



# Sandwich Soccer Club Bylaws



## General Guidelines

The SSC shall provide at least a SPRING program.

The Spring program shall be primarily a TRAVELING program. Teams will be fielded as coaches, fields and equipment allow. All attempts will be made to accommodate all players who have signed up. If it is not possible to accommodate all players who have signed up, some selection process will be used to select the final teams. The goal of the SPRING program will be to STRATIFY the levels of competition.

SSC will participate in the Spring Travel Program of the South Coast Soccer League, hereafter referred to as the SCSL. Teams will then be placed in SCSL divisions for play at the appropriate levels of competition. SSC members will abide by the SCSL constitution and bylaws for rules of play. SCSL will provide officials, game scheduling and league standings and will have overall responsibility for ruling on game disputes.

## Specific Guidelines

In addition to the General Guidelines described above, some additional guidelines are appropriate to help in the administration and direction for the SSC programs.

The SSC Executive Board is responsible for the final design and execution of the Soccer Programs throughout the year. Any matters of policy or direction shall be their responsibility.

## Bylaws and Exceptions to the Rules of Play

SSC teams shall abide by the constitution and by-laws of the SCSL league.

## Fees

Fees for participation and uniforms shall be decided annually by the Board and shall be due and payable at registration.

## Rosters

SSC team rosters will be in accordance with the constitution and by-laws of the SCSL league.

## Uniforms

Players shall wear uniforms selected by the Board.

## Playing Time

All players shall have an equal opportunity to play. The recommended playing time a player can receive in a SSC sanctioned game is a third of the game except in the event of unequal attendance at practices, games or in the event of needed discipline.

## Age Groups

Players shall try out and be evaluated for the age group in which they are eligible. South Coast Soccer League and MYSA will establish the Age Group limits. Players will try out for the appropriate team for their age group.

Exceptions: (applies to U12 and above)

1. A player may try out for a higher age group than the first age group he/she is eligible for if the player is in the prevalent school grade for that age group.
2. In the event players are required to play up in a higher age group so that a team can be fielded in the higher age group; the player will play in the higher age group for that year only. Selection of Players moving up will be done by the Age Group Director with the consent of the parents of that player. The player(s) selected should be capable of playing competitively in the Division they are moving up to. This should be reserved for "fringe" players who would benefit from playing up in a higher Age Group.



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## Tryouts and Team Placement

### OBJECTIVE:

To rate players and create teams of players of equal skill levels for the Spring travel program. The objective of the tryout is to rate all the players that are trying out for proper team placement. SSC will make every effort to place all players on a team.

Every effort will be made to offer a Division I or Division II Boys team and a Division I and Division II girls teams at each single year age group. In the event a Division I team is not fielded at a single year age level, a player at that age level will be allowed, with board approval, to tryout for a team one year above their age level, consistent with their gender (i.e. boys to tryout for boys teams, and girls to tryout for girls teams). In addition, with SSC board approval, girls will be eligible to tryout for boys teams and boys eligible to tryout for girls teams, at their age groups, consistent with SCSL and MYSA rules, only if the following options are not available to the player;

- \*There is a same-gender team fielded at their age group level that they can tryout for.
- \*There is a same-gender team fielded at an age group one year above the players current age group.
- \*There is a same-gender area club (MAPLE) team accessible (within 50 miles) to the player to tryout for.
- \*The Sandwich Soccer Club Board of Directors is willing to grant the player a waiver to tryout for another town team within a 50 mile radius of Sandwich, MA, that has a same gender team at the players age group, or one year above.

The Sandwich Soccer Club Board of Directors reserves the right to change, amend, or grant exceptions to this bylaw, at anytime, with a simple majority vote of a SSC board quorum.

### Age Group Directors

Prospective Age Group Directors (AGD's) must apply to the Board of Directors. Age Group Directors will be selected annually by the board for each boys and girls age group. Age Group Directors will abide by the try out process selected by SSC and will oversee tryouts as directed by the VP of Player and Coach Development. AGD's will utilize the try out results for player placement on teams. Age Group Directors will provide a list of candidates for coaching positions in the respective age groups to the SSC Board of Directors who will weigh the AGD recommendations along with any coach evaluation forms in the final determination of coaches selected.

### Tryout Committee

The board of directors will annually appoint a tryout committee who will oversee the tryout process, review results and have the final decision on any questions regarding format or player placement.

### Coaches and Assistant Coaches

The Board shall seasonally approve team coaches and assistant coaches.

### Abandonment

Any person abandoning their club elected or appointed position during the soccer year will not be eligible for any other future position within SSC. Exceptions require a Board majority vote.

### Unbecoming Conduct

Player, Coach or Parent behavior that is unbecoming or inappropriate shall be referred to the Board in writing for review and possible action. SSC will abide by the SCSL zero tolerance policy.



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## **Protests**

SSC will follow procedures for game protests as outlined in the annual SCSL by-laws in the Coaches SCSL handbook.

## **Other Grievances**

In the event a parent feels their child is not being treated fairly by the coach in the program, the following procedure is recommended:

1. Talk with the Coach and try to resolve the differences.
2. If not satisfied, contact in writing, the President who will follow up with the coach and report back to the parent in writing within one week. The President will also inform the full Board of the situation at the next Board meeting. If the President deems it necessary, they can convene the Board to resolve the situation.

## **Ejections**

Players and coaches shall abide by the constitution and by-laws of the SCSL league regarding ejections and or fracas. In addition the Board may decide to take further action depending on the situation.

## **Participation**

Players are expected to participate in practices and games. Parents are expected to participate by insuring that their children are on time and picked up for both practices and games and that they have their equipment with them. If a player cannot be present for a scheduled game or practice, the coach should be notified in advance.

Parents should support the coach, help maintain discipline, and promote good sportsmanship. If problems should arise that cannot be mutually resolved they shall be brought to and resolved by the Board.

## **Referee Support**

Coaches will provide support to the referees at all times. SCSL By-Laws dictate no communication with a referee during a game unless the referee initiates conversation. The exception is for safety related matters.

## **Expectations of Coaches**

1. Promote good sportsmanship.
2. Do not tolerate unsportsmanlike behavior by coaches, players or spectators. SCSL By-Laws dictate that coaches are responsible for controlling spectator behavior.
3. Promote good soccer through the development of ball and game skills.
4. Maintain rosters, attendance records and player ratings.
5. Provide a list of potential candidates for voting and non-voting members of the Board.
6. Be present for practices and games and schedule at least one practice per week.
7. Notify SCSL Director of any game reschedules.
8. Notify SCSL of game scores and infractions.
9. Develop potential coaching talent of others.
10. For ALL playing seasons, ensure that all players play a recommended one third of each game. Exceptions shall only be for injuries, sickness or discipline. Loss of playing time may also result from missed practices, games or poor player behavior at the coaches discretion.
11. Adhere to the coaches code of conduct as presented in the SCSL handbook.



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## **Expectations of Players**

1. Exhibit good sportsmanship.
2. Attend all practice and game sessions.
3. Respect Referee decisions.

## **Expectations of Parents**

1. Parents should work with coaches to make sure players are at practices and games on time.
2. During games parents are encouraged to cheer for the team but should not be coaching from the sidelines.
3. Parents will stand or sit on the opposite side of the field from the players during games. Parents will not sit or stand on either goal ends of the field.
4. Mutual respect must be shown for the other team, coaches and game officials. Abusive language or behavior will not be tolerated.

## **Revision Dates**

These bylaws were revised on July 2008