

Proposed Changes to GNWSA Bylaws April 2018

Current Wording	Proposed Wording
<p>2.3.2 Meeting Procedures</p> <p>Parliamentary procedures (Robert’s Rules of Order) shall govern all Board meetings. All regular and special meetings shall be open to GNWSA members, unless the Board deems a closed meeting is appropriate to protect the identity or reputation of a member of the Association. At each Regular Board Meeting, each member of the Board of Directors is required to submit a verbal or written report of activities since the last Regular meeting.</p> <p>The Secretary shall keep a record of the Board’s proceedings at all meetings. These minutes, exclusive of Executive Sessions, shall be accessible only to the members of the Board unless the Board grants permission to a member of the Association to inspect them, or by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Association orders the minutes to be produced and read to the Association.</p> <p>The Board may go into Executive Session at any regular or special meeting. Only Board members may attend an Executive Session. An Executive Session and its respective minutes will be closed to the public.</p>	<p>2.3.2 Meeting Procedures</p> <p>Parliamentary procedures (Robert’s Rules of Order) shall govern all Board meetings. All regular and special meetings shall be open to GNWSA members, unless the Board deems a closed meeting is appropriate to protect the identity or reputation of a member of the Association. At each Regular Board Meeting, each member of the Board of Directors is required to submit a verbal or written report of activities since the last Regular meeting.</p> <p>The Secretary shall keep a record of the Board’s proceedings at all meetings. These minutes, exclusive of Executive Sessions, shall be accessible only to the members of the Board unless the Board grants permission to a member of the Association to inspect them, or by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Association orders the minutes to be produced and read to the Association.</p> <p>The Board may go into Executive Session at any regular or special meeting. Only voting Board members may attend an Executive Session. An Executive Session and its respective minutes will be closed to the public.</p>
<p>2.3.3 Voting</p> <p>The voting rights of the GNWSA Board of Directors shall include voting on all matters necessary to transact the business and enforce the rules of the Association. Voting Board Members shall be allowed to vote in the annual Board of Director elections and on Bylaw and Rule amendments as well.</p> <p>Each Voting Director shall have one vote. A Board member who is temporarily handling the duties of a vacant Board position, in addition to his/her regular duties, will have only one vote.</p> <p>The President shall vote only in the case of a tie vote, or to achieve a quorum, or in other specific cases set out herein. Proxy votes will not be accepted; therefore, Board members must be in attendance at the meeting or by phone when the vote is held.</p>	<p>2.3.3 Voting</p> <p>The voting rights of the GNWSA Board of Directors shall include voting on all matters necessary to transact the business and enforce the rules of the Association. Voting Board Members shall be allowed to vote in the annual Board of Director elections and on Bylaw and Rule amendments as well.</p> <p>Each Voting Director shall have one vote. A Board member who is temporarily handling the duties of a vacant Board position, in addition to his/her regular duties, will have only one vote.</p> <p>The President shall vote only in the case of a tie vote, or to achieve a quorum, or in other specific cases set out herein. Proxy votes will not be accepted; therefore, Board members must be in attendance, at the meeting or by phone, when the vote is held.</p> <p>Voting by the Board of Directors via electronic mail</p>

<p>Voting by the Board of Directors via electronic mail will be acceptable for timely matters that were on the current month's Board meeting agenda and postponed at the meeting where a quorum was present; or for matters that do not require discussion by the Board. The electronic correspondence must be sent to all Board members and must follow parliamentary procedures for motioning, discussion and voting. Printed copies of the correspondence and the results of the vote shall be made and become part of the next scheduled Board meeting minutes.</p> <p>Voting will not take place on any matter unless a quorum is reached.</p>	<p>will be acceptable for timely matters that were on the current month's Board meeting agenda and postponed at the meeting where a quorum was present; or for matters that do not require in-person discussion by the Board. The electronic correspondence must be sent to all Board members and must follow parliamentary procedures for motioning, discussion and voting. Printed copies of the correspondence and the results of the vote shall be made and become part of the next scheduled Board meeting minutes.</p> <p>Voting will not take place on any matter unless a quorum is reached.</p>
<p>2.4.3 Collection of Fees and Payment of Expenses</p> <p>GNWSA will collect player fees to cover NTSSA, NMCSL, municipalities, and other governing body's registration fees and insurance, uniforms, equipment, payments to officials, utilities, awards and trophies, and other miscellaneous operating expenses.</p> <p>A non-budgeted expense (or cumulative expense), greater than or equal to \$1500 must have Board approval, including necessary and recurring budgeted items such as uniforms, goals, nets, and camp payments.</p> <p>A non-budgeted expense (or cumulative expense), greater than or equal to \$500 must have Board approval.</p> <p>Board members shall be responsible for expenses related to their Board position. Board members may make a request of the Treasurer to make original payment with GNWSA funds, or the Board member may pay for the expense and receive reimbursement by submitting proper documentation (valid receipts). Expenses that lack proper documentation may be denied reimbursement.</p> <p>Only those expenses that are necessary for the operation of the Association, or that will become permanent property of the Association, will be reimbursed. Other personal expenses (including cell phones) directly related to GNWSA duties will only be reimbursed with Board approval.</p>	<p>2.4.3 Collection of Fees and Payment of Expenses</p> <p>GNWSA will collect player fees to cover NTSSA, NMCSL, municipalities, and other governing body's registration fees and insurance, uniforms, equipment, payments to officials, utilities, awards and trophies, and other miscellaneous operating expenses.</p> <p>A non-budgeted expense (or cumulative expense), greater than or equal to \$1500 must have Board approval, including necessary and recurring budgeted items such as uniforms, goals, nets, and camp payments.</p> <p>A non-budgeted expense (or cumulative expense), greater than or equal to \$500 must have Board approval.</p> <p>Board members shall be responsible for expenses related to their Board position. Board members may make a request of the Treasurer to make original payment with GNWSA funds, or the Board member may pay for the expense and receive reimbursement by submitting proper documentation (valid receipts). Expenses that lack proper documentation may be denied reimbursement.</p> <p>Only those expenses that are necessary for the operation of the Association, or that will become permanent property of the Association, will be reimbursed. Other personal expenses (including cell phones) directly related to GNWSA duties will only be reimbursed with Board approval.</p>

<p>3.1.2 Age and Residence Requirements</p> <p>The soccer playing year for GNWSA runs from January 1 to December 31, inclusive. A player may register if they are 3 years old by June 30th to play in the Fall soccer season.</p>	<p>3.1.2 Age and Residence Requirements</p> <p>The timeframe used to determine age of eligibility for soccer playing year for GNWSA runs from January 1 to December 31, inclusive. A player may register if they are 3 years old by June 30th to play in the Fall soccer season.</p>
<p>3.1.4 Refunds – Refunds of registration fees will be permitted as listed below.</p> <p>Full refunds will be granted for a team not forming due to lack of registrants or if the refund is requested before the close of regular registration.</p> <p>Partial refunds of a maximum of 50% of the total fee paid will be granted for: 1) a team choosing to disband prior to the first week of the season; 2) a child withdrawing for medical reasons prior to the first week of the season; 3) a child moving out of the area prior to the first week of the season; or 4) a refund request one week prior to opening weekend of their particular age group.</p> <p>The first week of the season will be determined based on the GNWSA and NMCSL game schedule for the applicable season and shall be based on the calendar week in which “Opening Day” occurs.</p>	<p>3.1.4 Refunds – Refunds of registration fees will be permitted as listed below.</p> <p>Either full refunds or the offer to apply the received payment towards the following season, will be granted for a team not forming due to lack of registrants or if the refund is requested before the close of regular registration.</p> <p>Partial refunds or the offer to apply the received payment towards the following season, of a maximum of 50% of the total fee paid will be granted for: 1) a team choosing to disband prior to the first week of the season; 2) a child withdrawing for medical reasons prior to the first week of the season; 3) a child moving out of the area prior to the first week of the season; or 4) a refund request one week prior to opening weekend of their particular age group.</p> <p>The first week of the season will be determined based on the GNWSA and NMCSL game schedule for the applicable season and shall be based on the calendar week in which “Opening Day” occurs.</p>
<p>3.2.2 Eligibility and Requirements</p> <p>Coaching in GNWSA is a privilege, not a right. As such, GNWSA, in its discretion, reserves the right to refuse to allow any individual wishing to serve in such capacity, as long as the basis for such refusal is not prohibited by law. A person may volunteer to coach or be asked to coach by the GNWSA Board. Volunteering does not guarantee an individual will be assigned as a head coach, assistant coach or team manager, nor does it guarantee that an individual will be assigned in the position requested.</p> <p>Only individuals who will promote and uphold the purposes and goals of GNWSA as set forth in the GNWSA Bylaws, Rules and Regulations will be</p>	<p>3.2.2 Eligibility and Requirements</p> <p>Coaching in GNWSA is a privilege, not a right. As such, GNWSA, in its discretion, reserves the right to refuse, or remove a previously assigned coach, to allow any individual wishing to serve in such capacity, as long as the basis for such refusal or removal is not prohibited by law. A person may volunteer to coach or be asked to coach by the GNWSA Board. Volunteering does not guarantee an individual will be assigned as a head coach, assistant coach or team manager, nor does it guarantee that an individual will be assigned in the position requested.</p> <p>Only individuals who will promote and uphold the purposes and goals of GNWSA as set forth in the</p>

considered eligible to coach in this Association. Coaches who fail to function within the GNWSA Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations will be subject to immediate review by the Board, and at the discretion of the Board, may be subject to disciplinary action, to include potential removal.

GNWSA Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, **abide by the GNWSA Zero Tolerance Policy, NMCSL Bylaws, and abide by the NTSSA Code(s) of Conduct** will be considered eligible to coach in this Association, **as determined by the Board, in its sole discretion**. Coaches who fail to function within the GNWSA Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations, **GNWSA Zero Tolerance Policy, NMCSL Bylaws and/or NTSSA Coed(s) of Conduct** will be subject to immediate review by the Board, and at the discretion of the Board, may be subject to disciplinary action, to include potential removal. **Destructive Behavior, as determined by the Board, will be subject to review by the Board, and at the discretion of the Board, may be subject to disciplinary action, to include potential removal.** For purposes of clarification, anything other than positive reinforcement and comments, at any time, whether verbal, written or via any channel, including social media, to any player, coach, referee or spectator within GNWSA or other NTSSA associations will be prohibited.

3.3.2 Coaching Status

Head coaches will generally be allowed to retain their coaching status with a team from season to season. Head coaches shall have the discretion of keeping the same assistant coach or coaches from season to season or assigning new one(s).

In order for a head coach to retain coaching status with a given team, the team must have fifty percent (50%) of the recommended roster size for the current season (a nucleus) returning to that team, and the head coach must be in good standing with the Association. A team without a nucleus of players may be folded or combined with another team and the coach may not retain coaching status.

If two or more teams are combined in the draw, a new head coach will be assigned using the following guidelines.

If only one of the head coaches from the combined teams wishes to return as head coach, then that coach shall remain as head coach.

Whether for merging teams or new team formations, if more than one of the head coaches wishes to return as head coach (for merging teams) or there are two parent volunteers to serve as head

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In order for a head coach to retain coaching status with a given team, **the coach must have Board approval and** the team must have fifty percent (50%) of the recommended roster size for the current season (a nucleus) returning to that team, and the head coach must be in good standing with the Association. A team without a nucleus of players may be folded or combined with another team and the coach may not retain coaching status.

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If only one of the head coaches from the combined teams wishes to return as head coach, then that coach shall remain as head coach.

Whether for merging teams or new team formations, if more than one of the head coaches wishes to return

coach for the newly formed teams, the GNWSA Board shall confer with the individuals to determine which coach shall be the head coach and which coach shall assist. If an agreement cannot be reached, then neither of them will be considered for the position. One or both of the coaches may be asked to coach another team in the same age group if that team does not have a coach.

If none of the head coaches wishes to return, or if an agreement between the previous head coaches cannot be reached, any of the previous assistant coaches may be assigned as head coach, subject to Board approval.

If a head coach resigns during the season, one of the assistant coaches shall be assigned as a head coach.

If a head coach sits out a season, he/she will not retain coaching status with their former team. Coaching status shall pass to whoever coaches the team in the former coaches' absence.

as head coach (for merging teams) or there are two parent volunteers to serve as head coach for the newly formed teams, the GNWSA Board shall confer with the individuals to determine which coach shall be the head coach and which coach shall assist. If an agreement cannot be reached, then neither of them will be considered for the position. One or both of the coaches may be asked to coach another team in the same age group if that team does not have a coach.

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3.3.5 Removal of a Coach

A coach's invitation to coach may be withdrawn if he/she does not promote and uphold the goals of GNWSA.

If any coach receives three (3) written complaints against himself/herself or any member of the team or one (1) written complaint from a GNWSA Director or official (referee), the coach will be subject to review by the A&D Director and may be required to go before the A&D Committee for judgment of fitness to continue coaching youth soccer. These complaints must be made on separate occasions, and may include misconduct reports from referees, written complaints from other coaches or parents, or written complaints from a coach or parent/member of another Association.

The coach shall have the right to be present at any A&D proceedings.

3.3.5 Removal of a Coach

A coach's invitation to coach may be **withdrawn revoked, by the Board**, if he/she does not promote and uphold the goals of GNWSA **and as described in Section 3.2.2.**

After one (1) written complaint against himself/herself from any individual, the respective age group commissioner and/or Director of Coaches may elect to have a discussion with the coach regarding such complaint. The first discussion shall be deemed an informal warning, not documented by writing.

After two (2) written complaints against himself/herself, from any individual, the respective age group commissioner and/or Director of Coaches may elect to have a discussion with the coach regarding such complaint. The second discussion shall be deemed a formal warning and shall be documented in writing with a report being provided to the Board.

	<p>If any coach receives three (3) written complaints against himself/herself or any member of the team or one (1) written complaint from a GNWSA Director or official (referee), the coach will be subject to review by the A&D Director and may be required to go before the A&D Committee for judgment of fitness to continue coaching youth soccer. These complaints must be made on separate occasions, and may include misconduct reports from referees, written complaints from other coaches or parents, or written complaints from a coach or parent/member of another Association.</p> <p>The coach shall have the right to be present at any A&D proceedings.</p>
<p>3.4.2 Player Status</p> <p>Returning GNWSA players from the previous season are said to have returning player privileges, provided they register prior to team formation, also referred to as the Draw. Returning GNWSA players registering after team formation can be added back to their team IF space is available on that team and all other teams in the age group are at minimum roster.</p> <p>Returning GNWSA players who skip one season also have return to team privileges, second to players returning from the previous season. If a player who skipped one season requests to return to their previous team and the team is being combined in the current season the player's returning privileges shall transfer to the new (or combined) team only if space is available on that team. If a player who skipped one season requests to return to their previous team and the team was folded in the prior season or will be folded in the current season the player will not have returning player privileges with any team and will be placed in the player pool.</p> <p>Any returning GNWSA player who wishes to change teams within the same age group may request to be placed in the player pool for that age group during the registration process. The player, for team placement purposes, will be considered a new player and placed on a team following Team Formation and Order of the Draw rules.</p> <p>Any player who refuses a team assignment shall be placed in the bottom of the player pool and will be</p>	<p>3.4.2 Player Status</p> <p>Returning GNWSA players from the previous season are said to have returning player privileges, provided they register prior to team formation, also referred to as the Draw. Returning GNWSA players registering after team formation can be added back to their team IF space is available on that team and all other teams in the age group are at minimum roster.</p> <p>Returning GNWSA players who skip two or fewer one seasons also have return to team privileges, second to players returning from the previous season. If a player who skipped two or fewer one seasons requests to return to their previous team and the team is being combined in the current season the player's returning privileges shall transfer to the new (or combined) team only if space is available on that team. If a player who skipped two or fewer one seasons requests to return to their previous team and the team was folded in any the prior season or will be folded in the current season the player will not have returning player privileges with any team and will be placed in the player pool.</p> <p>Any returning GNWSA player who wishes to change teams within the same age group may request to be placed in the player pool for that age group during the registration process. The player, for team placement purposes, will be considered a new player and placed on a team following Team Formation and Order of the Draw rules.</p> <p>Any player who refuses a team assignment shall be placed in the bottom of the player pool and will be</p>

reassigned to a different team only if space is available. The player may only be reassigned to a team that has fewer players than the team that was refused.

If a player has not attended a practice or contacted the head coach as of opening weekend (GNWSA Opening Saturday for U4-U8, NMCSL Opening weekend for U9+), the player may be released from the team and a player from the waitlist may be added to the team as determined by the Board. No refund will be granted to the non-participating player.

3.4.3 Special Requests

U4 through U6 registrants **NEW** to GNWSA may request to play with **ONE** existing or new player. Special requests will be granted only when possible. Special requests for team placement or coach preference **do not apply** to returning players in any age group. Player/Player's requests that do not fit the aforementioned criteria will be disregarded. GNWSA will attempt to meet all valid special requests made, but in some circumstances may be unable to grant a request. Players with valid special requests which were not met will receive notification as such following the conclusion of the Draw.

A player may request to play up an age group (soccer year) and will be treated, for purposes of team assignment, as a new player and placed into the player pool of that age group. Players requesting to play up may not request a specific team, outside of U4 or U5 players. Players that are U6 and requesting a specific U7 team do not meet the special requests guidelines. Players may also be moved up an age group at the discretion of the GNWSA Registrar when deemed necessary to fill teams or to move a player off the waiting list. The Registrar shall obtain permission from the player's parents/guardians before moving a player up and confirm the move with the age group Commissioner. A player who has played up must continue to request to play up via their registration or they will be returned to their appropriate age group. This applies whether the player wishes to remain on their existing team or return to the player pool. A player may also request via their registration to move back down to his/her age

reassigned to a different team only if space is available. The player may only be reassigned to a team that has fewer players than the team that was refused.

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NTSSA Youth Commissioner approval is required for a player to play in a lower age group. A player with significant mental or physical deficiencies may petition NTSSA for permission to play one age group lower; however, the player must not be of a physical size which will provide an undue advantage over the other players in the younger division.

A player may request to play on the same team with a sibling. The siblings will be placed on a team in the oldest sibling's age group, and all GNWSA and NTSSA rules regarding playing up must be followed. The siblings will be placed in the player pool and drawn from the pool together only if space is available in the oldest sibling's age group; otherwise the players will be placed in the age appropriate player pool. Siblings shall not be allowed to take an existing or returning player's spot on a team; nor will siblings be allowed to take a spot on the team if there are other players on the waitlist or in the player pool who are of the appropriate age for the team.

Only a head coach of a team may request to have their child assigned to their team roster provided the player meets the age requirements of the team, and provided the request is made prior to the team roster being finalized. A coach's child shall not be allowed to take an existing or returning player's spot on a team.

3.4.6 Order of the Draw

A recreational youth player shall be assigned to an age group according to their date of birth and NTSSA guidelines. Provided enough players exist in the player pool, GNWSA shall form separate boys and girls teams and pure age teams. If enough players do not exist in the player pool, GNWSA reserves the right to form co-ed teams and/or combine age groups in accordance with NTSSA rules.

This would confirm for players wishing to play up that space is available and place them up as requested or if space is not available, return them to team and/or existing age draw.

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GNWSA will consider geography and coaching needs when possible.

The order of the draw shall take place as follows per age group:

I. Existing Teams

A. Returning players who played the previous season and have requested to stay on their team will remain on the roster.

B. Players who have not registered during early or regular registration or have requested to be removed from their team and placed into the player pool will be removed from the roster.

C. Players returning after missing one season and requesting to return to their team are added to the roster if space is available. If space is not available, they will be placed in the player pool.

D. If a team meets minimum roster after A-C, then they will remain together on an existing team.

II. Determination if New Teams Need to be Created

A. After I is complete, a total of slots remaining to fill all existing teams to maximum roster is determined.

B. If the remaining players from the pool does not exceed the available slots on existing teams, those players will be placed on existing teams.

C. The Registrar, with Board approval, will have the option to not open late registration for any additional players in the age group. Based on inquiries OR geographic need, the Registrar may open registration for that age group with the focus of creating a new team.

III. Placement on Existing Teams from Player Pool

A. If it is determined in II that the slots on existing teams are equal to or more than the total number of players in the player pool, the following order shall occur.

B. Teams shall first be evened out based on alphabetical order of team name while taking into consideration geographic locations of the players. An effort will be made to place newly registered players on teams with individuals within their school boundaries.

C. One player shall be added based on registration date to each team until the numbers are equal on all existing teams.

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B. Players who have not registered during early or regular registration or have requested to be removed from their team and placed into the player pool will be removed from the roster.

C. Players returning after missing ~~one~~ two seasons and requesting to return to their team are added to the roster if space is available. If space is not available, they will be placed in the player pool.

D. If a team meets minimum roster after A-C, then they will remain together on an existing team.

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B. Teams shall first be evened out based on alphabetical order of team name while taking into consideration geographic locations of the players. An effort will be made to place newly registered players on teams with individuals within their school boundaries.

C. One player shall be added based on registration date to each team until the numbers are equal on all existing teams.

D. If in the order, a player would be put on a team they requested to not return to from the previous season, the player would be placed on the

previous season, the player would be placed on the next team in order and the next player would be placed on the previous team.

E. Once equal, players will be added to teams in alphabetical order (Alligators, Bears, Cheetahs, etc.)

F. If there are still slots available after all players have been placed from the player pool, the Registrar may open late registration to fill those remaining slots to put all teams in the age group at maximum roster.

IV. New Teams

. If it is determined that there are more players than slots available, the Registrar may decide to add an additional team or teams to the age group.

B. New Teams will be first looked at geographically (examples: Argyle, Haslet, Justin) and the player pool will be reviewed to determine if enough players exist to form a geographically based team. Additionally, elementary, middle or high school may be considered when creating a team.

C. If there are enough players geographically or from an elementary, middle, or high school to form a new team or teams, those players will be placed on the new team or teams first based on registration date.

Then the draw would proceed as noted in III. B-F.

C. If a new team is formed without enough players to be geographically or elementary, middle, or high school based, the new team would follow the draw as noted in III. B-F.

The new team would be listed as New Team in the alphabetical rotation (Alligators, Bears, Cheetahs, New Team, Sharks, etc.)

The Registrar shall have the authority to finalize the Draw at the end of the published registration timelines. The results of the Draw will be presented to the Board in monthly report(s) following the Draw.

After all teams in an age group have reached maximum roster all remaining players will be placed on a waiting list.

The Registrar shall administer the player waiting list. Players on the waiting list will be placed on teams in their age group or one age group up, with

next team in order and the next player would be placed on the previous team.

E. Once equal, players will be added to teams in alphabetical order (Alligators, Bears, Cheetahs, etc.)

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IV. New Teams

-If it is determined that there are more players than slots available, the Registrar may decide to add an additional team or teams to the age group.

B. New Teams will be first looked at geographically (examples: Argyle, Haslet, Justin) and the player pool will be reviewed to determine if enough players exist to form a geographically based team. Additionally, elementary, middle or high school may be considered when creating a team.

C. If there are enough players geographically or from an elementary, middle, or high school to form a new team or teams, those players will be placed on the new team or teams first based on registration date.

Then the draw would proceed as noted in III. B-F.

C. If a new team is formed without enough players to be geographically or elementary, middle, or high school based, the new team would follow the draw as noted in III. B-F.

The new team would be listed as New Team in the alphabetical rotation (Alligators, Bears, Cheetahs, New Team, Sharks, etc.)

The Registrar shall have the authority to finalize the Draw at the end of the published registration timelines. The results of the Draw will be presented to the Board in monthly report(s) following the Draw.

After all teams in an age group have reached maximum roster all remaining players will be placed on a waiting list.

The Registrar shall administer the player waiting list. Players on the waiting list will be placed on teams in their age group or one age group up, with permission of the player's parent/guardian, in order of registration date. The waiting list shall be abandoned

permission of the player's parent/guardian, in order of registration date. The waiting list shall be abandoned after rosters are finalized and submitted to NTSSA, with any fees collected from non-placed players being refunded.

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Any player who has been assigned to a team outside common geographical standards, as determined by the Board in their sole discretion, shall be contacted by the appropriate age group commissioner to determine if the player is willing to join the team or would like to request a refund per the Refund Policy.

3.4.8 Equipment and Uniforms

GNWSA shall supply all new teams with the basic necessary equipment to conduct practices and games. Additional equipment may be purchased by the coach without reimbursement.

Subject to approval by the GNWSA Board, head coaches shall be allowed to choose team colors every fall season and shall be allowed to change the team name prior to any season provided adequate notice is given to the Association.

GNWSA shall supply each player with a team uniform, consisting of a jersey, short, and socks every fall season or in the spring season if the player did not play in the fall. All GNWSA teams shall wear all their GNWSA issued jersey. Failure of a team or player to wear the proper jersey during a game may lead to disciplinary action against the coach or player, to include removal from the field.

All player jerseys, except goalies, must be numbered on the back. For safety reasons, player names are not allowed on the jerseys.

Permanent alterations to the uniform are prohibited. Minor additions to the uniform that may pose a safety concern (barrettes, pins, etc.) are also prohibited. The referee shall have the final say on whether a player's uniform poses a hazard to other players.

Shin guards are mandatory and must be worn at all practices and games. Athletic socks must cover the shin guards. Players not wearing shin guards will not be allowed to participate.

3.4.8 Equipment and Uniforms

GNWSA shall supply all new teams with the basic necessary equipment to conduct practices and games. Additional equipment may be purchased by the coach without reimbursement.

Subject to approval by the GNWSA Board, head coaches shall be allowed to choose team colors every fall season and for U8 and under, shall be allowed to change the team name prior to any season provided adequate notice is given to the Association. For U9 and up, team names may only be changed after the draw and no later than 3 weeks prior to any season provided adequate notice is given to the Association.

GNWSA shall supply each player with a team uniform, consisting of a jersey, short, and socks every fall season or in the spring season if the player did not play in the fall. All GNWSA teams shall wear all their GNWSA issued jersey. Failure of a team or player to wear the proper jersey during a game may lead to disciplinary action against the coach or player, to include removal from the field.

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Shin guards are mandatory and must be worn at all practices and games. Athletic socks must cover the shin guards. Players not wearing shin guards will not be allowed to participate.

Metal cleats, toe cleats, or baseball cleats are not permitted. Tennis shoes are allowed in place of soccer cleats.

Goalkeepers must wear a different colored shirt to designate him or her as a keeper.

Absolutely no jewelry shall be permitted. All jewelry must be removed for practices and games. Band-aids covering earrings or piercings are not acceptable and will not be allowed.

Medical casts shall be allowed provided they are adequately wrapped to protect the individual and other players on the field.

In the event of a jersey/color conflict, the home team shall be responsible for changing jerseys, or covering their jerseys with aprons, bibs, or other apparel that the referee determines to be adequate to correct the color conflict. The players will then be allowed to play without numbers on their jerseys provided that they still wear their numbered jerseys underneath. The referee shall determine if there is a jersey/color conflict and if the home team has corrected the conflict. The referee's decision is final.

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3.5.8 Coaching at Games

All coaches of U6 and above age groups must remain within ten (10) yards of the halfway line and five (5) feet back of the touchline, unless field proximity does not allow (i.e. Justin Park fields 1, 2 and 3, ect.) Only coaches of the U4 and U5 age groups are allowed on the field of play during the game. The referee shall have final say in determining if a coach is interfering and shall have the authority to ask the coach to stand outside the touchline for the remainder of the game if necessary.

Only one head coach and two team officials or a total of 3 approved team officials, per team will be allowed at game time. The Team Manager may be allowed on the team sideline during the game in lieu of one of the coaches. All other parents or spectators must remain in the designated parent/spectator area during game time.

3.5.8 Coaching at Games

All coaches of U6 and above age groups must remain **no closer than 3 feet from the halfway and** within ten (10) yards of the halfway line ~~and five (5) feet back of the touchline~~ **and opposite their parent/spectator area**, unless field proximity does not allow (i.e. Justin Park fields 1, 2 and 3, etc.) Only coaches of the U4 and U5 age groups are allowed on the field of play during the game. The referee shall have final say in determining if a coach is interfering and shall have the authority to ask the coach to stand outside the touchline for the remainder of the game if necessary.

Only one head coach and two team officials or a total of 3 approved team officials, per team will be allowed at game time. The Team Manager may be allowed on the team sideline during the game in lieu of one of the coaches. ~~All other parents or spectators must remain in the designated parent/spectator area during game time.~~

Coaching from behind or near the goal or goal area is not allowed in any age group.

All head and assistant coaches must have a valid Association ID card at game time in order to coach. Any coach that does not have their ID card at game time will be required to remain on the parent/spectator side of the field, will not be allowed to coach, and may be subject to disciplinary action.

A head coach or assistant coach with a valid Association ID card must be present with and responsible for the team and spectators during every game. If not, the team may be required to forfeit the game.

All coaches will be held responsible for the conduct, including foul or abusive language and acts, of their players and spectators as well as their own conduct which serves as a role model for their players. Offenders may be cautioned or ejected from the field of play by the referee or a League Official including but not limited to, Board Members, Field Marshals etc.

Any questions regarding a referee's call should be addressed to the referee in a polite and constructive manner at half-time or after the game.

Coaches requesting substitutions may, upon referee discretion, allow both teams to enter a substitute if the team in possession of the ball requests a substitution first.

3.5.9 Spectators

When field layouts allow, all spectators and parents must remain on the opposite side of the field of play from the players. The referee has the final say on allowing or disallowing spectators and parents on the player's side of the field.

All spectators of all games must remain within ten (10) yards of the halfway line and five (5) feet back

Coaching from behind or near the goal (within the penalty area or 18-yard box) or goal area is not allowed in any age group. Coaches should not be coaching from the parent/spectator side for any reason.

All head and assistant coaches must have a valid Association ID card at game time, in order to coach. Any coach that does not have their ID card at game time will be required to remain on the parent/spectator side of the field, will not be allowed to coach, and may be subject to disciplinary action.

A head coach or assistant coach with a valid Association ID card must be present with and responsible for the team and spectators during every game. If not, the team may be required to forfeit the game.

All coaches shall be responsible for ensuring that the parents / spectators must remain on the opposite side of the field of play from the players and across the field from their players on their own half of the field.

All coaches will be held responsible for the conduct, including foul or abusive language and acts, of their players and spectators as well as their own conduct which serves as a role model for their players. Offenders may be cautioned or ejected from the field of play by the referee or a League Official including but not limited to, Board Members, Field Marshals etc.

Any questions regarding a referee's call should be addressed to the referee in a polite and constructive manner at half-time or after the game.

Coaches requesting substitutions may, upon referee discretion, allow both teams to enter a substitute if the team in possession of the ball requests a substitution first.

3.5.9 Spectators

When field layouts allow (except fields HP10 and HP8), all spectators and parents must remain on the opposite side of the field of play from the players and across the field from their players on their own half of the field. The referee has the final say on allowing or disallowing spectators and parents on the player's side of the field.

<p>of the touchline. Parents and spectators must refrain from coaching the team in any way.</p> <p>Horns, whistles, or other devices which can be used to generate loud noises of any kind are prohibited at game fields.</p>	<p>When field layouts allow, all spectators of all games must remain on their own half of the field, across from their players, within the top of the penalty box towards the halfway line, no closer than five (5) yards of the halfway line ten (10) yards of the halfway line and five (5) feet back of the touchline. Parents and spectators must refrain from coaching the team in any way.</p> <p>Horns, whistles, or other devices which can be used to generate loud noises of any kind are prohibited at game fields.</p>
<p>3.10.1 General</p> <p>All Members of GNWSA including but not limited to Board Members, Coaches, Referees, Other Volunteers, Parents and Spectators are required to abide by the NTSSA Code of Ethics/Conduct and the GNWSA Zero Tolerance Policy (separate document). Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.</p>	<p>3.10.1 General</p> <p>All Members of GNWSA including but not limited to Board Members, Coaches, Referees, Other Volunteers, Parents and Spectators are required to abide by the NTSSA Code(s) of Ethics/Conduct and the GNWSA Bylaws and the GNWSA Zero Tolerance Policy (separate document). Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action which may results in additional consequences, such as individual removal from attending practices and/or games and which can lead to player’s removal from the team or GNWSA.</p> <p>All Members of GNWSA including but not limited to Board Members, Coaches, Referees, Other Volunteers, Parents and Spectators are required to abide by the following Code of Ethics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children have more need for example than for criticism. Attempt to relieve the pressure of the competition not increase it. A child is easily affected by outside influences. 2. Be kind to your child’s coach and officials. The coach is a volunteer, giving of personal time and money to provide a recreational activity for your child. 3. The opponents are necessary friends; without them, your child could not participate. 4. Applaud good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team. 5. Do not openly question an official’s judgment and honesty. Officials are symbols of fair play, integrity, and sportsmanship. 6. Accept the results of each game. Encourage your child to be gracious in victory, and to turn defeat into victory by working towards improvement.

- 7. Remember your child is involved in organized sports for their enjoyment, NOT YOURS!
- 8. Encourage your child to always play by the rules.
- 9. Teach your child that honest effort is as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- 10. Remember that your child learns by example. Children mimic what their parents say. Criticism of the coach, officials, teammates, and/or opponents fosters bad attitudes and can only lead to a negative experience for your child.
- 11. Parents should remember that a coach has an entire team of players to consider when making decisions regarding position, playing time, substitutions, and strategy. The team does not revolve around one player.
- 12. A parent must never misrepresent to their team their child's eligibility to play on that team, and must be honest in dealings with GNWSA and other Associations (including playing leagues).
- 13. A parent must never be verbally or physically violent or threatening with any coach, parent, player, or representative of GNWSA or other association.

3.10.3 Examples of Misconduct

Misconduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following examples:

- Foul and/or abusive language directed toward coaches, officials, players, or spectators
- Arguing with officials, coaches or players
- Throwing objects onto the field of play and/or at other persons
- Destruction of equipment or facilities
- Verbal and/or physical assault
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages at or immediately prior to a GNWSA sanctioned event, or the use of illegal drugs at any time
- Other misconduct which is deemed disruptive to the orderly conduct of the game of soccer.

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- Destruction of equipment or facilities
- Verbal and/or physical assault
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages at or immediately prior to a GNWSA sanctioned event, or the use of illegal drugs at any time
- Destructive Behavior, as determined by the Board, will be subject to review by the Board, and at the discretion of the Board, may be subject to disciplinary action, to include potential removal. For purposes of clarification, anything other than positive reinforcement and comments, at any

time, whether verbal, written or via any channel, including social media, to any player, coach, referee or spectator within GNWSA or other NTSSA associations will be prohibited.

Other misconduct which is deemed disruptive to the orderly conduct of the game of soccer.

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