

## **Rule 1000. General:**

### ***Section A. Purpose***

It is the mission of the Elizabethtown Youth Soccer Association to provide the best possible soccer experience for all players in the League. The Association will meet this mission by:

1. Providing the opportunity for all players to participate in all levels of play including Class 4 (Recreational), Class 3/1 (Competitive/Select), and TOP Soccer (children with special needs).
2. Promoting player development by fostering an atmosphere that allows each player to develop their skills to their desired level of play in a fun and fulfilling environment.
3. Providing, as available, financial aid to those players that need assistance.
4. Promoting the development of coaches by offering instructional courses and resources that will allow them to further improve their skills as coaches.
5. Promoting the development of youth referees by offering instructional courses and resources that will allow them to further improve their skills as referees.
6. Promoting a respect for the game of soccer through fair play and sportsmanship.

### ***Section B. Organization***

EYSA is a nonprofit organization that hosts the recreational and Athletico Flame Football Club Competitive soccer programs in Elizabethtown Kentucky. The city provides the fields and other facilities for recreation and Competitive programs, but EYSA is not a City organization – **mainly unpaid volunteers run it**. EYSA board meetings are open to all and are held at Carroll Soccer Complex Petersen Dr, Elizabethtown, KY at 7:00 PM on the second Monday of each month.

### ***Section C. Executive Committee***

1. The Executive Committee may impose such other policies, rules and regulatory measures as it deems necessary for the promotion and development of soccer and the efficient administration of the Club & League and/or the playing structure of the game within the jurisdiction of the Club & League. Such policies, rules, and regulatory measures (herein after referred to as policies) shall be recorded, numbered and dated by the Secretary in a "Policy Manual".
2. Such policies may be imposed or amended by the Executive at any Executive Committee Meeting by a simple majority. The policy becomes effective at the conclusion of the meeting, unless the motion specifies otherwise. The adopted policy may not be revised for a period of six (6) months unless by unanimous consent of the Executive Committee.

## **Rule 1010. Criminal Background Check Policy**

### **Section A. Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to provide a good faith effort to protect the safety and well being of the children who participate in Elizabethtown Youth Soccer Association (EYSA) and Athletico Flames Soccer Club (AFFC), programs and activities.

a) Any person wishing to volunteer in EYSA or AFFC shall be subject to a criminal background check, with a strong focus on the following:

- Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Managers of sports teams
- Officers, board members, and staff who lead or organize children's activities
- Referees

### **Section B. Compliance**

1. Any person wishing to volunteer or provide contracted services to EYSA or AFFC as a coach, assistant coach, manager, officer, board member or staff must submit a complete and signed Background Check Release Form or Kentucky Youth Leader Request AOC-PT-66 Rev 11-09 Form for any League activities affiliated with EYSA/AFFC.

2. They must also complete Criminal Background Check Release Form or Kentucky Youth Leader Request AOC-PT-66 Rev 11-09 Form each year and submit a paper copy to the President EYSA/AFFC.

3. All requested information must be provided by the applicant, including Social Security number, driver license number (or other state issued photo I.D. if the applicant does not drive) and date of birth. Should EYSA/AFFC adopt a wholly electronic application process, then the application must be wholly completed per EYSA/AFFC's application instructions. A current risk management assessment and clearance is required to participate in activities affiliated with EYSA/AFFC.

### **Section C. Administration:**

1. EYSA/AFFC has designated the holders of the offices of President and Director of Administration as the EYSA/AFFC Child and Volunteer Protection Committee (CVPC). These are the only individuals responsible with the administration of this policy.

2. To ensure compliance with all applicable laws, the EYSA/AFFC President and Director of Administration, are the only persons authorized to initiate, review or have access to criminal background reports. In all cases, the results of any criminal background check must be kept strictly confidential. These reports must be kept in a locked, secure location, for a period as indicated by applicable law or until the person is no longer a volunteer, whichever is later.

3. EYSA/AFFC shall process the criminal background checks in a timely fashion such that the most sensitive criminal background checks can be completed prior to the start of any playing season.

4. Individuals not cleared through the EYSA/AFFC Risk Management Programs for participation in activities affiliated with these respective organizations shall not be permitted to participate in League activities.

### **Section D. Clearance Requirements:**

1. If a conviction is disclosed or discovered, the EYSA/AFFC Child and Volunteer Protection Committee (CVPC), must make a decision on whether or not the applicant may be used based on the following guidelines and partial Table of Convictions. As used in this policy, the term conviction refers to a conviction entered after a trial, after a guilty plea or after a plea of no contest/nolo contendere.
2. Any application form that does not contain honest answers or that misrepresents the number, type or gravity of any such conviction(s) will not be approved irrespective of the nature of the offense or the time that has transpired since the conviction. m) Any individual on probation or required to complete a court ordered rehabilitation or other such program following a conviction for a crime appearing on the Table of Convictions will not be considered to serve as a volunteer or independent contractor until all terms and conditions established by the court have been satisfied and proof of completion submitted to EYSA/AFFC.
3. Any person convicted of a crime against or otherwise involving a minor at any time will not be approved to be a volunteer.
4. Most felony convictions will result in a negative determination. Evidence of multiple convictions, either felony or misdemeanor, are likely to also result in a negative determination. Where a conviction is remote in time or where the applicant's conduct since the conviction(s) indicates rehabilitation or lack of risk to the membership and the league, some leeway may be provided, but only with the concurrence of the CVPC.
5. Persons convicted of a crime of violence or other serious crime against a person (including major sex offenses) within the prior 20 years should be disqualified from any position listed in policy paragraph #1 above.
6. Persons convicted of a theft related crime or fraud within the prior 15 years should be disqualified from any position involving the handling of funds or property.
7. Persons convicted of a serious substance abuse crime within the past 10 years should be disqualified from any coaching position or any position that leads children's activities.
8. Persons convicted of less serious crimes of violence, substance abuse or one of the listed miscellaneous crimes within the past 5 years should be disqualified from any coaching position or any position that leads children's activities.
9. Persons convicted of possession of less than one ounce of marijuana within the preceding 3 years will be disqualified from holding the position of team coach or assistant coach. Persons convicted of possession of less than one ounce of marijuana within the preceding 3 years *may* be accepted for other volunteer or independent contractor positions with the understanding that they are prohibited from driving any child or EYSA/AFFC volunteer other than immediate family members to or from any EYSA/AFFC activity.
10. DUI: Persons convicted of driving while under the influence within the preceding 3 years will be disqualified from holding the position of team coach or assistant coach. Persons convicted of driving under the influence within the preceding 3 years *may* be accepted for other volunteer or independent contractor positions with the understanding that they are prohibited from driving any

child or EYSA/AFFC volunteer other than immediate family members to or from any EYSA/AFFC activity.

11. If any discretion is exercised in the application of this policy, it must be exercised in a uniform manner, so that substantially similar convictions and circumstances result in substantially similar treatment of potential volunteers. The specific results leading to a negative determination must remain confidential unless the applicant is willing to reveal the results to the CVPC.

12. Situations where discretion is exercised must be disclosed to the parents of the team(s) associated with the individual for whom the application of the policy is being modified. Written consent from the subject coach, volunteer, contractor or board member must be made before such disclosure is made. If consent to disclosure is not granted then the individual is disqualified from service.

13. Because of the serious implications to the entire EYSA/AFFC organization must comply with the decisions made by the EYSA/AFFC Child and Volunteer Protection Committee under this policy.

See Appendix A for a partial list of possible offenses.

## **Rule 1020. Conduct:**

### ***Section A. General***

EYSA/AFFC has a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY. This policy applies to all coaches, players, parents and other supporters and referees effective immediately. Abusive and obscene language, violent play, violent conduct, fighting and other behavior (including but not limited to sarcasm, taunting, etc.) deemed detrimental to the game play will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of the Coaches to provide Referee support and spectator control. This policy will apply to all times prior to, during and after the game at the soccer field and its immediate surrounding areas.

### ***Section B. Parents/Spectators:***

1. Parents/Spectators at games must remain behind the spectator control line, (three yards from the sideline), and between the penalty areas (never behind the goals), and their vocal efforts should be limited to positive compliments to the participants. Under no circumstances should they attempt to coach or address remarks derogatory to players, coaches or the referee. The use of alcohol, drugs or tobacco products in the vicinity of the playing field during practices or games is strictly prohibited.
2. No parent or other spectator shall address the Referee or Assistants at any time this includes but is not limited to:
  - a. Spectators making derogatory comments to players of either team
  - b. Disputing calls during or after the game
  - c. Remarks to the referee to watch certain players or attend to rough play
  - d. Yelling at the referee, EVER, including criticism, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation or feedback of any kind before, during or after the game.

3. The only allowable exceptions to the above are:
  - a. Responding to a referee who has initiated a conversation with a parent or spectator
  - b. Pointing out an emergency or safety issues.

### **Section C. Offensive Language**

Offensive and vulgar language is always unacceptable. All EYSA/AFFC officials should model good communication skills. Language that is denigrating in nature, content or tone or refers to one's gender, race, national origin, disability, sexual orientation or religion is unacceptable. Inappropriate language, including language targeting officials, opponents, players, or spectators may be grounds disciplinary actions

### **Section D. Penalties- Parents/ Spectators**

In the opinion of the referee, depending on the severity of the offense, the referee may take any of the following actions:

1. The Referee will issue a verbal warning to the offending party.
2. The Referee will stop the game and instruct the parent / spectator to leave the field.
3. The Referee will stop the game and instruct the Coaches to direct the parent / spectator to leave the field.
4. The Referee should abandon the game, if the spectator does not leave the field.

### **Section E. Players**

Communications between players and referees are governed by the FIFA Laws of the Game. Penalties associated with violating the Laws of the Game will be governed by the Laws themselves.

### **Section F. Coaches & Assistants**

1. It is the responsibility of all Coaches to maintain the highest standards of conduct for themselves, their players and supporters in all matches. Failure to do so undermines the Referee's authority and the integrity of the game resulting in a hostile environment for players, the referee, coaches, assistant coaches and spectators. As role models for all of the participants and spectators, coaches participating in EYSA/AFFC are expected to be supportive of, and to applaud the effort, good play and sportsmanship on the part of ALL players from either team in a contest. By example, EYSA/AFFC coaches are expected to show that although we are competing in a game, we, at all times have respect for our opponent. EYSA/AFFC will not tolerate negative behavior exhibited either by demonstrative actions and gestures, or by ill-intentioned remarks, including those addressed toward the players or coaches of an opposing team. Coaches exhibiting hostile, negative, sarcastic or otherwise ill-intended behavior toward opposing players or coaches will be subject to sanction by the match official and subsequent sanctions as may be imposed by the EYSA/AFFC Executive Board after a review of the match report.
2. Coaches may not interact directly or indirectly with the coaches or players of the opposing team during the game in any manner that may be construed as negative, hostile or sarcastic either by way of demonstrative actions and gestures or by ill-intentioned remarks
3. Coaches may not offer dissent to any call made by the officials
4. Coaches are not to address the Referee during the game except to:
  - a. Respond to a referee who has initiated a conversation

- b. Point out emergency or safety issues
  - c. Make substitutions
  - d. Ask the referee to repeat a call
  - e. Ask for the time remaining in the half
5. Coaches are allowed to ask a referee after a game, in a polite and constructive way, to explain a law or foul but not judgment calls made in the game:
- a. Polite and friendly concern can be exchanged with the referee. If the polite tone of the conversation changes, the Referee may abandon the exchange at any time
  - b. Absolutely no sarcasm, harassment or intimidation is allowed

### **Section G. Penalties- Coaches & Assistants**

1. In the opinion of the referee, depending on the severity of the offense, the referee may take any of the following actions:
  - a. The referee may issue a verbal warning to the offending Coach or Assistant Coach.
  - b. The Referee may eject the offending Coach or Assistant Coach. The Coach or Assistant Coach will be required to leave the field.
  - c. The Referee should abandon the game, if the Coach or Assistant Coach does not leave the field.
2. Any additional penalties associated with the ejection of a coach will be governed by EYSA/AFFC Bylaws and KYSA Bylaws.

## **Rule 1030. Sexual Harassment Policy:**

### **Section A. General**

1. This association opposes sexual and physical abuse. Any form of harassment, sexual or otherwise, is prohibited within Elizabethtown Youth Soccer Association and the Athletico Flames Football Club. It is unlawful and against EYSA/AFFC policy. EYSA/AFFC is legally responsible to take action against harassing conduct to the extent permissible under applicable law and the Board of Directors. Members shall adopt procedures consistent with this policy and consistent with criteria established by KYSA, USYA and USSF.
2. Harassment is verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of that person's race, skin color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability. Harassment can also occur if conduct is directed towards a person's relatives, friends, or associates. Harassment does one or more of the following:
  - a. Has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment
  - b. Has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a individual's performance
  - c. Otherwise adversely affects an individual's opportunities within LYSL
3. If you are a EYSA/AFFC member and feel that you are being harassed while engaged in EYSA/AFFC activities or if you are not a EYSA/AFFC member but are being harassed by an EYSA/AFFC member while they are engaged in EYSA/AFFC activities, then report the behavior to the EYSA/AFFC President or Director of Administration. Allegations of harassment will be promptly investigated and treated with the strictest confidence.

4. Any EYSA/AFFC member who engages in harassing behavior is subject to EYSA/AFFC disciplinary measures.
5. Anyone has the legal right at any time to raise the issue of harassment without fear of reprisal.

### ***Section B. Inappropriate Player Interaction***

1. All coaches, assistant coaches, trainers and team officials are required to abide by this requirement. Inappropriate physical contact with players is strictly prohibited.
2. Social interactions with players less than 18 years of age (such as dating, parties without parental involvement and private one-on-one situations) are prohibited.
3. Violations of these rules may result in immediate suspension from all EYSA/AFFC activities and initiation of disciplinary proceedings.
4. Physical contact should be limited to that necessary and appropriate to teach a skill, treat an injury, console or congratulate a player. In the instance of teaching a skill, minimal contact should be involved and none which places the adult in a position of power or intimidation.
5. A participant (other than a parent or legal guardian) being alone in a one on one situation with a player is inappropriate. If an adult is alone with a player then the adult should do so in a visibly public site.
6. There are those participants who are expressive by using their hands to give a pat on the back, a rub of the head, or other acts of touching to show appreciation or indicate a job well done. In a public setting those acts, when not done in an overly familiar manner, are understood.
7. There should never be such touching in a one on one situation. Even the hint of inappropriate contact with a player may be enough to create an impression of inappropriate contact with children. Participants should act in a defensive mode so that there is no air of impropriety.

## **Rule 1100. Recreational Age Groups and Team Formation:**

### ***Section A. Age Groups***

EYSA recreational leagues will be aligned into the following age groups:

U4  
U6  
U8  
U10  
U12  
U14  
U16  
U19  
High School

**Section B. Team Formation**

1. EYSA will play with modified field size and number of players on the pitch in U10 and down. Therefore, the roster size varies in total by age group.
2. EYSA also recognizes that conflicts and corresponding participation in matches is higher in the spring season than in the fall, therefore, there will be a larger roster in the spring.
3. The number of players on the pitch and roster maximum sizes shall be:

| Age Group | On the Pitch | Minimum Roster | Maximum Roster |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| U4        | 3            | 4              | 6              |
| U6        | 4            | 5              | 8              |
| U8        | 5            | 8              | 10             |
| U10       | 8            | 11             | 14             |
| U12       | 8            | 12             | 16             |
| U14       | 11           | 15             | 18 (+4 Guest)  |
| U16       | 11           | 15             | 18(+4 Guest)   |
| U19       | 11           | 15             | 18 (+4 Guest)  |
| HS        | 8            | 11             | 16             |

4. KYSA rules require that team formation be random in nature. All forms of team recruiting and try-outs are specifically prohibited and coaches have no input into or involvement in the assignment of players to their teams. This policy must be strictly enforced to ensure fairness to all players and maintain the integrity of the association.
5. EYSA reserves the right to modify field sizes and number of players on the pitch downward in instances where it is in the best interest of EYSA and the participants. Modifications must be within the guidelines of KYSA.

**Section C. Placement.**

1. Prior to meeting of the Placement Committee, the Registrar will:
  - a. Segregate registration forms into groups by quarter of birth (quarter of the year),
  - b. Determine the number of teams to be formed as described in Section B above.
2. The Registrar, assisted by the appropriate age group commissioner and at least one other commission member, assigns players as follows:
  - a. Place all registrations for U6 face down on a table by birth quarter,
  - b. Take the stack with the oldest age by quarter, face down, and randomly begin making stacks equal to the number of teams prescribed,
  - c. Continue to place registrations of the oldest group on top of the starting stack and cycle until the group is totally distributed,
  - d. When complete, using the next oldest age quarter, continue building the team stacks where the previous group ended,
  - e. Continue this distribution until all 8 quarters are distributed (when completed, all teams should have an equal number of total players and equal of each age quarter, within 1)
  - f. Repeat steps “a” through “e” with each age group.
3. No player may be assigned to more than two teams. In addition, no EYSA player may be rostered in any other soccer program except school affiliation and special programs under KYSA (such as ODP). .If a player dual rosters select and recreational, the select team takes preference with any scheduling conflicts. Additionally, that player may not play in



- recreational tournaments and some leagues outside EYSA in which the recreational program participates prohibits select players. A player may dual roster within the recreational program provided the two teams are in the players actual age group and the immediately higher age group that has a team formation. The players actual age group team takes precedence.
4. Late registrants may be assigned to formed teams on a first come first served basis until the specified team limits for roster size are met. All other late registrants will be placed on a waiting list to fill unexpected openings.
  5. Coaches will be awarded to their child's team unless another team is specifically requested.
  6. The Registrar will issue the team rosters to the respective age group administrators and will include:
    - a. Team number (e.g., U81, U82, **U8M1, U8G2**, etc.)
    - b. Players' names and birth date,
    - c. Players' addresses and telephone numbers,
    - d. Players' uniform size.
  7. The Registrar shall also issue an identical listing of rosters to the President of EYSA.
  8. The Registrar is responsible for presenting the rosters and other pertinent information requested to KYSA in the format required. Additionally, he/she will submit the appropriate fees for registering the individuals and program by requesting a check from the Treasurer.
  9. Only by EYSA Board approval may a player be removed from a roster.
  10. The Board reserves the right to totally re-form teams within an age group before the beginning of the spring season if circumstances indicate doing so would be in the best interest of the program and the individuals involved. In such cases, players moved to a different team will incur no additional costs or fees.
  11. Returning players (those who played at EYSA during the prior season) may be assigned to the same team on which he/she played in the immediately preceding playing season. If a player elects not to return to the same team he/she **MUST** be placed in "open" registration and the assigned to a new team.

## **Rule 1200. Scheduling – Practices and Games for Recreational Teams**

### ***Section A. General:***

The Fields Administrator is responsible for ascertaining the location and designation of practice and game fields. He/she shall assure there are adequate facilities in terms of size and numbers to meet the needs of all teams. The Fields Administrator will provide information on the designated fields and time slots available to each age group Administrator for their respective teams. (This includes Girls and Competitive teams).

### ***Section B. Practice:***

1. Specific practice times and sites for each team will be determined by the coaches and the age group Administrator.
2. Practice will be on weekdays and for U4 through U10 will not exceed two (2) days per week and one hour per day. U12 and above will practice on weekdays and will not exceed two (2) days per week and 1 ½ hours per day.
3. No team may initiate practice until the approved start date issued by the EYSA Board.
4. Teams may assemble prior to the approved start date for organizational or educational purposes.
5. There will be at least two full weeks of practice before the first games of each season.

### **Section C. Games:**

1. Game schedules will be prepared by the scheduler of age group in the cases where we are a totally independent league. The starting and ending date of each season will be uniform throughout all leagues. As with practices, the Fields Administrator will submit the available times and fields for each age group.
2. In instances in which EYSA lacks the number of teams to form a satisfactory league, joint scheduling may be made with surrounding communities. In these cases, the playing rules must match the format of EYSA and be in compliance with all KYSA qualifications.
3. Games which have been postponed due to inclement weather may be made up by rescheduling by the Age Group Administrator.
4. No teams should play more than 2 regular season games in a calendar week.
5. Team entries into recreational tournaments are acceptable with approval by the EYSA Board. Funds for one tournament per season per team may be supplied by the Board with approval.

## **Rule 1300. Player Participation in Recreational Leagues**

### **Section A. General:**

Every eligible player will play at least two quarter or one half of every game. In age groups in which free substitution is allowed, the coach is responsible that the total playing time per player is at least one half of the total match minutes.

### **Section B. Specifics:**

1. A recreational player is required to play at least on half of a game unless he or she is being disciplined for:
  - a. Late arrival to the game,
  - b. Misbehaving at practice, or
  - c. Not attending practice without a valid reason.
2. Coaches must notify the referee and the opposing coach of the child's name and reason for discipline.
3. Any coach who does not play a player at least one half of a game must issue a written notice to the appropriate coaching commissioner within five (5) days with an explanation.
4. Any coach who does not play a player at least one half of a game will contact the player's parents and inform them of the action and cause prior to the disciplinary action.

## **Rule 1400. Rules**

The FIFA Laws of the Game will be followed in all matches with the exceptions of written modifications by KYSA and/or EYSA. Any EYSA modification must not be in contradiction of KYSA acceptability.

## **Rule 1500. Discipline**

### **Section A. General:**

All coaches, players, spectators, and parents will abide by the KYSA rules and EYSA policies and procedures or be held accountable.

### **Section B. Specifics:**

1. Players or coaches who are ejected from a game become ineligible to participate in the next game.
2. Coaches who are ejected from a game must leave the EYSA Complex immediately.
3. Any player or coach ejected twice in one season will be suspended for the remainder of that season.
4. All red card reports of coaches or players will be reviewed by the EYSA Board which may take further action if warranted.

## **Rule 1600. Arbitration**

### **Section A. General**

The Arbitration Committee will have a EYSA's final judgment on all grievances concerning:

1. Violations or misinterpretations of FIFA Laws of the Game.
2. Discipline of coaches, players, fans, referees, and commissioners.
3. Placement and registration.

### **Section B. Specifics.**

1. All problems should be handled through the chain of command (i.e., Age Group Administrator, Vice President Junior, Senior and or Flames President, President, then Arbitration Committee).
2. The Vice President will be notified within 48 hours of the incident.
3. All grievances must be addressed by the Arbitration Committee within 48 hours of receipt of grievance in writing. No grievance will be acted on until it is received in writing.
4. A minimum of two-thirds of the Arbitration Committee must rule on the grievance.
5. A written formal response must be given to the grieving party and copy retained by EYSA.
6. Members of the Arbitration Committee are:
  - a. Vice President (Chairperson)
  - b. President
  - c. Director of Officiating
  - d. Parent Representative
  - e. Two Age Group Administrators, one of which is representative of the age group from which the grievance arose.

## **Rule 1700. Refereeing**

1. The Director of Officiating will maintain a list of all certified referees willing to assist in EYSA games of all levels.
2. The Director of Officiating is responsible to schedule the referees for all EYSA games from the schedules provided him/her by the various coaching commissioners. Age Group Administrators should supply schedules at least two (2) weeks prior to the first game of each season.
3. EYSA shall locate the nearest site for USSF certification and re-certification each year and publish the information for all certified and potential referees. When possible, EYSA will host the clinic. New referees will be reimbursed \$25 toward their USSF certification clinic when six (6) games have been officiated in the EYSA program.
4. Fees paid to referees are recommended to EYSA Board by the Director of Officiating and must be approved by the EYSA Board.
5. EYSA may provide training and internal certification of referees for use in matches using modified rules. Payment is allowed, but must be less than the approved amount established

Rules/Policies for EYSA and Flames Soccer Club (AFFC)

for USSF certified referees. USSF certified officials will have preference for game assignments.

## **Rule 1800. Fund-Raising**

### ***Section A. General:***

EYSA recognizes the need to solicit financial support is an easy way to alienate friends of a civic group. EYSA experience has shown that limiting the frequency of requests and the number of people making those requests is the best way to sustain community goodwill and financial support for the entire program.

### ***Section B. Policies:***

1. All requests for donations will be made by the Vice President of Support or with his/her approval only. Individual coaches or teams may not solicit funds.
2. Requests for donations will be generally limited to once per year, except in the case of major projects.
3. Donations are to be solicited in this working order and is the first method of gaining financial support:
  - a. Parents and business professionals,
  - b. Small businesses and government,
  - c. Corporations.
4. If additional funds are required for the program after the donations requests above, special fund-raising projects, including projects involving EYSA players, is permissible with prior approval of the Vice President of Support and the EYSA Board at large.
5. All the fund raising activities in paragraphs 3 and 4 should include efforts to not solicit from the same sources within the same calendar year.
6. All donations go into the General Fund for operations of EYSA with the exceptions of funds raised for a specific and dedicated project.
7. Requests for exceptions must be explained to and approved by the EYSA Board in advance and prior to any publicity about a project.
8. All efforts should maintain intentions to prevent any commercialization of EYSA. Commercialization includes sponsors on uniforms, advertisements on or around the facilities, or any other acknowledgements that readily indicate any indebtedness to financial support. One purpose of this policy is to prevent any competitiveness in fundraising activities and possible loss of moderate contributions. Another is to maintain visual focus on participants, facilities and the EYSA program in general as opposed to financial support. Non-obtrusive notifications of appreciation for financial support are acceptable, but only if required and is approved by the EYSA Board prior to the acceptance of funds.

## **Rule 1900. Operations of Concession Stand.**

1. It is the responsibility of the Director of Concession Operations to maintain stock and monitor the concession stand.
2. Attempts shall be made to have the stand operational during all games at Carroll Complex.
3. They or her/his designee is responsible for opening and closing the concession stand every day it is operated.
4. Director of Volunteers- Concessions is responsible to provide the Director of Concession Operations the scheduling volunteers/parents to operate the concessions. Children may work in the concession only when accompanied by and under the supervision of an adult/parent.
5. All proceeds from concession stand operations are to be deposited in the EYSA's general fund.

## **Rule 2000. General Rules for Competitive Teams**

### **Section A -TEAMS**

1.1 Teams will be formed by birth year according to Kentucky Youth Soccer Association (KYSA) and United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) rules, beginning with U-9 and extending through U-19.

a. USYSA Ruling: Beginning the Fall 2003 season the Flames Soccer Club will no longer have competitive or select teams at the U-9/10 level. U-9 players will not be allowed to play on competitive or select teams.

b. Developmental program: Players at the U-9/10 level desiring to develop skills at a higher level will be afforded the opportunity to be part of a developmental program (Little Flickers) that will be administered by the Director of Coaching (DOC).

c. Team size change. Starting fall 2003, the U-11/12 will play 8 v 8. U-10 players will not be allowed to play up to U-11.

1.2 The names of all teams and changes will be approved by the EYSA Board of Directors.

1.3 The Developmental U-9 and U-10 Program as mentioned in 1.1b will be administered by the Director of Coaching (DOC).

a. The number of developmental teams to be formed will be determined by the EYSA Board of Directors.

b. Under normal circumstances teams will not travel in excess of 250 miles for any game, tournament, etc. The developmental teams will not participate outside the borders of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

c. Developmental players shall be assigned to teams to maximize parity of talent among teams.

### **Section B – TEAM TRYOUTS**

Tryouts are critical to the function and success of a select soccer club. They assure that teams are formed from the most competitive players available and that the program offered by the club is available to all youths on a fair and equal basis.

2.1 All players will be required to tryout for their positions annually. In addition to its annual tryout, the club may hold additional tryouts at any time to fill roster vacancies. However, no player will be moved to a team at a lower level during the year.

2.2 Tryouts will be open to all youths.

2.3 Tryouts will be conducted according to policies established by the EYSA Board of Directors.

2.4 Annual tryouts will be publicized in advance of the tryout dates.

2.5 No prospective player for a club team will be offered a place on the team prior to tryouts.

a. The Director of Coaching may nominate to the EYSA Board of Directors a player with special circumstances (e.g. injury or other acceptable reason for not attending the tryout or makeup date) to be excused from this provision. Assessment criteria will be presented as to this player's suitability for a team and will need the concurrence of the designated coach.

b. At each tryout, all players shall be assigned a number and evaluators shall refer to players during the tryout only by their numbers.

c. Tryouts will be conducted by a Selection Committee of 5 individuals appointed by the EYSA Board of Directors. This Selection Committee will conduct the tryouts for roster slots and alternates under the direction of the Director of Coaching.

d. The Director of Coaching shall make a player assessment from input gathered from the Selection Committee and careful consideration of the recommendations of all coaches. He will then recommend to the EYSA Board of Directors a placement of players on age appropriate FSC teams.

e. No player shall be informed of placement on a team at a tryout.

f. The Director of Coaching will submit the recommendations for team formations to the EYSA Board of Directors for approval. The recommendations and approval shall occur within 72 hours of the tryout. Players and alternates selected will be notified immediately after this by posting the selections on the FSC web page. Informational letters will be sent out to the parents who do not provide an e-mail address.

g. Players offered a place on a team shall have 48 hours from the date on which the offer is made to accept placement on the team. If after 48 hours, the placement has not been accepted by the player, that place may be offered to an alternate player off the waiting list which was developed at tryouts. (These players should be ranked as first alternate, second alternate, etc.)

### **Section C – PLAYER SELECTION**

3.1 Player selection will be made solely on the basis of player skill, attitude, performance and potential as exhibited at the tryout.

3.2 Players will normally be required to play on a team of their age group as determined by USYSA. To obtain a waiver of this rule (granted only under exceptional circumstances), players must request permission from the DOC to try out for a team above their age and class (generally, a younger birth year player will be allowed to play up if with his/her school class). In exceptional circumstances where a player wishes to play up, the DOC will meet with the player and the player's parents and may meet with the coaches of both age group teams to determine what is best for the player, teams and club. At times it may be necessary to combine two age groups to form a quality team. In this event, the DOC and selection committee will make an appropriate recommendation to the EYSA Board of Directors.

3.3 Selection of players for Developmental teams (U-9, U-10) shall be undertaken in the same manner as for the remainder of the Club's teams with one exception. Players will be assigned to teams by coaches present at the tryouts in a manner designed to maximize competitive parity among teams.

### **Section D – REGISTRATION**

4.1 Initial team registration must be completed prior to any scheduled game play. Player registration will be completed immediately following final player selection. The club administrator will announce the method for player registration.

4.2. Players will be asked to provide two copies of their birth record, a recent photograph (full face, approximately 1-1/2 x 2"), their membership fees, and a signed and notarized (with seal) medical release form, with a copy provided to the coach of the team.

### **Section E – MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Membership fees cover KYSA and EYSA fees, tournament fees, training fees, and DOC fees.

5.1 Membership fees are set by the EYSA Board of Directors on a yearly basis.

a. Treasurer may elect to allow payment installments instead of requiring the full payment at the time of player registration.

b. Fees will be assessed for each season in which the player participates.

c. Fees generally are not refundable. In the rare event an extenuating circumstance develops, like a job transfer out of town, a request can be made to the EYSA Board of Directors for a partial refund.

### **Section F – PRACTICES**

Organized practices for younger teams (U-14 and below) will normally be limited to two a week. Additional practices may be scheduled under specific circumstances (for example, just prior to

participation in a major tournament). At the discretion of each team coach, practices for older teams (u-15 and above) may be more frequent.

### **Section G – PLAYER PARTICIPATION**

Players must be prepared to make a major commitment to soccer. They must be committed to attending all practices and games unless there are good reasons for the absence. Given the club focus on teaching, practices are viewed as equally important as games. Players who miss practices may lose playing time. Players may participate in other sports or competitive activities subject to the following guidelines:

- a. A soccer game shall take precedence over a game or event in another sport.
- b. a soccer practice shall take precedence over a practice for another sport or competitive activity. Scheduled school and religious events are an exception to the above paragraph. For school events, the player will furnish the coach and team manager a complete schedule (when possible) and must notify the coach of the intent to miss team practices/ games.

### **Section H – PLAYING TIME**

It is in the best interest of the club and its teams to afford each player as much playing time as possible. This will provide the opportunity for player development and advancement in FSC. Playing time may vary from game to game, for junior teams (U-14 and under) coaches will ensure that each player receives a minimum average playing time of approximately one third of each game. Playing time shall be determined by the coach and may be regulated by the coach for reasons such as:

1. Unexcused absence.
2. Lack of participation in practices, poor physical condition.
3. Player attitude.
4. Unsporting conduct.

For the conditions above, coaches are encouraged to advise the player that playing time may be cut.

### **Section I - SUSPENSION**

9.1 Acts of conduct of parent/guardians and members that reflect unfavorably on the FSC, that do not promote club policy and objectives, that create dissension and disharmony within the membership are subject to sanctions. (See Rule 9 EYSA By-Laws)

9.2 A player, parent, coach or FSC member may be suspended from FSC activities, pending a formal hearing in accordance with KYSA guidelines and concurrence by the EYSA Board of Directors.

9.3 Players may not be dropped involuntarily in contravention of KYSA rules.

### **Section J - PLAYER ASSESSMENT**

10.1 Improvement in the game of soccer is enhanced by feedback. Consequently, ongoing evaluation and feedback is a central and ongoing part of the training process. In addition to such feedback, senior players (U-15 and above) are invited to request a more formal assessment from their coach at the end of each season.

10.2 A coach may use an evaluation format of his/her choice.

10.3 The FSC requires that coaches of junior teams (U-14 and below) routinely provide a formal assessment of each player at the conclusion of each season. Coaches of junior teams will use a written standard evaluation form. These forms will be placed in the player's file.

10.4 The Coaching committee will monitor the evaluation process in order to ensure that all players in the FSC receive appropriate feedback.



## **Section K – UNIFORMS**

11.1 Player uniforms will be purchased by the player/parents.

11.2 Uniform colors shall consist of and an Away game uniform of a maroon jersey, shorts, and socks. The Home game uniform will include a white jersey, white socks, and maroon shorts. Other uniform combinations may be submitted by the DOC and approved by the EYSA Board of Directors.

11.3 Changes to uniforms may not be made without prior EYSA Board of Directors approval.

## **Section L – REFEREES**

12.1 All FSC games are to be officiated by United States Soccer Federation (USSF) certified referees and are to be covered by three (3) referees.

## **Section M – COACHING**

13.1 The Director of Coaching (DOC) shall appoint, assign, and train FSC coaches. The DOC shall present to the EYSA Board of Directors recommendations for dismissal of a coach along supporting facts before specific action is taken.

13.2 A Coaching Committee shall be composed of three FSC members selected by the EYSA Board of Directors in consultation with the DOC, and a member of the coaching staff elected by current coaches in good standing (excluding the DOC).

a. The duties will include working with the DOC to:

1. Identify and refer potential coaching candidates to the DOC.
2. Receive, review, and respond to complaints regarding the performance of any FSC coach. Make recommendations for corrective action to DOC for presentation of approval to the EYSA Board of Directors.
3. Provide guidance to the DOC on FSC policies (i.e. duties, compensation).
4. Provide soccer training assistance to the DOC as needed.
5. Provide bi-monthly training sessions to the FSC coaches to further their education and training for the game of soccer.

13.3 Training of coaches: FSC places a priority on providing training and learning opportunities for its Coaches. To this end, the FSC will require all coaches to participate in bimonthly workshops and clinics to increase their knowledge of the game. It is expected that coaches will attain at least a D license and that many will work toward C, B, or A licenses and/or National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) certification. In order to encourage such continuing education and improvement in the quality of coaching, FSC, at the discretion of the DOC, will reimburse or pay directly the fees required for all FSC coaches to obtain NSCAA certifications and/or USSF F, E, or D licenses. Coaches wishing to receive assistance with expenses involved in obtaining these advanced certifications or licenses should contact the DOC. Such requests will be considered by the DOC on a case by case basis.

13.4 Director of Coaching

a. The Director of Coaching (DOC) shall be hired and reviewed on an annual basis by the EYSA Board of Directors.

b. Qualifications for the selection of the Director of Coaching will include:

1. Substantial experience in the game of soccer as a player and coach.
2. National level licensing by the USSF and/or the NSCAA.
3. A reputation for excellence in coaching and for exemplary behavior, good sportsmanship and positive role-modeling.

4. Demonstrated high level of interpersonal communication skills and problem solving abilities within a team of administrators, Board members, coaches, and parents.

c. The DOC shall serve as an ex officio member of various committees determined by The EYSA Board of Directors.

d. The DOC shall identify, screen, and nominate FSC goalkeeping coaches. The Coaching Committee, working with the goalkeeping coaches, shall schedule training sessions appropriate to goalkeepers at each age level.

e. As the education and training of coaches and players is viewed as one of the most important functions of the DOC the following represents expectations of the EYSA Board of Directors for the DOC:

1. Meet with each team/coach at least once per month.

2. Attend the monthly EYSA Board meetings.

3. Provide continuing education for coaches on a bi-monthly basis.

4. Organize appropriate off season training programs for players.

5. Meet with all parents of an FSC player twice a season in a “general membership” type meeting.

6. Provide the EYSA Board of Directors a “state of FSC” presentation before each season. This information will also be provided at the annual EYSA general membership meetings as designated by the EYSA President.

f. The Director of Coaching shall serve as the overall Director of Tryouts and shall be charged with ensuring that all tryouts are held in a fair and equitable manner according to the rules of the FSC.

g. The Director of Coaching shall be hired by the EYSA Board of Directors and his/her salary shall be set by them. An annual review of the DOC’s performance, job description, and salary will also be conducted by the EYSA Board of Directors.

h. The Director of Coaching will interview new coaches and explain FSC policies and philosophy.

13.4 All coaches and trainers are required to complete forms for a background check before being allowed to coach. This will be required on an annual basis (prior to start of Fall season.)

## **Section N - CONDUCT**

14.1 All members of the EYSA FSC are expected to conduct themselves in a sporting and civil manner in connection with any FSC related activity, including matches, tournaments, practices, meetings, and other FSC functions. In particular, all members of the EYSA FSC are expected to support referees’ efforts to officiate and control conduct on and off the field.

14.2 Coaches and team managers are jointly responsible for the conduct of all FSC members and their guests during and immediately before and after all matches. Every FSC member (parents, coaches, players) is expected to share in this responsibility equally and support others in the enforcement of appropriate conduct. A code of conduct for parents is contained in EYSA By-laws.

14.3 Coaches shall report to the EYSA Board of Directors any conduct of FSC members affiliated with their team that results in a red card, match termination, or other exclusion from participation in or observation of play. Such reports shall be in writing and provided to the EYSA Board of Directors within 48 hours of the alleged misconduct.

14.4 Any disciplinary action that shall be brought before the EYSA Board of Directors shall follow **RULE 9 OF EYSA BYLAWS.**

## **Section O – APPEALS**

Appeals of decisions must be made to the EYSA Board of Directors within 72 hours of notice of the decision.

## **Section P – CONFLICTS OF RULES**

When any FSC rule is contrary to an EYSA, KYSA, USSF, or USYSA rule, the FSC rule shall be void and the applicable EYSA, KYSA, USSF, or USYSA rule shall control FSC action.

**Section Q – BANNERS**

Teams' banners are to be nominated by the DOC and are subject to EYSA Board of Directors approval.

**Section R – SPONSORSHIP**

18.1 FSC shall encourage sponsorships. However, no form of logo or advertisement may be placed on uniforms as outlined by USSF.

18.2 The form and placement of sponsor logs must be approved by the EYSA Board of Directors.

18.3 Major sponsorships (over \$5,000) must be coordinated with and approved by the EYSA Board of Directors.

**Section S – EMPLOYMENT/VOLUNTEER DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

19.1 It is the policy of FSC to exclude from all programs any person with a documented history of molestation, sexual abuse, exploitation, physical abuse, or other crimes against persons. The policy applies to coaches, assistant coaches, employees, the EYSA Board of Directors, and coordinators who come into direct contact with players.

19.2 There are times, especially when players travel, that they are outside the presence or custody of their parents or guardians. These occasions may be when a player travels to a tournament with another family. The following rules exist for all players in FSC directed programs:

a. All coaches, assistant coaches, employees, Board of Directors, coordinators, and others in positions of responsibility must have an Employee/Volunteer Disclosure form on file with the EYSA Board of Directors.

b. It is recommended that the person hosting the player have a Medical Release form with them at all times.

c. Players are not permitted to leave FSC activities without the express permission of the coaches. In the event that a coach is not available, the team manager may provide permission for a player to leave.

## **Section T – FLAMES SOCCER CLUB ADVISORY BOARD**

20.1 FSC Advisory Board will consist of VP for Flames Soccer Club, FSC Girls Director, FSC Mixed Director, Flames Parent Representative, and DOC as an ex-officio member.

20.2 The Flames Soccer Club will meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Carroll Soccer Complex.

20.3 FSC Advisory Board will be elected annually. Any individual desiring to be elected to the Advisory Board needs to inform the Competitive Commissioner by April 1 of each year. Elections will be held during the May FSC meeting. The new Advisory Board will take effect on June 1.

20.4 The Treasurer of the FSC Advisory Board shall submit a season ending financial report to the EYSA Board of Directors.

20.5 The Advisory Board will organize and run the Heartland Invitational Tournament that is to be held the weekend before the Heartland Festival. Also, the Advisory Board will host a Memorial Day Tournament beginning May, 2003. Both of these activities are under the EYSA Board of Directors authority and approval.

## **Rule 2100. Guidelines for Weather Conditions**

### ***Section A. General:***

The protection of EYSA/AFFC members and participants is of paramount importance. Every member should recognize the danger presented by lightning, tornados and other hazardous weather. The following items represent generally accepted principles regarding the dangers involved with lightning and tornados.

### ***Section B. Lightning:***

1. All thunderstorms produce lightning and are dangerous.
2. Lightning often strikes as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall. You are in danger from lightning if you can hear thunder. You are in danger if you can see lightning.
3. Lightning injuries can lead to permanent disabilities or death. Look for dark cloud bases and increasing wind.
4. Lightning can travel sideways for up to 10 miles and strike when skies are blue.
5. Soccer fields are a dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. When lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or when dark threatening clouds are observed, quickly suspend the match and/or practice and move to a safe location.
6. Avoid standing in an open area, near soccer goals, under a tent, near trees or in water. The safest place during a thunderstorm with or without visible lightning is in a car, but not a convertible.

**Section C. Tornadoes:**

1. Watch for rapidly darkening skies.
2. The sound of an approaching tornado is often described as that of an approaching train.
3. The funnel of a tornado does not have to touch down to cause extensive damage and injuries.
4. Tornadoes can produce winds of 300 miles per hour or more.
5. Most people who are hurt during a tornado are hurt when they are struck by flying debris.
6. Seek safety in a solid structure, preferably in a basement or in an interior room. If no building is available, lay down in a ditch.

**Section D. Match Suspension:**

1. In any of the circumstances outlined below occurs, the referee should immediately suspend the match.
  - a. If thunder is heard, the match should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
  - b. If lightning is seen, the match should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
  - c. If a thunderstorm is heard or seen coming or your hair stands on end, the match should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter. Do not wait until it rains.
2. If the match official does not immediately suspend the match when any one of the points above have occurred, the head coach from each team can agree that one of the four criteria listed above have occurred they are to withdraw their teams from the field. If this action is taken, then both coaches must submit a written report to their league outlining the circumstances, the facts concerning the weather conditions at that time, the fact that the two coaches were in agreement and the name of the officials at the match.
3. If an official and one of the coaches do not reach the conclusion to suspend the match and any one of the four points listed above are believed to have occurred, the coach that supported the suspension of the match is to send a written report to their league outlining the facts and the names of the officials.
4. No one should retake the field or re-start the match until all of the lightning and thunder or other hazardous weather has left the area. Specifically, no one should retake the field for a minimum of 30 minutes after the last lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or the dangerously high winds have passed.

**Section E. Practice Suspension:**

1. In any of the circumstances outlined below occurs, the Coach should immediately suspend the Practice:

- a. If thunder is heard, practice should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
- b. If lightning is seen, practice should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
- c. If a thunderstorm is heard or seen coming or your hair stands on end, practice should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter. Do not wait until it rains.

2. If the head coach does not immediately suspend practice when any one of the points above have occurred, the assistant coach or a parent can withdraw their player/team from the field. If this action is taken, then the assistant coach or parent must submit a written report to their league outlining the circumstances, the facts concerning the weather conditions at that time, and the name of the head coach.

3. No one should retake the field or re-start the match until all of the lightning and thunder or other hazardous weather has left the area. Specifically, no one should retake the field for a minimum of 30 minutes after the last lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or the dangerously high winds have passed.

***APPENDIX A: Possible Offenses, Referenced in Rule 1010***

**1. Violent Crimes & Serious Crimes Against a Person:**

Aggravated Assault Hit and Run Causing Injury/Death  
Aggravated Battery w/ Firearm Kidnapping  
Armed Robbery Murder  
Arson Possession of Explosives  
Assault Preventing a 911 Call  
Attempted Murder Terrorism  
Battery Reckless Homicide  
Blackmail Robbery  
Child Abandonment Second Degree Murder  
Child Abduction Stalking  
Child Pornography Solicitation for Murder  
Cruelty to Animals Tampering w/Food or Drugs  
Domestic Battery Threatening Public Officials  
Endangering the Life or Health of a Child Treason  
Exploitation of a Child Unlawful Restraint  
Extortion Vehicular Car Jacking  
Harboring a Runaway Vehicular Endangerment  
Hate Crime Violation of Order of Protection  
Home Invasion

**2. Less Serious Crimes Against a Person:**

Harassment Intimidation  
Harassment of Jurors or Witnesses Obscene Phone Calls  
Involuntary Manslaughter Simple Assault  
Restraining Order

**3. Sex Offenses:**

Bigamy Lewd and Lascivious Behavior  
Child Pornography Obscenity  
Criminal Sexual Abuse Pandering  
Criminal Sexual Assault Pimping  
Criminal Transmission of HIV Prostitution  
Distribution/Sale of Pornography to a Minor Public Indecency  
Indecent Solicitation of a Child Sex with a Minor  
Indecent Exposure Sexual Exploitation of a Child  
Keeping a Place of Prostitution Solicitation of a Sexual Act

**4. Theft-related Crimes:**

Bid Rigging Looting  
Bid Rotating and Kickbacks Money Laundering  
Bribery Misuse of Credit Card  
Burglary Possession of Burglary Tools  
Check Kiting Tax Evasion  
Fencing Of Stolen Goods Theft of Intellectual Property  
Forgery Ticket Scalping

Industrial Espionage Welfare Fraud  
Interference with Public Contracts

**5. Fraud:**

Deceptive Sales Mail and Wire Fraud  
Fraudulent Advertisement Odometer Fraud  
Insurance Fraud Public Aid Fraud

**6. Serious Substance Abuse Crimes:**

Abuse of Prescription Medicines Possession of Marijuana, more than one ounce  
Criminal Drug Conspiracy Possession of Illegal Substances  
Distribution of Alcohol to Minors Sale or Manufacture of Illegal Substances  
Illegal Transportation of Controlled Substances

**7. Miscellaneous Substance Abuse Crimes:**

Driving Under the Influence Possession of Marijuana, less than one ounce  
Drunk in Public Sale of Alcohol to a Minor  
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

**8. Miscellaneous Crimes:**

Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm Interference with Judicial Proceeding  
Concealing or Aiding a Fugitive Obstructing Justice  
Criminal Damage to Property Legislative Misconduct  
Criminal Trespass Obscene Phone Calls  
Discrimination in Sale of Real Estate Perjury  
Disorderly Conduct Reckless Conduct  
Driving without a License Reckless Driving  
Driving without Insurance Repeated Traffic Offenses  
Environmental Crimes Tampering with Public Records  
Gunrunning Unlawful Possession of Weapons  
Identity Switching Unlawful Use of Body Armor  
Illegal Gambling Unlawful Use, Sale, or Discharge of a Metal  
Piercing Bullet  
Impersonating a Law Enforcement Officer Vandalism  
Unlawful Sale of Firearms