SUPPORT. COMPETE. UNITE.

MINNESOTA
WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE

Bylaws

Minnesota Women's Soccer League | Updated October 2026

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1: Name

a, The name of the association shall be: Minnesota Women's Soccer League (MWSL)

2: Purpose

a. The purpose of this association shall be the promotion, development and regulation of women's soccer in Minnesota.

3: Affiliation

a. This Association shall be affiliated with the United States Soccer Federation, Inc. (USSF) and such other soccer organizations determined from time to time by the Board.

4: Jurisdiction, Territory

a. This Association shall have jurisdiction over all members, officials and players associated herewith and over all matters connected with this Association in the State of Minnesota.

b. The Association shall maintain an actual registered office, mailing address, or post office box within Minneapolis, St. Paul, or a suburb of either, as designated by the Board of this Association.

5: Membership

a. Members

- Teams and individuals shall be eligible for membership. Each team must make a separate application for a team membership. Only women shall be permitted to register as players.

- Each team that is a member of the Association shall advise the Secretary in writing of its address, of a designated representative and of any alternate representative eligible to vote on Association matters.
- Each member shall be liable for such dues and assessments as are levied by the Board, and shall not be eligible to vote during such time as they are delinquent in the payment of such fees and fines, or during such time as they are delinquent in the payment of any fees and/or fines.
- Fees and fines shall be established and collected by the Board.

b. Application of Membership

- Applications for membership and the payment of any deposits, fines, or fees shall be accepted and approved or rejected as determined by the Board from time to time.
- The Board may terminate the membership of any member who fails to pay fees or fines on a timely basis. Such termination may be effected without a hearing by giving notice to the member, provided that the member may void such termination by purging themselves of said delinquency and the payment of any late fee or reinstatement fee within ten days of such notice.
- The Board may, by two-thirds vote of all directors eligible to vote, terminate the membership of any member for good cause. Such termination shall only take place after an open hearing takes place which the member is afforded an opportunity to attend and present evidence on their own behalf, including the right to cross-examination of witnesses presenting evidence against the member. The hearing shall not take place without ten (10) days advance notice to the member to be terminated. Where the member is a team, reasonable steps should be taken to give notice to other team members in addition to the designated team representative.

6: Directors

a The Board shall consist of the officers of this Association and two to six members-at-large. The number of members-at-large to be elected each year shall be determined by the members at the annual meeting.

b. The directors shall be elected by the members at the annual meeting of this Association.

c. Any person with a commitment to serving the goals of the Association shall be eligible for election as a director.

d. The term of each director who is an officer of the Association shall commence immediately after election and shall expire at the next annual meeting of this Association following their election as a director.

e. The terms of the Board shall commence immediately after election and may be for one or two years as determined at the annual meeting. If a two year term is not determined as approved at the annual meeting, the term shall be one year.

f. Directors may voluntarily resign at any time. However, such resignation shall not relieve such member of liability for any unauthorized acts which he or she supported while acting as director.

g. The members may, by a two-thirds vote of all members present at a special meeting held after at least ten days advance notice stating the purpose of the meeting, remove any person from the Board for cause. The person subject to removal must also be given such advance notice of the purpose of the meeting and be afforded an opportunity to address the members at such meeting before voting. Removal of a director who is also an officer shall also terminate that person's status as an officer.

h. Should a director resign or be removed from the Board before the annual meeting at which their term of office would otherwise expire, the remaining Board shall appoint a replacement to serve for the remainder of such term. If the Board chooses another officer to fill the vacant position, the Board may appoint another replacement for the office vacated.

i. The Board may make regulations as needed to implement these By-laws regarding:

- The conduct of business of this Association;
- Registration of teams, players, and referees;
- Team competition;
- Disciplinary matters;
- Protests and appeals; and
- Fees and fines.
- Regulations made by the Board may be rescinded or amended by the Board.

7: Officers

a. The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, Field and Schedule Coordinator, and a Commissioner. No person may hold more than one office at a time.

b. President

- When in attendance, the President of this Association shall preside at all meetings of the members including the annual meeting, and at all meetings of the Board.
- The President of this Association shall pass upon and approve all disbursements by the Association.
- The President shall be Chairman of the Board.

c. Vice President

- When the President is not in attendance, the Vice President shall preside at meetings of the members except the annual meeting, and at meetings of the Board.
- In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall have the authority of the President until a new President is appointed by the Board or elected at the next annual meeting.

d. Secretary

- The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the members and the Board and shall make a record of all actions of the Board.
- The Secretary shall attend to all correspondence of this Association and keep all records of this Association. With the Secretary's consent, the Secretary may maintain all or some of the records required to be maintained by the Commissioner or the Vice President.

e. Treasurer

- The Treasurer shall maintain a detailed account of the income, expenditures and property of this Association and shall provide a current statement thereof at the annual meeting and as requested by the Board at any of its regularly scheduled meetings.
- The Treasurer shall maintain all funds of this Association in a bank account in the name of this Association.
- Upon approval by the President, and pursuant to a budget and/or guidelines approved by the Board, the Treasurer shall pay the bills of this Association from the bank account of this Association.

f. Commissioner

- Serves as liaison between the teams and the referees as it pertains to laws of the game, disciplinary actions, and conduct
- Has jurisdiction to act upon all matters as described under Article 19 – Disciplinary Matters, including maintenance of records of player or team disciplinary actions related to team competition
- Has jurisdiction to act upon disputes over league standings as well as all matters described under Article 12-Standings
- Rules on outcome of all scheduled games that are not played for any reason and on games with premature terminations
- Rules on all protests regarding the outcome of games

- Maintains records of results of games, including referees' reports, and standings in the association.

g. Field and Schedule Coordinator

- Schedules games and fields for the Association.
- Approves all modifications of the league schedule including changes of field locations and rescheduling of postponed games.
- Acts upon requests by teams for permission to play or postpone games in those cases wherein permission is required.

h. Members-At-Large

- Members-at-Large shall be responsible for all duties assigned by the President. If there is a continuing Member-at-Large, they (or one of the continuing directors) shall facilitate through the election at the annual meeting.

8: Meetings

a. An annual meeting of the members shall be called by the President and held in Minneapolis, St. Paul, or a suburb thereof. A virtual annual meeting can substitute an in person one.

b. Other meetings of the members may be called from time to time by the Board of Directors, by the President, or upon written or via email demand by two-fifths or more of the members. In the latter case, the President shall call the meeting to be held within two weeks of such demand and notice of the meeting shall be communicated within seven days of such demand; provided that the purpose of such meeting is described in such demand.

c. The President shall call a meeting of the Board of Directors at any time deemed necessary.

d. The Board may levy fines, impose higher dues, and/or terminate membership, against a team representative who fails to attend meetings of the members.

e. The Secretary shall provide email notice to all members and directors of the meetings of the members. The Secretary shall provide notice of the meetings of the Board to all members of the Board.

f. Notice of all Board of Directors meetings shall be posted on the MWSL website. Anyone wishing to add to the official agenda must notify the Secretary a minimum of 5 days in advance or raise their agenda item in the open forum of the meeting.

g. A quorum must be present at a meeting of members or a Board meeting in order for a vote to be taken at that meeting.

h. A quorum at a meeting of members shall be 25% or more. A quorum of the Board shall be 50% or more.

i. The Board may conduct votes of the members by email, provided that the matter to be voted upon is described in writing on an email ballot submitted to all the members, and further provided that each ballot counted is emailed to the Secretary. In any election by mail, the Board shall set a time in which the ballot must be returned to the Secretary. If 33 1/3% or more of the eligible ballots are returned in time, this shall be sufficient for quorum purposes for the vote to be counted.

j. Except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws, a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to carry a motion.

k. For election as an officer and/or a director, a person must receive a majority of the votes cast. If no person receives such a majority upon the first ballot, a run-off ballot will be held between the two highest vote getters.

l. There shall be one vote per individual member and one vote per team. If there is more than one designated representative present at a meeting for a team, such representatives shall be responsible for determining between themselves how the one vote will be cast.

9: Team Competition

a, Teams that are members of the Association desiring to play non-member teams shall get such permission as may be required by the Board.

b, The structure of the Association shall be defined in regulations promulgated by the Board.

10: Registration

a. Each team shall cause each of its players to be registered with the United States Soccer Federation.

b. Team and player registration, and the payment of any required fees, shall be as specified in regulations promulgated by the Board.

c. The term of all player registrations shall expire as set forth in the regulations.

d. A player must be 18 years of age to be eligible to register in the Association.

e. Registration - a two step process will be developed to verify payment from teams and players. The first step will be with the Registrar. They will approve the team or player. The Treasurer is responsible for checking that the monies are received.

11: Disciplinary Matters, Protests, & Appeals

a. The Board shall establish its rules and regulations and grounds for disciplinary actions, protests, and appeals.

b. The Board of this Association shall have the authority (1) to levy suspensions, fines, revocations of membership, affiliation, and/or registration, and (2) to order forfeiture, replay, cancellation of games; except that an amateur player may not be fined for their conduct as a player.

c. The Commissioner of this Association shall consider allegations of said violations or misconduct by member teams, by players and officials thereof, and by spectators under the jurisdiction of this Association, and take appropriate disciplinary action authorized and/or required by regulations promulgated by the Board of this Association.

d. The President of this Association shall act in lieu of the Commissioner in considering any matter affecting a member of this Association with which the Commissioner is affiliated, or affecting the position in the standings of the Association or of any cup competition of any team with which she is affiliated.

e. The Board of this Association shall promulgate regulations specifying the procedure to be followed by the Commissioner in considering allegations of said violation or misconduct.

12: Cup Competition

a. All officials officiating games sponsored by this Association must be registered with the United States Soccer Federation or an affiliated association.

b. Referee disciplinary matters shall be determined by the Board of Directors or such person appointed by them.

c. The Minnesota Soccer Association has original jurisdiction for referee abuses or assaults.

13: Effective Dates of Notice, Etc

a. The effective date of any notice, permission, or other communication by any officer of this Association which is mailed, shall be the date deposited with the postage prepaid in the United States mail.

b. The date of any telephone notice shall be the date of any actual conversation with such person or, if there is a telephone recorder, of leaving a message on such recorder.

c. The timestamp of any email transmission shall be considered the date of the vote.

14: Amendment of Bylaws

a. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the attending Board members, requiring 50% of the Board in attendance.

b. Copies of all amended By-laws shall be distributed to the members via scheduled mailings or in attendance of Board meetings.

15: Effect of Enactment

a. These Bylaws shall be effective immediately upon their enactment.

b. The officers of this Association upon the date of enactment shall continue in the same office following enactment.

c. Teams and individuals affiliated with this Association upon enactment of these By-Laws who are in good standing with this Association shall continue as members of the Association without having to reapply for membership.

d. Upon enactment of these By-Laws, any rules and/or regulations of this Association inconsistent with these By-Laws are repealed.

e. Should any section or sections of these By-Laws be adjudged null and void by the United States Soccer Federation or by a court of competent jurisdiction, all other sections of these By-Laws shall remain in effect.

16: Disciplinary Matters

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a. Wherever written communications or mail is referenced to by these By-laws this explicitly includes electronic communication (email, website, etc.)