

BETHLEHEM SOCCER CLUB

By-Laws (Amended and Restated as of May 13, 2014)

Article 1: NAME AND ADDRESS

Section 1: The name of the organization shall be the "Bethlehem Soccer Club"
The nickname of the teams shall be "Eagles" followed by boys or girls age

Section 2: The mailing address shall be:

Bethlehem Soccer Club
2209 Worthington Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18017

And the web address shall be www.bethlehemsoccerclub.org

The mailing address may be updated from time to time on the club's website at www.bethlehemsoccerclub.org, and any such change shall automatically become the clubs mailing address without any further need to amend these by-laws.

Article 2: PURPOSE; TAX EXEMPT STATUS

Section 1: The purpose of the club is to (a) promote and develop an interest in youth soccer in the Bethlehem area by sponsoring, organizing and operating competitive and developmental soccer teams for individuals under the age of 19, (b) teach eligible players about the sport of soccer, and (c) help eligible players develop their soccer skills through active participation on a competitive youth soccer team.

The club is a charitable and educational organization within the meaning of Section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (IRC Sec. 501c3). Notwithstanding any other provision of these by-laws, the club is organized and operated exclusively for one or more of the exempt purposes set forth in IRC Sec. 501c3. The club shall not carry on any activity not permitted to be carried on by an exempt organization under IRC Sec. 501c3.

No part of the club's earning shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, or officer of the club, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the club), and no member, trustee, or officer of the club or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the clubs assets on dissolution.

Except as permitted under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, no part of the clubs activities shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation or participating in, or intervening in (including the publication or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidates for public office.

Article 3: POLICY STATEMENTS

Section 1: Winning and Sportsmanship

Winning is encouraged, but with an emphasis upon good sportsmanship, development of soccer skills, and development of club and team spirit.

Section 2: Playing Time

While playing time is important to the development of soccer skills, it is determined by the Player's ability and game situations, and remains the final determination of the team coach. There is no minimum playing time.

Section 3: Attendance

Players are expected to be present for practices and games. Practice sessions are a vital part of the team effort. In the event of an absence, the team manager or the coach must be notified in advance if possible. Practice is a part of the playing time decision but not the only factor.

Section 4: Discipline / Behavior – refer to code of conduct

A. All players are required to wear the specified uniform to participate

Section 5: Coaching Philosophy

Coaches have great latitude in decisions regarding selection of players, playing time, position assignment, frequency of practice, and other areas of team management. Coaches should make a concerted effort to field the strongest team possible.

The term "coaching" shall include both training and coaching. Training includes those programs, exercises and instructional sessions whose specific goals are to improve individual player skills, team play and conditioning. "Coaching" includes those activities relating to the management of the team, the instruction/directives given to the players during the course of matches, the administrative duties required for the management and preparation of the team and developing long range plans for the improvement and participation of team members.

Section 6: Selection of Players

Only individuals under the age of 19 may tryout for the club. Individuals will be regarded as being under the age of 19 if he or she will not attain the age of 19 until August 1st of the playing year.

Players will be selected based upon (1) soccer skills, (2) general athletic ability, and (3) such other qualifications as the individual team's coach deems appropriate.

The club accepts players without regard to race, color, religion, gender, nationality, ancestry, ethnicity or other protected classification of financial status.

Section 7: Parental Participation

Parents are expected to support the club activities by assisting in fund raising activities, field maintenance and set-up and such other matters as may reasonably be required to advance the club's purposes.

Parents must acknowledge the club's code of conduct, attached to these by-laws, as part of the club's usual registration process.

Section 8: Referees – refer to code of conduct

ARTICLE 4: AFFILIATION

The club is a member of Lehigh Valley Youth Soccer League (LVYSL), The Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association (EPYSA) and the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA). The club will make all attempts to work within the framework of these organizations. Any occurrence not specifically covered by these by-laws or its various rules shall be covered by the rules of the LVSYL, EPYSA and USYSA.

ARTILCE 5: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: The Board

The general membership shall select a board of directors (the "board"), which shall administer the affairs of the club. The board shall consist of no less than three and no more than nine members comprised of the following positions:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Treasurer
- D. Secretary
- E. League Representative
- F. Registrar
- G. Field Operations / Equipment
- H. Public Relations / Website Manager

Section 2: Terms of Office

The term of office for all elected members of the board shall be two (2) years from the date of installation, or for the balance of the term of office if replacing a member of the board.

Section 3: Election of the Board

- A. The President shall administer the election and notify the general membership thirty (30) days prior to the election date.
- B. Votes shall be cast by secret ballot or by a show of hands and the election decided by simple majority of the qualified general membership present and voting. A general member is entitled to one vote.
- C. Elections shall be held in the month of November for offices opening January 1st
- D. If not otherwise restricted by the by-laws, any general member may run for any office. A member can hold and perform the duties of no more than two offices, but such member shall only count as one vote for all matters requiring a vote of the Board and shall count only as one Board member for the purpose of these by-laws.
- E. If a member of the board resigns, is suspended, or is unable to perform their duties, the president may fill the vacancy.
- F. Except for president, treasurer, and registrar, board positions may remain vacant for an indeterminate period of time.

Section 4: Responsibilities and duties of Office

- A. President: The president shall be responsible for the overall operation of the club, including monthly retrieval of and response to correspondence. He / she shall preside at all club meetings, appoint all committees, and be the general representative of the club in all legal and other matters. The president is an ex-officio member of all committees.
- B. Vice President: The vice-president shall monitor all committee activities. He / She shall preside at meetings in the absence of the president and is responsible for the scheduling and monitoring of tryouts.
- C. Treasurer: The treasurer shall maintain the club financial records. The treasurer shall make all disbursements by check, including but not limited to league registrations, referee fees, field rentals, uniform purchases, and paint / field supplies. The president or vice-president must authorize in writing all disbursements.
- D. Secretary: The secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of regularly scheduled meetings, the monitoring of the club website for correct and accurate information, and the ordering, storing and distribution of patches
- E. LVYSL League Representative: The league representative shall attend the LVYSL meeting and report to the board on the proceedings.
- F. Registrar: The registrar is responsible for registering the club and its officials with EPYSA and LVYSL for each season, supervising the registration, addition, transfer

and deletion of players with EPYSA, and acting as the club liaison between coaches and league registrars.

- G. Field Operations: Field operations is responsible for the securing of field leases, the scheduling of the fields, the purchasing of paint and related equipment, the organization of the lining of the fields, and any decisions regarding use of the fields in bad weather.
- H. Public Relations / Website Manager: is responsible for maintaining a club website and publicizing club tryouts.

Section 5: Voting Rights of the Board of Directors

Each Board member shall have one (1) vote on all matters requiring a vote by the Board. Votes shall be decided by a simple majority of those in attendance. A quorum of the Board, at least 1/2, must be present for the vote to be valid.

Section 6: Authority of the Board of Directors

The board shall operate within the framework of these by-laws. If a situation arises which is not adequately covered by the by-laws, the board shall have absolute authority over such matters. The board must approve all expenditures outside of the normal operation of the club.

Section 7: Selection of Team Managers and Coaches

Team managers and coaches are selected, suspended or dismissed by a majority vote of the board. After tryouts rosters must be presented to the board for finalization.

Section 8: Board of Directors Meetings

- A. Board meetings are scheduled on a quarterly basis and other such times as required by the president or a majority of the board. All board meetings shall be governed by the rules of the parliamentary procedure (Roberts Rules of Order). Board meetings are open to the general membership.
- B. The order of Business for all meetings shall be:
 - 1. Call to order and roll call / sign in
 - 2. Minutes of the previous meeting
 - 3. Correspondence
 - 4. Reports
 - 5. Old Business / new business
 - 6. Adjournment

ARTICLE 6: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: There shall be one (1) class of membership in the Bethlehem Soccer Club

- A. General Members of this club shall include all persons who are elected or appointed to the board, all persons selected as team managers or coaches, parents of players, and other officials appointed by the board. Each person in this group shall have voting privileges and be known as a "general member. Voting rights are earned by attending two board meetings in a row. To keep voting rights you must attend at least every other board meeting.
- B. Except for members of the board, the term membership shall be for one playing year. The playing year of the club shall be from August 1st through July 31st of the subsequent year.
- C. On all matters requiring action by the general membership, each member shall have one vote. A member must be present to vote.

Section 2: Responsibilities and duties of members

All members agree, as a condition of membership, to abide by the club's by-laws.

ARTICLE 7: FUNDING AND GENERAL MATTERS

Section 1: Funding Policy Statements

- A. The club is a non-profit organization and its fiscal year ends on December 31st.
- B. The club shall fund itself by accepting contributions from members, sponsors, other interested parties, and from fund raising activities. The club may charge a registration fee for players on club teams, in such amounts as determined from time to time by the board, provided that such fee may be reduced or eliminated if it would impose a financial hardship on a child's family.
- C. All contributions received, and all amounts raised through fundraising events shall be used only to accomplish club objectives sanctioned by the board.
- D. All contributions received shall be deposited in the club's checking account, and managed by the treasurer. Excess amounts in checking may be transferred to a savings account.
- E. In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and property of the club shall, after payment of necessary expenses thereof, be distributed to such organizations as shall qualify under IRC Sec. 501c3 or to the Federal government or State or local government for public purpose, subject to the approval of a Justice of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.
- F. All disbursements shall be made through the club's checking account and shall be signed by the treasurer and authorized by the president or the vice-president.

G. The club shall maintain an insured checking and savings account.

Section 2: General Matters

A. Ad hoc committees can be formed at the discretion of the president, with prior approval of the board.

B. The board can amend the by-laws by a 2/3 vote of the board.