

## Operating Policy, Rules, and Regulations of the Niskayuna Soccer Club

### Section I

#### Procedures for Creation and Amendment of Operating Policy, Rules and Regulations

1. The Board of Directors has the sole authority to create or amend provisions of this document.
2. Two classes of provisions exist
  - a. Class 1 provisions require a 2/3 majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors for passage. Club members must be notified of proposed changes of provisions in this category seven days in advance of the Board Meeting at which such changes are to be considered.
  - b. Class 2 provisions require a majority vote by the Board of Directors, at a meeting, for passage.
3. At the initial creation of this document, all provisions shall be called Class 1 provisions, and the Board may then add Class 2 provisions either by creation (majority vote), or movement of provisions from the Rules/Regulations section to the Policy Section (2/3 vote)

### Section II

#### Article I. Class 1 Operating Policy, Rules and Regulations

1. *Team Selection.* Selection of team is left to the discretion of the Tryout Evaluators and the Competition Committee. The Competition Committee shall establish and abide by rules covering team selection and has final approval of all team selection matters.

2. *Tournament Expenses.* Each team is financially responsible for the tournaments in which the team participates. At the option of each team, the team may reimburse the coach's attendance at such tournament. The types and amounts of travel expense reimbursement is left to the sole discretion of each team. In addition, each team should resolve any individual hardship cases (e.g., coach, family, player).

3. *Tournament Play.* Any team may go to any tournament without permission from any other coach.

4. *Team Format.* The following team brackets will be established each year with no moving up between brackets unless covered by the Club's Playing Up Policy (Provision 5): Under 8, Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16, and Under 19. At the recommendation of the Committee Committee, and with approval of the Board, age groups may be modified above the Under 16 level.

5. *Playing Up Policy.*

a. The Competition Committee will review the requests and make a decision to allow tryouts for an exceptional player to move up to a higher age bracket.

b. Requests to "Play Up" must be made in writing and submitted to the Club President at least 14 days prior to the first scheduled tryout of the team he/she wishes to move up to.

c. A player allowed to try out at an older age bracket must attend at least one (1) tryout in his/her age-appropriate bracket.

d. In order for a player to make an older bracket team he/she must rank in the top one-third (1/3) of the older bracket team. Eighteen (18) is the standard roster size for Under 12 to Under 19 age brackets while fourteen (14) is the standard roster size for Under 8 and Under 10 age brackets.

e. The Competition Committee has final say in all exceptional player matters.

f. Exceptional player status is a one-year provision. A player must follow the same process in future years.

6. *Girls Teams.* Girls under 12 may tryout for either the Under 12 girls team or the Under 12 coed team.

7. *Player Eligibility.* To participate, a child must:

a. Reside in the Town of Niskayuna or reside in the Niskayuna Central School District; and

b. Each "A" team in Boys and Girls Under 14 and higher age groups (e.g., Under 14, Under 16, etc.), may have players that do not meet the requirements under 7a. above, attend tryouts with a maximum of two being selected to the "A" team only, regardless of the tryout numbers in an age group.

c. The Under 19 age group is not subject to the restrictions under 7a. above.

d. If after conforming to 7a. and 7b. above, team rosters have not been filled by the conclusion of the tryout process, then children who do not conform to 7a. or 7b. above may play for the Niskayuna Soccer Club for that season.

e. However, no child who does not conform to 7a. or 7b. above shall be placed on a team over a child who conforms to 7a. or 7b. above and participated in the tryout process (i.e., a child who does not conform to 7a. or 7b. above may fill out the roster of the lowest level team within a particular age group for that season).

f. No team is required to carry players that do not reside in the Town of Niskayuna or do not reside in the Niskayuna Central School District.

8. *Rental Vehicles.* No vehicle may be rented in the name of the Niskayuna Soccer Club and used for transportation to and from tournaments.

9. *Fundraising Activities.* Each team is prohibited from engaging in any non-Niskayuna Soccer Club sanctioned fund raising activity. Fund raising activities include all solicitation of goods and services. In addition, fundraising activities include any activity that includes one or more non-Niskayuna Soccer Club teams when these teams are charged fees in excess of direct soccer related expenses. Direct soccer related expense includes fees for sanctioned referee (s) and field use. Direct soccer related expense does not include expenses related to concessions (e.g., food, shirts, etc.).

10. *Coaches Course (F).* Coaches will be reimbursed the cost of entry-level courses successfully completed.

11. *Registration.* Registration is moved to coincide with the dates of the Outdoor Tournament. Fee to be set by the yearly budget approval.

12. *Volunteers.* Parents not volunteering a minimum of four (4) hours to the club will donate \$25 instead and will be payable prior to child's tryout the following year or child may not tryout.

13. *Coaches Term.* Coaches term is now September 1 through August 31 of the next year.

14. *Goalie Shirts.* The club will provide goalie shirts to each team up to and including Under 14 teams.

15. *Player Withdrawal Refunds.* A policy is established to refund registration charges when a player withdraws from the club:

- a. U12 and above, withdrawal prior to final team commitment date (presently August 15; changed yearly at the discretion of the Coaches Coordinator and in accord with CDYSL requirements) – 100% minus \$25 administrative fee
- b. U12 and above, withdrawal after final team commitment date – 0%
- c. Returning U10 and U8 players, withdrawal prior to final team commitment date (date established yearly by Coaches Coordinator) – 100% minus \$25 administrative fee
- d. Returning U10 and U8, withdrawal after final team commitment date – 0%
- e. First year U10 and U8 players, withdrawal prior to final team commitment date – 100% minus \$25 administrative fee
- f. First year U10 and U8 players, withdrawal within one month of start of the player's team practices – 50% (this takes into consideration costs for uniforms and registration )
- g. First year U10 and U8 players, withdrawal more than one month after start of team practices – 0%
- h. Exceptions to the above rules may be made at the discretion of the Club President in consultation with the Executive Committee. All exceptions will be reported to the Board of Directors.

- i. If a player chooses to leave for another local soccer club following payment of club registration, there will be a financial penalty of \$500 if on a team with a nonpaid coach, or \$700 if on a team with a paid coach. If penalty payment is not made, the player will not be released. The player will not be able to return to the club in future seasons until that fee is paid.
16. *Player Registration.* Recruited players may be added to the roster after the Indoor Season (April 1) for a reduced charge which is 70% of the registration fee. All players added prior to April 1, will pay full fee.

17. *Outdoor Tournament Committee.* At the Annual Meeting (October), each team will select one of its members to serve on this committee for the coming summer outdoor tournament. The Chair is to be selected by the Executive committee, in accordance with the bylaws. Failure of a team to elect an Outdoor Tournament Committee Person and failure of that person to participate in running said tournament, will result in that team not participating in the Indoor and Outdoor Tournaments. Team that is running the Indoor Tournament is exempt from submitting committee person.

18. Any coach may be removed as a coach by the competition committee with cause at any time by a vote of 2/3 of the members of the committee present at a regular meeting or at any special meeting called for the purpose.

19. Unbudgeted Expenditures.  
Any expenditures that are not budgeted items, that are over \$1000.00, must have approval by majority vote of Corporation Members present at a general meeting of the Corporation or 2/3 majority of a Board of Director's meeting. No unbudgeted expenditures over \$5000 may be approved in this manner unless 7 days notice prior to the vote is given to the membership.

[Last Revised 3-12-12]