



FLORIDA ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

BYLAWS MANUAL

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Bylaw changes: This document has been revised to conform to the format of the United States Soccer Federation Bylaw and Policy Manual, United States Adult Soccer Association and Region III Adult Soccer Association. The words “Constitution and Rules” have been made to read only “Bylaws” as shown above.

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FLORIDA ADULT SOCCER ASSOCIATION

A. BYLAWS

100. NAME, PURPOSE AND AFFILIATION

101. Name

This body shall be known as the Florida Adult Soccer Association (FASA).

102. Purpose

To promote physical fitness and administer the game of soccer in all its United States Soccer Federation approved forms, be it outdoor or indoor, among men and women eighteen (18) years of age and over within the State of Florida and to manage all intra-state games leading to National Cups and to support training of coaches, referees and players. To embrace all other soccer friendly and enthusiastic organizations private or public who will help FASA reach its goals.

FASA is established as a not-for-profit educational entity.

103. Term

The term of FASA's existence is perpetual.

104. Location and Resident Agent

The Registered Office of FASA shall be 3504 Carrington Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32303 and the Treasurer shall be the Registered Agent. These provisions may be waived in case of a vacancy in this position and/or as determined by the Board of Directors to enhance communication, such as in the event of the existence of a paid Executive Administrator. The mailing address for FASA shall be PO Box 1157, Lake Wales, FL 33859.

105. Colors

The colors of FASA shall be green, orange, and white.

106. Affiliation

FASA shall be affiliated with and will comply with the authority of the United States Soccer Federation Inc., hereinafter referred to as the USSF, and the United States Adult Soccer Association Inc., hereinafter referred to as the USASA.

107. Robert's Rules of Order

Except where otherwise provided in these bylaws, all meetings of FASA shall be conducted in accordance with the latest published edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

108. Definitions

- a. ADMINISTRATOR: Means the paid administrator of FASA.
- b. AFFILIATE: Means the multi-sport or single sport organization that independently conducts soccer programs within the State of Florida.
- c. AMATEUR SPORTS ACT: Means the Ted Stevens and Amateur Sports Act. (Chapter 2205 of Title 36, United states Code)
- d. BOD: Means the Board of Directors established herein.

- e. CLUB: Means an organization of one or more soccer teams usually playing within a geographical area.
- f. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Means the executive committee of FASA as established herein: The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer.
- g. FEDERATION: Means the United States Soccer Federation, Inc. (USSF).
- h. FIFA: Means the Federation Internationale de Football Association to which FASA, USASA and USSF are affiliated to.
- i. FISCAL YEAR: Means the period beginning September 1 and ending on August 31 of the following calendar year.
- j. FOREIGN GAME: Means any game between a United States and a non-United States team (or 2 or more non-United States teams when the game is played in the USA) that is not an International game.
- k. GENERAL COUNCIL: Means the General Council established by bylaw 202 herein.
- l. INTERNATIONAL GAME: Means a game arranged between the teams, which are members of USSF and another FIFA national association or a team composed of players of more than one FIFA national association.
- m. LEAGUE: Means an organization that conducts competition among soccer teams.
- n. NATIONAL CUPS: Means those Cups provided for under USASA policy on National Cups competitions.
- o. REFEREE ASSIGNOR: Means a properly licensed person appointed by competent authority to assign referees to games in all forms under the jurisdiction of the FASA.
- p. SEASONAL YEAR: Means the period beginning September 1 and ending on August 31 of the following calendar year.
- q. SRA: Means the State Referee Administrator responsible for all referee activity.
- r. STATE ASSOCIATION: Means the administrative body within this state determined by the National Council to carry out USASA programs for amateur adult players.
- s. USASA: Means the United States Adult Soccer Association.
- t. YOUTH PLAYER: Means an individual who has not reached 19 years of age prior to the date of player registration.

B. ORGANIZATIONAL BYLAWS

200. MEMBERSHIP AND GENERAL COUNCIL

201. Board of Directors

The Association shall be administered by a Board of Directors selected without regard to race, religion, national origin, or gender and shall consist of:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Not more than five (5) Directors one of which shall be the State Referee Administrator appointed by the President and approved by the elected members of the Board of Directors.

202. General Council Membership and Voting Rights

The Association shall be governed by the General Council which shall consist of:

- a. The Board of Directors, each member having one vote.
- b. Member leagues in good standing, each having one vote except in the election of officers which shall be set forth in section 202.d.
- c. Hall of Fame Members, each member having one vote.
- d. Each affiliated league in good standing shall be entitled to be represented at the Annual General Meeting by one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate. Voting strength shall be as follows:

Less than 72 players	0 vote
72 to 100 players	1 vote
Each 100 additional registered players	1 vote
- e. No individual league or association at any time shall control more than twenty five percent (25%) of the voting strength of FASA.
- f. Proxy voting is not allowed.

203. General Membership Qualifications and Duties

- a. The membership of FASA shall be open to any soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials not subject to suspension under USSF Bylaws, and to any amateur soccer organization in its territory. Categories of membership are:
 1. Fully affiliated: When all of the requirements outlined herein are complied with. Members enjoy all of the privileges offered by FASA.
 2. Provisionally affiliated: When an organization has applied for membership and the requirements for full membership are in the process of being complied with.
 3. Associate: This special group is designed to encourage organizations which may or may not be actually playing our game but wish to support all or some of the goals of FASA and USASA. This category does not include insurance. Registration of players is not a requirement. Members do not have voting rights on any of the affairs of FASA. It is for soccer friendly person(s), organizations, business, civic groups, sponsors, city, county and state parks and recreation organizations. This category is formed to advance aspects of adult amateur soccer in Florida but not responsible for recruiting, training, fielding and funding of players.
- b. FASA will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, religion, age, gender, or national origin.
- c. FASA shall enforce policies of the USSF prohibiting sexual and physical abuse that meet certain minimum requirements established by USSF and Safe Sport.
- d. New Members
 1. Every club, team, or league in good standing with the USSF with headquarters within the State of Florida shall be eligible for membership in FASA. Teams from vessels touching at a point within FASA's territorial limits, all scholastic teams and teams of the United States Armed Forces shall be entitled to play against FASA member clubs upon permission being requested and granted.

2. Affiliated players, teams, clubs shall not be granted permission to participate in any game involving non-affiliated teams, clubs, leagues, and tournaments.
- e. **Loss of Membership**
A club, team or league loses its membership by:
1. Having been separated from organized soccer by the USSF or USASA.
 2. Having been expelled from FASA by the mandatory two-thirds (2/3) vote.
 3. A league failing to have at least four (4) teams with duly registered players during the current fiscal year.
 4. A league failing to have competition in the current seasonal year unless it has been granted a waiver by the Board of Directors, in which case two such waivers shall be granted to the same league consecutively. This waiver does not exempt them from 203.e.3.
- f. **Application for Membership**
1. Application for membership shall be submitted to the State Executive Administrator, who will immediately begin to investigate the impact of the proposed new affiliate on existing affiliated soccer in the area, to include the impact on available fields, referees, and currently registered players. Application for membership must be accompanied by the following:
 - a. One (1) copy of the applicant's Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations.
 - b. Payment of the appropriate fees, which shall be returned if the application is denied.
 - c. A roster of Officers with current addresses, telephone numbers, and email address where applicable.
 2. The Rules Committee shall receive a copy of the application for membership via electronic mail to include the bylaws and rules. The Rules Committee will review all documentation and shall submit the report of its findings and recommendations via electronic mail to the State Executive Administrator.
 3. The State Executive Administrator shall submit the report and recommendations via electronic mail to the Executive Board of FASA. The Executive Board may or may not grant provisional approval for membership. Full Affiliation approval is subject to final approval by the member leagues present and in good standing at the next regularly scheduled General Council Meeting.
- g. **Out of State Leagues, Clubs and Teams**
Leagues affiliated with FASA may admit Leagues, Clubs and Teams from outside the jurisdiction of FASA provided the following:
1. Such teams are members and in good standing with a USSF affiliated association; and
 2. They have the approval of the State Association to which the leagues, clubs or team(s) belong or reside.

- h. Membership Dues
 - 1. Affiliation fees must accompany the application for membership. Fees shall be set forth annually by the Board of Directors.
 - 2. Affiliated leagues and directly affiliated members shall pay annually to FASA all fees, as prescribed by the Board of Directors.
 - 3. Failure to comply with the payment of the prescribed fees and dues will result in the loss of voting rights and any other penalties set by FASA.

- i. Annual Report and Financial Statement

Member Leagues are required to ensure that all obligations to FASA have been met at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. League reports from the leagues shall be filed with FASA's office no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. All members of FASA shall, within thirty (30) days after their League's Annual General Meeting, file with the State Executive Administrator updated copies of any changes to its rules, regulations, bylaws and Board of Directors for the ensuing season via electronic mail. FASA reserves the right to request League's financial statements if warranted. Failure to comply with these rules, affiliated bodies shall be subject to appropriate sanctions by the Board of Directors.

- j. Failure to Attend Meetings

Any member League failing to have representation at any properly called meeting shall be subject to a \$200.00 (two hundred dollars) fine.

- k. Method of Payment to FASA

- 1. All payments submitted to this Association shall be made payable to the Florida Adult Soccer Association or to the "FASA".
- 2. A fine of \$50.00 shall be assessed for any checks which are returned from the bank due to insufficient funds and/or improper endorsement and/or any other reason which causes a bank fee's to FASA's account.

204. General Council Representatives

- a. All representatives to the General Council shall be elected in accordance with the rules and regulations of the affiliated league, club or other affiliated body, if not in conflict with FASA's rules.
- b. Alternates for representatives may attend the meetings of the General Council. Alternates shall not have a vote in the presence of the representative but shall have the right to speak. Representatives shall submit or state the names of alternates at the beginning of each meeting. The courtesy of the floor shall be requested from the chairman of the meeting before non-members are granted the privilege of speaking.

205. General Council - Eligibility to Vote

- a. Except as otherwise provided herein, only members in good standing shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the General Council. The number of votes for each member shall be as determined under Rule 212. All the members' votes may be exercised by the representative or representatives present even if not all of the member's representatives are present at the time of the vote.
- b. No representative shall be allowed to vote on behalf of more than one league.

206. **General Council Quorum**
The General Council shall determine its own quorum but, until otherwise provided, fifty-one percent (51%) of the eligible vote in accordance with Rule 202 shall form a quorum. Whenever during the transaction of business, it is factually stated to the President or the presiding officer, that a quorum is not present, the President or presiding officer shall declare the meeting at a close (adjourned).
207. **Delegation by the General Council**
The General Council may delegate any of its powers to committees, commissions or to any affiliated league. All decisions made by these bodies must be approved by the General Council before decisions take effect.
208. **Annual General Meeting of General Council**
a. There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the General Council held on a date and at a place each year to be fixed by the President.
b. In the event of an emergency, or under unusual circumstances, an Annual General Meeting may be postponed by majority electronic mail vote of the entire General Council, in which event authority shall be vested in the incumbent officers of FASA to continue in office until the Annual General Meeting shall be held.
209. **Proposals for Agenda of General Council Meeting**
Notice of any business to be submitted to any meeting by an affiliated member of FASA shall be given to the state Executive Administrator at least thirty (30) days in advance of such meeting. In urgent cases, the General Council shall have power to consider proposals given after the mentioned time if three-quarters (3/4) majority of the members present agree.
210. **Notice of General Council Meetings and Agenda**
The Executive Administrator shall give thirty (30) days' notice to each member of every meeting of the General Council to be followed by an agenda of the business.
211. **Record of General Council Meeting**
The Secretary or in his/her absence the Executive Administrator shall keep a record of the attendance of members and the business transacted at each meeting (minutes).
212. **General Council**
a. The business of FASA shall be transacted by the General Council which shall be composed of the Board of Directors, one (1) representative from each affiliated league, and Hall of Fame member(s) if present.
b. Meetings of this Council shall be at least twice per calendar year, one of which shall be the Annual General Meeting; the other shall be referred to as the Midyear General Council Meeting. Special General Council meetings may be called by the Secretary by order of the President or upon request by two-thirds (2/3) of the members of FASA. A full report of each meeting shall be rendered prior to the next General Council Meeting or AGM whichever is sooner.
c. The General Council shall have the power to enforce the laws of the game and rulings of the USSF. It shall have the power to settle disputes or protests or appeals from the decisions of affiliated subordinate organizations and its decision shall become final, subject to appeal to the USSF. The Board of Directors shall

have the power to fill any vacancy arising in the elected officers of the Board of Directors on the interim basis until the next meeting of the General Council, at which time an election may be held.

- d. The Board of Directors shall decide, after consideration of a report from the Treasurer on the actual number of delegates and alternates (appointed by the President) that shall travel to the meetings of the Regional or USSF Councils. This delegation shall represent FASA and shall have full power to deal with matters coming to its attention subject to the action of the USSF and may delegate subcommittees with full power. This delegation shall give a full report of their actions while at these meetings.
213. Order of Agenda for General Council Meetings
The agenda shall be set by the Secretary and approved by the President. It shall be published and disseminated prior to the meeting.
214. Order of Agenda for Annual General Meeting
The order of business at the Annual General Meeting shall be as follows:
- a. Roll Call
 - b. Proof of notice of meeting or waiver of notice
 - c. Approval of prior meeting Minutes
 - d. Communications
 - e. Reports of Officers
 - f. Reports of Leagues
 9. Reports of Committees
 - h. Unfinished Business
 - i. New Business
 - j. Amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and Regulations
 - k. Election of Officers
 - l. Good and Welfare
 - m. Adjournment
215. Emergency Meetings
In matters of urgent importance, the Board of Directors may submit proposals for action needing a vote by mail, telephone or email to the members of the General Council.
216. Allowable Expense Reimbursements for Travel and Meeting Attendance
- a. General Council Midyear Meeting
 1. One representative for each league in good standing receives reimbursement for mileage (the amount per mile to be determined by the Board of Directors) round trip, or a combination of airfare and local transportation whichever is the lowest, and one hotel room night at the FASA group rate for the meeting.
 2. Although all Hall of Fame Members are entitled to attend these meetings, financial allowance will be granted only if the HOF member's presence is required at the meeting as determined by the President.
 3. Board Members receive reimbursement for mileage (the amount per mile to be determined by the Board of Directors) round trip, or a combination of airfare and local transportation whichever is the lowest, hotel room night(s) at the FASA group rate for that meeting and daily per diem reimbursement of \$25.00 unless meals are provided at the meeting.

- b. Annual General Council Meeting
 - 1. One representative for each league in good standing receives reimbursement for mileage (the amount per mile to be determined by the Board of Directors) round trip, or a combination of airfare and local transportation whichever is the lowest and one hotel room night at the FASA group rate for that meeting.
 - 2. Hall of Fame members receive reimbursement for mileage (the same amount as determined for 1 above) round trip, or a combination of airfare and local transportation whichever is the lowest, one hotel room night at the FASA group rate for that meeting and one per diem reimbursement of \$25.00 unless meals are included in the meeting.
 - 3. Board Members receive reimbursement for mileage (the same amount as determined for 1 above) round trip, or a combination of airfare and local transportation whichever is the lowest, hotel room night(s) at the FASA group rate for that meeting and daily per diem reimbursement of \$25.00 unless meals are provided at the meeting.
- c. Other BOD Travel

Members of the BOD and/or other State Representatives may be required to travel to additional meetings, cups, hearings, etc. Reimbursement for this travel shall be as prescribed in bylaw 216.b.3 above. They will be entitled to \$25.00 per day per diem if the event is within the state or \$35.00 if it is out of state unless meals are provided at their event.
- d. Board of Directors Authority

The BOD has the authority to diminish and/or adjust the above and any other allowances, based on available funds. Adjustments, when necessary, will be made based on the treasurer's report.

300. OFFICERS

- 301. Elected Officers

The elected officers of FASA shall be known as the Executive Committee. They shall serve a term of two (2) years. These officers shall be:

 - a. The President: Elected on odd-numbered years.
 - b. The Vice President: Elected on even-numbered years.
 - c. The Treasurer: Elected on even-numbered years.
 - d. The Secretary: Elected on odd-numbered years.
- 302. Other Officers

The President may appoint up to six (6) Directors who would be approved by the Executive Committee. The Immediate Past President and the State Referee Administrator (SRA) must be 2 of these 6 Directors.
- 303. Election of Officers
 - a. The officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of FASA. They shall be voted for separately and shall be elected by a majority of all votes cast.
 - b. If after two (2) ballots no candidate has received a majority, there shall be a run-off election between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes.
- 304. Eligibility for Office
 - a. The officers shall be residents of the State of Florida.

- b. No officer of the General Council shall be qualified to serve as a salaried official employed by FASA until his or her resignation as an officer has been received and accepted.
- c. An elected officer of any league affiliated with FASA. must resign such position within 30 days of his or her or her election as President of FASA.
- d. To be eligible to run for an elective office, the candidate must have served satisfactorily as an elected FASA Officer, appointed FASA Director, or an official representative of a FASA member league for a period of at least two (2) years AND have attended at least three (3) of the last five (5) FASA meetings (AGM and Mid-Year meetings).

305. Vacancy in Office

In case of a vacancy occurring among the elected officers, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy until an election can be held by the General Council.

306. The Officers and their Duties

a. President

- 1. The President of FASA shall preside at all meetings except at the election of officers, which shall be presided over by a chairman appointed by the President, subject to approval of the General Council.
- 2. The President shall approve all bills of FASA and may countersign all checks.
- 3. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and shall appoint all Committee Chairmen and Directors not required to be elected.
- 4. The President shall have one (1) vote.

b. Vice President

- 1. The Vice President shall assist the President in the performance of his or her duties.
- 2. The Vice President shall succeed the President in his or her absence.
- 3. The Vice President shall have one (1) vote.

c. Secretary

- 1. The Secretary will defer the day-to-day business of FASA to the Executive Administrator but shall keep accurate records and shall have charge of all FASA's property except all things pertaining to finance.
- 2. The Secretary shall attend to all correspondence including notification of time, date and place of meetings as directed by the President.
- 3. The Secretary shall have one (1) vote.

d. Treasurer

- 1. The Treasurer shall keep detailed accounts of FASA in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in a suitable book or books, or by computer, and shall report on the financial status of FASA at all general meetings, or at the request of the President. Hard copies or electronic copies are acceptable for such reports.
- 2. The Treasurer shall be bonded and shall sign all checks, which may be countersigned by the President, or other elected officer as designated by the President as needed.

3. The Treasurer shall submit a full financial statement for the concluding fiscal year at the Annual General Meeting. This report may in the form of a hard copy or electronic copy.
4. The Treasurer shall be the chairman, or a permanent member of the Foundation Planning Committee.
5. The Treasurer shall have one (1) vote.

307. Past Presidents

- a. Past Presidents shall be entitled to all the privileges of FASA, including the right to make and second motions.
- b. Presidents who are removed from office shall not be accorded the privileges of an Immediate Past President.
- c. The Immediate past President shall have one (1) vote.

308. Directors

- a. The President may appoint up to six (6) Directors who would be approved by the Executive Committee, to advise and assist in the conduct of FASA business. The Immediate Past President and the State Referee Administrator (SRA) must be 2 of these 6 Directors.
- b. Each Director shall serve a term of one year.
- c. Each Director shall attend all regular meetings of the Board of Directors and General Counsel of FASA.
- d. Each Director shall have one (1) vote.

309. Hall of Fame Members

Hall of Fame members shall be entitled to all the privileges of FASA, including the following:

1. Life Membership
2. The right to make and second motions.
3. The right to vote on all voting matters.
4. The right to attend all activities sponsored by FASA or any of its affiliated bodies with the approval of the President.
5. Hall of Fame Members shall have one (1) vote.

310. Absences

- a. Any member of the Board of Directors missing three (3) successive meetings without excuse may have his or her office declared vacant at the discretion of the Board of Directors who may elect a successor.
- b. Any officer is subject to removal from office upon proper charges being pressed against that officer. Such removal must be accomplished by at least two-thirds (2/3) vote of all members of the Board of Directors.
- c. A hearing may be held at the request of the charged officer.

400. ADMINISTRATION

401. Seasonal and Fiscal Year

The seasonal and fiscal year of FASA each begin on September 1 of one calendar year and end on August 31 of the following calendar year.

402. Yearly Budget
The Treasurer shall prepare a proposed budget for the next fiscal year. The proposed budget shall be presented to the General Council for adoption at the FASA Annual General Meeting.
403. Board of Directors and Executive Committee
- a. Between meetings, the Board of Directors and the non-voting paid executive administrator shall administer the affairs of FASA.
 - b. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Board of Directors between Board of Directors meetings and in emergency situations.
 - c. The actions of the Executive Committee shall be subject to approval of the General Council which, if withheld, shall invalidate the actions of the Executive Committee.
 - d. Special meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee must be called within fifteen (15) days upon request of the President or upon request in writing from a majority of FASA's members to the Secretary of FASA.
404. Duties of Committees
- a. Appeals Committee
The Appeals Committee shall consider and act upon appeals of decisions made at a level lower than State. All avenues of appeal must be exhausted at the lower levels before the committee will consider hearing an appeal.
 - b. Arbitration Committee
 1. The Arbitration Committee shall consider and act upon all disputes between members of FASA when not appropriate to be handled at entry level such as league, tournament, cup or similar levels.
 2. It shall act on matters of discipline.
 3. The committee has the power to appoint satellite-hearing boards made up by local qualified, knowledgeable personnel. When convened, these boards shall have the power of the State Committee.
(Jacksonville/Orlando, Tampa/St. Petersburg, Panama City/Pensacola, Miami/West Palm Beach.)
 - c. Audit Committee
The Audit Committee shall be appointed at the close of each fiscal year and shall review the accounts of FASA including the State Referee funds and finances and report to the Annual General Meeting.
 - d. Coaches
The Coaches Committee is subject to the overall authority of the General Council and the Board of Directors. The Committee shall be responsible to development programs and instruct, examine, grade and administer coaching to constituents under its jurisdiction.
 - e. 23 and Under Development
The 23 and Under Development Committee shall administer the development and organization of a 23 and Under State League, teams and programs for this age group.
 - f. Credentials Committee
The Credentials Committee shall report on the eligibility of representatives at all General Council meetings. The Credentials Committee shall include representatives from the Rules, Registration and Finance Committees. The Chair of this Committee may be the Executive Administrator and in her absence the Secretary.

- g. Cups and Games Committee
 1. The Cups and Games Committee shall have charge of all matters affecting cup games.
 2. This Committee is also responsible for the administration of domestic cups and tournaments sponsored by other than USSF and Region.
 3. It shall provide applicants with the necessary forms, information and guidance to host tournaments. This information and guidance may be in the areas of legal administrative and financial concern.
 4. It shall recommend to FASA approval or disapproval of tournaments. It shall work closely with the International Games Committee in cases where foreign clubs are involved.

- h. Hall of Fame Committee

The Hall of Fame Committee shall be responsible for:

 1. Selection of eligible and qualified persons nominated by affiliated members for induction into the State of Florida Hall of Fame.
 2. Maintaining records on all FASA Hall of Fame members as well as those nominated for selection.
 3. Organization of the annual Hall of Fame/Friends of Soccer gathering.
 4. Selection of recipients for the "Friends of Soccer" award.
 5. Requesting an annual budget and staying within its limits. The budget will cover expenses for the annual gathering, travel, plaques and/or presentations.
 6. The Hall of Fame Committee shall do everything possible to hold the annual gathering conjunction with any regular meeting, to include the Annual General Meeting.

- i. International Games Committee

The International Games Committee shall have charge of all international games. Its Chairman shall serve FASA as liaison with all foreign associations and teams and the USSF International Games Committee.

The International Games Committee will be responsible for:

 1. Ensuring that any prospective international game(s) host, sponsor and/or promoter completes and submits to the Chairman an official FASA/USSF Application for International Games.
 2. Ensuring, insofar as is possible the legitimacy of any entity applying for permission to host, sponsor and/or promote an international game within the State of Florida.
 3. Obtaining approval for any international matches in accordance with current directives by USSF.
 4. Obtaining complimentary game tickets for all FASA officers, directors, Hall of Fame members and affiliated league representatives residing in the vicinity of the game(s) site(s).
 5. Providing proper accounting of gate receipts to USSF and insuring payment of appropriate fees to USSF in accordance with current directives by USSF.
 6. Obtaining complimentary game tickets to US National Team games played within the State of Florida for FASA Officers, Directors, Hall of Fame Members and Affiliated League Representatives residing in the vicinity of the game (s) site(s), whether or not the opponents are foreign teams.

- j. Membership Committee
The Membership Committee shall oversee all matters pertaining to recruitment and retention of leagues to include recommendations on action to be taken on new applicants for membership.
- k. Nominating Committee
The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for furnishing a slate of officers to the General Council thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- l. Referee Committee
The functions of the Referee Committee are described in bylaw 1401.
- m. Registration Committee
The Registration Committee shall administer the registration and transfer of players. Its chairman shall be known as the Registrar.
- n. Bylaws Committee
 - 1. The Bylaws Committee shall review and make recommendations to the General Council on all matters pertaining to all bylaws and such directives by affiliates.
 - 2. It shall ensure that all leagues applying for membership have an acceptable and viable set of governing bylaws.
- o. Women's Committee
The Women's Committee shall coordinate, promote and recommend policy on all matters pertaining to women's soccer.
- p. Youth Liaison Committee
The Youth Liaison Committee shall establish mutual areas of cooperation with the Florida Youth Soccer Association.
- q. Foundation Committee
The Foundation Committee shall:
 - 1. Create a granting foundation by developing a foundation entity called the Florida State Soccer Association Foundation.
 - 2. On a semi-annual basis, in concert with the Treasurer and the Audit Committee, report to the FASA Board of Directors for confirmation of the following:
 - a. Investment portfolio performance
 - b. Investment plan for the time horizon of 3 – 5 years
 - c. Report the risk factors of the investment portfolio in terms of fund ratings from financial sources.
 - d. A recommended risk model to be applied to the portfolio for future investments.
 - 3. On an annual basis, report to the FASA Board of Directors for confirmation of the following:
Investment return objective for the year in terms of percentage or monetary amount, to include an adjustment for inflation.
 - 4. The committee shall establish and publish the granting foundations:
 - a. Bylaws
 - b. Granting Policy
 - c. Not-for-profit Corporation
 - 5. Up to ten percent (10%) of the annual net value of the Foundation may be used for Grants to members of FASA
 - 6. The Foundation Planning Committee will provide Grant application, rules, policy and procedures to FASA membership.

7. The following focus has been established as a guide for the Foundation Planning Committee's funding decisions; develop players, referees, and coaches through programs, and field enhancements.
8. Grants will be distributed at the FASA AGM.
9. The Committee and Grant program shall dissolve if the foundation has no more funds.
10. The office of the Treasurer shall be a member of this committee and may serve as its chairman, in accordance with bylaw 306 d.

405. Expenses

- a. Elected officers, including the Immediate Past President and Directors, shall be entitled to legitimate expenses, as funds permit (see bylaw 216).
- b. Committee Chairmen shall be reimbursed by FASA for legitimate expenses approved by the President and funds permit.
- c. Hall of Fame Members shall be reimbursed for legitimate expenses, as funds permit, for participation at the Hall of Fame Ceremony and the Annual General Meeting. (see bylaw 216).
- d. Legitimate expenses will be explained on an Expense Report provided by FASA's Treasurer.

500. JURISDICTION OVER RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN NATIONAL SOCCER ASSOCIATIONS

501. International Matches

- a. International Match Defined
An international match recognized by FASA is a match arranged between FASA through the USSF and another National Association.
- b. Arrangement of International Matches
The General Council of FASA shall have power to seek national or international matches in conformity with the rules of the USSF.

502. Other Matches Involving Foreign National Soccer Associations

- a. USSF Jurisdiction
 1. Inter-league or Inter-club matches between leagues or clubs under the Jurisdiction of FASA and leagues or clubs of different nationality can only be played under the auspices of the USSF and the other National Association with which such leagues or clubs are affiliated. Each league or club must comply with the rules of its own national association.
 2. FASA shall inform the USSF of any matches known to have been arranged or played within its jurisdiction for which consent has not been given.
- b. Timely Application for USSF Permission Required
A league or club affiliated with FASA wishing to play an association, league or club of differing nationality under the auspices of the USSF must make application to play at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the intended match; provided, however, that the USSF International Games Committee does not specify a longer or shorter period for advance notice.

503. Teams receiving Funds to Attend National Cups

- a. A team shall be eligible to receive travel funds from FASA to attend Regional and/or National Cup Final tournaments if:

1. The team has played a season of at least 4 games in an FASA affiliated league during the current seasonal year.
 2. The team has been selected to represent the State at the Regional or National Cup Finals.
- b. Teams representing FASA at Regional or National Cup tournaments representing the State will divide the available funds as determined by the Board of Directors.
 - c. Funds will be given to the teams at the Regional or finals tournament in which they are participating if a FASA official is attending. If not, the funds will be mailed to the team upon their return to Florida.
504. Teams Representing FASA
- a. Teams Representing FASA in Regional & National Cup games are expected to conduct themselves in appropriate manner and respectful of all tournament rules. Any misconduct shall be dealt with as FASA deems proper.
- 600. HALL OF FAME (See also bylaw 404.h.)**
601. Historian
A historian shall be appointed by the President to collect and assemble memorabilia of FASA.
602. Passes to Hall of Fame Members
FASA shall issue passes to members of the Hall of Fame for games and/or other activities sponsored by FASA as available.
603. Hall of Fame Selection Committee
The Hall of Fame Committee shall be composed of not less than seven (7) members. These members shall be:
- a. Chairman.
 - b. At least two (2) previously inducted members of the Hall of Fame, which number may include the Chairman.
 - c. At least one of the members of the current Executive Board of FASA in addition to any of the above.
 - d. At least one representative from an FASA Affiliated League in good standing.
 - e. Selection must be by unanimous vote. Voting must be recorded by name and be made a part of the Hall of Fame records.
 - f. Only one member may be elected every other year beginning in 2012 and in even years thereafter.
604. Friends of Soccer
The Hall of Fame Committee shall be responsible to seek and select persons who have assisted in the accomplishment of FASA's goals. These may be journalists, parks and recreation personnel or any other such persons. Not more than three (3) persons shall be selected each year. The newly elected member will be honored along with the other Hall of Fame members at the annual Hall of Fame Banquet or Reception.

605. Criteria for Selection for Hall of Fame
- a. At least ten (10) years of high achievement and excellence in contributing to Florida Adult Soccer Association in one or more of the following categories:

1. Player	4. Administrator
2. Coach	5. Journalist
3. Referee	
 - b. Contributions of individuals must be properly documented and substantiated.
 - c. Documents may be in the form of letters, clippings and other papers from which a legitimate selection may be made, or from which proof of accomplishments can be determined and recommendations made.

606. Limit
There will be no limit as to the number of active Hall of Fame Members.

700. ENFORCEMENT AND APPEALS

701. Supreme Authority of Board of Directors
- a. The Board of Directors shall have the obligation to deal through its Appeals Committee with all differences and controversies, which may arise between one or more leagues or above, mentioned associations or other bodies, or any matter not covered in these rules.
 - b. The Board of Directors shall have the obligation to deal through its ~~arbitration~~ and Appeals Committee with violations of the rules of the game, the rules and regulations of FASA, or misconduct by any league, club, team, players, official, referee, member or spectator under its jurisdiction either in scheduled or exhibition games, in the event that such violation or misconduct is not dealt with by the proper organization or authorities in the proper manner.
 - c. Anything contained herein to the contrary notwithstanding, the Board of Directors shall have the power to review suspensions exceeding a term of ninety (90) days and fines in excess of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) imposed by an affiliated body and may modify or rescind such suspensions or fines. This provision shall not apply to bylaw 1104.
 - d. The Board of Directors may call upon any league, club, team, or player to produce any books, letters, or documents and other evidence they may require.
 - e. An appeal from a decision of an affiliated body brought before FASA must be accompanied by the sum of One hundred dollars (\$100.00), which shall be forfeited if the appeal is not upheld. The appeal must be brought within fourteen (14) days of the action, and the action shall be binding pending the result of the appeal. In the event that a special meeting is called to hear an appeal FASA may require the appealing body, should the appeal not be upheld, to pay part or all of the expenses thereof. In the event the appeal is upheld, the expenses shall be borne by the league or club appealed against. The appeal process begins at the level of the initial adjudicating body.
 - f. No appeals of decisions of the USSF shall be considered by the Appeals Board of FASA.
The line of authority for appeals or protests shall be:
 1. League
 2. FASA Appeals Committee
 3. FASA Board of Directors
 4. FASA General Council

5. USASA Appeals Committee
6. USSF Appeals Committee
7. USSF National Council

702. Delegation of Authority by Board of Directors

The Board of Directors may delegate any of its powers to committees or to any affiliated leagues or teams.

703. Suspensions

- a. No amateur player, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official shall be suspended from participation in, or declared ineligible for any amateur athletic competition without first being offered the opportunity to appeal any such suspension or declaration, such appeal first being made to the original ruling body. If, after a hearing in accordance with these Bylaws, an appeal is denied, further appeal may be made to the next level of authority, as outlined in bylaw 701.f, who, in turn, shall offer the right to a hearing before any suspension or declaration by that body shall be enforced.
- b. Suspension of a player, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, official or team shall be imposed only for stated reasons, for a definite period of time and in accordance with the ruling body's Bylaws.
- c. No player or official of any team shall be suspended for an offense committed by the management of his or her team, unless proof is submitted connecting such individual with the offense committed.
- d. Suspensions imposed by FASA, or any affiliated league or club, shall be recognized by all affiliated organizations, after proper notification.

704. Appeals

- a. Appeals against decisions made by affiliated leagues shall be entertained by the Appeals Committee only: after such decisions have been reconsidered or an application for reconsideration has been refused; in cases of interpretation of rules; decisions pertaining to matters plainly of a general character; where a divergence of opinion exists as to jurisdiction in a case.
- b. Appeals must be made in writing and sent along with the appeal fee to the Executive Administrator of FASA within fourteen (14) days of the date of official receipt of the decision being appeals. An appeal shall not be considered valid unless the complete appeal has been received and bylaw 700.e has been complied with.

705. Hearings – Procedures

In all hearings conducted under these Bylaws, the parties shall be accorded the following:

- a. notice of the specific charges or alleged violations, in writing, and possible consequences if the charges be upheld, including, but not limited to, costs and/or fees associated with an unsuccessful appeal;
- b. reasonable time, between receipt of the notice of charges and the hearing, within which to prepare a defense;
- c. the right to have the hearing conducted at a time and place practicable for the person charged to attend;
- d. a hearing before a disinterested body of factfinders;
- e. the right to be assisted in the presentation of one's case at the hearing;

- f. the right to call witnesses and present oral and written evidence and argument;
- g. the right to confront witnesses, including the right to be provided the identity of witnesses in advance of the hearing;
- h. the right to have a record made of the hearing;
- i. a written decision, with reasons for the decision, based solely on the evidence of record, issued in a timely fashion.

706. Hearings – Opportunity to Participate

a. Fair notice and an opportunity for a hearing shall be accorded to any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official before FASA, or any affiliated league may declare that individual ineligible to participate in any amateur athletic competition.

b. Neither the Federation (USSF) nor any Member of the Federation may:

- 1) deny or threaten to deny any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or other official the opportunity to compete in the Olympic Games, Pan American Games, World Championship competitions or such other “protected competition” as defined in the USOC Constitution; and
- 2) subsequent to that competition, censure or otherwise penalize any such individual who participates in any such competition.
- 3) Any individual identified in subsection a) of this section who alleges that he or she has been denied by the Federation (USSF) or a Member of the Federation a right established by subsection a) of this bylaw shall immediately inform the President of the Federation (USSF) and the Federation’s OSOC Athletes’ Advisory Council representative who shall cause an investigation to be made and steps to be taken to settle the controversy informally or through the Federation’s grievance procedures set forth in these bylaws, the individual may refer the matter to the Executive Director of the USOC for action, as appropriate, under Article IX of the USOC Constitution.

707. Grievances Related to Opportunities to Participate

Section 1. A grievance may be filed by any eligible athlete, coach, trainer, administrator or official regarding that individual’s opportunity to participate in, or attempt to qualify for selection to participate in, 1) any amateur competition, 2) any soccer event of the Pan American Games, the Olympic Games, World Championship competitions, or 3) any other “protected competitions”, as that term is defined in Article 1, section 2 (G), of the USOC Constitution. Any grievance must be made in writing and signed under oath by the person(s) presenting the grievance, and must state the full name(s) and addresses of the individual or entity against whom the grievance is made, and must include with specificity a complete statement of the acts which constitute the grievance, including the requested relief sought. The maker(s) must be prepared to substantiate the grievance at a hearing by personal testimony of a witness or witnesses with personal knowledge subject to cross-examination and by sworn statements, other witnesses and by other competent evidence. The accused shall have the right to be assisted in the presentation of his or her case at the hearing, including the assistance of legal counsel, if desired, the right to call witnesses and present oral and written evidence and argument, the right to confront and

cross-examine adverse witnesses, and the right to have a record made of the hearing.

Section 2. The grievance should be addressed to the President of the USSF and should be transmitted to the attention of the Secretary General at the Federation office by hand delivery, certified mail or facsimile as soon as practicable following the events which are the subject of the grievance.

Section 3. As soon as practicable after the receipt of the grievance, the Secretary General shall promptly communicate informally with the parties and the President of the Federation and the Federation's USOC Athletes' Advisory Council representative, and they shall make every effort to resolve the grievance to their and the parties' mutual satisfaction. If unsuccessful, the Secretary General shall, without prejudice to the right of the complainant to pursue remedies available under the Amateur Sports Act and the USOC Constitution, arrange for a prompt hearing of the grievance by a Hearing Committee. The Hearing Committee shall be appointed by the President of the USSF in the manner prescribed in section 3(b) of Bylaw 704 (USSF Bylaws).

Section 4. Any person, committee or association against whom a grievance has been filed is entitled to a hearing. The hearing shall be after advance written notice of (1) the specific charges or alleged violations, and (2) the time, place and opportunity to participate in person and by counsel or other representative given to the person or persons presenting the grievance, the accused and all other possibly affected parties. Notices of hearings must be accompanied by a copy of the written grievance and shall set forth the possible consequences if the charges are upheld.

Section 5. The Hearing Committee shall review the record of any grievance hearing and promptly issue its written findings and determination based on the evidence of record in accordance with Bylaw 701 (USSF Bylaws), which shall be final and binding upon the parties, except as otherwise provided in the Constitution and Bylaws of the USOC.

Section 6. The hearing shall take place no earlier than 20 days after receipt of notice by the person charged and not later than 60 days from such receipt so as to ensure that the person charged has sufficient time to prepare a defense. In emergency situations, these time periods may be shortened by the Hearing Committee in order to expedite a hearing as practical to resolve a matter relating to a scheduled competition.

708. Litigation Involving Florida Adult Soccer Association
Whenever a member or an affiliate of a member of FASA makes a ruling or renders a decision which is in violation of or conflicts with a rule of FASA and which results in litigation involving FASA as a defendant, that member or affiliate shall be responsible for the legal costs incurred by FASA in defending the lawsuit.
709. Responsibility of Members
a. Players, officials and spectators are only allowed to take part in or attend games on condition that they observe the rules, regulations and bylaws of FASA. Every

affiliated league or team is required to observe and enforce such rules, regulations and bylaws.

- b. Every league or team is responsible to the General Council of FASA for the conduct of its players, officials and spectators and is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent spectators from, threatening or assaulting officials and players before, during or after the conclusion of games.
- c. It shall be mandatory for any referee, team, player or Association official to report cases of misconduct in writing to the office of this Association.

800. AMENDMENTS

801. Amendments to Bylaws

Amendments to the Bylaws shall be made at the Annual General Meeting by a majority vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of all votes cast. Requests for amendments must contain the bylaw in question, including the specific paragraph in addition must include the rationale leading to the request. Such requests must be submitted to the Executive Administrator of FASA at least 45 days in advance of such meeting. The Executive Administrator of FASA shall forward proposed amendments to all leagues, affiliates, and the Rules Committee Chairman no less than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

802. Effective Date

Unless otherwise provided, any amendment to the Bylaws of FASA is effective immediately after the amendment is adopted.

NOTE - SECTION 900 IS NOT IN EFFECT

C. GAME PLAY AND GAME PARTICIPANTS

1000. PLAYING BYLAWS

1001. United States Soccer Federation Rules Govern

The rules or laws of the game as promulgated by FIFA and USSF shall come into force at the beginning and throughout the season next ensuing.

1002. Seasons Determined Locally

- a. Each affiliated league shall determine when its season shall start and end, subject to the approval of FASA.
- b. All player passes expire on August 31st regardless as to when the leagues register their players or when their season starts or ends.

1003. Indoor, Five-a-side, 7v7, Futsal or any other variety of soccer.

The Florida Adult Soccer Association shall have jurisdiction over Indoor, Five-a-side, 7v7, Futsal and any other variety of soccer games and other irregular tournaments.

1004. Women's Soccer

The Florida Adult Soccer Association shall assume jurisdiction over women's soccer in all its forms.

1100. PLAYERS – OTHER TYPES OF ORGANIZED SOCCER

1101. Player Status Definition – Professional, Adult Amateur, Youth. Under the rules of FASA, players are either amateur or professional as defined below.
- a. A professional player is a person who receives or has received remuneration for playing or when he or she signs a professional form of the USSF.
 - b. An adult amateur player is a person other than a professional player. An Amateur player may not receive and/or retain any remuneration for playing except for expenses actually incurred by the player directly related to the game or games.
 - c. FASA recognizes the International Olympic Committee's definition of an amateur player in regard to the selection of the United States Olympic Soccer Team.
 - d. A Youth player is an individual who has not reached 19 years of age prior to the date of player registration.

1102. Adult Amateur Soccer

The Florida Adult Soccer Association shall have jurisdiction over all adult amateur soccer on all its forms.

1103. Indoor, Small-Sided (5v5, 7v7, 8v8, etc.), Futsal, Beach/Sand or any other variety of Soccer.

FASA shall have jurisdiction over all of the above types of soccer and shall provide supervision as necessary.

1104. Misconduct Toward Game Officials

a. General.

Misconduct against referees may occur before, during and after the match, including travel to and from the match. Misconduct may occur also at later times when directly related to duties as a game official as a referee.

b. Terms and References as used in this section as follows:

1. "Referee" includes the following:

- (a) All currently registered USSF referees, assistant referees, 4th officials, reserve referees or others duly appointed to assist in officiating in a match.
- (b) Any non-licensed, non-registered person serving in an emergency under bylaw 1409.
- (c) Any club assistant referee.

2. "Hearing" means a meeting of at least three neutral members, one of which is designated or elected to serve as chairman.

3. "Referee Assault" is an intentional act of physical violence directed at or upon a referee.

Such assault includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting at or on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee's uniforms or personal property, i.e. car, equipment, etc.

4. "Referee Abuse" is a verbal statement or physical act, which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment.

(a) Such abuse includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: using foul or abusive language toward a referee: spewing any beverage on a referee's personal property; or verbally threatening a referee.

- (b) Verbal threats are remarks that carry the implied or direct threat of physical harm. Such remarks as "I'll get you after the game" or "You won't get out of here in one piece," shall be deemed to be referee abuse.
 - (c) Jurisdiction and Hearings.
- c. General
 - a. When an amateur or professional player, coach, manager, club official, or game official assaults or abuses a referee, the original jurisdiction to adjudicate the matter shall vest immediately in FASA.
 - b. When the allegation of assault is verified by FASA, the person is automatically suspended until the hearing on the assault.
 - c. FASA must hold a hearing within thirty (30) days, of the abuse or assault. If FASA does not adjudicate the matter within that period of time, original jurisdiction shall immediately vest in the National Appeals Committee to adjudicate the matter, to which the same provisions as to the term of suspension shall apply.
 - d. Failure to hold the initial hearing shall not rescind the automatic suspension.
 - e. In cases of report of referee abuse, a hearing is held only when requested by the alleged assailant or otherwise deemed appropriate by FASA.
- d. Events, Tournaments and Cups.
 - 1. In the event an assault on or abuse of a referee occurs in an event outside the alleged offender's home state. The referee shall immediately notify the event chairman and follow it by forwarding him/her a copy of the report.
 - 2. The event chairman shall have the right to immediately convene a hearing at the site of the event at which the alleged offender, the coach of the alleged offender when the offender is a player and the game official should be present. Information presented at this hearing shall promptly be relayed to the alleged offender's National State Association President by the event chairman, both orally and in writing; however, failure to provide written information shall not restrict FASA from taking action with regard to any referee abuse or assault.
 - 3. In cases involving Florida personnel, final jurisdiction shall vest with FASA. A hearing shall be held within thirty (30) days of the receipt of the initial report of the abuse or assault on a referee.
- e. Penalties and Suspensions.
 - 1. Assault: The player, coach, manager or official committing the referee assault is automatically suspended for at least one (1) year from the time of the assault, unless serious injuries are inflicted. Then the minimum suspension period will be at least five (5) years. FASA may not provide shorter periods of suspension but, if circumstances warrant, may provide a longer period of suspension.
 - 2. Referee Abuse: The minimum suspension period for referee abuse shall be at least three (3) scheduled matches within the rules of that competition. FASA may provide a longer period of suspension when circumstances warrant such as that for habitual offenders.
- f. Appeals.
 - 1. Assault: A player coach, manager, or official who is found to have committed the assault may appeal directly to the FASA Appeals Committee by following the provisions of bylaw 701 within (30) days from receipt of the decision of FASA.

2. Abuse: A player, coach, manager, or official who is found to have committed the abuse may appeal the decision by following the appellate procedures of bylaw 701 following the line of authority indicated therein.
- g. Procedure for Reporting Assault and Abuse.
 1. When a referee is deemed to be assaulted or abused, the referee will report the incident to the SRA by the most expeditious means and then follow it up with the proper report in writing within 48 hours as per procedures directed by the SRA.
 2. A copy of the report will be forwarded simultaneously to the President of FASA.
 3. The SRA will make a determination as to whether the report constitutes an assault or abuse.
 4. If the SRA determined that the incident in question is abuse, the SRA shall forward this information immediately to the appropriate club or league for action. A copy of such determination shall be forwarded to FASA's President. Failure by the league or club to take the necessary action may result in FASA overtaking jurisdiction to adjudicate the matter.
 5. If the SRA determined that the incident in question is deemed assault, the SRA shall forward this information, along with the recommended suspension, immediately to FASA for action. The person is automatically suspended until the hearing of the assault. If necessary, FASA will then hold a hearing within 30 days of the assault. FASA is the first link of action for appeals in cases of referee assault.
 6. FASA will communicate with the appropriate league throughout the case of Referee Assault.
 7. Failure by the referee to submit a timely, clear, concise report in accordance with existing policy may result in no action toward the alleged offender or action against the referee.

1105. Residence Registration - Competition Participation

- a. A team must register in the state in which it is domiciled.
- b. All teams wishing to register in another state and compete in a League in that state must receive permission from both states involved, i.e.
 1. the state association where they are domiciled
 2. the state association where they wish to play

NOTE: Written permission shall be issued annually or for a longer term as mutually agreed upon.
- c. Any properly registered team has the right to enter any competition sponsored by FASA provided it is eligible under the rules of the competition and is in good standing.
- d. Any team, League, or state association denied the right to participate in any competition under the jurisdiction of the USSF has the right of appeal through the prescribed procedure.

1200. PLAYER REGISTRATION

1201. Number of Players on a Team or Game Roster

- a. Maximum Number: No team shall be permitted to have more than thirty (30) registered playing members at any one time. The maximum players allowed on the game roster for a team shall not exceed eighteen (18).

- b. Minimum Number: No league may affiliate a club, or organization that does not operate a team in a league under its jurisdiction unless it is geographically impractical to do so. Such team shall consist of not less than eleven (11) registered players in actual competition.
- c. Affiliated Leagues may request approval for adjustments to the roster limits with the Executive Administrator.

1202. Registration of Professional Players

- a. Registration Required.
Every player shall be registered on a USSF professional player registration form. The fee for registration, release, transfer, or notice of loan of a professional player under this rule shall be determined by the USSF. A professional player is not a member of a club and may not play for a club or team until he or she had been registered with the USSF according to USSF rules.
- b. Teams Eligible to Register Professional Players
Any team which is a member of FASA or a member of a league affiliated with FASA may register a professional player, except, no professional player may be registered to compete on a team which is a member of a youth association affiliated to USSF.
- c. Registration Procedures
Professional Players shall be registered in accordance with the rules of USSF.
- d. Period of Registration
A professional player shall be registered for the period of the contract.
- e. Transfer and Releases
 - 1. A player registered on a USSF professional form may be transferred to another club or may be released by his or her club.
 - 2. A properly completed USSF transfer or release form together with the applicable fee shall be forwarded to the USSF within five (5) days after being signed by the club and after proper approval of the club's professional league or this Association.
 - 3. A transfer or release under this rule is not effective until it is acknowledged by the USSF.

1203. Professional Player Contracts

A club may enter into a contract with a Professional player for any length of time mutually agreeable between the player and the club. The player must be registered in accordance with the rules of the USSF. Upon the expiration of a contract between a club and a player, a professional player release form shall be executed by the club and the player and submitted to the USSF in accordance with its rules if requested by the player.

1204. Professional Player on Loan

A professional player currently under contract may be loaned to an adult amateur club. The appropriate USSF player loan forms and contract must be completed.

1205. Professional to Adult Amateur Reinstatement

- a. A professional player may be reinstated as an amateur in accordance with the rules of the USSF.

- b. A professional player who is currently registered as a professional player with any club can apply for reinstatement in accordance with the rules of the USSF.
- c. An application for reinstatement as an amateur must be made on the USSF reinstatement form and both, the completed form and the applicable fee must be filed with the Secretary General of USSF.
- d. The USSF registrar shall issue approval of the reinstatement to amateur status within fourteen (14) days after receipt of the request, appropriate fees and compliance with these rules. However, the player's reinstatement to amateur status is not effective until the day after 30 days have elapsed from the day that player competed in his/her last match with his/her club as a professional player.
- e. A professional player may be reinstated as an amateur player not more than one time in a two-year period.
- f. A USSF registered professional player not under contract for the previous 12-month period is automatically reinstated to adult amateur status. A professional player not currently under contract may be reinstated to amateur status as any time.
- g. An updated list of professional status players is published by USSF on a bi-weekly basis.
- h. Copies of all transactions dealing with reinstatement shall be sent to the FASA Executive Administrator.

1206. Registration of Adult Amateur Players

- a. All players must be registered each seasonal year using FASA's online registration system. No other passes or identification cards or documents are acceptable. Player passes may not be updated by using stickers of any kind and may not be altered in any way.
- b. Registrations are valid for one seasonal year which is established to be from September 1st of one calendar year to August 31st of the following calendar year. This means that all player registrations and their player pass' expire on 31st of August every year. There are no exceptions to this rule.
- c. Before a FASA player registration is complete, they must sign (electronic and/or hard copy) waiver. Signed hard copy waivers must be maintained by the league for five (5) years.
- d. Player registration fees for players registered each month must be received by FASA within fifteen (15) days after the end of the month in which the player was registered (i.e. Fees for players registered in September are due by October 15).
- e. A player registered may be released at any time by the team for which he is registered and shall be released by such team upon request of the player if the player is in good standing.

1207. Player Pass Identification Numbers and Game Use

- a. Each player registered will be issued a unique identification number printed on the player pass or photo game day roster. This number will be used for and by that player only.
- b. A player's pass or photo game day roster shall be handed to the referee prior to the commencement of any game, or at such time as the player comes into the game as a substitute in a game under the jurisdiction of FASA.

1208. Restrictions and Allowances
- a. A player who is residing out of the State of Florida for the purpose of attending school or is in the armed forces may consider him/her a resident of that state and register there.
 - b. The Executive Administrator of FASA shall notify the secretary of the interested adult amateur state association or professional league of any registration, transfer, release or notice of loan of a player under the above rule, within seven (7) days after the filing of the properly completed form and applicable fee by forwarding a copy of such form to the state's secretary.
 - c. Upon request, inspection of registration records shall be granted by FASA.
1209. Multiple Registrations
- a. Players may play for more than one team in seasonal year.
 - b. If a player plays for more than one team in a league, the league may issue separate passes for each team for which he or she plays. A photo game day roster may be used and will show the players unique registration to that team using the players ID number.
 - c. Any league suspension of a player shall be served only in that league.
 - d. Any FASA or higher suspension will apply to all leagues and teams for which the player is registered for the duration of the suspension.
1211. Youth Amateur Players (See Definitions elsewhere in this document)
- a. Youth Senior Relationship
A youth player will be permitted to play an unlimited number of adult amateur games without losing his/her youth eligibility. The youth player must obtain permission from his/her youth coach or other authorized team official. The youth coach or other authorized team official shall, in writing or by form, request eligibility clearance from the Florida Youth Soccer Association. When the above clearance and permissions have been granted, this Association has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play adult amateur games and will be responsible for establishing the procedure under which this will be implemented.
 - b. Youth Player Registration
 1. Youth players must register using the "Youth Playing in Senior (or Adult Amateur) Games" Form. Copies and passes are available of the FASA office.
 2. Youth players must register in the FASA player registration system and be assigned a FASA unique player ID.
 3. Once a player is 18, he/she may sign on the regular registration form. However, if a player is still playing youth soccer and registers using the regular adult amateur player registration form, he or she will lose eligibility for a period of twelve (12) months.
 4. The youth form must be signed by the player's parents, youth coach and the district commissioner before the form is turned to an adult amateur league.
 5. There is a fee for registering youth players with FASA. This fee includes USASA insurance for the player.
1212. Affiliated Leagues Powers and Responsibilities
- a. Leagues shall have full powers in the matter of registration or release of all adult amateur players within their respective jurisdiction in the manner and conditions outlined by these bylaws.

- b. The affiliates are responsible and accountable to FASA for revenues from player registration.

1300. FEES AND AFFILIATES FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1301. **New Members**
New leagues or clubs applying for membership to FASA must pay all membership dues and fees for all player registration passes prior to being voted on for full affiliation by the General Council.
- 1302. **All Members**
Each league, organization, or club affiliated to FASA shall pay to FASA the appropriate annual FASA fees which include the annual membership fee and player registrations.
- 1303. **Payment Schedule – General Debts**
All fees due to FASA must be paid prior to the commencement of the Annual General Meeting.
- 1304. **Payment Schedule – Player Registration**
 - a. All affiliated members shall pay a registration fee to FASA for each of its affiliated players. Player registration fees for players registered each month must be received by FASA within fifteen (15) days after the end of the month in which the player was registered (i.e. Fees for players registered in September are due by October 15). Failure to meet this deadline may result in a per player fine up to \$1.00 as determined by the Executive Board. Further delays may result in additional fines or other administrative action as indicated below.
- 1305. **Suspensions, Fines and Terminations**
 - a. An organization member failing to pay any fee due to FASA shall be provided notice of the delinquency by FASA. If those fees are not paid within 30 days after the date specified in the notice of delinquency, the delinquent organization member shall be declared not in good standing, may be fined and suspended from membership.
 - b. Not in good standing status or suspension means that insurance is rescinded, referees will not be provided, and other proper action deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.
 - c. If the delinquent fees are paid in full within 90 days after the date specified in the notice of delinquency, the delinquent organization member will be automatically reinstated. FASA will notify the organization in question as to the specific date in which the status of the organization changes.
 - d. A league must register players within 30 days of receiving a certificate of insurance or at the end of the 30-day period the certificate will be rescinded.

1400. REFEREES

- 1401. **FASA Referee Committee**
Subject to the overall authority of the General Council and the Board of Directors the FASA Referee Committee shall act in an advisory capacity to the State Referee

Administrator concerning the USSF Referee Development Program and report all activities to the FASA General Council at each meeting, or more often if necessary.

1402. State Referee Administrator
The State Referee Administrator shall be appointed jointly by FASA and FYSA. (A mutually accepted nominee will be selected by the National Referee Committee and the National Board of Directors when the FASA and FYSA cannot agree) The SRA shall work in cooperation with the FASA Referee Committee, and shall administer the USSF referees within FASA. The State Referee Administrator may be a member of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee of FASA but shall not be the President of FASA.
1403. Referee Registration Required
- a. All referees will be registered on a USSF Referee Registration form through FASA.
 - b. No person shall officiate as a referee or neutral referee assistant in any match under the sanction or jurisdiction (direct or indirect) of FASA who is not registered with FASA.
1404. Referee Registration Fee
The registration fee for referees shall be set by the USSF Referees Committee and approved by the National Board of Directors. After a portion of the registration fees are paid to the USSF, the remainder will be retained by the FL Soccer SRC Inc.
1405. Referee Registration Cards
All referee registration cards shall be issued by the USSF.
1406. Referee Uniform
The official uniform for referees shall be set forth by the USSF Referees Committee.
1407. Referee Authority
The referee shall have the power to decide as to the fitness of the ground in all matches.
1408. Restriction on Referee as Player
A referee, when registered as such, shall not be eligible as a player in any competition in which he is a game official.
1409. Unregistered Referee in Emergency
If, because of unforeseen circumstances a registered referee is unable to officiate, clubs or combinations may agree upon some other person to act in the emergency.
1410. Referee of the Year
- a. Each year, this association shall select a Referee of the Year (ROY), male or female.
 - b. Nominations may be made by anyone in FASA or FL Soccer SRC Inc.
 - c. They must be made on the format shown on the FL Soccer SRC Inc. website. No variations from that format will be accepted. The form must be sent to the

Area Referee Administrator who will check for eligibility. She or he will forward the nominations to the FL Soccer SRC Inc's office. The FL Soccer SRC Inc's office will send copies to the selecting committee, FASA and others as needed. The final selection will be made by the FASA president in coordination with the SRA.

- d. Criteria: Must have worked adult/amateur games during the period September 1 to August 31 of the preceding year. Referee performance must be in a commendable manner bringing credit to the FL Soccer SRC Inc. Other considerations: participation in FASA tournaments, helped and gave guidance to others, recognized for "off the field" activities such as involvement in civic actions, other reasons.
- e. The person selected as FASA's ROY shall be recommended to Region III for the Regional award.

1411. Referee Assignors

- a. Assignors are selected by the State Associations, clubs and leagues with the advisement of the State Referee Committee.
- b. It is mandatory for all assignors to adhere strictly to the Assignors Code of Ethics published by the United States Soccer Federation in the Referee Administrative Handbook. Violations to the code including the assignment of not currently registered referees or allowing other than the diagonal system of control to take place will be dealt with accordingly.
- c. Since neither the state associations nor the FL Soccer SRC Inc. have direct control over assignors, violations to the assignor program shall be reported and dealt with as follows.
- d. Any action which is deemed to be in violation of the assignor program shall be reported in writing indicating specifically the violation. The charges may be forwarded electronically or via postal mail to be received by the action party within 10 days of the alleged misconduct.
- e. Charges may be brought up by anyone.
- f. Charges brought against an assignor of local league games or tournament assignments, will be sent to the assignor's appointing authority. Copies must be sent to FASA's office, the Area Referee Administrator and the Area Coordinator of Assignors.
- g. Once the assignor appointing authority has received a charge against its assignor(s); it has 30 days to take appropriate action. This action must be reported to all recipients of the original charge who will review and ensure that proper action was taken.
- h. If it is felt that proper action was not taken by the first stage, the documents may be returned requesting further action to include a hearing.
- i. If a hearing is necessary; members of the panel should include one representative of the assignor's appointing authority, a representative of FASA, a representative of FL Soccer SRC Inc., the Area Coordinator of Assignors. No less than 3, no more than five.
- j. The conduct of the hearing and appeals shall be in accordance with existing FASA rules and bylaws.