



**BYLAWS OF THE
MIDWEST CITY SOCCER CLUB**

Approved: December 9, 2020

Part I: General

Bylaw 101. Incorporation and Name

This organization is incorporated under the laws of Oklahoma as a non-profit, charitable corporation and registered with the Internal Revenue Service as the “OK Country Soccer Club d/b/a Midwest City Soccer Club”, but is known as “Midwest City Soccer Club”.

Bylaw 102. Purposes

The purposes of this organization are –

1. To act exclusively for the charitable and/or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
2. To promote and develop the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, and courage through youth soccer development in and around Midwest City, OK. Emphasis is placed on the development of soccer skills and competitive fair play.
3. Soccer play in this organization can consist of youth and youth teams, and adult and adult teams.
4. To act as an affiliate of Oklahoma Soccer Association.
5. To act as a principle guide to the people of Midwest City, Oklahoma and the communities surrounding Midwest City, Oklahoma, which may be utilized to conduct the operation of Midwest City Soccer Club.

Bylaw 103. Definitions

Except as otherwise provided, these definitions apply to these bylaws and all policies of this organization:

1. *Bad Standing* – A person who is not permitted a voice, vote, or participation in the affairs of Midwest City Soccer Club until the cause of having been placed in “bad standing” has been removed or resolved.
2. *Board of Directors* – Term used in referencing all elected and appointed club officials, voting and nonvoting, as determined by Article III of the MWCSC Constitution.
3. *Club or the Club* – The Midwest City Soccer Club
4. *Executive Board [of Directors]* – The Executive Board of the Midwest City Soccer Club, as defined in Article III of the MWCSC Constitution. The executive board is not intended to circumvent or supersede the authority of the full Board of Directors and may act independently only in circumstances specifically reserved to the Executive Board.
5. *Good Standing* – Permitted a voice, vote, and participation in the affairs of Midwest City Soccer Club.

6. *MWCSC* – The Midwest City Soccer Club
7. *OSA* – The Oklahoma Soccer Association
8. *Probation* – Withholding of a penalty for an offense with the warning that if another offense of any kind occurs during the period of probation, then the penalty for the first offense will be compounded with the penalty for the second offense.
9. *Returning Rights* – Refers to a guarantee given in some circumstances by which a player may be guaranteed placement on the same team in a future season as the player is currently placed in the current season.
10. *Seasonal Year* – Defines the year used for the purposes of determining an annual soccer season. The MWCSC seasonal year is defined as August 1st through July 31st of the following year. The seasonal year incorporates both a Fall and a Spring season.
11. *Season* – A period of play dates categorized into Fall or Spring
12. *Suspension* – Removal of all rights and privileges of membership during the period of suspension of a player, coach, team, or other member.
13. *USYSA* – The United States Youth Soccer Association
14. *USSF* – The United States Soccer Federation

Bylaw 104. Membership in National, State, and Regional Organizations

Section 1. The Club shall maintain membership of the USSF, USYSA, and OSA and shall follow all articles of incorporation, bylaws, policies, and requirements in the order listed heretofore, as they will take precedence over and supersede any provisions entered herein to the contrary and all governing documents and decisions of the Club and its members to the extent applicable under the law of the state of Oklahoma.

Section 2. As a member of the USSF, USYSA, and OSA the order of precedence is understood as the order listed heretofore; as well, guidance can subsequently be more restrictive, but not less than delineated by the higher authority. Any article, amendment, bylaw, policy, or requirement directed by a lower authority that subsequently violates any article, amendment, bylaw, policy, or requirement directed will be declared invalid and notification will be provided to both authorities. If any article, amendment, bylaw, policy, or requirement by MWCSC in turn violates that delineated by a higher authority, MWCSC will acquiesce and strike said inconsistency.

Section 3. Any action by MWCSC to strike or clarify any article, amendment, bylaw, policy, or requirement that is being done in accordance and by the mandate of Bylaw 104, Section 2, shall require only a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors, regardless of any other requirements typically required of such action.

Bylaw 105. Limitation of Authority

The Board of Directors will have sole and absolute authority, within all legal bounds, of all actions including but not limited to business decisions and soccer related matters within the boundaries of Midwest City Soccer Club with the following exemptions and/or guidelines:

1. No single individual has the authority to bind or obligate the Club for any expense or concur in any action that is contrary to the express written consent of the club.
2. The Club will not discriminate against any individual for any purpose on the basis of race, creed, religion, age, gender or gender identity, employment status, veteran status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status or legal suspect class.
3. The Club will provide equitable and prompt hearing and appeals procedures to guarantee the rights of individuals to participate and compete. Those procedures shall include that all grievances involving the right to participate and compete in activities sponsored by the USSF, USYSA, OSA, and MWCSC may be appealed through due course with the Club's appeals committee and that the appeals committee will have jurisdiction to approve, modify, or reverse a decision of a lower authority.
4. MWCSC will maintain its status as a tax-exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code.
5. MWCSC will allow USSF, USYSA, and OSA to review its documents for compliance and reserves the right to an internal review between end of spring season and beginning of fall season each calendar year and/or at any point in which these documents undergo major changes.

Bylaw 106. Parliamentary Format and Quorum

Section 1. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Club may adopt.

Section 2. At any general monthly meeting, special meeting of the Board of Directors, or General Membership Meeting, a quorum to conduct business and tally votes is required. The required quorum can be met using any one of the following three methods:

1. A simple majority of voting members in filled positions on the Executive Board present at any meeting format.
2. A simple majority of voting members in filled positions on the Board of Directors present at any meeting format.
3. A simple majority of all voting membership present at a General Membership meeting.

Section 3. At no time shall any member of the Board of Directors hold more than one vote, regardless of the number of positions held.

Section 4. In the event of a voting member's absence at a meeting, (s)he may, with a signed consent and assignment of proxy, select an alternate proxy voter to act in their stead. This proxy voter is prohibited from being a currently sitting member of the Board of Directors.

Bylaw 107. Amendments

These bylaws may be amended with a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors (two-thirds majority of members present) at any meeting where a quorum exists.

Bylaw 108. Use of Name and Logo

To protect the image and brand of the Midwest City Soccer Club, the Club limits the use of certain names and logos. The name and logo of the Midwest City Soccer Club, The Vision teams, and the Fusion teams, may not be used in any form except as provided under these bylaws or except with the expressed written consent of the Club.

Bylaw 109. Time Periods for Play and Accounting

Section 1. The seasonal year is defined as August 1st through July 31st of the following calendar year. Each Season is defined as Fall and Spring Season.

1. Fall Season will be defined as the first half of the seasonal year, beginning August 1st and ending January 31st of the following calendar year.
2. Spring Season will be defined as the second half of the seasonal year, beginning February 1st and ending July 31st.
3. The official start of practices, and specific dates of play will be determined by the Board of Directors at the commencement of each season.

Section 2. The calendar year, January 1st to December 31st, has been selected for accounting and tax reporting purposes.

Part II: Membership

Bylaw 201. Openness to Membership

Membership in MWCSC may not be denied based on race, creed, religion, age, gender or gender identity, employment status, veteran status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status or legal suspect class, however, in the interest of fairness, the ability to physically participate in the sport can be considered based upon certain age defined criteria as is within the laws of the game.

Bylaw 202. Admission to Membership

Section 1. Any person, who desires membership within MWCSC, must submit, or have submitted on their behalf by a parent or legal guardian if a minor, a written application for membership (also known as registration) along with all required accompanying documentation in support of their application and any associated fees pertaining to the position of which application is being made. Any person, who attends a soccer function on the premises of MWCSC agrees to be bound by the terms of membership (regardless of status of membership) and the complex rules in accordance with these bylaws. The Board of Directors retains all rights to deny membership to any person who is not qualified for membership, has not met the requirements of the membership application, or who meets any of the conditions listed below:

1. Individual or family member was ever a recipient of a lifetime ban from participation from MWCSC or any other OSA affiliate soccer club that has not been since rescinded.
2. Individual or family is currently, or has been within the previous 24 months, in bad standing with MWCSC or any other OSA affiliated soccer club.
3. Individual or family is currently, or has been within the previous seasonal year, on suspension with MWCSC or any other OSA affiliated soccer club.
4. Individual or family failed to provide required documentation in a reasonable timeframe.

Bylaw 203. Responsibility of Membership

Any person who has been granted membership to MWCSC, will submit to abiding by the bylaws and constitutional requirements set forth in both this document and the MWCSC Constitution as well as any additional documents specifically submitted with signature of member. Members will also be subject to any signage, written policies published by the Board of Directors, and rulings of MWCSC Administrative Committee rulings. Violation of these directives will be subject to disciplinary action as is in the purview of the Board of Directors.

Bylaw 204. Age Limitations for Players

Section 1. Age limitations are designed to place players in categories of play against players of not only similar age, but also similar size, skill, balance, motor skills, physical development, and athletic prowess. This is done to ensure the safest environment possible as well as equitable play. Players who desire to play in an environment of increased challenge should seek admission into Academy soccer or Competitive soccer as opposed to “playing up” to a higher age division.

Section 2. As it pertains to age limitations and cut-off dates, MWCSC has been organized in such a manner as to maintain alignment with higher level affiliated soccer organizations (e.g. USSF, USYSA, and OSA). As such, MWCSC requires the following:

1. Minimum age for inclusion in divisional recreational soccer play or practice is set at four (4) years of age. This age must be reached by the player prior to January 1st of that seasonal year. A player who reaches 4 years old prior to January 1st, and is not 5 years old or greater on January 1st of that year, may be registered for play in the U5 age group for that seasonal year.
2. Maximum age for divisional recreational or competitive soccer is 18 years of age. Any player who is 19 years of age or greater as of January 1st of the seasonal year may not be registered to play as a youth player at MWCSC.
3. Exceptions to these age limitations can only be granted by the Board of Directors and are typically only granted for specialized programs. Individual exceptions for divisional recreational or competitive play may violate OSA, USYSA, or USSF directives and could not be granted in those cases. Currently, the only approved exception is the MWCSC Lil’ Legs program, a program designed to be neither competitive nor recreational soccer in nature, but for educational development only.
4. Any player who is 19 years of age or greater as of January 1st of the seasonal year will be considered an adult player and may only be registered to play as an adult player at MWCSC.

Section 3. Any and all players may be called upon to prove his/her legal age by MWCSC, OSA, USYSA, or USSF. Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card issued by the uniformed services of the United States, birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency, board of health record, passport, alien registration card issued by the United States government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, or a certification of an American Citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency.

Section 4. A youth player as defined in the USYSA Bylaws is an individual who has not reached 19 years of age prior to January 1st immediately before the start of any seasonal year. A player who reaches 19 years of age during that seasonal year is allowed to complete that seasonal year. MWCSC further classifies youth players by team gender and team age as follows:

1. Team Gender

- a. Teams with all female players are considered girls teams
- b. Teams with all male players are considered boys teams
- c. Teams with mixed genders are considered co-ed teams where co-ed teams are available, and boys teams where co-ed teams are not available
 - i. Co-ed teams will be avoided whenever possible, and only used as a last resort to avoid having to turn away players that may otherwise be able to play on a co-ed team

2. Team Age

- a. Team age will be defined by the oldest player on the team. The age of that player on January 1st of the seasonal year will classify the team into one of the following categories:
 - i. 19 years of age and under(U19)
 - ii. 18 years of age and under (U18)
 - iii. 17 years of age and under(U17)
 - iv. 16 years of age and under (U16)
 - v. 15 years of age and under (U15)
 - vi. 14 years of age and under(U14)
 - vii. 13 years of age and under(U13)
 - viii. 12 years of age and under(U12)
 - ix. 11 years of age and under(U11)
 - x. 10 years of age and under(U10)
 - xi. 9 years of age and under (U9)
 - xii. 8 years of age and under (U8)
 - xiii. 7 years of age and under (U7)
 - xiv. 6 years of age and under(U6)
 - xv. 5 years of age and under(U5)
- b. We will use all available options to maintain teams of uniform age whenever possible. However, if a player would otherwise not have a team available to play on, that player may be approved to play on a team of a higher age (“playing-up”) however this is not encouraged when other options are available.
- c. In addition to team age, there may also be a division age. The division age would be determined by the oldest team in that division. This is important for determining the correct rules to use for that division.

Bylaw 205. Registration of Players, Coaches, and other Volunteers

Section 1. All players who desire to participate in activities within MWCSC will be registered as required by the rules of MWCSC, OSA, USYSA, and USSF. This registration process has the current requirements:

1. Youth Registration
 - a. Player registration forms must be completed in their entirety and signed by the parent or legal guardian of the player. If registration is completed through an online process, electronic signature will suffice.
 - b. Proof of age, as defined in Bylaw 204 § 3, must be submitted with the registration form, or received prior to the completion of registration.
 - c. By USYSA policy, registered players may not participate in practice or competition matches for a 72 hour period beginning at the completion of registration.
 - d. Players who register late are not guaranteed a position. Late registering players will be placed on a wait-list in his/her age group and assigned to a team when/if a position becomes available.
2. Adult Registration
 - a. Player registration forms must be completed in their entirety and signed by the player. If registration is completed through an online process, electronic signature will suffice.
 - b. Payment in full of all associated registration fees must accompany the submission of registration forms.
 - c. A player may play one game at no cost as a guest player during a season. They may play additional games for a per game cost determined by the board or register for the seasonal cost. They must sign a medical waiver prior to playing as a guest player.

Section 2. All players, coaches, assistant coaches, volunteer parents, teams, referees, and administrators will register and pay all dues and fees as required by MWCSC and their parent organizations in a timely manner.

Section 3. All coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, other team officials, volunteers, referees, employees, and administrators that are of the legal age of majority are required to participate in the MWCSC and OSA Risk Management Program. This program helps to ensure the safety of our members. Background checks for the risk management program will be free of charge to the applicant and managed in accordance with the OSA Risk Management Program. Any person of the legal age of majority that is not in compliance with the OSA Risk Management Program is barred from any activity as a coach, assistant coach, team manager, team official, volunteer, referee, employee, or administrator until they are brought into compliance.

Section 4. Transfers

1. Youth

- a. Once a youth player is registered with a specific team, that player is bound to that team throughout the Season for recreational soccer, or the Seasonal Year for competitive soccer. The best effort will be made to disband and reorganize recreational teams at least as often as they move up in age groups so as to prevent an unfair balance from forming and to expose all players to diverse coaching and training techniques.
- b. Player Release from Team: A request for player release from a team during the Season can be initiated by either the player, the player's parent or legal guardian, or the coach.
- c. When the request for release has been initiated by the player or player's parent or legal guardian, the coach's written consent is required to release the player. The coach should use their good judgement in evaluating the decision to support or deny the request. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, with or without appeal from the player or coach, a decision to support or deny a request for release can be reviewed, and the decision changed as appropriate by the Board of Directors.
- d. Prior to requesting release of a player by a coach, it is expected that the coach will have exhausted all other possible options to resolve the conflict without resorting to release. However, once a written request for release has been initiated by a coach, the Board of Directors will review the request and make a binding determination based on the facts.
- e. Once a request for release has been approved, the player will be placed on a new team at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The player may not select a team of choice. The Board of Directors' decision is final and cannot be appealed.
- f. Regardless of who is initiating the request for release, all requests for release should be submitted in writing, with all appropriate justification, to the Age Group Coordinator or MWCSC Registrar who will act as the point of contact in the request process.
- g. In no case will release from a team, regardless of the circumstances of the release, constitute a direct or implied guarantee or consent to a refund of any fees.

2. Adult

- a. Adult amateur players are entitled to transfer between teams in accordance with USSF transfer policies.
- b. MWCSC may assess the transferring player a transfer fee not to exceed actual costs for the club to register the transfer with their parent organizations.
- c. No player may transfer more than three (3) times per season unless the transfer is initiated due to the dissolution of the player's current team

- d. No player may transfer out of a team once that team has completed the first half of their season.
- e. In order to transfer, a player must submit a properly completed USSF Transfer Form to the MWCSC Registrar. Once the Registrar has approved the request, the transfer will take immediate effect.
- f. In no case will release from a team, regardless of the circumstances of the release, constitute a direct or implied guarantee or consent to a refund of any fees.

Section 5. A player is not considered to be registered with MWCSC until all forms and fees have been completed, received, accepted, and verified by the MWCSC Registrar.

Section 6. A team shall not be considered eligible for any competition sanctioned by MWCSC, or while acting as a representative of MWCSC at any competition sanctioned by OSA, USYSA, or USSF until all players on the team are registered and rostered through the MWCSC Registrar.

Section 7. For insurance and compliance reasons, all players must be properly registered to participate in any competition or practice. No player may “guest-play” on any team unless they are a properly registered youth player on another MWCSC team that has met all requirements of the Club-wide Player Pass (CPP) program. Any team allowing an unregistered player to participate in a game shall forfeit the contest to the opposing team. Insurance coverage will not be extended to any unregistered player and MWCSC assumes no liability for the safety or wellbeing of any unregistered players. Any coach, referee, volunteer parent, or team representative that is found to have knowingly allowed an unregistered player to participate in any game or practice shall be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Board of Directors up to and including suspension or expulsion of membership with the Club.

Section 8. A youth CPP player will only be allowed to “guest-play” on another team while they are in compliance with all CPP requirements. The OSA Recreational League Club Wide Player Pass Guidelines will always take precedence over the club CPP policy whenever the two policies are in conflict. The Club CPP Policy is as follows:

1. CPP is to be used for player development and NOT solely to make sure a team has enough players for a game.
2. CPP cannot be used to allow a player to play below their age division
3. CPP should NOT be used to play a player on another team in their same division
4. CPP players cannot play for a guest team if they will miss their regularly assigned team’s game by doing so.
5. CPP may not be used to allow players to play for teams with another club or to play on a guest team for tournament purposes.
6. A team may only have a limited number of CPP players at one time.
 - a. For U5-U8 the limit is one CPP player.
 - b. For U9-U12 the limit is two CPP players.

- c. For U13-U14 the limit is three CPP players.
 - d. For U15-U19 the limit is four CPP players.
7. CPP players must present their laminated club player pass to the referee during team check-in and identify themselves as a CPP player. The referee will validate their age and add the player to the roster for the team for that game.
 8. A team that is illegally using a CPP player is subject to having all games where the illegal player was a participant declared a forfeit.

Section 9. A Recreational Secondary player will only be allowed to play on another team while they are in compliance with all Recreational Secondary Player requirements. The OSA Recreational League Secondary Player Guidelines will always take precedence over the club Recreational Secondary policy whenever the two policies are in conflict. The Club Recreational Secondary Policy is as follows:

1. A player may be on a primary roster of only one team. A player may also be on a secondary roster of one additional team. The secondary player must be age appropriate.
2. Players may not miss their primary team's league game to play for their secondary team.
3. The maximum numbers of secondary players that can be added to a primary roster for any age group are below:
 - a. U5-U6 Two secondary players
 - b. U7-U8 Two secondary players
 - c. U9-U10 Two secondary players
 - d. U11-U12 Two secondary players
 - e. U13-U14 Three secondary players
 - f. U15-U19 Four secondary players
4. The use of secondary or CPP players on a team shall not displace a primary player from participating in a game. All players must play $\frac{1}{2}$ the game minimum.
5. The use of secondary or CPP players shall not cause a team to go over the maximum number of players allowed to play for a team in a game.
6. The player's parent must give permission in writing to be added as a secondary player.
7. Recreational select players cannot be a secondary player on a recreational team.
8. After a secondary player has been added to a roster, they cannot be removed to add another secondary player unless that secondary player is also officially released from his/her primary team.
9. Secondary players can only be used during in-house, ORL and LOP league games.

Section 10. No player shall be registered simultaneously on another team within the jurisdiction of MWCSC or OSA, except for the team that the player is rostered on unless specifically allowed

by OSA guidelines. In any instance, no player shall be dual registered, simultaneously, on a competitive or academy team and a recreational team.

Section 11. Any person or group found guilty of falsifying player registration forms, team rosters, player cards, or other records shall be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Board of Directors up to and including a lifetime ban from the club. These actions are in addition to any legal ramifications that may apply from state or federal statutes that the parties in question may be subject to.

Part III: Organization

Bylaw 301. Board of Directors

Section 1. The Board of Directors will be comprised of 30 positions. These positions will include voting positions held by volunteers and non-voting positions held by paid employees of the club. The Board of Directors is charged with keeping in the best interest of the organization and ensuring the sanctity of the organization. The totality of the Board of Directors will be as established in the MWCSC Constitution, Article III.

Section 2. At no time will any paid employee of the Club hold voting privileges on the Board of Directors, unless in the capacity of referee, in which case they shall maintain the minimum qualifications as that of any other referee performing the same duties and shall not be in receipt of any special preferences. Any voting member who also accepts a paid position with the Club does so with the understanding and agreement that they will, with immediate effect, relinquish their voting privileges associated with the voting position with the Board of Directors. Board members free registration, Bylaw 301 Section 5, and a board members participation in the clubs Work to Play program will not be construed as a paid position and will not affect their voting rights.

Section 3. Any and all paid employees of the Club, regardless of position, shall be hired, employed, and terminated at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Officers of the Board of Directors serve in their roles for all Youth and Adult operations of the club. There are not disparate officers for youth and adult divisions.

Bylaw 302. Meetings

Section 1. Meetings will be held as often as prescribed and as directed by the MWCSC Constitution, Article V, Section I.

Section 2. Meetings will be held in conjunction with Bylaw 106 of this document.

Section 3. Special meetings shall be called by the President upon his/her sole discretion or upon the written request of at least three (3) members of the Board of Directors. Special meetings shall be called after a minimum 3 day notification period has been given.

Section 4. Voting will comply with the MWCSC Constitution and Bylaw 106 of this document.

Bylaw 303. Recreational Youth Soccer

Section 1. In-House recreational soccer is comprised of boys, girls, and co-ed teams, separated by gender and age as distinctly as possible in accordance with Bylaw 204. In-House recreational soccer will be limited to U5 through U8 age groups where practical. The following additional considerations will also be given to In-House recreational soccer:

1. Teams will be formed to be “true age” to the maximum extent possible in order to help provide maximum stability to the future of that team and those players.
2. Teams will be organized in such a way as to maximize uniformity, where practical, of team size, ability, and skill.
3. Teams will be organized in such a way as to maximize uniformity, where practical, of the geographic location, neighborhood, or school district, of the team members.
4. Teams will be formed by the Divisional Age Coordinator or other designated representative of the MWCSC Board of Directors only. Coaches, parents, players, or team representatives are prohibited from forming teams. The only exception to this policy will be, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, for pre-assembled teams who move from outside of MWCSC to inside MWCSC or from Recreational to Competitive (or Academy).
5. Under no circumstances will a player ever be given an allowance to play down into a lower age division than where he or she should naturally be placed in accordance with Bylaw 204 § 4.2.
6. Players and their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) should avoid requests to play up within U10 recreational soccer and below. If a desire to play up exists, the recommendation is for the player to move to the Academy Soccer Program.
7. In an effort to honor the relationship that our coaches develop with their players, we will attempt to the maximum extent possible to approve all player requests in the Fall season to play under a specific coach. These requests are dependent however upon team roster sizes, number of teams being formed, and competitive balance. Our compliance with OSA and USYSA requires that we ensure fair and balanced teams, so not all requests can always be honored. For the Spring season, player’s returning rights are not guaranteed. We will make every reasonable effort to allow a player to return to the same team they were on in the Fall season given that they notify us of this request on their registration form, are fully and properly registered in a timely manner prior to the end of

regular registration, and if approving such request does not overfill a team or create an unfair competitive balance.

8. Scheduling will be completed by, or in concurrence with the Director of Referee Operations (DRO). The DRO acts as the Recreational and Competitive League Scheduler for the club and facilitates the smooth flow of scheduling information between the operations and referee sides of the Club.
9. No guarantee for placement on any team should ever be represented to players, parents, or coaches until all players have been finalized on a roster by the respective Age Coordinators and approved through the MWCSC Registrar.

Section 2. Traveling Recreational Soccer is comprised of boys, girls, and co-ed teams separated by gender and age as distinctly as possible in accordance with Bylaw 204. Traveling Recreational soccer will be limited to U9 through U19 age groups where practical. The following additional considerations will also be given to traveling recreational soccer:

1. Teams will be formed to be “true age” to the maximum extent possible in order to help provide maximum stability to the future of that team and those players.
2. Teams will be organized in such a way as to maximize uniformity, where practical, of team size, ability, and skill.
3. Teams will be organized in such a way as to maximize uniformity, where practical, of the geographic location, neighborhood, or school district, of the team members.
4. Teams will be formed by the Divisional Age Coordinator or other designated representative of the MWCSC Board of Directors only. Coaches, parents, players, or team representatives are prohibited from forming teams. The only exception to this policy will be, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, for pre-assembled teams who move from outside of MWCSC to inside MWCSC or from Recreational to Competitive.
5. Under no circumstances will a player ever be given an allowance to play down into a lower age division than where he or she should naturally be placed in accordance with Bylaw 204 § 4.2.
6. Players and their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) should avoid requests to play up within travel recreational soccer. If a desire to play up exists, the recommendation is for the player to move to the Competitive Soccer Program.
7. In an effort to honor the relationship that our coaches develop with their players, we will attempt to the maximum extent possible to approve all player requests in the Fall season to play under a specific coach. This requests are dependent however upon team roster sizes, number of teams being formed, and competitive balance. Our compliance with OSA and USYSA requires that we ensure fair and balanced teams, so not all requests can always be honored. For the Spring season, player’s returning rights are not guaranteed. We will make every reasonable effort to allow a player to return to the same team they were

on in the Fall season given that they notify us of this request on their registration form, are fully and properly registered in a timely manner prior to the end of regular registration, and if approving such request does not overfill a team or create an unfair competitive balance.

8. MWCSC Traveling Recreational Soccer Teams compete within the OSA Oklahoma Recreational League (ORL). As such, scheduling for these teams will be completed by the OSA ORL Scheduler in accordance with ORL Scheduling policy or and field assignments and match times determined by the Director of Referee Operations.
9. No guarantee for placement on any team should ever be represented to players, parents, or coaches until all players have been finalized on a roster by the respective Age Coordinators and approved through the MWCSC Registrar.

Bylaw 304. Youth Academy Soccer

Section 1. Academy Soccer is comprised of boys, girls, and co-ed teams separated by gender as distinctly as possible in accordance with Bylaw 204. Academy soccer will be limited to U8 through U10 age groups where practical. The following additional considerations will also be given to Academy soccer:

1. Academy soccer is designed to be an educational bridge between Recreational Soccer and Competitive Soccer, with emphasis placed primarily on the technical education of the soccer players' technique, and later on the application of tactics. Players and parents should not enter the Academy Soccer program with a mindset of "winning games," but instead with one of, "high level development."
2. Teams within Academy Soccer are kept "age pure" to the maximum extent possible, however because of the uniqueness of this program and the skill levels and maturity of the players, discretion is given to the Academy coaches on team placement within the Academy Program. This discretion must comply with any applicable guidance and policies of our parent organizations OSA, USYSA, and USSF where such guidance is available.
3. Academy Soccer, while similar to Competitive Soccer, has some unique differences. Academy does not require tryouts for acceptance onto the team, however it does require a higher level of commitment from both the players and the parents. A financial agreement is required for participation and the costs for participation are determined and established by the MWCSC Board of Directors.

Bylaw 305. Competitive Youth Soccer

Section 1. Competitive Soccer is comprised of boys, girls, and co-ed teams separated by gender as distinctly as possible in accordance with Bylaw 204. Competitive soccer will be limited to U11 through U19 age groups where practical and as mandated by our parent organizations. The following additional considerations will also be given to Academy soccer:

1. Competitive soccer is governed by the Oklahoma Competitive League (OCL), Oklahoma Premier League (OPL), and USYS Frontier Conference guidelines and policies as set forth by OSA.
2. Competitive soccer participation is limited by competitive try-outs after which a player may be invited to join the team by the team's coach working in conjunction with the Director of Coaching and the Director of Player Development.
3. A financial agreement is required for participation and the costs for participation are determined and established by the MWCSC Board of Directors.

Bylaw 306. Adult Amateur Soccer

Section 1. Adult Amateur Soccer (AAS) is comprised of men's, women's, and co-ed teams separated by gender as distinctly as possible in accordance with Bylaw 204. AAS will be limited to players who are ineligible for any offered youth soccer division at MWCSC due to age.

Section 2. AAS will be organized into appropriate divisions as determined each season by the Board of Directors. Where appropriate, full-sided and small-sided divisions may be created for men, women, or co-ed teams, and for age-restricted divisions for amateur divisions (19-25), over twenty-five divisions (25-30), amateur master's divisions (30+), or other groups as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Professional Players – Any player who has been registered as a professional player or who has received any payment or other remuneration as a professional player under current USSF regulations shall be ineligible to register for or to participate as a registered player in AAS at MWCSC until such time as that player is reinstated as an amateur by USSF.

Section 4. Team seeding and divisional placement will be determined at the beginning of each season by the MWCSC Scheduling Committee or the Board of Directors. Teams may designate their preferred division. Such preferences will be honored to the best of the Committee's ability with regards to number of teams in a division and previous team results. Any team that wins their division in two (2) consecutive seasons will be required to play in the next higher division if such a division is available.

Section 5. AAS Teams must be formed to consist of the following minimum and maximum player requirements below:

- 11 v 11 divisions
 - Minimum of 13 rostered players
 - Maximum of 18 rostered players
- 7 v 7 divisions
 - Minimum of 9 rostered players
 - Maximum of 13 rostered players

Section 6. Each team in AAS must wear a complete matching team uniform (including matching jersey/shirt, shorts, and socks) at all competitions. Teams should register their uniform colors with the MWCSC Registrar. No two teams in the same division will be allowed to register with the same primary uniform color. Each jersey must be clearly numbered on the back with a uniquely identifying number. Jersey's may optionally display the player's first or last name or a nickname in good taste, the team name or crest/logo, and a team sponsor's name or logo. No part of the uniform may display any political, religious, or personal statements or images. All parts to the uniform must present in good taste. The Board of Directors will have the final decision in any determination of the appropriateness of a team's uniform.

Section 7. Prior to each match, each player must present the match referee with government issued photo identification that matches the registered name on the team roster. Individual player passes will not be issued unless a player is unable to obtain or furnish government issued photo identification.

Section 8. Prior to each match, each team must present the match referee with an approved copy of the team roster. The approved format for the team roster will be set by the Board of Directors, but must contain at minimum the Team Name, the name of the Team Representative or Coach, the name of each player, a uniquely identifying number for each player, and the jersey number for each player.

Section 9. In addition to any penalty for accumulated cautions under Bylaw 311.2.7.b.i, any player who accumulates six (6) cautions during a single AAS season shall serve an additional mandatory one (1) game suspension during the team's next scheduled game and that player's team will be subject to a disciplinary fine of \$50.00 which must be paid prior to their next scheduled match. Any player who is sent-off (ejected) from a match by a referee will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Bylaw 311.2.7.b.ii. Additionally, any finding of the Protest and Appeals Committee that finds that the send-off of the player involved the use of violence, serious foul play, spitting, or fighting, will also subject the team to a disciplinary fine of \$50.00 which must be paid prior to their next scheduled match.

Section 10. Where eligible and applicable, the MWCSC Adult Representative Team for any OSA Championship tournament or match shall be determined by a playoff game between the Spring and Fall league winners of each division. If the same team has won both seasons then they shall advance without a playoff. Only teams registered during the season preceding the competition will be allowed to compete. The playoff shall follow all rules of competition with the follow exceptions:

1. The match must end with a winner, no draw or tie will be allowed.
2. In the event of a tie score at the end of regulation time, 2 overtime periods will be played in their entirety with no “golden-goal” or sudden death. The length of these overtime periods will be determined by the Scheduling Committee prior to the match and will be set appropriately for the division.
3. If the score remains tied at the end of both overtime periods, the match will be decided in accordance with the IFAB/FIFA Kicks from the Mark to Determine a Winner.

Bylaw 307. Format for Play

Section 1. Field of Play: The MWCSC Board of Directors shall be responsible for ensuring that the field of play is prepared and delineated prior to the start of each season.

1. The Complex Manager will maintain the fields during the season, ensuring that all match fields are ready for play on each game day that they are in use.
2. Locations for play will be determined and approved by the Board of Directors prior to the season.
3. The size of fields to be played on will be defined by USSF, USYSA, and OSA as appropriate, unless otherwise directed by the Board of Directors. Fields will be correctly and neatly marked with all required field markings as required by Law 1 of the IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game with exceptions made for small sided matches per USSF initiatives and IC/LOP specifications. The markings will be made with a clearly visible white, blue, or black paint and maintained throughout the season.
4. Corner flags will not be used on U5/U6 matches. Corner flags are optional on U7/U8 matches. Corner flags are required in accordance with Law 1 of the IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game on all other matches.

Section 2. Field Equipment: MWCSC will provide for each match hosted on MWCSC fields, at a minimum, two match goal nets of appropriate dimensions, secured appropriately to the frame and playing surface as well as four corner flags where required under Bylaw 306 § 1.5

1. The team designated as the home team for the match is responsible for providing an appropriate size and appropriately inflated match ball. The referee will approve the selected ball and if needed request a replacement ball or a ball from the away team if the home team cannot provide a suitable ball.

2. For U8 and below matches, teams will sit on opposite sides of the field with their supporters. The Home team will be on the South or West side of the playing field, and the away team will be on the North or East side of the field.
3. For U9 and above matches, both teams will sit on one side of the field and their supporters will sit on the opposite side of the field.
4. In all levels of competition, at no time shall anyone be allowed to coach or act as a supporter behind either goal area.

Section 3. Referees: The Director of Referee Operations and the Referee Assignor are the sole responsible authorities for the assignment of referees to MWCSC matches. As such, at least one, but preferably both positions must hold a current Assignor's license with USSF. Additionally –

1. All referees for all matches must hold a current grassroots or higher Referee's license with USSF. Referees must also meet any licensing requirements set forth by OSA, USYSA, or USSF for the level of competition that they are refereeing for. No referee may be assigned or used on any league, tournament, or friendly match without the permission of the DRO or Referee Assignor and without being assigned by a duly licensed referee assignor.
2. For all matches where the offside penalty is NOT enforced, a single duly licensed referee will be assigned.
3. For all matches where the offside penalty is enforced, a single duly licensed referee and two duly licensed assistant referees will be assigned.
4. If a Center Referee fails to report for a match or becomes incapacitated during a match, the coaches shall contact the DRO or Referee Assignor, or in their absence any member of the Board of Directors. If a replacement referee can be supplied in a reasonable timeframe, the match will be completed with the replacement referee. If a replacement referee cannot be supplied, the match will be terminated without fault to either team. The result of the match will be in accordance with Bylaw 308 § 6 regarding no-fault match termination.
5. If one or both Assistant Referees fail to report for a match or become incapacitated during a match, the Center Referee may work in conjunction with both coaches to appoint a responsible and soccer knowledgeable parent as a "Club Linesman." The referee and both coaches must approve the selection of any and all Club Linesmen. A Club linesman is not a referee, and as such must be educated before assuming the role that they are not allowed to call any infraction, foul, goal, or offside, nor may they indicated the team in possession on a throw-in, corner, or goal kick. They may only single with the flag straight up when the whole of the ball has crossed the whole of the line to go out of bounds.
6. Referees are granted the discretion to add additional time to matches for any stoppage that they deem outside of normal play. This may include an excessively

long injury, or the time required to explain an infraction to a youth player. Only the center referee holds the official time of the match.

7. Referees are required to submit the signed game card to the Referee Headquarters within one (1) hour of the conclusion of their match. They are also required to submit any misconduct or match termination reports to the DRO and Referee Assignor, as well as any other governing authorities that require such reports, within twenty-four (24) hours of the conclusion of the match. Any reports of misconduct or match termination will be reviewed by the Protest and Appeals committee automatically to determine if any additional action is required.

Section 4. Divisional Format for Youth: In order to ensure an environment of fair play, teams will play in a divisional format against teams of similar age group and gender where practical to do so. Additionally –

1. When MWCS teams have shown on one season to be dominant against MWCS teams of like age and gender, those dominant teams can be given the opportunity to play up to the next higher age group, or if deemed appropriate, to be reorganized into other teams. This determination is at the discretion of the Board of Directors and will be done in the spirit of fair and competitive play in accordance with Bylaw 303 § 1.
2. When at all possible, gender pure girls teams will not be placed in competition with boys teams.

Section 5. Unless otherwise exempted by expressed written authorization of the Board of Directors, all youth teams will wear the approved Club-wide Uniform. This uniform design and the specifics of distribution will be determined seasonally by the Board of Directors. Where exemption has been given, team uniforms must remain consistent with public opinion of good taste and will keep with the tradition of the IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game. Additionally –

1. The following equipment is compulsory under Law 4 of the FIFA Laws of the Game: Jersey/Shirt with Sleeves, Shorts, Knee Length Socks or Stockings, Shinguards, and Shoes. No player may play without any of these compulsory items.
2. Shoes that are worn may not be dangerous in any way. The following shoe characteristics are expressly forbidden: Metal or steel spikes or cleats and toe cleats.
3. Shinguards must be constructed suitably to provide adequate protection and be completely covered by the socks/stockings.
4. Shorts and Jerseys must be a uniform color across the entire team. In divisions that utilize a goalkeeper, the goalkeeper's jersey must be distinguishably different from his/her own team, the opposing team, and the other goalkeeper.

5. Teams at the U9 or higher level must have a unique number for each player that is displayed on the back of the jersey. Jersey number for teams below U9 are optional.
6. Coaches, referees, parents, and players shall ensure that no players will wear any item that is likely to cause danger to the player's self or other players. ALL jewelry, including ear rings, bracelets, necklaces, rings, watches, non-prescription sunglasses, etc are expressly forbidden. There are no exceptions to this rule. The referee has the final determination on whether or not an item is in violation of this provision.
7. In cold weather, additional clothing can be worn for added protection provided that it is entirely contained under the uniform jersey and that any hoodie or other item which could loop around another object is securely tucked inside the uniform jersey.
8. Home team will wear the lightest colored jersey. The visiting team will wear the darkest colored jersey. Unless agreed upon by both coaches, the team not wearing the correct uniform will be required to change.

Section 6. Team names. The coach and players shall choose a team name. If two teams within the same division choose the same name, the decision to change will be left up to the coaches and players. Names may be repeated in different divisions. All team names are subject to approval by the Board of Directors in judging whether or not a reasonable person would find the name to be offensive or objectionable, deceptive, or illegal.

Section 7. Required Time of Play for Youth Soccer. The Midwest City Soccer Club's play time policy will follow guidelines set by the Oklahoma Recreational League as follows:

All recreational players, including recreational select, must play a minimum of $\frac{1}{2}$ of each game.

The policy of the Oklahoma Recreational League Committee permits a coach to deny the player's right to play in one game, or restrict playing time to one quarter of a game; provided that the coach must have established written disciplinary policy setting forth standards which differentiate between discipline for failure to practice and discipline for unsportsmanlike or violent conduct at practice. Such disciplinary policy must be approved by the home club and be published to the team's players and player's parent(s)/guardian(s) prior to the commencement of the season. This policy and any club or team standards of conduct shall be uniformly applied, without bias, to all players on a team. In no instance may a coach restrict playing time below one half of a game in consideration of a player's ability or skill.

1. A coach may restrict playing time to a single quarter of one game for three or more absences to practice, provided that the reason for such absences are not for attendance at a school or church function. In order to document such absences, it is required that each coach note player attendance to practices and

is able to provide specific information as to the dates of practices missed. Such restriction must be noted on the game form, and the player and player's parent(s)/guardian(s) must be notified twenty-four hours in advance.

2. A coach may deny for one game a player's right to play for violent or unsportsmanlike conduct at practice. Such restriction must be noted on the game form and the player and player's parent(s)/guardian(s) must be notified twenty-four hours in advance.
3. In any situation where the coach believes it is necessary to deny or restrict a player's playing time, the written approval of a club administrator must be obtained in advance of notification to the player.

This policy does not preclude restriction of a player's playing time due to injury, illness, or other substantive reason as mutually agreed upon by the coach, player and or parent(s)/guardian(s).

Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action against a coach by the Midwest City Soccer Club and/or the governing authority in accordance with Oklahoma Recreational League policies and procedures, section IX.

When it is known before the match that a player will be withheld or limited for disciplinary or health reasons, the coach of the affected team should notify the match referee and opposing coach of the situation. **Note:** Failure to notify the opposing coach and referee, does not in and of itself constitute a violation of the Required Time of Play policy, but will be considered in any evaluation.

Section 8. Concussion Initiatives. The below can be superseded by future OSA concussion initiatives.

Game Play:

U11 and younger: Deliberate heading of the ball is not allowed for recreational, competitive, or competitive.

U12 recreational: Deliberate heading of the ball is not allowed in U12 recreational competition.

U12 competitive: Deliberate heading on the ball is allowed. (A 10 year old playing on a U12 competitive team should not deliberately head a ball. This responsibility falls to the coaches and parents—Referees will not award indirect free kicks for deliberate heading in U12 competitive matches.)

U13 and older: Deliberate heading of the ball is not restricted.

In competitions where deliberate heading is not allowed, if a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the

offense. Offenses that occur in the goal area should be treated like any other indirect free kick offense occurring in the goal area.

If a player is suspected to have a head injury, the referee is instructed to stop play to allow for treatment/evaluation as needed. If a player leaves the field of play for additional evaluation, a substitution can be made in that moment. The player with the suspected head injury may not return to the game unless a Health Care Professional or Certified Athletic Trainer has cleared the player. Any coach or parent insisting on returning the player to the game without approved clearance will result in the referee ending the game. If there is no referee, this responsibility falls to the coaches and parents involved.

Practices: Regardless of a player's team age division.

Players 10 years old and younger are prohibited from heading the ball in any practice or training.

Players 11, 12 and 13 years old are limited in practice and training to no more than 30 minutes heading per week with no more 15-20 headers per player, per week.

Bylaw 308. Scheduling, Rescheduling, Suspension, and Termination of Matches

Scheduling:

Section 1. All matches shall be played at the appointed place and time as per the official schedule. No changes can be made to the official schedule unless submitted to and approved by the Director of Referee Operations.

Section 2. The official schedule for each season will be generated and field assignments made by the Director of Referee Operations (DRO). Once finalized, no changes may be made to the schedule unless through the formal reschedule process.

Teams playing within our in-house leagues may submit 4 no play dates per season. Final date for the submittal of no play dates and any other schedule requests will be posted by the club one month prior to each season. No play dates and schedule requests are not guaranteed, but every effort will be made to accommodate.

Teams playing within a traveling league must follow the appropriate leagues policy for no play date requests.

Rescheduling:

Reschedule Process

- a. A request to reschedule a match must be submitted using the reschedule form at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the scheduled match. Requests received after this time may not be processed in time.

- b. A reschedule is not official until the coaches have received a Reschedule Approval Notification email.
- c. Falsification of reschedule approval is grounds for match forfeiture and additional disciplinary sanctions.
- d. All coaches are expected to work with each other to make the best effort possible to honor all reasonable reschedule requests. Coaches who are non-responsive or who refuse to work with reschedule requests can be found to have violated the Reschedule Policy and have their match declared a forfeit at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- e. Under no circumstances will matches be rescheduled, swapped, or otherwise played at a different time, date, or place than originally scheduled without approval from the Director of Referee Operations.
- f. Any dispute or issue relating to reschedules that is not covered in this Bylaw or in the Reschedule Policy will be decided by a majority decision of the Board of Directors; their decision will be final.
- g. Any team within the in-house or traveling leagues that fails to show for a scheduled match that wishes to reschedule the same match, will be responsible for the rescheduled matches referee fees. If the no show was due to the home team failing to notify the Director of Referee Operations of cancellation at least 24hrs prior to the scheduled match time, the home team will be responsible for the rescheduled matches referee fees. Any team that cancels a match within 24hrs of the scheduled match time will be responsible for the rescheduled matches referee fees. Subsequent failures to show or notify, may result in additional penalties as determined by the Board of Directors.
- h. Director of Referee Operations will acknowledge reschedule requests within 72 hours.

Suspending Matches. Matches may be suspended after the commencement of the match at the discretion of the Referee, the Director of Referee Operations, Referee Assignor, or any Board of Directors member physically on-site --

1. Due to nature related conditions which may create an unreasonable risk of harm or injury to players, coaches, or spectators. These conditions may include but are not limited to: Activation of the clubs ThorGuard Lightning Prediction System, lightning detected within 25 miles of the facility, hail detected within 25 miles of the facility, flooding or standing water on the field of play that creates a dangerous situation, temperatures below 20 degrees Fahrenheit, or winds in excess of 50mph that can create dangerous flying debris. These thresholds have been determined under advice from OSA, the NCAA, the NFHS, and the NWS.

2. Due to temporary man-made conditions that may create an unreasonable risk of harm or injury to players, coaches, or spectators.
3. Any other situation for which the Referee, Director of Referee Operations, Referee Assignor, or Board of Directors feels can be resolved by the temporary suspension of the match.
4. No coach, team, player, parent, or combination of the above may make the determination to suspend a match, and in so doing may cause their match to be declared a forfeit.

Terminated matches. Matches may be terminated prior to, after the commencement of, or after the conclusion of the match at the discretion of the Referee, the Director of Referee Operations, Referee Assignor, or any Board of Directors member --

1. Due to a failure of a team to produce or maintain the required minimum number of players.
2. Due to one or more players, coaches, or spectators failure to obey the lawful instructions of the Referee.
3. If any referee is threatened, assaulted, or battered.
4. If any match erupts into mass confrontation that cannot be quickly and safely brought under control.
5. If any team allows a player, coach, member, or spectator, that is under suspension, to participate or attend any match in violation of their suspension.
6. If any team is not properly represented by their coach or other duly authorized, rostered, and Risk Management approved adult representative.
7. If any coach refuses to sign a match report when requested by the referee. A coach may request to have a statement added prior to signing, but may not refuse signature. A coach who feels that there is a resolvable issue in a match may submit a protest under the protest policy.
8. If any coach or parent violates the clubs concussion initiative.

All terminated in-house matches will result in a mandatory review of the match termination by the Protest and Appeals Committee to determine the result of the match and any disciplinary action that may be needed.

All terminated travel recreational games will follow the appropriate leagues policy for determination of results and/or discipline.

Upon review of the Protest and Appeals Committee, a terminated match can be resolved in one of the following ways:

1. If a match was terminated before the beginning of the first half, during the first half, or during halftime, but prior to the beginning of the second half and the termination of the match was determined to be of no-fault to either team, the match will be replayed in its entirety and the full results of the terminated match

discarded. The reschedule of the match will be handled under the reschedule policy.

2. If a match was terminated after the beginning of the second half, including matches terminated after the completion of full-time, and the termination of the match was determined to be of no-fault to either team, the recorded result of the match will be the score of the match at the time the match was terminated.
3. If a match was terminated, regardless of the time, and the termination of the match was determined to be a fault of one team due to disciplinary infractions or other violations, the match will be recorded as a 3-0 loss for the team at fault.
4. For the purposes of this section, any match that was not played due to a lack of players, failure of a team to report as scheduled, or coach refuses to sign the match report, will be considered a terminated match subject to review by the Protest and Appeals Committee.

Any team that has a second match terminated, determined to be at-fault, in a single season will be subject to additional disciplinary sanctions at the discretion of the Protest and Appeals Committee. Each subsequent match, beyond the second, that is terminated, determined to be at-fault, in a single season will also be subject to increasing disciplinary sanctions. Sanctions for repeated match termination can include, match forfeiture, penalty points assessed to team standings, coach suspension, and team expulsion from the league.

Bylaw 309. Rules of Competition

Section 1. We are committed to providing you with a fun and fair game. It is for this reason that we use only US Soccer Federation licensed referees on our matches. We follow The IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game (updated annually) with modifications for Youth Soccer as appropriate.

Section 2. The Laws, Interpretations, and modifications for each age group are listed below in order of the broadest scope to the narrowest. In the event of a conflict between two laws/rules, the law/rule with the narrowest focus will win out.

1. FIFA Laws of the Game, current year's publication, as published by FIFA under the guidance of the IFAB.
 - a. These are the internationally accepted rules of soccer. They are the same from the professional leagues around the world all the way to the youth games down the street. Youth Organizations are allowed to make the laws more restrictive to facilitate fair play in youth leagues, but they cannot be made less restrictive.
2. Amateur Adult Soccer Modifications for In-House Recreational Play
 - a. 7 v 7 Amateur Adult Soccer Rules of Competition are listed in Exhibit D
 - b. 11 v 11 Amateur Adult Soccer Rules of Competition are listed in Exhibit E

3. Youth Soccer Modifications for In-House Recreational Play
 - a. U5/U8 Rules of Competition are listed in Exhibit A
4. Youth Soccer Modifications for other leagues
 - a. We will abide by any rules of competition set forth by the organizing and governing bodies of inter-club leagues that our teams play in such as the Oklahoma Recreational League, Oklahoma Competitive League, or Oklahoma Premier League.

Bylaw 310. Standings, Results, and Disputes or Protests

Section 1. Standings and results are not recorded below the U9 level. On matches at the U9 and above level, results will be reported via a completed match report form turned in to the Referee Headquarters within one (1) hour of the conclusion of the match.

1. No coach may refuse to sign a properly completed match report form, however coaches do have the right to require the referee to note a reasonable length comment on the match report form to express a concern or dispute in the match prior to signing. Refusal of a coach to sign a properly completed match report form will be referred to the Protest and Appeals Committee for review for a violation of Bylaw 308 § 6.4.
2. The Referee Assignor or Director of Referee Operations will record the results in the league management system.

Section 2. Standings within scored league divisions will be determined by a points system using the following format:

1. Youth
 - a. A match win will be awarded three (3) points.
 - b. A match draw will be awarded one (1) points.
 - c. A match loss neither be awarded nor deducted any points.
 - d. Forfeits will be awarded points three (3) points.
 - e. Penalty points will be deducted from a team's points total as they are assessed by the Protest and Appeals Committee.
2. Adult
 - a. A match win will be awarded three (3) points.
 - b. A match draw will be awarded one (1) point.
 - c. A match loss will neither be awarded nor deducted any points.
 - d. Forfeits will be awarded points in accordance with the recorded score of the forfeit.
 - e. Penalty points will be deducted from a team's points total as they are assessed by the Protest and Appeals Committee.

Section 3. Participation trophies, medals, or awards will be given to U5-U8 players at the conclusion of each season.

Bylaw 311. Protocol During and Outside of Competition

Section 1. As MWCSC strives to put the best product possible on the field and to educate and promote sportsmanship within the youth of our community, we require that the adult volunteers, coaches, spectators, and family members respect the game, the referees and staff members, other players, spectators, and coaches, and members of teams from outside the Club. As such –

1. Coaches are charged with the control of their respective touchlines during competition. This includes responsibility for the behavior of their players, assistant coaches, managers, parents, and spectators. Failure to maintain control of their touchlines can result in disciplinary sanctions being imposed by the match referee, up to and including dismissal from the match and match termination. A coach who is dismissed from a match will be subject to review by the Protest and Appeals Committee.
2. Coaches are also charged with promoting soccer area-wide and making every effort to ensure that anyone who wants to play soccer can find a place to do so.

Section 2. Discipline and Protests. As with any competition, spirited passions sometimes ignite spirited actions, and the results may from time to time cross the line of good sportsmanship. While it is unfortunate, the Board of Directors is charged with addressing these situations. The following guidelines will be used to help address these situations, however for any circumstance that is not covered in this section, the Protest and Appeals Committee will have the final authority in determining the appropriate action.

1. All matters of discipline or protest will be ruled upon by the Protest and Appeals Committee
2. The Protest and Appeals Committee will be chaired by the Director of Referee Operations and will be convened as needed to hear protests and appeals and to respond to disciplinary situations. The committee must always have a minimum of three members, at least two of whom must be members of the Board of Directors, other members may be drawn from the general membership.
3. Decisions of the Protest and Appeals Committee are final. Only a ruling of suspension, placement into bad standing, or banishment from the Club can be appealed beyond the committee. These rulings can be appealed in writing to the full Board of Directors within seven (7) business days from the issuance of the committee's ruling. Once received, the Board of Directors will respond within thirty (30) days. This response is final.
4. Under no circumstances shall a member of the Club submit a formal complaint directly to any parent organization such as OSA, USYSA, or USSF, without first allowing due process under the Bylaws and Constitution of the MWCSC. Violation of this will be viewed as forfeiture of any rights guaranteed to the

offender and possible disciplinary action at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

5. Protest of a Referee's Actions:

- a. The decision or opinion of a referee cannot be disputed under any circumstances. No protest on these grounds will be heard.
- b. The issuance of misconduct (cards) cannot be disputed. No protest on these grounds will be heard.
- c. A referee who misapplies the Laws of the Game or the Local Rules of Competition may have their action reviewed under protest from either coach involved in the match in question.
- d. To protest a match for misapplication, the protesting coach must submit a written protest to any member of the Board of Directors detailing the misapplication and what impact it had on the outcome of the match. A \$100.00 protest fee in cash or money order must accompany the protest. The Board of Directors must receive such protest and fee within 48 hours of the conclusion of the match.
- e. The Board of Directors will forward the written protest to the chairperson of the Protest and Appeals Committee. The chairperson will convene the committee within 48 hours to decide on the protest.
- f. Decisions of the Protest and Appeals committee are final with a majority vote of the committee.
- g. The final ruling will be forwarded in writing to the board of directors and both coaches involved in the match.
- h. If the committee rules in favor of the protesting coach, the protest fee will be refunded to the protesting coach.
- i. In the event that the Referee who's actions are being protested is the Chair, or any other member, of the Protest and Appeals Committee, that member will recuse themselves from the committee for the duration of that protest and an alternate member from the Board of Directors will fill-in.

6. Protest of the reported result of a match

- a. Any coach of a match who feels that the reported score of the match, the recorded misconduct of the match, or any other recordable data about the match is incorrect may submit a protest of the match findings, along with any evidence to support their protest, free of charge, in writing, to the Director of Referee Operations within seven (7) days of the conclusion of the match.
- b. Upon receipt of the protest, the DRO will verify the reported data with the original, signed, match report. If the original, signed match report confirms the claims made in the protest, the protest will automatically be

ruled in favor of the coach, reported to the coaches of both teams and the Board of Directors, and the recordable data updated.

- c. If the original, signed match report does not confirm the claims made in the protest, the DRO will obtain a statement in response from all referees involved on the match, and the opposing coach.
- d. The DRO will then convene the Protest and Appeals committee to review all evidence and statements and decide the protest.
- e. The final decision of the committee will be communicated in writing to both coaches and the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days of receipt of the protest.

7. Automatic protests

- a. Failure of a coach to sign a game card
 - i. A coach who refuses signature of a properly completed match report will have their actions reviewed by the Protest and Appeals Committee.
- b. Review of misconduct
 - i. Three accumulated cautions
 - 1. In the event that any player in a closed in-house division receives a cumulative total of three (3) yellow cards for misconduct in a single season, they will be automatically suspended for their next regularly scheduled match.
 - 2. Within 48 hours of the accumulation of the third cumulative yellow card, the DRO will convene the Protest and Appeals Committee to review the circumstances of the cautions.
 - 3. If the committee decides to overturn the suspension, they will notify the player, the team coach, and the Board of Directors in writing of the decision, the conditions of the decision, and the reasons for the decision.
 - 4. If the committee decides to uphold the suspension, no notification or other action will be taken.
 - ii. Red card / Send-off / Dismissal
 - 1. Any player, coach, or spectator who is issued a Red Card, Sent off from, or Dismissed from a match by the match referee of a closed in-house league will be automatically suspended for the next regularly scheduled match.
 - 2. The Protest and Appeals Committee mandatorily review all Red Card/Send-off/Dismissal actions within 48 hours of receipt of the misconduct report from the Referee.
 - 3. If the committee upholds the one match suspension, then no notification or action will be taken. In all other

circumstances, the committee will notify the player, coach, and Board of Directors of the decision, the conditions of the decision, and the reasons for the decision.

4. If the committee finds that the reported misconduct involves a player attempting to strike, striking, or committing violent conduct against another player, the decision of the committee must contain a minimum of a three (3)-match suspension.
5. If the committee finds that the reported misconduct involves a non-player attempting to strike, striking, or committing violent conduct against anyone other than a match or Club official, or a player committing the same act against a non-player and non-match or Club official, the decision of the committee must contain a minimum of suspension for the remainder of the season.
6. If the committee finds that the reported misconduct involves any person committing any act enhanced by discrimination as defined in Bylaw 105.2, and such act can be proven beyond any reasonable doubt, the decision of the committee must contain a minimum of suspension for the remainder for the season.
7. If the committee finds that the reported misconduct involves any person attempting to strike, striking, or committing violent conduct, or assault and/or battery, on a Match Referee or Club Official, the decision of the committee must contain a minimum of a lifetime ban from membership and an order of no-entry applicable to all Club property.

iii. Misconduct outside of a match

1. Any misconduct that occurs outside of an official match can be subject to review by the Protest and Appeals committee.
 2. The decision to review such actions is left to the discretion of the chairperson of the Protest and Appeals Committee, or at the request of the Board of Directors.
8. Member initiated protest of any matter not specifically listed in this section.
- a. Any action not specifically covered in this section, can be reviewed and ruled upon by the Protest and Appeals Committee at the discretion of the committee chairperson, upon the request of a member of the Club, or at the request of the Board of Directors if such action can reasonably be viewed as against the values of MWCS as set forth in these Bylaws.

EXHIBIT “A”

Midwest City Soccer Club

U5/U8 Rules and Regulations

All rules of competition will conform to the current edition of The IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game unless otherwise stated below.

Law 1. The Field of Play:

- a. Length: minimum 25 yards, maximum 35 yards
- b. Width: minimum 15 yards, maximum 25 yards
- c. Field Markings: The center circle will have a radius of four (4) yards.
- d. The Goal Area: The goal area will extend horizontally for 4 yards out from the inside of each goalpost and vertically for 4 yards out from the goal line.
- e. The following field markings will not be used: The Penalty Area
- f. The Corner Arc: Conform to IAFB/ FIFA, 1 yard arc.
- g. Goals: The maximum distance between the posts is six (6) feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is four (4) feet. Goals may be smaller in dimension.

Law 2. The Ball:

- a. Size three (3)

Law 3. The Number of Players:

- a. Each team will consist of not more than four players and not less than two players on the field.
- b. Neither team will have a designated Goalkeeper with special handling privileges; however they may play with a Defender or Sweeper if they choose. No player may stay in the goal area if field play has progressed away from their side of the field. If after a coach has been warned and the referee deems a player is excessively staying within the goal area, an indirect free kick will be awarded at the center top of the offenders goal area.
- c. Substitutions: Each team may make unlimited substitutions at any stoppage of play after getting the approval of the referee.

Law 4. The Players' Equipment:

- a. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions, but uniforms must still distinguish teams.

Law 5. The Referee:

- a. A grassroots or higher referee is suggested. All infringements shall be briefly explained to the offending player. In absence of a licensed referee, a team manager, coordinator, parent, or coach may be used. They must also have the risk management background check approval.

Law 6. The Assistant Referees:

- a. None

Law 7. The Duration of the Match:

- a. The match shall be divided into four (4), ten (10) minute quarters. There shall be a five (5) minute break between quarters.

Law 8. The Start and Restart of Play:

- a. Opponents of the team taking the kick-off are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Law 9. The Ball In and Out of Play:

- a. Confirm to IFAB/FIFA

Law 10. The Method of Scoring:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 11. Offside:

- a. None

Law 12. Fouls and Misconduct:

- a. All fouls shall result in an indirect free kick. The referee must explain ALL infringements to the offending player. No cards are shown for misconduct.
- b. Slide tackling will be considered dangerous play in all instances and awarded a free kick. To be a slide tackle both components of tackling and sliding MUST be present.

Law 13. Free Kicks:

- a. All free kicks are indirect and opponents are at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.
- b. If an infraction occurs inside the goal box area, an indirect free kick will be taken on the line of the goal box closest to the point of the infraction. The defending team may place a maximum of 2 players on the goal line between the goal posts to defend to goal.

Law 14. The Penalty Kick:

- a. None

Law 15. Throw-In:

- a. In the case of an incorrect throw-in, it will be retaken by the same team. The referee/coach/parent should give instruction on how to do a proper throw-in. If the retake is also incorrect, play will continue as if the throw-in was correct.

Law 16. The Goal Kick:

- a. The ball must be stationary and is kicked from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team. Opposing players must be four (4) yards away from the ball until it is in play.

Law 17. The Corner Kick:

- a. Opponents remain at least four (4) yards from the ball until it is in play.

Note: Referees in training will keep score, but will not record for the status of standings in the league play.

EXHIBIT “D”

Midwest City Soccer Club

7 v 7 Amateur Adult Rules and Regulations

All rules of competition will conform to the current edition of The IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game unless otherwise stated below.

Law 1. The Field of Play:

- a. Length: minimum 40 yards, maximum 75 yards
- b. Width: minimum 30 yards, maximum 50 yards
- c. Goals: The recommended distance between the posts is eighteen (18) feet and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is six (6) feet. Goals may be smaller in dimension.

Law 2. The Ball:

- a. Size five (5)

Law 3. The Number of Players:

- a. Each team will consist of not more than seven (7) players and not less than five (5) players on the field.
- b. Substitutions: Each team may make unlimited substitutions at any stoppage of play after getting the approval of the referee.
- c. Players must enter at the half line and exit across the touch line nearest to their technical area.
- d. Teams and games may be coed.

Law 4. The Players' Equipment:

- a. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions with the following conditions:
 - i. Non-uniform clothing must be either black in color or match the primary uniform color
 - ii. When wearing non-uniform clothing, the uniform jersey must be the top-most layer of clothing.

Law 5. The Referee:

- a. Only a licensed grassroots or higher referee may be used.

Law 6. The Assistant Referees:

- a. None

Law 7. The Duration of the Match:

- a. 25 minute halves with 5 minute halftime

Law 8. The Start and Restart of Play:

- a. Opponents of the team kicking the ball must be a minimum of 8 yards away from the ball.

- b. 5 Second Restart Rule- A restart must occur within 5 seconds of placing the ball for a free kick, corner kick or goal kick. Goalkeepers must also release the ball within 5 seconds of gaining possession and returning to their feet. Goalkeepers may use unlimited steps to bring ball to boundary of penalty area.
- c. Goalkeepers may choose to punt or drop kick the ball, but the ball may not cross the half line without first making contact with any player or the ground. If so, a direct free kick will be rewarded where the ball crossed the half line. Throws can still cross half line without penalty.

Law 9. The Ball In and Out of Play:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 10. The Method of Scoring:

- a. If at anytime in the second half, a team establishes a 10 goal lead, the Referee will offer the losing coach the option of continuing to Full-Time or terminating the match at the current score.

Law 11. Offside:

- a. None

Law 12. Fouls and Misconduct:

- a. Slide tackling will be considered dangerous play and awarded a free kick. To be a slide tackle both components of tackling and sliding MUST be present. Exception- Goal keeper will be allowed to slide tackle in the penalty area.
- b. All others conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 13. Free Kicks:

- a. All opponents must be a minimum of 8 yards from the ball at the taking of a free kick.

Law 14. The Penalty Kick:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 15. Throw-In:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 16. The Goal Kick:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 17. The Corner Kick:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

EXHIBIT “E”

Midwest City Soccer Club

11 v 11 Amateur Adult Rules and Regulations

All rules of competition will conform to the current edition of The IFAB/FIFA Laws of the Game unless otherwise stated below.

Law 1. The Field of Play:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 2. The Ball:

- a. Size five (5)

Law 3. The Number of Players:

- a. Substitutions: Each team may make unlimited substitutions at any stoppage of play after getting the approval of the referee.
- b. Players must enter at the half line and exit across the touch line nearest to their technical area.
- c. Teams and games may be coed.

Law 4. The Players’ Equipment:

- a. Non-uniform clothing is allowed based on weather conditions with the following conditions:
 - i. Non-uniform clothing must be either black in color or match the primary uniform color
 - ii. When wearing non-uniform clothing, the uniform jersey must be the top-most layer of clothing.

Law 5. The Referee:

- a. Only a licensed grassroots or higher referee may be used.

Law 6. The Assistant Referees:

- a. Only a licensed grassroots or higher referee may be used.

Law 7. The Duration of the Match:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 8. The Start and Restart of Play:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 9. The Ball In and Out of Play:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 10. The Method of Scoring:

- a. If at anytime in the second half, a team establishes a 10 goal lead, the Referee will offer the losing coach the option of continuing to Full-Time or terminating the match at the current score.

Law 11. Offside:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 12. Fouls and Misconduct:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA.

Law 13. Free Kicks:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 14. The Penalty Kick:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 15. Throw-In:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 16. The Goal Kick:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA

Law 17. The Corner Kick:

- a. Conform to IFAB/FIFA