEDURES. Only teams, clubs, leagues or associations affiliated with USYSA and in “good standing” with KSYSA may be granted permission to host tournaments. When a private organization provides sponsorship for a tournament, the permission to conduct the tournament is granted only to the USYSA member team, club, league, or association and not to the sponsoring organization.

6.6. PERMISSION TO HOST A TOURNAMENT FOR NORTH AMERICAN TEAMS. Any affiliated organization desiring to host a tournament shall submit to the appropriate officer of KSYSA the following forms and supporting documentation no later than **ninety (90) days prior** to the proposed date(s) of the tournament or games you are requesting permission to host:

- (1) A completed *Application to Host Tournament or Games* form
- (2) A completed and executed *USYSA Tournament Hosting Agreement* with supporting data
- (3) A copy of the rules for the tournament or games
(NOTE: In any Under 16 or older division which will include more than one (1) foreign team, the Rules of the Tournament or Games **MUST** specify FIFA limited substitution rules)
- (4) A tournament-hosting fee (check made payable to KSYSA) as per the schedule listed below.

6.7. PERMISSION TO HOST TOURNAMENT/GAMES INVOLVING FOREIGN TEAMS. Any affiliated organization desiring to host a tournament shall submit to the appropriate officer of KSYSA the following forms and supporting documentation no later than **one hundred eighty (180) days** prior to the tournament you are requesting permission to host, or no later than **ninety (90) days** prior to the proposed date(s) of the games you are requesting permission to host. A completed Application to Host a Tournament or Games (must be the original-NO FAXES), incomplete applications will be returned. A completed Tournament Hosting Agreement, if you are requesting permission to host a tournament, with appropriate supporting data, signed by the President or Chief Officer of the Host Organization, and by the Tournament Director. A copy of the Rules for the Tournament or Games (NOTE: In any Under 16 or older division which will included more than one (1) foreign team, the Rules of the tournament or Games **MUST** specify FIFA limited substitution rules); A tournament-hosting fee (check made payable to KSYSA) as per the schedule listed below.

**** FEES **** Tournament Hosting Fee (check made payable to KSYSA):

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Recreational/Small-Sided Tournament (Performance Bond).....\$150.00 Within 7 days of completion of tournament (per team entered)..... \$2.00
Competitive/Premier Tournament (Performance Bond).....\$150.00 Within 7 days of completion of tournament (per team entered)..... \$5.00 After ensuring that a team or organization is in good standing, KSYSA will forward all documents to US Youth Soccer for approval. US Youth Soccer will then, through US Soccer, submit to FIFA a request for approval. Upon approval, US Youth Soccer will return the approved applications to KSYSA.

FIFA REQUIREMENTS REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

(Excerpted from *FIFA* Circular No 510, dated July 7, 1993) According to Article 49 of the *FIFA* Statutes and Article 10 of the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes, any international tournament involving more than two national teams

(first teams, youth or women's teams, etc.) and/or club teams belonging to different national associations is subject to the following requirements:

- 1) The approval of *FIFA*.
- 2) The organizing club or regional association shall request approval via its national association. The request for approval shall be submitted to *FIFA* at least two months before the beginning of the tournament (article 10.2 of the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes).
- 3) The request for approval shall be accompanied by a list of the teams who are planning to take part in the tournament and the tournament regulations drawn up by the organizing body (article 10.3 of the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes).
- 4) All the participating clubs must belong to their country's national association and be in possession of its written permission to compete in the tournament.
- 5) The participating teams must take out insurance coverage for their players (sickness, accident, injury, etc.).
- 6) The tournament hosts must take out third part liability insurance coverage.
- 7) Tournaments may not be organized by non-footballing institutions. The backing of external organizers is however permitted. The responsibility, however, lies with the organizing club or the regional association.

6.8. PROCEDURES FOR INVITING TEAMS. When inviting teams to your approved tournament or games, the invitation must include: a copy of the approved *Application to Host Tournaments or Games* form; rules and regulations governing the tournament or games; a statement that all teams must have current US Youth Soccer or approved organization Player Passes, or the appropriate National Association Passes; a statement that proper US Youth Soccer and, if foreign teams are invited, FIFA travel procedures must be followed; if foreign teams are invited, a statement that written proof of permission to travel from their National Association is required for entry into the tournament; if foreign teams are invited, a statement that written proof of insurance coverage for their players (sickness, accident, injury, etc.) is required for entry into the tournament; and a statement that US Soccer rules regarding the use of USSF registered officials, only, will be followed.

The invitation **should** also include:

- 1) A list of Tournament Directors, including names, addresses and phone numbers.

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- 2) What costs and expenses are to be paid by the visiting team; i.e., entry fee, referee fee, parking fees, meals, lodging, transportation, etc.
- 3) Whether a performance bond is required.
- 4) A description of the awards (if any). Whether patches are to be exchanged. The official invitation **must** also be sent to the home National State Association of the teams being invited, prior to the starting date of your tournament or games. This information is essential to enable National State Associations, or the Provincial or National Associations to know that the tournament has been sanctioned, and thereby enable them to approve *Applications to Travel* by teams from their association.

6.9. ACCEPTANCE LETTERS TO TEAMS. Once a team has been accepted into the tournament or games, the following should be sent to that team at least **thirty (30) days**

prior to the starting date of your tournament or games:

- 1) A complete copy of the rules and regulations of the tournament or games;
- 2) Dates, times and places of any coaches meetings;
- 3) If accommodations are not being provided, a list of hotels/motels in the vicinity of the tournament, their phone numbers, fax numbers and rates;
- 4) If transportation is not being provided, a list of rental car agencies and other transportation providers in the vicinity of the tournament, their phone numbers, fax numbers and rates;
- 5) What publicity information, if any, is required including pictures, player/coach bios, team accomplishments, etc.

6.10. POST TOURNAMENT REPORTS. A Post Tournament Report must be filed within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the tournament. Failure to file the report on time shall preclude the tournament host from receiving sanction for any tournament for the following seasonal years until the report is filed.

The Post Tournament Report will include the following:

- 1) The number of teams participating in each age division (boys and girls).
- 2) If a champion is determined, the name of the champion for each division.
- 3) The number of teams from each National State Association or foreign country.
- 4) If Sportsmanship Awards are given, indicate the criteria for the award and to whom they were given.
- 5) The number of fields used for the tournament.
- 6) The name of the tournament sponsor(s), if any.
- 7) The names and teams of all players issued red and yellow cards and details of any other matters involving the improper or unsporting like conduct of a team, its players, coaches, or supporters.

****NOTE:** Any incidents of ejections in a final game, or any incidents of referee abuse or referee assault, or other incidents of a serious nature should be reported to the team's or player's home National State Association immediately, but no later than seven (7) days after the conclusion of the tournament.

6.11. BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR TEAM OFFICIALS. All non-KSYSA coaches of

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teams playing in KSYSA sanctioned leagues must have background checks comparable to the background checks that are required of KSYSA coaches. All background checks are approved at the discretion and judgment of the KSYSA Risk Manager.

7.0. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. (Approved June 16, 2007)

7.1. PURPOSE. The purpose of the conflict of interest policy is to protect KSYSA's tax-exempt interest and to instill trust and confidence in the members and public at large in the actions of KSYSA. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any applicable state and federal laws governing conflict of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations.

7.2. DEFINITIONS.

7.2.1. INTERESTED PERSON. Any director, principal officer, staff member or member of a committee with governing board delegated powers, who has a direct or indirect financial interest, as defined below, is an interested person.

7.2.2. FINANCIAL INTEREST. A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family:

- a. An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which KSYSA has a transaction or arrangement,
- b. A compensation arrangement with KSYSA or with any entity or individual with which the KSYSA has a transaction or arrangement, or
- c. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which KSYSA is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.

Compensation includes direct and indirect remuneration as well as gifts or favors that are not insubstantial.

A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest. Under **Rule 7.3.2**, a person who has a financial interest may have a conflict of interest only if the appropriate governing board or committee decides that a conflict of interest exists.

7.3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. An Interested Person is expected to act at all times in KSYSA's best interests and to exercise sound judgment unclouded by personal interests or divided loyalties. Both in the performance of duties for KSYSA and in any outside activities, an Interested Person shall **avoid the appearance as well as the reality of a conflict of interest**. A conflict of interest exists if the circumstances would lead a reasonable person to question whether the motivations are aligned with KSYSA's best interests. If, for example, an Interest Person is involved in an outside activity or has a financial or other personal interest that might interfere with their objectivity in performing company duties and responsibilities, they may have a conflict of interest.

It is impractical to describe all situations that may create a conflict of interest; however, the following provide guidance about some of the most common conflict of interest situations:

- Use of Confidential KSYSA Information, such as membership lists, for private gain or recruitment;

- Outside Activities with other soccer organizations;
- Employment by other entities in areas related to soccer;
- Service on a Board of Directors;
- Service on Technical Advisory Boards;
- Family and Romantic Relationships;
- Spouses, Domestic Partners, Immediate Family Members or Relatives as Suppliers, Vendors, and other Business Partners;
- Kickbacks and Rebates by Suppliers or Vendors;
- Gifts from Vendors, Suppliers or Customers;
- Honorariums.

The above is not an exhaustive list of examples. Many other situations may also create a potential for a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest. It is the responsibility of each Interested Person to be aware of the potential for a conflict of interest in any particular situation and to resolve the issue in accordance with this policy.

7.4. PROCEDURES.

7.4.1. DUTY TO DISCLOSE. In connection with any actual or possible conflict of interest, an interested person must disclose the existence of the financial interest or other conflict and be given the opportunity to disclose all material facts to the directors and members of committees with governing board delegated powers considering the proposed transaction or arrangement.

7.4.2. DETERMINING WHETHER A CONFLICT OF INTEREST EXISTS. After disclosure of the financial interest and all material facts, and after any discussion with the interested person, he/she shall leave the governing board or committee meeting while the determination of a conflict of interest is discussed and voted upon. The remaining board or committee members shall decide if a conflict of interest exists.

7.4.3. PROCEDURES FOR ADDRESSING THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

a. An interested person may make a presentation at the governing board or committee meeting, but after the presentation, he/she shall leave the meeting during the discussion of, and the vote on, the transaction or arrangement involving the possible conflict of interest.

b. The chairperson of the governing board or committee shall, if appropriate, appoint a disinterested person or committee to investigate alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement.

c. After exercising due diligence, the governing board or committee shall determine whether KSYSA can obtain with reasonable efforts a more advantageous transaction or arrangement from a person or entity that would not give rise to a conflict of interest.

d. If a more advantageous transaction or arrangement is not reasonably possible under circumstances not producing a conflict of interest, the governing board or committee shall determine by a majority vote of the disinterested directors whether the transaction or arrangement is in KSYSA's best interest, for its own benefit, and whether it is fair and reasonable. In conformity with the above determination, it shall make its decision as to

whether to enter into the transaction or arrangement.

7.4.4. VIOLATIONS OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY.

- a.** If the governing board or committee has reasonable cause to believe an interested person has failed to disclose actual or possible conflicts of interest, it shall inform the interested person of the basis for such belief and afford the interested person an opportunity to explain the alleged failure to disclose.
- b.** If, after hearing the interested person's response and after making further investigation as warranted by the circumstances, the governing board or committee determines the interested person has failed to disclose an actual or possible conflict of interest, it shall take appropriate disciplinary and corrective action, including suspending the person for an indefinite period of time.
- c.** It shall be a violation of this Conflict of Interest Policy for any Interest Person to obtain a list of Players or Members registered with KSYSA or its Affiliates for personal or private solicitation purposes during the term of their affiliation with KSYSA.

7.4.5. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST INVOLVING GAME OFFICIALS. Rule 5.4 shall govern conflicts of interest involving the refereeing of a match or the conduct of referees.

7.5. RECORDS OF PROCEEDINGS. The minutes of the governing board and all committees with board delegated powers shall contain:

- a.** The names of the persons who disclosed or otherwise were found to have a financial interest in connection with an actual or possible conflict of interest, the nature of the financial interest, any action taken to determine whether a conflict of interest was present, and the governing board's or committee's decision as to whether a conflict of interest in fact existed.
- b.** The names of the persons who were present for discussions and votes relating to the transaction or arrangement, the content of the discussion, including any alternatives to the proposed transaction or arrangement, and a record of any votes taken in connection with the proceedings.

7.6. COMPENSATION

- a.** A voting member of the governing board who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, or who has an immediate family member who receives compensation from KSYSA for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's or family member's compensation.
- b.** A voting member of any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives or whose immediate family member receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from KSYSA for services is precluded from voting on matters pertaining to that member's or family member's compensation, including but not limited to the hiring or retention of the member or family member.
- c.** No voting member of the governing board or any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters and who receives compensation, directly or indirectly, from KSYSA, either individually or collectively, is prohibited from providing information to any committee regarding compensation.
- d.** Staff who receive compensation from KSYSA, whether directly or indirectly or as

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employees or independent contractors, are precluded from membership on any committee whose jurisdiction includes compensation matters.

7.7. ANNUAL STATEMENTS. Each director, principal officer and member of a committee with governing board delegated powers and every other Interested Person shall annually sign a statement, which affirms such person:

- a. Has received a copy of the conflicts of interest policy,
- b. Has read and understands the policy,
- c. Has agreed to comply with the policy, and
- d. Understands that KSYSA is charitable and in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.

7.8. PERIODIC REVIEWS. To ensure the Organization operates in a manner consistent with charitable purposes and does not engage in activities that could jeopardize its tax-exempt status, periodic reviews shall be conducted. The periodic reviews shall, at a minimum, include the following subjects:

- a. Whether compensation arrangements and benefits are reasonable, based on competent survey information, and the result of arm's length bargaining.
- b. Whether partnerships, joint ventures, and arrangements with management organizations conform to KSYSA's written policies, are properly recorded, reflect reasonable investment or payments for goods and services, further charitable purposes

and do not result in inurement, impermissible private benefit or in an excess benefit transaction.

7.9. USE OF OUTSIDE EXPERTS. When conducting the periodic reviews as provided for in Article VII, the Organization may, but need not, use outside advisors. If outside experts are used, their use shall not relieve the governing board of its responsibility for ensuring periodic reviews are conducted.

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7.10. STATEMENT TO BE EXECUTED AS REQUIRED BY RULE 7.7.

As an Interest Person associated Kansas State Youth Soccer Association (hereinafter "KSYSA") I shall not derive any personal profit or gain, directly or indirectly, because of my participation in the activities of the Kansas State Youth Soccer Association. I shall disclose to KSYSA any personal interest, which an

immediate family member or I may have in any matter pending before the organization and shall refrain from participation in any decision on such matter. I shall refrain from obtaining any list of registered players or members for personal or private solicitation purposes during the term of my affiliation with KSYSA.

In addition to my service for KSYSA, at this time I am a Board member, or I receive compensation as an employee or independent contractor in excess of \$1,000 annually from the following:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

This is to certify that I, except with regard to carrying out my duties as an officer, director or staff member of the KSYSA or as described below, am not now nor at any time during the past year have been:

- 1) A participant, directly or indirectly, in any arrangement, agreement, investment, or other activity with any vendor, supplier, or other party; doing business with the KSYSA which has resulted or could result in personal benefit to me, except as described fully below.
- 2) A recipient, directly or indirectly, of any salary payments or loans or gifts of any kind or any free service or discounts or other fees from or on behalf of any person or organization engaged in any transaction with the KSYSA.

Any exceptions to 1 or 2 above are stated below with a full description of the transactions and of the interest, whether direct or indirect, which I have (or have had during the past year) in the persons or organizations having transactions with the KSYSA.

I further certify that I have received a copy of, read and understand KSYSA Rule 7.0, Conflict of Interest, I agree to follow and be bound by Rule 7.0, and I understand that KSYSA is charitable and in order to maintain its federal tax exemption it must engage primarily in activities which accomplish one or more of its tax-exempt purposes.

Signature: _____ Date _____ Printed name: _____

8.0 INDOOR SOCCER. (Approved February 29, 2008)

8.1. Definitions.

8.1.1. Futsal. A five a side game played in accordance with the revised version of the Futsal Laws of the Game drawn up in collaboration with the FIFA Sub-Committee of the International Football Association Board (IFAB), as agreed at the business meeting of the IFAB on September 28, 1999, and as thereafter amended.

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8.1.2 Arena Style Soccer. A game played within a walled enclosure in accordance with the Rules adopted by the USSF in 2005.

8.2. Sanctioning. Indoor soccer league, friendly and tournament games played in accordance with these rules will be sanctioned events as defined by KSYSA Rule 1.0.20. provided the game is officiated by a USSF certified referee who is approved for the style of play involved, either futsal or arena style soccer.

8.3. Use of players on an indoor team rostered to another soccer team. If a player's primary team is not playing indoor soccer, that player may play for a different team playing indoor soccer and appear on their roster for the indoor session. Such a player shall be deemed a Loaned/Guest Player and teams using such players shall comply with **KSYSA Rule 3.16**.

8.4. Registration Fees. The KSYSA Executive Director shall determine on a basis, not more frequently than annually, what additional registration fees may be required of indoor players, leagues and facilities to cover the additional costs associated with securing insurance coverage. The Executive Director will report the amount of the registration fees to the Board of Directors prior to their imposition. These additional registration fees shall be published on the KSYSA web page and in the minutes of the KSYSA Board of Directors.

8.5. Approval of Indoor Soccer Leagues, Tournaments, Competitions and Events.

8.5.1. Requests For Approval. Upon written request from an entity wishing to operate a sanctioned indoor soccer league the KSYSA Executive Director may specially approve and sanction the participation of KSYSA players, teams and clubs in one (1) or more competitions or events sponsored by such an entity.

8.5.2. Contents Of Request. Any request made pursuant to **KSYSA Rule 8.5.1** must specify the date(s) and time(s) of the scheduled event, describe the event and state the entity's willingness to abide by the conditions described in **KSYSA Rule 8.0**.

8.5.3. Special Conditions. Any entity requesting KSYSA approval of a competition or event must agree to and comply with the following special conditions:

1) The entity shall ensure that all players and adult volunteers participating in a KSYSA sanctioned competition or event are registered with KSYSA or another USSF Organizational Member, and that all team officials have complied with the KSYSA Risk Management rules and completed a KSYSA disclosure form.

2) The entity shall ensure that all players and adult volunteers participating in a KSYSA sanctioned competition or event, and who are not currently registered with a USSF affiliated member, shall register directly with KSYSA by properly completing a US Youth Soccer Registration form.

3) The entity shall maintain a list of all players and adult volunteers participating in

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KSYSA sanctioned competitions or events. The list shall include each participant's name, address, and date of birth and KSYSA club affiliation (where applicable).

- 4) The entity shall maintain a safe playing environment for all KSYSA participants.
- 5) The entity shall forward to the KSYSA Executive Director as required such US Youth Soccer registration forms, tournament reports, indoor registration fees and participant lists as are collected or maintained pursuant to these special conditions.
- 6) The Entity shall submit a copy of its proposed Rules of Play to the KSYSA Rules Committee Chairperson, as well as any subsequent modifications or amendments, for approval. All Rules submitted shall be in substantial compliance with those outlined in KSYSA Rule 8.1, depending on whether the format is to be futsal or arena style indoor soccer.

8.5.4. Revocation Of Approval. If an entity fails to comply with any provision of **KSYSA Rule 8.0**, KSYSA may revoke its approval and sanctioning of any competition(s) and event(s) without additional notice.

8.6. Indoor Tournaments.

8.6.1. Indoor Tournaments. Any entity, team, club or league wishing to host an indoor tournament must comply with **KSYSA Rule 6.0**.

8.6.2. Out-Of-State Travel. Any indoor team wishing to travel out of state or out of country must comply with **KSYSA Rule 6.4**.