

**Constitution and By-Laws of the
Tri-County Soccer League**
Rev. Spring Meeting 2002



ISSA AFFILIATE

Article I

Name and Affiliation

The name of this organization shall be the Tri-County Soccer League, referred to hereafter as “the league”.

The league shall be affiliated with the Illinois State Soccer Association, referred to hereafter as I.S.S.A.

Article II

Offices

The principal office of the league shall be the home of the league president. The registered office may be changed from time to time by the board of directors.

Article III

Purpose

Section 1. To develop, promote and administer the game of soccer among all over 30 adults within the Tri-County Soccer League.

Section 2. To encourage and assist in the development and growth of the league and its teams so that soccer is made available to its participants.

Section 3. To develop and encourage sportsmanship and playing proficiency by all involved in soccer in the league.

Section 4. To encourage affiliation and registration of all teams within the league.

Section 5. To conduct tournaments for its soccer teams and participate in said tournaments.

Section 6. To do any and all acts necessary or desirable for the furtherance of the foregoing purpose and of the good of soccer.

Article IV

Members

Section 1. **Membership:** The members of the league shall be comprised of all teams approved by the Tri-County Soccer League and who are properly registered with I.S.S.A.

Member Jurisdiction: This league shall have complete jurisdiction over all league teams domiciled with the league and shall sanction all soccer play in the league. The board of directors of this league shall set forth rules and regulations to be followed by its affiliated members. Said rules are not to be contrary to those set forth by the I.S.S.A.

Membership Voting: For the good of the league each affiliated team, as defined in this Article, Section 1, will be entitled to one vote. Member votes are cast for the following:

- A) Election of league board of directors.
- B) League policy and rules that are not contrary to those of the I.S.S.A.

Section 2. **Annual Meeting:** The Annual Meeting of voting members shall be held each year, generally in the month of August. Notification of such annual meeting date, time and

place to voting delegates will be made at least 14 days prior to said meeting. Meetings are open to all members of the league and are mandatory for coaches of member teams.

Special Meetings: Special meetings of the membership may be called by the president, a majority of the board of directors or by written petition of one third of the voting members signing said petition and submitting it to the secretary of the league. Notification of special meetings will be at least 14 days prior to said meeting.

Section 3.

Place of Meeting: The president or board of directors may designate any place within the immediate area of the league as the place of any and all meetings.

Section 4.

Quorum, Voting disputes, manner of voting: The board of directors shall set a determination and decision and same will be a matter of public record.

Article V

Directors

Section 1.

General Powers: The Business and affairs of the league shall be managed by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected league officers and up to three members of the league elected by the affiliated teams as provided herein.

Section 2.

Number, Tenure and Qualifications: The number of directors of the league shall be as needed. Each director shall hold office for one year. In the event of vacancy by death or resignation, the president of the league shall appoint a director to fill such unexpired term. Such appointment must be approved by a majority of the Board of Directors.

Section 3.

Special meeting: Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the president or 50% of the Board of Directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix the place for holding any special meeting of the Board of Directors called by them.

Section 4.

Notice: Five days notice of any special meeting shall be given to each director. Any director may waiver notice of any meeting. The attendance of a director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notices of such meeting.

Section 5.

Quorum: 50% of the number of directors fixed by these by-laws constitute a quorum for transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors, provided that if there are less than 50% of the directors present, they may adjourn the meeting to another time without notice.

Section 6:

Manner of Action: the act of the majority of directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors.

Article VI

Officers

Section 1.

Numbers: The officers of the league shall be a president, past president, vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, league administrator, over 40 division director and director of competition such other officers as may be elected or appointed by the Board of Directors.

Section 2.

Election and Terms of Office: The officers of the league shall be elected annually. These officers may at any time vacate their position of their own free will and their positions will then be up for election. Vacancies may be filled or new officers filled at any meeting of Board of Directors. Each officer shall hold office until his successor shall have been duly elected and shall have qualified or until his death or until he shall resign or shall have been removed in the manner hereafter provided.

Section 3.

Removal: Any officer elected or appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors whenever, in it's judgement, the best

interests of the league would be served thereby.

- Section 4. **Vacancies:** A vacancy in any office, for whatever reason, may be filled by the nomination of the president with the approval of the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.
- Section 5. **President:** The president shall be the chief executive officer of the league and shall in general supervise and control all of the business and all affairs of the league. He shall serve as an ex officer of all committees, evaluates complaints from managers and violation of League Constitution and By-laws and takes appropriate action, supports and counsels team managers, chairs Grievance Committee, communicates with League Administrator regarding registrations and records, calls for audit of League Administrator's records at his discretion, communicates with Director of Scheduling regarding schedules, rescheduling games, communicates with I.S.S.A regarding administration of I.S.S.A and T.C.S.L and attends I.S.S.A meetings or designates a representative.
- Section 6. **Past President, Member of Executive Committee:** Immediate Past President is a member of the Executive Committee. He shall advise the Board of Directors based on his experience and perform long range planning.
- Section 7. **Vice President, Member of Executive Committee:** In the absence of the president or in the event of his inability or refusal to act, the Vice President shall perform the duties of the president, and when so acting shall have all the powers of and he is subject to all the restrictions upon the president.
- Section 8. **League Administrator, Member of the Executive Committee:** Duties include keeping player and team registration and records, maintain team rosters, makes player passes, adds/releases players, receives game rosters from referees and makes entries in player records of players receiving red and yellow cards, in case of red card, receives player pass from referee and confers with President on severity of offense, returns pass at end of suspension, unless cause of red card requires further league action, submits records for audit when required and provides reports as necessary.
- Section 9. **Secretary, Member of Executive Committee:** The secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings and of the Board of Director, see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws or as required, be custodian of the league records, keep a register of mailing addresses of each coach, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the President or Board of Directors and publish the Newsletter.
- Section 10. **Treasurer, Member of Executive Committee:** The treasurer shall keep all financial records of the league, maintain a bank checking account in the name of the league, pay all financial obligation of the league from the league checking account, prepare and present financial reports for all league meetings and special reports at the request of the league president.
- Section 11. **Director of Competition, Member of Executive Committee:** Responsible for developing the league game schedule for the spring/summer as well as the fall seasons. Field restriction must be submitted by all teams to the director of Competition no less than 45 days prior to the first game, distributes schedules to team managers and referee assignor, selects Referee Assignor, receives game results (postcards) from team managers, evaluates and maintains record of referee performance, maintains leagues standings including total points, goals for and goals against, receives notice of games postponements, cancellations and rescheduling, communicates this information as well as status of fields with the president, organizes league playoffs and makes schedules.

Section 12 **Over 40 Division Director, Member of Executive Committee:** Administers Over 40 Division.

Section 13 **Additional Duties and Powers, Member of Executive Committee:** An officer present at a league function who believes that he witnesses a violation of the league's Constitution and by-laws may, at his discretion, investigate the situation and advise the Executive Board of his beliefs for action as deemed necessary by the Executive Board.

Article VII
Committees

The president and Board of Directors shall nominate any and all committees for circumstances and events as determined necessary. A hearing Committee, consisting of the league officers and the one member from each of the three divisions shall hear and resolve grievances.

Publicity and Promotion

Members to publicize League activities, especially tournaments and playoffs, and to investigate and promote potential new teams for the league.

Article VIII
Contracts

The Board of Directors may enter into contracts and agreements necessary to maintain league membership in the I.S.S.A. Any other contracts or binding agreements require the approval of a majority of the league membership.

Article IX
Fiscal and Seasonal Playing year

The fiscal year and playing season of the league shall begin on the first day of September and on the last day of August of each year.

Article X
Disputes

All members shall adhere to the by-laws and rules and regulations of this league and that of the I.S.S.A in all matters pertaining to intra-state, regional, national and international competition or in other competitions sponsored by the league.

Article XI
Amendments

This constitution and by-laws may be altered, amended or repealed and new by-laws may be adopted at any meeting of the league by two thirds vote of the membership present.

Article XII
Rules and Regulations

Section 1. All FFA rules apply.

Section 2. Players which make up T.C.S.L must be 30 years of age or older. They must be in good standing with the T.C.S.L They must be authorized to play through proper processing. Players must be 40 years of age or older to participate in the Over 40 division. Each team manager is responsible to enforce and check age restrictions.

Section 3. A deposit of \$50.00 is required from all new teams prior to the season. Such deposit, if used for one of your violations, must be replaced before the next scheduled game. All fines must be paid to the T.C.S.L official within 10 days from the date of occurrence. Non-compliance with this process will cause T.C.S.L to cancel your next scheduled game or games and additional sanctions may follow in the form of fines, forfeits, probation and removal from T.C.S.L

Section 4. Current teams must register on the appropriate form every playing season and pay the prescribed fees. Our playing season will start in September and continue through Spring and Summer generally ending in August with playoffs. New teams joining T.C.S.L will be put on an automatic one (1) year probation and will be required to pay a

\$100.00 Entry fee to T.C.S.L. Such registrations are held during our meeting in July. Failure to follow this procedure will result in your team not being considered on a schedule for that season. T.C.S.L reserves the right to refuse a team a registration based on non-compliance with the T.C.S.L rules and regulations.

Section 5.

(a). Team Rosters filed with League:

All teams must prepare an official league team roster, which shall be limited to a maximum of 25 players. All team rosters must be received by the League Administrator one (1) week prior to the start of the season. Failure to timely file a team roster shall result in forfeiture of each scheduled game until compliance with this provision has been completed.

(b) Team Rosters to be presented at each game:

Each team shall present a copy of its official league active roster, designating not more than 18 active players, to the game referee for inspection prior to the start of each game. Only the 18 Players designated as active on this roster shall be authorized to participate in the game for which the roster has been submitted. Use of non-authorized players shall result in forfeit for the offending team and a \$50.00 fine payable to the league. In addition, the offending team shall be responsible to pay all referee fees for the forfeited game.

(c) Roster Changes:

All roster changes must be submitted in writing to the League Administrator. The League Administrator shall have 14 days upon receipt of the proposed roster change to process each roster change or advise in writing the reason a proposed change can not be processed.

(d). Deadline for Roster Changes/Certification of Team Rosters for Play-offs:

No proposed roster change received after August 1st by the League Administrator shall be processed until after the league play-offs for that season. At the time of the league play-offs, the League Administrator shall have available for review the official team roster for each team eligible to participate in the play-offs.

Section 6.

I.D.'s: Each team can not have more than 25 blank or filled out I.D.'s at any time. A player must properly fill out each I.D. and submit a photo, current clear copy of an Illinois drivers license, State I.D. or birth certificate as proof of age and submit this information for processing by the T.C.S.L official. Any attempt to modify such information will cause an immediate disqualification of said player and a \$50.00 fine will be imposed on their team for every violation.

To qualify for a replacement blank I.D. you must submit the following to the T.C.S.L official a damaged blank I.D., damaged registration I.D. or player I.D. leaving your team. In case of a lost I.D. you will apply for a duplicate. No player can be registered with more than one (1) team in the T.C.S.L

A player must have their I.D. at each game in order to be eligible to play. Any attempt or use of players without I.D.'s and who are not authorized to play during a game will cause an immediate forfeit and a \$250.00 fine for each violation paid to T.C.S.L. In addition you could be responsible for referee fees of \$45.00. A player must have proof of age at each game and such proof must be made available for inspection by the referee. Non-Compliance will cause immediate disqualification of said player and a forfeit by the violating team.

Section 7.

Teams must have seven (7) legal players on the field within 15 minutes of the designated starting time of the game. Failure to have the required number of players within the designated time will result in a forfeit by the offending team. If the offending team is a visitor, they will be charged with a referee fee, paid to the home team. The home team is always responsible for the initial payment to the game referee. A game is considered legal when the 2nd half of the game begins.

- Section 8. In case of a color conflict, the home team will be required to change jerseys.
- Section 9. Results of each game will be reported by the game referee via rosters and the home team manager via score cards mailed by the home team manager directly to the T.C.S.L official within 48 hours of the completion of each game. In addition, all infractions must be reported by the referee, home team manager or visiting manager to the T.C.S.L official. If score cards are not mailed, your teams results will not be processed.
- The T.C.S.L designated official will maintain standings of the league and report such standings to the manager of each team not less than once a month during a league season. League standings will be determined by 1) most total points, 2) most games won, 3) goal differential, 4) head to head results, 5) coin toss. A coin toss, if necessary, will be conducted by the league president, unless the president is affiliated with a team involved in the coin toss, in which case another league officer will preside.
- Section 10. Games are to be played as scheduled except when rescheduling is agreed to by both teams and under the following restriction and requirements:
- A. **Weather or Field Related Cancellations:**
If weather conditions or field conditions require the cancellation of a game, the home team manager is to notify the visiting team manager and the game referee as soon as possible.
- B. **No Referee:**
If the scheduled game Referee does not arrive at the field within 20 minutes after the scheduled starting time of the game, and an acceptable substitute referee, as defined later in this paragraph, is not available, the game will be postponed and rescheduled under the rescheduling guidelines Section CA substitute referee must hold a current and valid U.S.S.F referee license and be able to supply verification of that licensing prior to the start of the game. The substitute referee must be acceptable to both teams. If either team does not accept the substitute, the games is postponed.
If the game is postponed, the two teams may agree to play a friendly scrimmage, however, the game will not be counted as a regular league game and will not count in the standings. Players who participate in the scrimmage do so "at their own risk" and will not be covered under the insurance provisions of the I.S.S.A.
- C. **Rescheduling Guidelines:**
Within 7 days of a canceled game, the home team must complete and mail a "rescheduled game card" with the league director of competition and the opposing manager showing an agreed upon new game date or listing three optional dates and times for the rescheduling of the game that are not in conflict with an existing scheduled for rescheduled game for either team. The dates must be on either a Saturday or Sunday for a Friday night when no league game is scheduled. The three dates may not all be on the same weekend. A mid-week date may be proposed as an additional alternative but is strictly at the mutual discretion of the two teams. The visiting team must select one of the three dates proposed within 7 days. Failure to select one of the proposed dates will result in a forfeit of the game by the visiting team. Failure to timely submit a "rescheduled game card" will result in a forfeiture of the game by the home team. The league president will determine if fines for the forfeit are to be levied. All fall session games must be rescheduled and played in the fall and all summer session games must be rescheduled and played at least 5 days prior to the playoffs. To reschedule late season games managers may request waiver of the written rescheduling procedures from the director of competition and the director of competition shall have the discretion to waive the written rescheduling procedures.

D. **League Notification of Cancellation and Rescheduled Games:**

In all cases, it is the responsibility of the original home team to notify the league president that a league game has been canceled, postponed or rescheduled. Such notification should be made within 24 hours of the cancellation of the scheduled game. No game is to be rescheduled for play within or before 10 days of league playoffs.

Section 11. Names of any players receiving a red card will be reported by the referee and managers using score cards to the T.C.S.L official for proper processing. A red card will automatically result in a suspension for the next live game, type of violation will determine the length of suspension. Any player receiving three (3) red cards for any reason or two (2) red cards for dangerous play or verbal abuse, will be suspended from league play for the balance of the season, but no less than eight league games, carried over, if necessary, to the following season.

Section 12. A team manager/coach that wants to challenge a player on the basis of age or proper team registration, may do so, either before the game, at half time, or immediately after the game. The referee must be notified first of your intent to challenge. If the referee determines that an underage player has participated in a game, the referee must report his finding to the league administrator. Upon notification from the referee or after a finding by the executive committee in response to a written grievance, that an underage player has participated in a game, the league administrator shall immediately impose a league suspension as to the offending player which shall not terminate until the offending player reaches the age of 31. If after suspension an underage player continues to participate in any league games, the player's club shall forfeit each match the underaged player participated in and the league administrator shall refer the matter to the executive committee for the imposition of any additional penalties.

Section 13. A team receiving two (2) forfeits during a playing session, will be placed on probation and could receive additional fines and face removal from the T.C.S.L Team status will be reviewed at the next league meeting or at a special meeting called in accordance with the rules pertaining to the calling of such meeting.

Section 14. Any player playing under the influence of alcohol will be disqualified for that game and possibly suspended for the next game. In addition, your team will be fined \$50.00 paid to T.C.S.L for each violation.

Section 15. Each team manager is required to use a grievance form to officially register any complaints or infractions with the T.C.S.L Such form must be signed by two witnesses. All complaints by teams must be well investigated and proven, before any T.C.S.L official will process such information and investigate it. Complaints must be filed within 7 days of an incident.

Section 16. Each team is required to use add/release form. No additions or deletions will be approved or made on your roster without this form.

Section 17. Players changing teams: 1) there is a 14 day maximum waiting period or sooner as decided by the team manager, 2) player's I.D. along with add/release forms must be submitted, 3) team manager has a right to extend a maximum waiting period, providing that he shows cause using a grievance form and such cause is agreed by the T.C.S.L official, 4) a player should inform a T.C.S.L official of this request to change teams,

using add/release forms.

Section 18.

Teams in the over 40 Division will comply with all Tri-County League rules as specified in these by-laws with the following modifications and additions:

A) **In section 1:** All FFA rules apply except for play substitution. There will be unlimited substitution allowed at the time of any non-foul dead ball with the permission of the game referee.

B) **In section 3:** Teams competing in the over 40 Division must pay all league and I.S.S.A team fees as a separate and distinct team. Players who are simultaneously roster on an Over 30 and Over 40 team will be responsible for their portion of the required fees for both teams. Fees paid to one team are not applicable to another team.

C) Over 40 teams formed in affiliation with an existing Over 30 team and containing players rostered on that Over 30 team will not be required to pay the \$100.00 league entry fee assessed to new teams.

D) **In section 5:** Over 40 teams must register all players on an official T.C.S.L Team Roster which may not contain more than 25 players. Players must be registered on this roster even if they are registered on their own teams Over 30 roster. Each player must sign the roster. Rosters will be sent to, and maintained by, the Director of the Over 40 Division. Teams will present the game referee with an “active player game roster” prior to the start of each game. This “game roster” may not contain more than 18 active players who must be drawn from the 25-player team roster that has been sent to the league. If players are changed, the roster must be changed using the regular roster change form and sent to the Director of the Over 40 Division.

E) **In section 6:** Player Identification for Over 40 teams will be done through the use of the League Game Roster and an approved form of personal identification consisting of one of the following:

- A) Current Drivers license
- B) State issued identification card
- C) Birth Certificate
- D) Currant Tri-County League player pass

Over 40 teams will not use the mandatory player pass system, however, each player participating in an Over 40 Division game must have one of the above forms of identification in his possession and available for inspection by the game referee if so requested by the referee. Team managers must maintain a file consisting of photocopies of each players approved identification as described in the above paragraph. This file must be available for inspection by the game referee at all times during any league game.

NOTES:

