

Granbury Soccer Association, Inc.
Playing Rules and Bylaws

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Granbury Soccer Association Playing Rules

The Affiliate Stepladder of Rules are:

F.I.F.A. Federation International de Football Association

U.S.S.F. United States Soccer Federation

U.S.Y.S.A. United States Youth Soccer Association

N.T.S.S.A North Texas State Soccer Association

G.S.A. Granbury Soccer Association

Herein, the governing bodies may be referred to in their abbreviated form, i.e. GSA (Granbury Soccer Association)

1 FIFA Rules Govern

The rules of the game as promulgated by FIFA shall come into force at the beginning of the season next ensuing except as provided hereafter by this association. (USSF)

2 Seasonal Year

- 2.1 The seasonal year shall begin on September 1st and end on August 31st of the following year. (NTSSA 3.0)
- 2.2 In order to accomplish season play, GSA may schedule games prior to August 31st, however those games shall be considered part of the fall playing season. (GSA)
- 2.3 GSA shall have two soccer season per soccer year; Fall (September through December) and Spring (February through June)

3 Definition of Recreational Team

- 3.1 It is the intent of GSA to insure that the recreational program is not abused by the formation of illegal recreational teams that may in fact be "select" teams. (GSA)
- 3.2 For under 6, 8, 10 age groups (NTSSA 4.7.6.1).

GSA permits teams to remain together from season to season, each returning player has the right to stay on the returning team, and GSA must ensure that all those rostered players have been contacted and given the opportunity to remain on that team. In the event there are not enough players in the player pool, coaches may actively seek players of the proper age group to be added to the player pool. (NTSSA)
- 3.3 GSA considers contact to be defined as mailing an announcement or registration form to the players address as listed in GSA records. The player will be considered contacted when the announcement or registration form is deposited or placed in the U.S. Mail. (GSA)
- 3.4 New Recreational teams and returning teams that need players are assigned (rostered) or formed to a team by a random draw from a player pool for each age group and if needed division within the age group. The random draw is conducted by the Recreational Team Formation Committee.

- 3.5** Players names shall not be identified to the coach until the player is placed on the team. Only the head coach may request their child to be rostered to the team that he/she is coaching.
- 3.6** If a person becomes the head coach of a new team formed by the member association in the current season, the coach may request their child be rostered to the new team he/she is coaching. In order for any person to request their child be transferred to a returning team they are coaching, they must have been the head coach of record of the team for the previous two outdoor playing seasons, or asked to be the head coach of the returning team by a majority vote of the member association's board of directors.
- 3.7** GSA uses only the above method for recreational team formation. Any other method of player assignment or team formation is considered non-recreational.
- 3.8** For Under 12, 14, 16, and 19 age groups (NTSSA 4.7.6.2)
- Players are assigned by the method described in paragraph 3.2 above when players are available in the player pool. If no players are available in the player pool, coaches of record may actively seek players of the proper age group within the member association to be added to the player pool as long as no methods are used to assess the ability of the player and:
- 3.8.1** The player is not presently registered on an existing team.
- 3.8.2** The player did not play for a returning team during the previous season.
- 3.9** Only the head coach may request their child to be rostered to the team that he/she is coaching. If a person becomes the head coach of a new team formed by the member association in the current season, the coach may request their child be rostered to the new team he/she is coaching. In order for any person to request their child be transferred to a returning team they are coaching, they must have been the head coach of record of the team for the previous two outdoor playing seasons, or asked to be the head coach of the returning team by a majority vote of the member association's board of directors.
- 3.10** GSA uses only the above method for recreational team formation. Any other method of player assignment or team formation is considered non-recreational. Any team not formed by the above manner shall be considered non-recreational for recreational league and tournament play.
- 3.11** A team not formed of players assigned as defined in the paragraphs above is considered a select/competitive team (NTSSA 4.7.6.3)
- 3.12** Established teams are defined as a minimum of six (6) returning players from the most previous soccer season. A player on an established team during the last season may continue to play on the same team for the following season providing age requirements permit (may be waived for players on established teams) and registration has not ended. (GSA)

4 Boundaries

- 4.1** The boundary of GSA is Hood county.

- 4.2 A player must register with the association within whose boundaries that he/she resides with his/her parent(s) or guardians(s). (USSF)
- 4.3 Players residing outside the GSA boundaries wishing to play on a GSA team must obtain a release from their home association to play on a GSA team if their home association offers play within the age group that concerns the player.

5 Definition of Youth Registrants

- 5.1 Youth registration for soccer players under these GSA rules shall include all those registrants defined as youth by USSF, being all male and female registrants under the age of nineteen years. (NTSSA 4.1.1)
- 5.2 An Amateur player may register on as many teams as he/she chooses as long as these teams do not play each other in any competition (NTSSA 3.8)
- 5.3 Age grouping for GSA play shall be: (NTSSA 4.1.2)

Over 30	Over 25 (GSA)
Under 19	Under 10
Under 16	Under 8
Under 14	Under 6
Under 12	

** Age four(4) is the minimum age to play soccer.
- 5.4 The Age of a player for the purpose of league play shall be the player's age on July 31st of the immediately preceding soccer year. The current soccer year begins on September 1 and ends August 31 of the following year. Exception: If allowed by the member association playing rules, players who are 4 years of age before January 1 of the current soccer year will be permitted to participate in the Under 6 age division in the spring season. (NTSSA 4.1.)
- 5.5 Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, or birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency, board of health records, passport, alien registration card issued by the United States Government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the Uniformed Services of the United States, or a certificate of an American Citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate Government agency. Hospital, school, baptismal or religious certificates will not be accepted. GSA should keep a copy of proof of age on all players. (NTSSA 4.1.3)

6 Player Registration

6.1 *Registered Players*

- 6.1.1 Only Players registered shall be permitted to play in competitions under the auspices of this association. A coach, Assistant Coach, or Administrator found to have knowingly allowed the use of an unregistered player(s) shall be suspended from all soccer activities for a minimum of one (1) year, and the team shall forfeit all games in which the unregistered player(s) participated. (NTSSA 3.1)

- 6.1.2 Player registration and/or sign up forms must come through the office of GSA Registrar. The registration forms will go to the Recreational Team Formation Committee for team assignment. (GSA)
- 6.1.3 No player may appear on a roster that has not been placed on the team by the Team Formation Committee. (GSA)
- 6.1.4 Youth players may only be registered with one team at any given time during the soccer year. The soccer year will coincide with the soccer year of the USSF and its respective divisions. (NTSSA 4.2.4)
- 6.1.5 Classification by age: A player's age group is decided by the player's age before the first day of August of the immediately preceding seasonal year. (GSA)
- 6.1.6 Except where prohibited by USSF rules, youth players may participate in older divisions but may not play in younger divisions than their age dictates except by approval of the NTSSA State Executive Committee. (NTSSA 3.9)
- 6.1.7 Failure to comply with this rule shall result in the offending team forfeiting all the games in which the older player participated. Also, the coach, assistant coach and/or manager of the offending team may be suspended for a period of not less than one(1) year. (NTSSA 3.9)

6.2 *Definition of Registered Player*

- 6.2.1 Player's name must appear on NTSSA approved roster form, properly signed by the GSA registrar. Any person forging the registrar signature will be suspended from soccer activities for a period of not less than a year by the Board of Directors. (GSA)
- 6.2.2 Must have furnished required proof of age. (NTSSA 4.1.3)
- 6.2.3 Paid appropriate fees. Fees must be paid prior to participation in any practice, scrimmage, or league game. (GSA)

6.3 *Special Considerations and Financial Hardships*

- 6.3.1 On a case by case basis, the Board of GSA will review application for financial and handicapped player assistance. (GSA)
- 6.3.2 Applications must be in writing by the parent(s)/Guardian(s). (GSA)
- 6.3.3 Absolute confidentiality and compassion shall be maintained. (GSA)
- 6.3.4 Provisions for handicapped players playing in lower age groups must be approved by the NTSSA Youth Commissioner as well as the Board of GSA. (GSA)
- 6.3.5 If a player was not rostered in the previous soccer season and then returns to play soccer, he/she with Board of Directors approval, and with

roster availability, may be placed on the team which he/she last played. An example would be a player plays in the fall but not in the spring, he/she may be placed on the team they last played on in the previous fall season.

6.4 Player Placement

6.4.1 Players are Placed on GSA teams based on the following:

6.4.1.1 Players Age and Gender. Females may request in writing to be placed on all female teams provided there is space available for placement. If no written preference is received, females will be placed on either coed or all female teams, by the Recreational Team Formation Committee. (GSA)

6.4.1.2 Siblings may request same team placement if within one(1) age group higher.

7 Team Registration and Formation

7.1 Registration Format

7.1.1 Registration dates shall be determined by the Registrar with approval from GSA Board. (GSA)

7.1.2 Player fees shall be received on or before the deadline date specified for each playing season unless specific arrangements have been made and confirmed. (GSA)

7.1.3 Players fees shall not be refundable unless the player leaves before the first game of the season. The parent/guardian must request the refund from the GSA office of the Registrar prior to the third game of the season. (GSA)

7.1.4 Registration requirements will include any documentation required by USYSA, NTSSA, and GSA.

7.1.5 Registration will end on the date as approved by the Board of Directors. The date should be closely followed by the player pool draw. Players may not register after registration ends unless approved by the Board of Directors. Returning players that have not registered when registration ends, give up their right to remain on their returning team. The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may re-assign the returning player to the their returning team or place the player in the player pool for team assignment. Players that register after the pool draw will be placed on teams that need additional players, by the Board of Directors. If space is not available, the registration form along with fees paid will be returned.

7.2 Player Pool

7.2.1 Experienced players moving up individually, left behind by a team moving up, and/or players not having a coach will go into the player pool. In the event that team vacancies cannot cover both new and

experienced players, the assignments of experienced players from the most recent soccer season will have priority. (GSA)

- 7.2.2** If necessary, established teams may be dissolved to increase the player pool. In this case, the team with the least number players returning will be dissolved and placed in the player pool. (GSA)
- 7.2.3** If requested by the parents, siblings may be assigned to the same team. Both siblings will be assigned to the first team that draws one of the siblings. In the case that the team does not have room for both players, they will return to the player pool.

7.2.3.1 Deleted

7.3 Team Age Classification

- 7.3.1** The age group of a team shall be classified by its oldest player at any given time. If the coach of an established team requests in writing to play in a higher age group, the team shall be classified as a higher age group team upon approval of the Board of Directors. The request shall be in writing and must be submitted prior to the end of registration. If the request is denied, the requesting team will remain as a lower age group team and participate in the lower age group's league. If the request is approved, the lower age group team will receive players from the player pool for the higher age group. (USSF, GSA modified)

7.4 Roster and Number of Players

- 7.4.1** No team shall be allowed more than eighteen (18) registered players at any given time. (USSF)
- 7.4.2** In addition to those limits imposed by USSF, GSA has set the following limits for teams in the Under 12, 14, 16, and 19 Age Groups. These limits may be increased on a case by case basis, as approved by the Board of Directors.

A maximum of sixteen (16) players. The number of players on the field during the game shall normally be eleven (11), one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. (GSA).

- 7.4.3** No team shall be allowed more than the limits as set forth by GSA for teams playing small-sided soccer unless approved by the Board of Directors. Those limits as set by NTSSA and GSA are:

- 7.4.3.1** Under 10 Age Group
A maximum of Eleven (11) players. The number of players on the field during the game shall normally be six (6) , one of whom shall be the goalkeeper. (GSA)
- 7.4.3.2** Under 8 Age Group
A maximum of eight (8) players for single field teams and twelve (12) players for dual field teams. The number of players on the field during the game shall normally be four (4). (GSA)
- 7.4.3.3** Under 6 Age Group

A maximum of six (6) players for single field teams and nine (9) players for dual field teams. The number of players on the field during the game shall normally be Three (3). (GSA)

7.4.4 A coach cannot refuse to accept an assigned player even if the player has not had previous playing experience. (GSA)

7.4.5 A coach may request additional players if his/her team drops below the minimum roster limits as set forth by GSA. (GSA)

7.5 Team Roster Freeze

Team rosters shall be frozen at noon of the third Friday following the first game of the season played in that age group. Modifications to the roster after this date will be done completely at the discretion of the Board of Directors. (GSA)

7.6 Improper Registration

7.6.1 Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game(s) in which that player takes part. (USSF)

7.6.2 Any coach, assistant coach or team manager who may be responsible for playing ineligible players or carrying "ghost" players on the roster shall be subject to suspension and/or other penalty as stipulated by the Board of Directors. When ghost players are discovered and single responsibility cannot be determined, the coach of record shall be deemed responsible. (GSA)

7.6.3 A "ghost" player is defined as any player being carried on a team roster, prior to the deadline for deleting players, but who has not actively participated in practice or games, for the purpose of keeping the Age Group Commissioner or other assigning entity from adding players from the player pool. (GSA)

7.6.4 All teams are subject to roster verifications and checks. Players practicing and/or playing shall be those on the official roster as filed by the Registrar/Age Group Commissioner to NTSSA. The registrar/Age Group Commissioners shall be responsible for maintaining team rosters. (GSA)

7.7 Processing Time Needed

A seventy-two (72) hour processing time is mandatory on all requests for changes and/or copies or rosters, individual forms, add/delete/transfer forms, and any other documents that might be needed for tournament or league play. All requests must be made through the Office of the GSA Registrar in writing. (GSA)

8 Releases and Transfers

8.1 Releases

NTSSA player release forms may be picked up through the GSA Registrar or NTSSA office by coaches, players, or parents. Player releases are subject to approval and must be completed as required by NTSSA. (GSA)

8.2 Transfers (NTSSA 4.6)

- 8.2.1** All players are limited to one transfer per soccer year.
- 8.2.2** A player may seek a transfer from the team currently registered. Once the player has been released, he/she will be placed in the player pool.
- 8.2.3** If a player changes from one team to another between the fall and spring season of any given year an NTSSA official Add/Delete/Transfer registration form will be forwarded to NTSSA. The form must be accompanied by the appropriate fees.
- 8.2.4** No more than three (3) players from any registered team may transfer to one single team. Even between spring and fall seasons.
- 8.2.5** A coach may also request to release a player by completing a "Request for Player Release" and must be completed as required by NTSSA. Acceptable reasons for release/transfers requested by the coach include but are not limited to: player willful evasion of practice and/or games, or serious misconduct. Any "Request for Player Release" of a recreational player must be reviewed by the Age Group Commissioner and acted upon by the GSA Board of Directors.(GSA)
- 8.2.6** A player transfer after participation in a league game, must be approved by the Board of Directors.
- 8.2.7** Players choosing to attend a competitive tryout, clinic or other soccer related activity shall abide by NTSSA rules.

8.3 Soccer Related Activities (NTSSA 3.10.1)

See NTSSA rules for description of soccer related activities.

8.4 Soccer Camps/Clinics (NTSSA 3.10.2)

See NTSSA rules concerning soccer camps/clinics.

8.5 Failure to Comply (NTSSA 3.10.3)

Failure to comply with the paragraphs above may result in the offending coach, assistant coach, manager/trainer, and/or team representative being suspended from soccer activities for a period of not less than one (1) year.

9 Recruiting

- 9.1** GSA has determined that "recruiting" as it applies to recreational soccer within our association, is: ...that action by any individual of one team who induces and/or entices, and/or causes to be induced and/or enticed, by word or action, a player of another team to seek release from the team to which said player is bound and attempt to join another team for any purpose. No coach, assistant

coach, trainer, or team representative may practice any soccer related activity with any NTSSA registered player that does not appear on his current NTSSA roster or has a release from their coach of record or without appropriate guest player release from their coach of record.

9.2 Recruiting Attempts

Recruiting or attempting to recruit registered players from any GSA recreational team by anyone to play on any other recreational team is strictly prohibited. It is the spirit of recreational soccer which must supersede.

9.3 Offenders

9.3.1 Violators will be dealt with by the A&D/NTSSA Director of GSA.

9.3.2 Any individual found to be in violation of rules within the GSA governing "recruiting" shall be firmly dealt with by the Appeals and Discipline Committee. Action may include suspension of any soccer related activities.

9.3.3 Repeat offenders will be dealt with by the Board of Directors based upon a report and recommendations of the A&D/NTSSA Director.

10 Tryouts (NTSSA 4.8)

GSA does not allow tryouts for recreational teams.

11 Unregistered/Non-Sanctioned Play

See NTSSA rules concerning unregistered/non-sanctioned play.

12 Players and Parents/Guardians Rights

12.1 Players rights and Parents/Guardians rights concerning coaches, assistant coaches, team managers or anyone who offers or who is delegated any team responsibility.

12.2 If at any time during the course of the existence of a team that a coach, assistant coach, team manager or any said responsible individual exhibits irresponsibility or that character which may be deemed detrimental to the development of a player, that individual may be required to surrender his/her position.

12.3 Such requested action shall be submitted in writing to the Age Group Commissioner. If such request is signed by 50% of team parents (each child's family counting as one signature), the Appeals and Discipline Committee shall hear the grievance.

12.4 The A&D/NTSSA Director and the Appeals and Discipline Committee shall rule.

12.5 Offenders may be subject to suspension from all GSA soccer related activities.

13 Code of Ethics/Conduct

13.1 Coaches Code of Ethics (NTSSA 11.1)

All coaches are to be familiar with and abide by the Coaches Code of Ethics set forth in the NTSSA rules.

13.2 Parents Code of Conduct (NTSSA 11.2)

All parents are to be familiar with and abide by the Parents Code of Conduct set forth in the NTSSA rules.

13.3 USYSA Player's Code

13.3.1 Play the game for the games' sake.

13.3.2 Be generous when you win.

13.3.3 Be grateful when you lose.

13.3.4 Be fair always no matter what the cost.

13.3.5 Obey the laws of the game.

13.3.6 Work for the good of your team.

13.3.7 Accept the decisions of the officials with good grace.

13.3.8 Believe in the honesty of your opponents.

13.3.9 Conduct yourself with honor and dignity.

14 NTSSA and GSA Rules of Competition (NTSSA 3.14)

See NTSSA section 3.14

15 Developmental Modified Soccer

15.1 The philosophy of modified soccer is to have fun and teach the younger child skills and sportsmanship in a manner that is consistent with the child's emotional, physical and mental development. Modified soccer should emphasize enjoyment over competition and offer maximum playing time for each child that allows the most opportunity for touches on the ball.

15.2 League standings will not be recorded for the purpose of awarding trophies in the Under 6 and Under 8 age divisions.

15.3 Players in the Under 6 and Under 8 age divisions will receive participation trophies.

15.4 All infractions shall be briefly explained by the referee to players and if necessary to coaches.

15.5 In the Under 5 age division, one coach will be allowed to assist players playing in the game by being on the field. The coach should limit themselves as to not interfere with the play of the ball. During play the coach must remain outside of the goal box.

- 15.6** All players, parents, coaches and spectators should shake hands after each game as good examples for youth to follow.
- 15.7** Coaches, non-playing players and parents/spectators should be located not less than 1 yard from the touch line and within 10 yards of the half-line along the touch line.
- 15.8** No person shall be allowed to run the length of the field except participants of the game. Spectators should confine themselves to the coaching area.
- 15.9** Coaching from the sidelines (by parents or coaches) should be held to a minimum during game time.
- 15.10** For modified playing rules see NTSSA sections as follows:
 - 15.10.1** Under 6 see NTSSA 3.15
 - 15.10.2** Under 8 see NTSSA 3.16
 - 15.10.3** Under 10 see NTSSA 3.17

16 League Standings

16.1 League Standing Determination

- 16.1.1** League standings will be recorded for GSA in the age divisions of Under 10, 12, 14, 16, and 19 for the purpose of awarding trophies. Those teams participating in leagues sponsored by associations or organizations other than GSA will receive trophies based on the sponsoring association's or organization's policy (i.e. placement).
- 16.1.2** Final scores will be recorded to determine division standings.
- 16.1.3** Correctly filled out game reports are to be turned in to the appropriate age group commissioner or the GSA mailbox at the GSA complex no later than seven days of game completion. Failure to do so may result in forfeiture of game points for any games not reported in the above manner, at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Game reports must be made on forms provided by GSA and filled out completely and correctly. Game reports not filled out correctly may be returned for corrections or forfeiture of points for the game, at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- 16.1.4** The standings will be determined by the NTSSA 10 point system. (GSA)
 - 16.1.4.1** win - 6 points
 - 16.1.4.2** loss - 0 points
 - 16.1.4.3** tie - 3 points
 - 16.1.4.4** In addition, teams will be awarded one (1) point for each goal scored to a maximum of three (3) points. A shut-out shall earn one (1) additional point. (GSA)
- 16.1.5** In case two or more teams are tied in points for trophy place at the completion of the regular season, the champion will be decided by a play-off game. If that game ends in a tie, the game will extend until one team scores (sudden death), or for a maximum of two (2) twenty (20)

minute halves. if at the end of the two overtime periods the score is still tied, there shall be a FIFA Shoot-out to determine the winner.

16.1.6 At the GSA Board meeting immediately following team formations, the Board will determine how many place trophies will be awarded in each division and notify the commissioners of the decision. The appropriate age group commissioner will notify their respective coaches.

16.1.7 Situations which do not conform to the above guidelines will be reviewed on an individual basis by the Commissioner Director. (GSA)

16.1.8 The Commissioner Director shall compile a weekly "Standings" tally of the teams in each division. This tally shall be posted at the GSA Soccer Complex and this information should be made available to each age group commissioner. (GSA)

16.2 *Divisional Make-up*

Divisions are set by the age group commissioner at the beginning of the season and cannot change once the schedule is made. (GSA)

16.3 *Tournament of Champions*

Total points will determine the representation of teams in an NTSSA champions tournament unless more than one division exists for that age group and each division plays different teams. (GSA)

16.4 *Referees*

16.4.1 Jurisdiction: The referee is in control of field and all activities thereon from the time of his/her arrival at the field until he/she has left the parking lot. REFEREE DECISIONS ARE FINAL. Any incidence of assault or violence toward a referee will not be tolerated and will be very harshly dealt with. Complaints concerning the conduct of referees are to be properly submitted in writing to GSA through the Age Group Commissioner. The Age Group Commissioner will turn those over to the Referee Director who will coordinate the investigation and disposal per NTSSA guidelines. (GSA)

16.4.2 Responsibility of the referee is to insure the safety of the players and to enforce the Laws of the Game as defined by FIFA, USSF, NTSSA, and GSA.

16.4.3 Referee are assigned to games on their qualifications and experience level as determined by the GSA Referee Committee. Coaches are reminded that a referee's qualifications cannot be determined by visual inspections. Referees are only permitted to cover games assigned by the Referee Assignor. Referees are entitled to rest breaks. These are frequently taken at the concession stand. Do not approach a referee and ask them to do a game they were not assigned to do.

16.4.4 Do not approach a referee to discuss game incidents or calls during the game. Open communication with the Referee at halftime and after the game is allowed within the guidelines of Coaches code of ethics. The

referee is still acting in their capacity as an official and may therefore issue cautions, etc., if an individual continues or attempts to discuss game related incidents or calls in an inappropriate manner. (GSA)

16.4.5 Deleted

17 Discipline

17.1 Appeals and Disciplinary Committee

The Appeals and Disciplinary Committee (A&D Committee) will meet for all disciplinary action warranted by a referee misconduct report or complaint. (GSA)

17.2 A&D Committee Procedures and Composition

This committee shall be chaired and coordinated by the Vice President. (GSA)

17.2.1 Every individual receiving a yellow card (caution) is entitled to attend the disciplinary hearing regarding the misconduct report. Attendance is not mandatory for a caution. (GSA)

17.2.2 The Vice President will notify all parties of the date and time of the hearing. (GSA)

17.2.3 Members of the Appeals and Discipline Committee

Make-up of this committee is specified in GSA Bylaw 8.1.

17.3 Points

For playing groups in which caution/ejection points are maintained, GSA will endorse the NTSSA point system as the minimum disciplinary guidelines.

17.4 Red Cards

17.4.1 GSA retains the right, at GSA's discretion, to hold A&D hearings on red cards given to GSA teams that participate in leagues sponsored by other organizations or associations. The GSA hearing is in addition to those hearings held by the sponsoring organization or associations. GSA may assess additional penalties above those imposed by the sponsoring organization or association. However, GSA recognizes the authority of the sponsoring organization or association and supports their findings.

17.4.2 After receiving a red card (ejection), player and coach must attend their disciplinary hearing.

17.4.3 If a coach is unable to attend, no meeting will be rescheduled for the team's convenience. Further penalties may be assessed. Notification of the hearing date and time on the red card (ejection) shall be forwarded to the coach of record by registered mail

17.5 Distribution

GSA will make these rules available to every youth player, coach, team manager, league administrator and referee upon request. It is intended that the player and/or coach will make known the contents of these rules to his or her players parents and spectators. For simplicity these rules reflect NTSSA or USSF rules as applicable and are often not duplicated into the GSA rules. Coaches, parents and players are expected to be familiar with the NTSSA and USSF rules in addition to GSA specific rules.

17.6 Authority (NTSSA 3.11.1)

17.6.1 All members and participants in youth soccer within the jurisdiction of GSA and NTSSA have requested to participate in our programs. Therefore, those participants have agreed to abide by the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of NTSSA and GSA, as well as those of USSF and its respective youth and senior divisions. The NTSSA Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws provide that it has jurisdiction over all member playing associations, players, coaches, team managers, administrators and referees who choose to affiliate.

17.6.2 GSA has been directed to form its own appeals and disciplinary committee and to hold hearings with the parties having the right to be present on every player/coach/assistant coach cautioned or ejected and on referee's reports of serious misconduct by spectators and/or parents as required by subsequent sections of NTSSA 3.11. This association is required to furnish the NTSSA State Office with a maintained up-to-date list of the A&D chairman and committee members and to include their addresses and phone numbers.

17.7 Misconduct (NTSSA 3.11)

Misconduct will be handled in accordance with NTSSA rules regarding such actions. GSA reserves the right to impose additional penalties beyond the minimums specified by NTSSA at the discretion of the A&D Committee.

17.8 Appellate Procedures

17.8.1 All those under the jurisdiction of GSA are reminded that they must exhaust all appellate procedures of this association on all matters covered by these rules before NTSSA can acquire jurisdiction to hear the appeal under its rules. (NTSSA 3.11.9-1)

17.8.2 GSA may set the rules of hearings and may restrict the number of witnesses, and the time allotted to each. It may also determine whether it wants to allow closed or open hearings. (NTSSA 3.11.9-2)

17.8.3 An appeal of decisions made by GSA A&D Committee will be made to the GSA Board of Directors in accordance with procedures established in this section.(NTSSA 3.11.9-6)

17.8.4 An appeal of decisions presented to GSA Board will be: (NTSSA 3.11.9-8)

17.8.4.1 In writing

17.8.4.2 Made to the President of GSA within five (5) days of receipt of written notice of the A&D committee decision(s).

- 17.8.4.3** Fees, as specified, will be in cash or certified check and will accompany the written notice of appeal.
- 17.8.4.4** Filing fees for appeals under no circumstance be waived, fees will be refunded to the appealing party only if the decision is overruled. Fees will be: (NTSSA 3.11.9-9)
 - 17.8.4.4.1** All players appeals \$50
 - 17.8.4.4.2** \$25 paid by player & \$25 paid by coach
 - 17.8.4.4.3** All coach and referee appeals \$100
 - 17.8.4.4.4** All team appeals \$100

17.9 Suspension

Players, coaches, and/or spectators may be suspended from the GSA Complex by the decision of the GSA A&D Committee

18 GSA Specific Rules

18.1 Items prohibited from the GSA complex

- 18.1.1** Alcoholic beverages and controlled substances are prohibited inside the soccer complex or on any soccer field, parking lot, or adjacent parking lot.
- 18.1.2** Glass containers (pop bottles, gator aid jars, etc.) are prohibited inside the soccer complex or at any other official soccer game on any field.
- 18.1.3** Littering the fields will not be tolerated. Each team is responsible for leaving their side of the field clean.
- 18.1.4** No dogs or other animals are allowed in the complex.
- 18.1.5** Park only in designated areas. No unauthorized vehicles will be allowed on the soccer complex.
- 18.1.6** Observe all signs.
- 18.1.7** Noise generating devices or voice amplification devices (i.e. cow bells, air horns, bull horns, etc..)

18.2 Field Usage

Only those teams which have permission to use the field may do so. Field usage for practice or scrimmages must be cleared through the appropriate age group Commissioner.

18.3 Field of Play

- 18.3.1** All home games will normally be played at the GSA Soccer Complex located on Cleveland Road, Brady Brown soccer complex, or at the Granbury City Park Fields.
- 18.3.2** The home team shall sit on the North or West side of the playing field. Whenever possible, teams shall occupy the benches on the opposite sides of the field.

18.4 Field Equipment

The association will provide for each League the following:

- Two goal nets
- One Referee
- Two Assistant Referees (U10,U12,U14,U16 and U19 only)

18.5 Player Uniforms

18.5.1 Uniforms shall conform to USSF rules. "Skin" games will not be permitted.

18.5.2 The goalkeeper shall have a different color jersey from their team.

18.5.3 Existing teams shall have priority on colors of uniforms.

18.5.4 If at any time two playing teams wear the same color jersey, the home team shall change the jersey for that game. If the home team fails to change jerseys within ten (10) minutes after the scheduled start of a game, the home team will forfeit the game.

18.6 Referees

18.6.1 All Referees in U-10, U-12, U-14, U-16, and U-19 age groups shall be USSF licensed referees and wear the official uniform and badge of that Association. Referees in U-6 and U-8 age groups need not be USSF licensed but shall be approved by the Referee Committee. (GSA)

18.6.2 In case a USSF licensed referee is not available, fails to appear, or is incapacitated during the game with no licensed official available, someone from an approved list prepared by the Referee Committee will be assigned with the agreement of both coaches. However, neither coaches nor managers can referee games of their own teams or games of teams playing in their own age group. (GSA)

18.6.3 Referees shall indicate to the players involved , all infractions which have been committed.

18.6.4 All complaints concerning referees other than referee assaults must be submitted in writing to the appropriate Age Group Commissioner not more than forty-eight (48) hours after the incident. All matters concerning assaults on Referees or Assistant Referees shall vest immediately in the NTSSA. (GSA)

18.7 Game Forfeiture

18.7.1 The Play of an ineligible player will constitute a forfeit.

18.7.1.1 The playing of anyone outside the age limits of the team shall result in forfeiture of all games and points from said games, in which said player has participated

- 18.7.1.2** The playing of anyone for whom the Registrar holds no contract as required in these rules shall result in the forfeiture of all games and points, in which said player participated. (GSA)
- 18.7.1.3** The playing of a suspended player in a game will result in the forfeiture of all games and points, in which the said player participated in, while under suspension. (GSA)
- 18.7.2** Insufficient number of players
- 18.7.2.1** The U-12, U-14, U-16, and U-19 Age Groups require a minimum of eight (8) eligible players to begin play no later than ten (10) minutes after the scheduled start of play. If sufficient players are ejected to fall below the minimum of eight (8) players on the field, the game will be declared a forfeit in favor of the other team.
- 18.7.2.2** The U-10 Age Group requires a minimum of five (5) eligible players to begin play no later than ten (10) minutes after the scheduled start of play. If sufficient players are ejected to fall below the minimum of seven players on the field, the game will be declared a forfeit in favor of the other team.
- 18.7.2.3** In an U-8 Age Group game where fewer than the normally specified number of players are present, the coaches should determine what modifications should be made to the number of players and length of halves. Every effort should be made to provide a playing opportunity to the players that are present.
- 18.7.2.4** In an U-6 Age Group game where fewer than the normally specified number of players are present, the coaches should determine what modifications should be made to the number of players and length of halves. Every effort should be made to provide a playing opportunity to the players that are present.
- 18.7.3** A team failing to start within ten (10) minutes after the referee has ordered the team take the field, shall forfeit the game.
- 18.7.4** Teams refusing to play or continue a game after being ordered to do so by the referee shall automatically be suspended pending a ruling of the A&D Committee.
- 18.7.5** A team failing to appear to any scheduled game with no prior notice and approval of the appropriate Age Group Commissioner shall forfeit.
- 18.7.6** A team who improperly postpones or reschedules a game will forfeit at the Age Group Commissioners discretion.
- 18.7.7** All forfeits shall be 3-0, for a total of ten (10) points for the non-forfeiting team. If both teams forfeit, 0 points will be awarded to each team. (GSA)

18.8 Foul Weather Procedure

- 18.8.1** The Referee Director has final authority to postpone a game because of weather conditions. His/her decision will be based on conditions of the playing field and general welfare of the players. The Facilities Director shall be consulted to determine playing field conditions. The Referee Director will notify the Age Group Commissioners of all games postponed due to foul weather.
- 18.8.2** Teams must report to the playing field ready to play unless coaches are previously notified by an Age Group Commissioner or Referee Director. Every attempt will be made to notify teams traveling to GSA as soon as possible when a game must be postponed. Coaches must not assume a game has been postponed unless they have been specifically advised by the Referee or GSA.
- 18.8.3** The penalty for failure to follow this rule (no show) is forfeiture of the game and the game will not be rescheduled.

18.9 Rescheduling and Postponing Games

- 18.9.1** The Age Group Commissioner is the point of contact to reschedule a game. Games cannot be postponed by a coach or coaches without a minimum of five days notice to the Age Group Commissioner. This is to ensure that the Referee Assignor can be sufficiently notified. The five day notice may be waived by approval of the Commissioner Director, Referee Assignor, and the President.
- 18.9.2** The team that requested to postpone shall be responsible for referee fees as required when sufficient prior notice could not be given to the referee scheduled to officiate the original game.
- 18.9.3** Postponed games must be rescheduled no later than 72 hours after the original game time. If a game date cannot be agreed upon within 72 hours, the team that requested the postponement shall forfeit. This rule does not apply if the team requesting the postponement waives their right to bargain the makeup date and allows the opposing team to pick the date and time.
- 18.9.4** Once the schedules are distributed, GSA games will be rescheduled at the Age Group Commissioner's discretion. Games may not be postponed if one team will gain an advantage by the postponement. Acceptable reasons to postpone a game include: (1)insufficient number of players due to a school function or (2) a tournament. School functions are defined as; any school sanctioned extracurricular activity in which a player participates such as a sports event, UIL competition etc. A three day weekend would not be considered a school sanctioned activity.

19 Coaches License

All coaches must have a North Texas State Soccer Association license. All new coaches have one (1) year to fulfill this requirement.

20 General Provisions

20.1 *Changes and Amendments of these Rules*

The Granbury Soccer Playing Rules may be amended, modified, or superseded at the GSA meetings. However, the playing rule amendments, modifications, or superseding playing rules will not take effect until the beginning of the immediately following Soccer Season, unless the change is distributed to each coach, in which case the change will take effect immediately. Amendments, modifications, or superseding documents must be in written form, submitted to the Secretary of GSA 14 days prior to the vote. The secretary will then post at the soccer complex the amendments, modifications, or superseding document, 7 days prior to the vote.

20.2 *Distribution of Rules*

Each Team will initially be provided with a copy of these rules. After initial distribution, additional copies of these rules will be available through GSA and may be purchased at GSA's cost. Changes in the rules contained herein will be distributed prior to the start of each season.

20.3 *Initial Adoption*

These rules shall initially take effect upon adoption at the February 9, 1998 regular Meeting of GSA.

BYLAWS OF GRANBURY SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC.

These Bylaws (referred to as the "Bylaws") govern the affairs of the GRANBURY SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC., a nonprofit corporation (referred to as the "Corporation") organized under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act (referred to as the "ACT").

ARTICLE 1 OFFICES

1.1 Principal Office

The principal office of Granbury Soccer Association, Inc., (GSA) in the State of Texas shall be located in the City of Granbury, County of Hood.

1.2 Registered Office and Registered Agent

GSA shall have and continuously maintain in the State of Texas a registered office, and a registered agent whose office is identical with such registered office, as required by the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act. The registered office and the address of the registered office may be changed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 2 PURPOSES

2.1 Statement of Purpose of GSA

The purpose of this Association is to promote soccer in Granbury and surrounding areas; to elevate the standards of integrity, honor, loyalty, courage and courtesy among youth of our community and all other participating in the game of soccer; and to cultivate the spirit of brotherhood and good fellowship.

2.2 GSA Organization

GSA is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes in accordance with Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code 1954, as amended (herein after referred to as the "Code").

2.3 Powers of GSA

Solely for the above stated purposes, GSA is empowered to exercise all rights and powers conferred by the laws of the State of Texas upon non-profit corporations, including, but without limitations thereon, the right and power to receive gifts, devises, bequests and contributions in any form, and use, apply, invest and reinvest the principal and/or income therefrom for the above purposes. It is intended that the GSA shall have the status of a corporation which is exempt from federal income taxation. These Articles shall be construed accordingly, and all powers and activities of GSA shall be limited accordingly. GSA shall not carry on propaganda or otherwise attempt to influence legislation to such extent as would result in loss of its exemption from federal income tax under Section 501(c)3 of the Code, nor shall any activity of GSA consist of participation in or intervening in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office (including the publishing or distributing of statements).

ARTICLE 3 MEMBERS (Class of Members)

3.1 The executive members of GSA shall be the current members of the Board of Directors of GSA.

3.2 Each executive member shall have one vote at the semi annual meeting to be held at the first regularly scheduled December and June meetings.

3.3 Each executive member shall have one vote at regular, special, and emergency meetings.

3.4 General Members shall be coaches of amateur teams, coaches of recreational teams, and parents or legal guardians as listed on a registering Recreational Player's USYSA form (or alternate form) that is registering with Granbury Soccer Association Inc and rostered to a recreational Granbury Soccer Association team. Membership shall be valid for the soccer season for which player is registering.

3.5 Competitive Coaches, Competitive Team Managers, and Parent or Legal guardians as listed on a registering Competitive Players NTSSA competitive Player Registration Form (or alternate form) that is registering with Granbury Soccer Association, Inc, and rostered to a competitive team playing through Granbury Soccer Association will be General Members.

3.6 General Members present at regular and semi-annual meetings shall have one vote on items defined by these bylaws that are to be voted on by General Members.

ARTICLE 4 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.1 General Powers

The affairs of GSA shall be managed and voted upon by its Board of Directors.

4.2 Number, Tenure, Qualifications and Elections

The number of Directors shall be nine (9). A Director must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age and may be related to one other Director serving a concurrent term through a close family relationship (i.e. a spouse, sibling or parent/child). If a Director is related to another Director, only one director shall vote during procedures which call for a decision of the Board of Directors. The President may not be related to any other Director serving a concurrent term through a close family relationship as the President may be called upon to cast a tie breaking vote. All members of the Board of Directors shall be elected to serve for a term of Two (2) year by a simple majority of executive and general members. The date or dates and time of the elections shall be set by the Board of Directors. The dates and times of the elections must be publicly displayed at the regularly scheduled playing fields at least 15 days prior to the election date. All members wishing to vote must be present to place a ballot, no proxy ballots are allowed. The President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Coaching Director shall be elected on or before the December Semi Annual Meeting in years ending with an odd number, the 2 year term of office being January 1 of the subsequent year. The Vice President, Registrar, Facilities Director, Referee Director, and Commissioner Director shall be elected on or before the December Semi Annual in years ending with an even number, the 2 year term of office being January 1 of the subsequent year

4.3 Regular Meetings

The Board of Directors may provide by resolution for the time and place for the holding of regular meetings of the association. These meetings will be held each month at a regular time and place. The location, date and time of the meetings will be publicly displayed at the regularly scheduled playing fields. The purpose of the regular meetings is for all the Board of Directors to inform general members on items of interest relating to GSA. The board of directors will also provide regular reports, as necessary, to the general membership at the regular meetings.

4.4 Semi Annual General Meeting

A semi annual meeting of GSA shall be held on the first regularly scheduled meeting of June and December in each year. In addition to the purpose stated in 4.3 for Regular Meetings, the purpose of the semi annual meeting shall be to vote on proposed by-law amendments. Written notice of the meeting shall be publicly displayed at the regularly scheduled playing fields ten (10) days in advance of meeting.

4.5 Special Meetings

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by any four (4) Directors. The person or persons authorized to call a special meeting of the Board may fix the time and place for holding any such meeting called.

4.6 Notice

Notice of any change in regularly scheduled meetings or of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least ten (10) days before the scheduled meeting date by written notice publicly displayed at the regularly scheduled playing fields, and in addition, delivered personally or sent by mail to each Director's address as shown by the records of GSA. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail so addressed with postage thereon prepaid. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a Director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting except where a Director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. Neither the business to be transacted at, nor the purpose of any regular or special meeting of the Board need be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by law or by these bylaws.

4.7 Quorum

One-third of the board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board. If less than a majority of the Directors are present at said meeting, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting.

Once a quorum is established at a meeting, all actions taking place at that meeting shall be legal regardless of the number present at the time of a vote, provided the meeting had not been previously legally adjourned.

4.8 Manner of Acting

The act of a majority of the directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these bylaws.

4.9 GSA Policies

The Board of Directors will adopt and maintain the necessary policy statements that are needed to govern the regular business of the association. No policy statement may be used to override any part of the adopted playing rules and bylaws of GSA. Changes to, or adoption of a policy statement may be made at any meeting of the board, called in accordance with these bylaws, by a majority of the directors present at that meeting.

4.10 Vacancies

Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors shall be filled for the remainder of the un-expired term of the vacating Director by appointment by a majority of the remaining Directors no later than sixty (60) days after the vacancy occurs.

4.11 Compensation

Directors as such shall not receive any stated salaries for their services as Directors.

4.12 Informal Action by Directors

Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of Directors, or any action which may be taken at a meeting of Directors, may be taken without a meeting if a consent in writing setting forth the action so taken shall be signed by all the Directors.

4.13 Emergency Meetings

The Directors may meet with less than the required amount of Notice if the President and at least four other Board members believe that an emergency exists which necessitates such a meeting. Any action taken or resolution passed at such a meeting must be ratified at a duly called Regular or Special meeting within thirty (30) days of such emergency meeting or the said acts and resolutions shall be void ab initio.

ARTICLE 5 ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

5.1 Nominating Committee

Anyone may nominate a person to be placed on the ballot for an expiring position by announcing that person's name during a regularly scheduled October regular meeting. The Person or Persons nominated must be an Executive or General member of GSA, in good standing with GSA and NTSSA. The person nominated must provide verbal or written acceptance of the nomination prior to the closing of the floor for nominations for the position being nominated. If verbal or written acceptance is not obtained, the person's name nominated will be removed from the list of nominated persons. After the floor is closed no additional names may be added to the list of nominated persons, and no write in names are allowed on the ballot at the election.

5.2 Removal

A Board member not attending three (3) consecutive meetings, or three (3) of any five (5) consecutive meetings, including regular meetings, will have his office declared vacant unless such absences are excused by the Executive Committee. Such removal does not require a Notice of Meeting to all members of the Board.

Any Director may be removed at any time, with or without cause, upon the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board. With the exception of removal due to non-attendance, no Director shall be removed unless notice of such action has been first given in a Notice of Meeting to all members of the Board. Any vacancy created by such removal shall be filled as set forth in Section 4.10.

ARTICLE 6 OFFICERS' DUTIES

6.1 President

The President, as chief officer, is charged with the overall administrative and executive functions of the Association. He/she shall appoint such committees as he/she deems necessary to carry out such functions with the Board of Directors approval. He/she shall cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie at Board of Directors meetings. He/she shall arrange for an annual audit of the financial records of the Association. He/She will be responsible for the daily activities of the Office Manager.

6.2 Vice-President

Assistant to the President. The Vice-President shall succeed to the powers of the President in his/her absence.. He/She will be responsible for the formation and direction of the Appeals and Discipline / Coaches Ethics Committee and other committees as assigned by the Board of Directors. He/She will represent the GSA at all NTSSA meetings and shall be liaison between Granbury Soccer Association and NTSSA.,

6.3 Coaching Director

Assistant to the President. The Coaching Director in the absence of the President and Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President. He/She will be responsible for the recruitment of coaches each season and presenting said coaches to the board for approval. He/She will be responsible for formation and direction of the Coaching Development Committee and other committees as assigned by the Board of Directors. If the association has hired a Coaching Instructor or individual Coaches they shall report to the Coaching Director.

6.4 Referee Director

Assistant to the President. The Referee Director in the absence of the President, Vice-President and Coaching Director shall assume the duties of the President. He/She will be responsible for the referee program and scheduling of games and fields. He/She will be responsible for the formation and direction of the Referee Committee and other committees as assigned by the Board of Directors.

6.5 Facilities Director

He/She will be responsible for formation and direction of the Property Maintenance Committee, and other committees as assigned by the Board of Directors. He/She will ensure that all playing and practice fields for both league and tournament play are ready for use including goals, nets and lines as appropriate. Should the association choose to hire on or more individuals or companies to provide these services, said individuals will report to the Facilities Director

6.6 Secretary

The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings, attend to all correspondence, and keep records of the GSA. He/She will coordinate all publicity and publicity correspondence including Internet sites. Should the association choose to hire a webmaster that person will report to the Secretary. He/She will be responsible for Formation and Direction of committees as assigned by the Board of Directors.

6.7 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall collect all money of the Association and submit a statement of receipts and expenditures and complete statement of assets and liabilities at the end of each soccer year. The Treasurer will clearly set forth the sources of receipts and purposes of expenditures, including such items as loans, or lease details and the extent to which any receipts or income is derived from nonmembers through ticket sales, facilities furnished, or any income producing activities. He/she shall pay all bills properly passed upon and approved by the Board of Directors. All checks on the Association bank account must be signed by at least one Board Member. He/she shall submit a verbal report of finances at all meetings and a written report at the semi-annual meetings. No money shall be withdrawn from the bank account unless it was previously voted by the Board of Directors. He/She will be responsible for Formation and Direction of committees as assigned by the Board of Directors.

6.8 Registrar

The Registrar shall be responsible for the registration of Players, Coaches, and General Members of GSA. He/she shall also keep a complete list of each team, team member, GSA members.

6.9 Commissioner Director

He/she shall recommend appointment of Age Group Commissioners to the board of Directors as needed. He/She shall be responsible for the scheduling of clinics and camps for players. He/She will be responsible for all GSA playing leagues and liaison for GSA to all leagues outside GSA that teams registered with GSA play in. The Commissioner Director is responsible for procuring

the place and participation awards He/She will represent the concerns of the any amateur divisions that may play through the youth association to the board.

ARTICLE 7 COMMITTEES

7.1 Committees

The Board of Directors may designate and appoint one or more committees, each of which shall be under the direction of one or more Directors. Each committee formed will have a charter document approved by the Board of directors which will detail the committee responsibilities and members term of office. No such committee shall have the authority of the Board of Directors in reference to Amending, altering, or repealing the bylaws; electing, appointing, or removing any member of any such committee or any Director; amending the Articles of Incorporation; adopting a plan of merger or adopting a plan of consolidation with another corporation; authorizing the sale, lease, exchange, or mortgage of any or substantially all of the property and assets of GSA. The designation and appointment of any such committee and the delegation thereto of authority shall not operate to relieve the Board of Directors, or any individual Director, of any responsibility imposed on it or him by law.

ARTICLE 8 STANDING COMMITTEES

The following standing committees shall be approved by the Board of Directors and shall serve for a one-year term. Additional responsibilities may be assigned to these committees in the committee charter for each committee.

8.1 Appeals and Disciplinary / Coaches Ethics Committee

It shall be composed of the Vice President as chairman, and 4 at large general members in good standing of the association. The chairman will make recommendations for the four (4) at large positions. The Chairman shall call all meetings of the Committee and shall cast his vote last. Three members of this committee shall constitute a quorum.

This committee shall here any protests, appeals, and misconduct reports and any other hearing required or permitted under NTSSA Rule 11. The Committee decision shall be final and may be appealed to the GSA Board of Directors with further appeals to NTSSA. The Committee shall notify in writing the Age Group Commissioner and the player or coach of any decision.

This committee shall hear any complaint made against a coach under the Ethics Rules of NTSSA and/or GSA. The hearings held by this committee may be opened or closed at the discretion of the Chairman. Any decisions made by this committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors.

8.2 DELETED

8.3 Referee Committee

The Referee Director will be the Referee Committee Chairman. The chairman will select and present to the board of directors for approval the members of the committee. Committee members must be current registered USSF referees. One or more members of the committee must be a licensed USSF Referee Assignor who will be responsible for assigning all GSA soccer games. NTSSA requires the assignment of the referees be done by a licensed Referee Assignor. The Committee shall be responsible for arranging for the training of new referees, overseeing referee and linesman assignment and to periodically evaluate the referees and linesmen in the performance of their duties.

8.4 Property Maintenance Committee

The Facilities Director will be the Chairman of this committee. The chairman will select and present to the board of directors for approval the members of the committee. The Committee shall be responsible for ensuring the upkeep of all properties and equipment belonging to or under the control of GSA. This includes equipment on loan to or leased by GSA. The Committee shall select and recommend new equipment or field improvements. The purchase and/or improvements must first obtain board approval. The Committee is not necessarily responsible for the maintenance of the facilities and equipment, but overseeing these activities. A person or company may be contracted with to perform the maintenance duties required, with approval of the board. The Committee shall ensure nets and fields are in playing order including any non GSA controlled playing fields upon which GSA league games are played.

8.5 Coaching Development Committee

The Coaching Director will serve as Chairman of this committee. The chairman will select and present to the board of directors for approval the members of the committee. This committee will develop and carry out plans for implementing educational and skill programs for recreational soccer coaches and teams. This committee shall be responsible for the scheduling of clinics and camps for coaches and perspective coaches. With the approval of the Board of Directors, a person or company may be contracted to provide educational services to the coaching staff.

ARTICLE 9 AGE GROUP COMMISSIONERS

9.1 Appointment

The Commissioner Director will be responsible for the interviewing and recommending prospective candidates for the position of Age Group Commissioner and will then present his choices for each position to the Board of Directors. A commissioner may be removed with or without cause by the Board.

9.2 Positions

There may be a Commissioner appointed as required for each age and gender group as necessary for GSA. In cases of age groups playing in other leagues outside GSA the Commissioners duties may be modified with Board approval to those more in keeping with those of a liaison rather than a Commissioner.

9.3 Responsibilities

The Commissioner will be responsible for handling complaints from coaches and parents, scheduling of practice facilities as directed, and rescheduling games as directed. In addition, he/she shall collect game reports and Press Release Work Sheets from teams after each game, compile information, and report it to the Commissioner Director.

ARTICLE 10 TEAMS AND PLAYERS AND COACHES

10.1 Registration

All teams and players shall be registered with GSA and NTSSA and shall pay all fees prior to beginning play. A team using an unregistered player, in addition to other penalties, shall forfeit all games in which that player participated.

10.2 Recreational Teams

Recreational teams shall be formed by a Team Formation Committee in accordance with GSA guidelines. The Recreational Team Formation Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President I, Coaching Director, Registrar, and Commissioner Director. The Coaching Director will

serve as chair of this committee. The team Formation Committee and all Age Group Commissioners may be present at the pool draw. Whether or not a team is validly formed within GSA guidelines and the boundaries of the geographic areas shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

10.3 Competitive Teams

Competitive Teams shall be formed/selected by coaches in accordance with GSA/NTSSA rules regarding recruiting, advertising, and tryouts for competitive teams. All advertising and tryouts must be approved by the Board of Directors for GSA prior to any advertising or tryout being held.

10.4 Coaches and Assistant Coaches Background Checks

All coaches and assistant coaches must submit to a criminal background check. Any prospective coach or assistant coach that is not willing to fill out the NTSSA Criminal Background Check (or alternate supplied by NTSSA) cannot coach or assistant coach any team or team activity.

10.5 Coaches and Assistant Coaches

All Coaches and Assistant Coaches shall be approved or disapproved, with or without cause, on a soccer season basis, by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Once a coach is approved the coach must sign a statement of compliance and acceptance of all GSA and NTSSA by-laws and Rules.

ARTICLE 11 CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS AND FUNDS

11.1 Contracts

The Board of Directors may authorize the President and/or any member of the Board of Directors to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of GSA. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

11.2 Checks and Drafts

All checks, drafts or order for the payment of money, notes, or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of GSA shall be signed by such person or persons and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such determination by the Board of Directors, such instruments shall be signed by the Treasurer of the Board of Directors.

11.3 Deposits

All funds of GSA shall be deposited in a timely manner to the credit of GSA in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Executive Board of Directors may select.

11.4 Gifts

The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of GSA any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the general purposes or for any special purpose of GSA.

ARTICLE 12 BOOKS AND RECORDS

12.1

GSA shall keep correct and complete books and records of accounts and shall also keep minutes of the proceedings of its Board of Directors, and of committees having any of the authority of the Board of Directors, and shall keep at the registered or principal office a record giving the names and addresses of the members of the Board of Directors. All books and records of GSA may be

inspected by any member of the Board of Directors for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

ARTICLE 13 FISCAL YEAR

13.1 The fiscal year of GSA shall begin on the first day of September and end on the last day in August each year.

ARTICLE 14 SEAL

14.1 The Board of Directors shall provide a corporate seal, which shall be in the form of a circle and shall have inscribed thereon the words "Corporate Seal of GSA".

ARTICLE 15 WAIVER OF NOTICE

15.1 Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act or under the provisions of the Article of Incorporation or the bylaws of the Corporation, a waiver thereof in writing signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time state herein, shall be deemed equivalent to giving of such notice.

ARTICLE 16 AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

16.1 These bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed and new bylaws may be adopted by the affirmative majority of the members present at the Semi-Annual General Meeting, or at a specially called general meeting. At least ten (10) days written notice must be given of an intention to alter, amend, or repeal these bylaws or to adopt new bylaws at such meeting.

ARTICLE 17 INDEMNIFICATION

17.1 Authorization

In the event that any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending, or completed action, suit or proceeding (whether civil, criminal, administrative, or investigative) seek indemnification from GSA against expenses (including attorney fees), and in the case of actions other than those by or in the name of GSA, judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement, incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding by reason of the fact that such person is or was a Director, employee, or agent of GSA, then unless such indemnification is ordered by a court, GSA shall determine or cause to be determined (in the manner provided by Texas law) whether or not indemnification is proper in the circumstances because the person claiming such indemnification has met the applicable standard of conduct under Texas law and, to the extent that it is do determined that such indemnification is proper, the person claiming such indemnification shall be indemnified.

17.2 Expenses

Expenses, including attorney's fees, incurred in defending any action, suit, or proceeding referred to in Section 17.1 of this Article may be paid by GSA as authorized by the Board of Directors.

17.3 Indemnification Not Exclusive

Amended October 5 2005

The indemnification provided by Section 17.1 of this Article shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification may be entitled under the law or any agreement, vote of Directors or otherwise, both as to action in another capacity while holding such office, and shall continue as to person who has ceased to be a Director, employee, or agent.

ARTICLE 18 PROCEDURE

18.1 The rules of parliamentary procedure governing GSA shall be those of Robert's Rules of Order as most currently revised.