

**VESTAL RECREATIONAL YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**BY-LAWS**  
Revised 2015

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**I. MEETINGS**

Meetings of the Vestal Recreational Youth Soccer Association, hereinafter called VRYSA, shall be governed by parliamentary procedure as defined in Robert's Rules of Order, as revised.

**II. QUORUM**

A quorum shall consist of six members of the Board of Directors, hereinafter called the Board, including at least one officer. If a quorum is not present, the meeting must be adjourned. If it is known in advance that a quorum will not be reached, the meeting can be cancelled or rescheduled by the Secretary or another officer.

**III. SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Special meeting of the Board shall require a forty-eight (48) hour notification be given to all directors.

**IV. BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

There shall be a standing By-Laws Committee to review all By-Laws and Standing Orders for consideration and change. This committee shall be appointed at the annual meeting of VRYSA. All changes and/or additions shall be submitted by the By-Laws Committee, with its recommendations, to the Board.

Revisions to these By-Laws must be made in writing and submitted to the Board at least two weeks prior to the meeting at which such amendments are to be presented. A two-thirds vote of the Board members present, and voting, at two consecutive meetings will be required to approve an amendment. Revised By-Laws must be sent to the body to which VRYSA is affiliated.

Revisions to the Standing Orders may be approved by a majority vote at a regularly scheduled Board meeting.

**V. REGISTRATION**

All players must register annually with VRYSA. They will be divided into divisions: The minimum age shall be four (4) years old. Age is determined as of December 31st of the current year.

Players registering for the first time, regardless of age, must provide proof of age at the time of registration.

A registration fee, to be determined by the Board, will be charged at the annual registration. Registration fees are nonrefundable, except by a majority vote of the board at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Dates for annual registration will be determined by the Board. An additional fee may be assessed for late registration after the established registration dates.

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**VI. PLAYERS**

All players must be legal residents of the Vestal School District. Open to other school districts within NYSWYSA boundaries if parents agree to volunteer. All players shall be properly registered with VRYSA.

Every player will be given the opportunity to play at least one-half (1/2) of the game unless injured, cautioned, or ejected.

Coaches are not required to play any player until seven (7) days after assignment to the team.

Upon approval by the board at a regularly scheduled meeting, a player may be moved to another age division, providing the player is no more than one year away from being eligible for the division to which assignment is sought. For the move to be considered, a prior written request must be submitted to the Board by the player's parent or legal guardian prior to the regularly scheduled meeting in June. A player will not be assigned to the next older division without the recommendation of the coach of the VRYSA team on which he last played or the recommendation of another coach for whom the player has recently played. No player shall be allowed to play on a younger team except for in extreme circumstances. In considering a request for a move to a younger division, the Board requires submission of a written recommendation from the player's physician or health care provider.

If a player is assigned to a team in the wrong division through a VRYSA error, upon discovery of the error by VRYSA, the player will be removed from the team and assigned to a team in the proper division at the earliest opportunity. No penalties shall be assessed to either the player or the team because of this error.

A player who plans to try out for a non-VRYSA team may register with VRYSA and be assigned to a team. If the player elects to play with the non-VRYSA team only, the player may not return to the VRYSA team upon completion of the other team's season and his registration fee shall be forfeited. This shall be explained at the time of registration.

**VII. TEAMS**

Teams shall consist of a maximum number of players as determined by the Board.

Players will be assigned to teams by the Division Coordinator utilizing a methodology approved by the Board at a regularly scheduled meeting.

- a. Irrespective of the methodology so approved, current Travel Players shall be evenly distributed amongst all teams in the division, to the extent possible.
- b. The Co-Ed divisions will also attempt to have an equal number of boys and girls and equal numbers of each age on each team.
- c. It is the intent of this section to evenly distribute the skill levels and experience of players amongst all teams within a division.
- d. Children of coaches within the division and siblings of players will be assigned to the teams where they have existing relatives. Only one coach and one assistant coach per team is guaranteed to have his children on the team she/he is coaching.

A player in one division stays on the same team in that division until he leaves the age division or the team is dissolved. All teams are deemed dissolved at the end of each season.

In the event a team is disbanded during the playing season, the Division Coordinator shall assign these players to existing teams in that division.

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**VIII. COORDINATORS**

At the annual meeting, the Board will assign (a) Coordinator(s) for each division.

The Coordinator for each division is responsible for settling all disputes not in the jurisdiction of the referee, or of the Board.

Late registrations will be received by the Coordinator, who will assign them to existing teams on a first-come, first-served basis. Special attention must be given to the compliance with the rules regarding Travel Team players.

**IX. COACHES**

All coaches shall be properly registered with VRYSA. Head coaches must be twenty-one (21) or older. Assistant Coaches under twenty-one (21) must be approved by the Board. At all games and practices, there must be at least one (1) coach that is twenty-one (21) or older.

Coaches are responsible for verifying their rosters contain only registered players. They are obligated to notify the Division Coordinator of any errors. Penalties for failure to do so shall be forfeit of games played when an ineligible player was on the team.

**X. GAMES**

All games shall be played on the dates and times specified by the Division Coordinators. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit by the teams involved. All games shall be played following FIFA Soccer Rules as given in the most recent English edition of "The Laws of the Game and Universal Guide for Referees With USSF Supplement" with interpretation and guidance from available publications of the USSF, and from "Fair or Foul", and with additions, variations, and clarifications published in VRYSA's Standing Orders.

EXCEPTION: Coed Division shall use the Modified Playing Rules U-8 from the "Young Player Developmental Program" (USYSA) with additions, variations, and clarifications published in VRYSA's Standing Orders.

**XI. TOURNAMENTS**

Notification of competition outside of VRYSA by any recreational program team shall be submitted to the Board prior to registering for any such competition. The Board in turn shall require compliance with the requirements of the body to which VRYSA is affiliated. Permission to travel shall be granted provided the team is in good standing and requirements are met. Expenses incurred for this shall be provided by the team wishing to travel by funds other than those of VRYSA.

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**XII. COMMUNITY AWARDS**

The number, types, and amounts of awards shall be determined during budget discussions. A committee will be formed for each type of award. A committee will not consist of fewer than three (3) Board members. Award recipients will be elected by a blind process.

**XIII. TEMPORARY CHANGES**

The Board can grant permission for temporary changes to the By-Laws. These changes shall be in effect for no more than one playing season. They shall be agreed to by majority vote of the Board at their regularly scheduled meeting. After the trial period, these changes will have to be discontinued or entered into the By-Laws (refer to **IV. BY-LAWS COMMITTEE** on page 3).