

Constitution and Bylaws of the Western New York Soccer
Boosters/Lancaster Depew Soccer Club

Effective September 14, 2010

Article I

Names and Purposes

Section 1 – This organization shall be known as Western New York Soccer Boosters/Lancaster Depew Soccer Club, here within known as “LDSC”. The name is not tied to any specific locality since it draws its support from an area encompassed by Depew, Lancaster and Western New York.

The mission or purpose of the Lancaster Depew Soccer Club is to foster the development of youth soccer in Lancaster, Depew and nearby areas. The club strives to provide the administrative structure necessary for the conduct of organized, competitive soccer commensurate with the players’ interest and ability. All activities of this club are designed to promote the development of players as responsible individuals.

Article II

Membership and Dues

Section 1 – Membership to the LDSC shall be open to any of the following who are in good standing and at a minimum of 18 years of age: youth soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials.

Section 2 – Persons eligible for membership may be elected into the organization after meeting the following requirements: (a) upon being sponsored by one member (members may only sponsor 2 persons per year) , (b) upon receiving the approval of the majority of the Board of Directors’ vote cast at a duly called meeting and being approved by a majority of the membership at a duly called meeting, (c) upon payment of the required dues in the amount of Two Dollars (\$2.00) of the current year.

Section 3 – A member may be expelled for violating the by-laws of the LDSC or for other cause prejudicial to the best interest of the LDSC. Such expulsion may be affected by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors at a duly called meeting.

Section 4 – The annual dues shall be payable as of each year. Annual dues shall provide voting rights for the upcoming year. A member must be present at 50% of an election year’s meetings to maintain the right to vote.

Section 5 – Any member whose dues remain unpaid after January 1st shall automatically cease to be a member, and shall forfeit all privileges and right of membership.

Section 6 – No part of the net earning of the organization shall insure the benefit of, or be distributed to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution in further of its purpose.

Section 7 – Upon dissolution of the organization, the governing body of the organization shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the organization, dispose of all of the assets of the organization exclusively to organizations organized and operated exclusively for one or more such purposes as shall at the time qualify as exempt organizations under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954; or to a Federal government, a state or local government for a public purpose.

Article III

Meetings

Section 1 – Annual Meetings. The annual meeting shall be held on the second Tuesday of October for Election of members of the Board of Directors and for receiving the annual reports of officers, directors, and committees, and the transaction of other business. Notice of such meeting signed by the Secretary, shall be communicated except as herein or by statute otherwise provided, to the last recorded address of each member at least ten (10) days and not more than forty (40) days before the time appointed for the meeting. All notices of meetings shall set forth the place, date, time, and purpose of the meeting.

Section 2 – Meetings of the LDSC shall be held once per month. The regular date, time and place will be designated by the Board of Directors. Notice to members of such regular meetings shall not be required unless the regular date, time or place shall be changed by the Board of Directors. Upcoming meeting dates are posted on the LDSC website.

Section 3 – The presence in person of the majority of Board members of the LDSC entitled to vote shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. A lesser number may adjourn to some future time.

Section 4 – A written proxy shall be accepted for all board votes.

Section 5 – The order of business for all meetings of the club shall be as follows:

1. Call to order
2. Minutes of previous meetings
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Communication of Bills
5. Report of Committees

6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Adjournment

Note: new format allowed with approval of the majority of the board.

Section 6 – The meeting notes are stored:

1. By the Secretary
2. For the duration of three (3) years.

Article IV

Government

Section 1 – The general management of the affairs of the LDSC shall be vested in the Board of Directors who shall be elected as provided in the by-laws.

Section 2 – The officers of the LDSC shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than five (5) and no more than nine (9) directors.

Section 3 – The president may be a member, exofficio, of all committees.

Article V

Election of Officers

Section 1 – Intentions to run for the board or officer positions should be made and noted in the September meeting. The directors of the club shall be elected at the annual meeting held in October. Each member present at the October meeting shall be entitled to one vote for each director requesting to be elected. Members absent from this meeting shall be allowed to vote via proxy.

Section 2 – The Board of Directors shall be elected for a two (2) year term at the annual October meeting. The term begins on the date of election.

Section 3 – The Board of Directors shall elect one (1) of their number as President, one (1) of their number as Vice President, one of their number as Secretary and one of their number as Treasurer. The meeting of the Board of Directors to elect officers shall be held within one month following the annual meeting of members. The newly elected officers shall hold office for a minimum of two years or until new officers are elected. The term begins on the date of election.

Section 4 – If a vacancy occurs among the Executive Officers, the vacancy is filled for the un-expired term by a current board members in good standing as voted by the Board of Directors. If a vacancy occurs among a current Board Member, the vacancy is filled for the un-expired term by a member in good standing via a vote of the Board of Directors.

Article VI

Duties of Officers

The LDSC executive board shall consist of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

Section 1 – The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the LDSC, shall preside at all meetings and create all committees, shall appoint chairpersons to all committees within the LDSC, shall oversee the daily operation and running of the LDSC. The President may sign checks.

Section 2 – The Vice-President shall work with the President on such affairs of this organization as intra-club tournaments or play, league participation, and public relations and work together to accommodate such actions in the Presidents absence. He/She shall perform such other duties as are usual to the office or as requested by the President. He/She may sign checks, shall supervise the Board of Elections at the annual meeting and serve as the chair of the Nominating Committee.

Section 3 – The Secretary shall keep a record of the minutes of all meetings and shall preside and assume the duties of the President in the absence of both President and Vice President. The Secretary shall submit the minutes at the next meeting for approval. The Secretary shall also handle correspondence for the organization and Board of Directors and any additional duties as prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 4 – The Treasurer shall oversee duties of the bookkeeper (ie: collect all dues and registration fees, shall be responsible for the deposits of all monies of the LDSC in a bank account authorized by the Executive Board, shall keep detailed accounts of the income and expenditures of the LDSC), shall submit monthly reports at each regular meeting as well as quarterly reports, and shall pay all bills approved by the LDSC. The Treasurer shall be bonded unless this requirement is waived by the LDSC. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for insurance coverage.

Article VII

Duties of the Board of Directors

Section 1 – The Board of Directors shall have control of the property and affairs of the LDSC and shall fix its policies. They shall have power to hold meetings whenever necessary, appoint committees, accept new members and suspend, censure, or expel members as provided in these by-laws. They may authorize power expenditures where deemed necessary. They may take all necessary and proper steps to carry out and promote, within its best interests, the purpose of the LDSC. A majority of members constitute a quorum and all policy decisions shall be decided by a majority vote.

Section 2 – The Board of Directors shall be composed of the following officers; President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer plus as many directors as described in these by-laws under Article IV, Section 2. They shall be elected at the annual meeting in accordance with Article V, Sections 1 through 4. Any director may be re-elected.

Section 3 – A temporary chairperson and two (2) Tellers shall be appointed by the resigning president to conduct election of a new Board of Directors (see Article IV Sec .2) and new President. Upon completion of this election the chairperson will resign and the new President and Tellers will conduct elections within the new Board to fill the LDSC Executive Board positions.

Section 4 – Any director absenting himself for two successive meetings and unable to give a satisfactory reason to the executive board for such absence, may forfeit his position on the Board of Directors. His/Her successor shall be appointed by the majority of the Board of Directors. For vacancies through any other cause, the same procedure shall be taken.

Duties of other important positions:

Section 5 – The Travel Director shall be elected from one of the Board Members and may also hold an officer position. The Travel Director shall be responsible for the following

- a. Working with the travel committee to assist and guide the travel program.
- b. Coaches and Asst. Coaches – Recruit coaches for LDSC teams.
- c. Registration – Set dates for registration of the various leagues.
- d. Player Selection – Assist the coaches in the selection of players for each team. In the case of conflict, the director will consult with the Board of Directors and develop a final decision.
- e. Number of Teams – The Travel Director will determine the number of teams to be registered for each division. This is dependant on the number of players and fields available.

- f. Suspend Players – A player may be suspended only after an investigation by the Travel Director and Disciplinary Committee. The Director will take the action that has been agreed upon.
- g. Playing Time – The director will endeavor to enforce the policy of players playing a minimum of 1/2 of each game for u-12 and lower divisions

Summarizing, the Travel Director will be responsible for all teams, coaches, players, league activities, tournaments, scheduling, protest and any matter pertaining to LDSC travel soccer. Requests to serve as the LDSC Travel Director are to be presented to the LDSC Board of Directors in June. Voting for this position by the Board of Directors will occur every other July to ensure a consistent transition between seasons. The Travel Director's term is for a 24-month period starting at the date of election and overlapping the end of the subsequent season, allowing for a smooth transition between elected directors. The Travel Director may carry consecutive terms.

Section 6 – The Events/Tournaments Coordinator works directly as a co-chairman of fundraisers, picnics and all other functions. He/She establishes a tournament committee and oversees tournament operations. He/She works closely with the Vice President.

Section 7 – The Fields coordinator will work to acquire all necessary field permits and ensure that all fields are maintained prior to and during the course of the season. He/She shall work with the Travel and House Coordinator on field assignments for each travel team.

Section 8 – The Director of Coaching is responsible to develop and improve the quality of the clubs league coaches. He/She will develop training programs to accomplish this objective. Working with the Travel Director, he/she is expected to review travel teams' structure, help build teams, locate and select coaches, and work to improve the travel program. It is his/her duty to look for travel candidates from school teams and house league teams and to introduce individuals to the travel program.

Section 9 – There will be one (1) Lead House League Coordinator whose duty is to develop, manage and operate spring, fall, and winter house soccer leagues. However multiple age coordinators may be appointed to assist in the administration of the league.

Section 10 – Members-at-Large shall be voting board members working under the Events Coordinator and volunteering to perform as heads of various activities and committees.

Section 11 - A majority of club officers shall constitute an emergency committee of matters demanding immediate attention. This emergency session shall occur when it is impossible and/or impractical to call a Board of Directors meeting. Their action,

however, shall be subject to approval of said Board of Directors, which, if withheld, shall invalidate their actions. This will include a maximum emergency spending limit of one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Article VIII

Amendments

Section 1 – These by-laws may be amended only by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors. Amendments must be proposed at a meeting. Notice of the proposed amendment must be made available in writing to each board member so entitled to vote at least ten (10) days prior to the next meeting at which the vote is taken.

Article IX

Section 1 – The membership of the LDSC shall be open to those described in Article II Section 1 and 2.

Section 2 – The USSF articles of incorporation, bylaws, policies, and requirements take precedence over and supersede the governing documents and decisions of the LDSC to the extent applicable under state law, and the LDSC will abide by those articles, by-laws policies and requirements.

Section 3 – The LDSC will abide by the USSF's articles, by-laws policies and interplay.

Section 4 – The LDSC will provide equitable and prompt hearing and appeal procedures to guarantee the rights of individuals to participate and compete. These procedures shall include that all grievances involving the right to participate and compete in activities sponsored by the USSF, and NYSWYSA, and the LDSC may be appealed to the USSF's Committee in accordance with NYSWYSA, by-laws and policies. The Federation's Appeals Committee shall have jurisdiction to approve, modify or reverse a decision. A decision rendered by the LDSC or the NYSWYSA from which an appeal is taken is not suspended pending the final decision of the Federation's Appeal Committee unless the Committee otherwise orders. The decision made by the LDSC of the NYSWYSA may be upheld, revised or reversed and remanded.