
By-Laws – ATHENS SOCCER Academy

ARTICLE I - Membership

Part 1. New Membership -

Part 2. Renewal of Club's Annual Membership - Each member Club shall renew its membership annually at the Annual General Meeting. Should a member Club not renew and then at a later date reapply for membership it must do so under the requirements for *New Membership*.

Part 3. Suspension of Members - The Board of Directors may at a duly called meeting, a quorum being present, suspend from membership, or expel, any individual, team or Club that:

Willfully refuses or neglects to fulfill any of its obligations as a member and violates any of the provisions of the Constitution, By-Laws, or Rules and Regulations, Guidelines, Regulations and Procedures of the Association.

Commits any act which is inconsistent with the principles and standards of sportsmanship.

A vote to suspend shall require a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. A member shall have the opportunity to show cause why such action should not be taken. A suspended member may reapply for membership in ASA based upon the criteria established by the Board of Directors.

Part 4. Equal Opportunity - The membership of the ASA shall be open to any soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials not subject to suspension under Section 4 of Bylaw241 of the USSF Bylaws.

ARTICLE II - Meetings

The dates, times, and locations of all meetings will be determined by the Board of Directors except for the Annual General Meeting which shall be held the first Sunday of October. The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of three times per year. Notice for all meetings shall be in writing at least ten days prior to the meeting date.

Article III- General Responsibilities

The USSF articles of incorporation, bylaws, policies, and requirements take precedence over and supersede the governing documents and decisions of the ASA to the extent applicable under state law, and the ASA will abide by those articles, bylaws, policies, and requirements.

The ASA will abide by the USSF articles, bylaws, policies, and requirements on interplay.

The ASA will provide equitable and prompt hearing and appeal procedures to guarantee the rights of individuals to participate and compete. These procedures shall include that all grievances involving the right to participate and compete in activities sponsored by the USSF, USYSA, and EPYSA may be appealed to the USSF's Appeals Committee in accordance with EPYSA bylaws and policies. The USSF's Appeals Committee shall have jurisdiction to approve, modify or reverse a decision. A decision rendered by the ASA or the EPYSA from which an appeal is taken is not suspended pending the final decision of the USSF's Appeals Committee unless the committee otherwise orders. The decision made by the ASA or the EPYSA may be upheld, revised or reversed and remanded.

ARTICLE IV - Officers

Part 1. Term of Office - Members of the Board of Directors and Officers shall serve for a term of one year, and may succeed themselves. Each member may only serve in one position for two consecutive years but may hold a different position before returning to the previous.

Part 2. Duties of Officers - The *President* shall be the executive officer of ASA and shall act as Chairperson of all meeting of the Board of Directors. The President may, with the approval of the Board, establish committees and appoint members to committees. The President shall serve as the official representative of ASA in all its matters.

The *Vice President* shall succeed to the office of the President in the event the office becomes vacant. In the absence or disability of the President the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President.

The *Secretary* will be the official custodian of all the correspondence and documents of the Academy.

The *Treasurer* shall be the officer responsible for Academy finances and report at each Board of Directors meeting the finances of ASA.

The *Registrar* shall be responsible for the registration and certification of individual players and their passes, and team rosters.

The *Technical director* is responsible for curriculum development and coaching education. The person in this position will not be in charge of writing curriculum, but will be in charge of making sure that all coaching staff has the curriculum selected by the club. This means that the person should understand the entire curriculum and will assist coaching staff in their competency of the curriculum via clinics or one on one sessions.

In addition, the T.D. will be responsible for setting up coaching clinics and keeping a documented account of the education that our staff has received.

The *Director of Coaching* is responsible for recruitment and retention of coaching staff. This person will present coaching staff positions for approval by the club. This is the person that the coaching staff will report directly to. He/she will ensure that the coaches follow the bi-laws and curriculum. If there are any problems with a coach or a coach has a problem/dilemma this person will be in charge with any initial decisions that do not require board action/approval.

The *Financial director's* primary responsibility is funding for the academy. This person or persons will be securing sponsors, donations and setting up fundraisers (that the clubs coaches, players, members and parents will run).

The *Advisor to the board/club* shall make an annual or bi-annual report to the academy on everyone's performance. The report will include information on coaching performance, finances, time management, community feedback, parent feedback, players, program effectiveness (pros and cons of each). The report is not limited to these items.

Part 3. Duties of the Board of Directors - The Board of Directors shall be responsible for the business affairs of ASA, including but not limited to the enforcing of the Constitution, By-Laws, or Rules and Regulations, Guidelines, Regulations and Procedures of the Association. A member of the Board of Directors may be granted permission by the President to be absent from a scheduled meeting.

Part 4. Removal from Office - A Director may be removed for due cause by a two-thirds vote, quorum being present, by the Board of Directors.

Part 5. Resignation of a Director - Should a Director resign, the Board of Directors shall declare a vacancy and elect a successor in accordance with the By-Laws at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE V - Committees

Each committee will establish guidelines that will describe the organization and procedures of that committee. The Board of Directors will assign the charge to the committee.

Part 1. Standing Committees

Appeals Committee - Shall be responsible for hearing appeals of decisions made by other Standing or Ad Hoc Committees.

Arbitration Committee - Shall review all controversies brought to it by members of ASA that may arise from Association sponsored activities.

Past President Committee - All past Presidents of the Board of Directors shall be eligible to serve in an ex-officio, non-voting capacity as advisors to the Executive Officers and members of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI - Amendments

The By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote at any meeting of the Board of Directors, a quorum being present, so long as written notice of the proposed amendment was received by member of the Board of Directors at least thirty days prior to the meeting of the Board of Directors.

Article VII- Appeals

Part 1. Decisions or actions that may be appealed

- a) There shall be two general types of decisions or actions that may be appealed- Association decisions and League decisions.
- b) An *Association decision* would be any decision rendered by the Board of Directors as a whole. These would include but not be limited to placing a member club in bad standing with the league, expulsion of a member club or a decision to revoke a member club's bond. An appeal of an Association decision must be filed in accordance with the procedure outlined in Article VII, Part 3 below within sixty (60) days of the decision or action being appealed.

Part 2. Appeals Committee

- a) The ASA President shall appoint an Appeal Committee to hear each appeal. The Appeals Committee shall consist of at least three (3) individuals plus a Chairperson. The Appeals Committee shall be responsible for investigating and hearing any accepted appeal of actions taken by the ASA or its officers.
- b) No member of the Appeals Committee may have a conflict of interest with any party of the appeal.
- c) The Appeals Committee Chairperson may only vote on an appeal in order to break a tie.

Part 3. Appeals Filing Procedure

- a) The appeal must be in writing and describe in detail the grounds for the appeal.

b) The written appeal must be sent certified mail to the ASA President so that it is received within the time frame specified in Article VII, Part 1 above.

c) The Appeals Committee shall have the right to decline a hearing if the information necessary to make a fair and just decision on the appeal has not been furnished, or the proper procedures have not been followed in filing the appeal.

Part 4. Hearing of Appeals

a) The ASA President shall set a date for the hearing within two (2) days from the receipt of the appeal. The date of the hearing shall be within ten (10) days from the receipt of the appeal.

b) The Chairperson has the right to limit the speaking time or number of witnesses to be heard from each party to the appeal at the hearing.

c) The Chairperson shall submit the decision of the Appeals Committee to the appealing party and the ASA President in writing within 48 hours of the hearing.

d) Appealing parties have the right to appeal the decision of any ASA Appeals Committee to EPYSA.

Article VIII- Non Profit Organization

a) The Soccer Academy shall be a non-profit organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) and exempt from taxation under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding Section of any future federal tax code. All necessary applications and documents will be completed in compliance with the requirements of the applicable provisions therein.

b) The Soccer Academy is formed for charitable purposes. The Soccer Academy's purpose is to raise money to lessen the burden of state government. The Soccer Academy will use the funds raised to assist in the assist players in the development of himself or herself as a person who displays character, leadership, discipline and respect. The services provided are not able to be accommodated by the local schools' budgets. The Soccer Academy does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit, incidental or otherwise.

d) No part of the net earnings of the Athens Soccer Academy shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, officers, or other private persons, except that the Soccer Academy shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause herof. No substantial part of the activities of the Soccer Academy shall be carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Soccer Academy shall not participate in, or intervene in, (Including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf

of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the Soccer Academy shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of the future federal tax de.

e) Upon dissolution of the Athens Soccer Academy, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal officer of the Athens Soccer Academy is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.