

Henry County Soccer Association Constitution

Article 1 - Name

The name of this organization shall be the Henry County Soccer Association Incorporated and will be known as the association or organization for all purposes hereinafter enumerated.

Article 2 - Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to provide control, regulation, promotion, and development of recreational and competitive soccer for teams headquartered in the Henry County Soccer Association.

Article 3 - Mission Statement

The intent of this organization shall be to promote the growth of the sport of soccer within our community. Focusing on teamwork, fun, sportsmanship, fair play, and respect for others and the Laws of Soccer. To provide a healthy, safe and enriching environment for the youth of Henry County in a family oriented setting.

Article 4 - Affiliation

Section 4.1

This organization shall be an affiliate of, and comply with the authority of the Georgia Youth Soccer Association (GYSA) and the Georgia Amateur Soccer Association (GASA) of the Georgia State Soccer Association (GSSA), recognizing the authority of the United States Soccer Federation (USSF).

Section 4.2

The Henry County Soccer Association (HCSA) Board of Directors may authorize other desired affiliates.

Article 5 – Government

Section 5.1

This organization shall be governed by its Constitution, By-Laws, rules of play, policies, regulations and procedures except where superseded by GYSA, GSSA, and/or USSF.

Section 5.2

The authority of this association shall be vested in the Board of Directors, except where so indicated in the Constitution, By-Laws, rules of play, policies, regulations and procedures of this association.

Section 5.3

The Executive Committee shall be made up of:

- a. The President, Vice President, Secretary, and Recreation Coaching Director who shall be elected by the Associate members of the organization.
- b. The Immediate Past President shall be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee.

Section 5.4

Elected members of the HCSA Board of Directors must reside in Henry County. No member may hold more than one Board position.

Section 5.5

Elected members of the HCSA Board of Directors shall be an associate member (as defined in Article 6) in good standing.

Section 5.6

The Board of Directors shall serve without pay or compensation for the performance of their board duties.

Article 6 – Membership

Section 6.1

Membership shall be open to all whom have an interest in the purpose of this organization, actively participate in membership requirements, and shall agree to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, policies, procedures, rules of play and regulations of this organization.

Section 6.2

The association shall permit all children to register for the purpose of playing soccer and shall admit them into membership of the association without regard to race, color, and creed, national and/or ethnic origin. Such persons shall have rights and privileges to programs and activities generally made available to all members of the association.

Section 6.3

The association shall not discriminate against its members on the basis of race, color, creed, or national origin in the administration of its policies.

Section 6.4

The Executive Committee shall review applications for Player Membership by handicapped children on a case-by-case basis.

Section 6.5

There shall be three (3) types of membership of this organization:

- a. Playing members – are those persons who have paid all required fees, and are properly registered players on properly registered teams of HCSA.
- b. Associate members – are those persons who are parents or legal guardians of

properly registered players within this organization; coaches, managers, and team officials of properly registered teams within this organization; club officers of HCSA.

c. Sponsor members – are those individuals, organizations, or business within the community of this organization that donate time, money, or assets to the development and promotion of this organization. Sponsor members shall not be eligible to vote or hold office.

Section 6.6

Every individual who is a recognized playing and/or associate member of this organization shall be entitled to the benefits of such membership.

Section 6.7

Membership shall commence upon registration (of the player, coach, manager, and team officials) and shall extend until the close of registration for the following season.

Section 6.8

Membership may be revoked or refused to those who, by their actions, demonstrate their inability or refusal to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of HCSA, USSF, GSSA, GYSA, or any of their affiliates; state and/or federal laws.

Article 7 - Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall:

- a. Transact all business of this organization.
- b. Delegate, for any endeavor, its authority to such person or persons whom it may from time to time designate.
- c. Enforce the rules of this organization and those of GYSA, GASA, GSSA, USYSA, USSF, and FIFA.
- d. Call a semi-annual meeting in February for the purpose of a special election, announcement of amendments to the policies, procedures, rules of play and regulations of this organization and to provide a report of activities to the membership of HCSA.
- e. Call an annual meeting in August for the purpose of an annual election of Executive Board members of the organization, voting on amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, announcement of amendments to the policies, procedures, and rules of play and regulations of this organization and provide a review of annual reports and the activities by the Board of Directors to the membership of HCSA.
- f. Have the authority to appoint board members to fill vacant positions until a special election can be held at the next general membership meeting..

- g. Appoint a delegate and an alternate to the Council of GYSA, GASA and GSSA.
- h. Have the authority to arrange games of any nature whatsoever in its own name, and to that end, it may marshal and demand support of every team of the organization and/or its personnel.
- i. Have the authority to suspend, expel, and/or impose penalties upon any team, and/or persons under its jurisdiction guilty of violation or breach of rules of this organization.
- j. Have the authority to settle disputes between two or more teams, and/or persons within this organization.
- k. Have the authority to investigate, correct, and demand to be corrected conditions that are detrimental to the operation or reputation of the organization.
- l. Have the authority to act on any matters of controversy subject to appeals of the organizations Discipline and Protest Committee, and GYSA, GASA, USYSA, and/or the USSF.
- m. Have the authority to adopt rules of play, policy, regulation or procedures to take effect the following season.
- n. Have the authority to contract with person or persons who will be compensated for their services.
- o. Prepare an annual budget.
- p. Have the authority to request an independent audit on behalf of the Association.
- q. Appoint temporary or standing committees.

Article 8 – Officers

Section 8.1

The Board of Directors shall be made up of the following officers:

President

Facilities Director

Vice President

Secretary

Recreational Director

Sponsorship/Fundraising Director

Immediate Past President

Marketing/Media Director

At-Large

Equipment Director

Section 8.2

The President, Secretary, At-Large, and Facilities Director shall be elected by ballot of the voting membership at the annual meeting, on odd numbered years. The President, Secretary, Field Scheduler, and Facilities Director shall hold office for a period of two (2) years.

Section 8.3

The Vice President, Equipment Director, Recreational Director, Sponsorship/Fundraising Director, and Marketing/Media Director shall be elected by ballot of the voting membership at the annual meeting, on even numbered years. The Vice President, Equipment Director, Recreation Coaching Director, Sponsorship/Fundraising Director, and Marketing/Media Director shall hold office for a period of two (2) years.

Section 8.4

Nominees shall be associate members in good standing with the association.

Section 8.5

The voting membership for the purpose of election shall consist of associate members and Board of Director members.

Section 8.6

Newly elected Board members will assume office immediately.

Section 8.7

Any officer of the Board of Directors or appointed committee member who is absent from three consecutive meetings, may forfeit their right to hold office for the unexpired term.

Section 8.8

Any two (2) members of the Board of Directors, whenever they think an officer or appointed committee member needs to be replaced, may call a meeting and present their case for a vote. Notification of this special meeting shall be made to each Board of Director member at least five (5) days prior to the meeting. A quorum of the Board of Directors must be present of this meeting. There should not be any Officer or committee member who cannot fully do their assigned duties.

Section 8.9

If a vacancy occurs in any office of the Board of Directors, other than the President, the President shall call a meeting of the Board of Directors to elect an interim successor to serve until the next general membership (semi-annual or annual) meeting when a special election can be held to fill the unexpired term. Notification of said meeting must be given to all Board members five (5) days prior to meeting.

Section 8.10

Officers may not be involved in any decisions or actions that directly relate to the team or club of which the Officer is a member such as E&G or D&P hearings.

Section 8.11

In the event there is no Vice President when the President's position is vacated, the Board of Directors will appoint an interim President.

Article 9 – Board of Directors Meeting

Section 9.1

The Board of Directors shall hold monthly meetings, January-December.

Section 9.2

A quorum for the Board of Directors shall be five (5) voting members.

Section 9.3

Board of Directors meetings minutes shall be posted and available to all members of the HCSA.

Section 9.4

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to call a closed meeting.

Section 9.5

A Board of Director member must be present in person to vote.

a. No proxy, written or oral, shall be permitted during called Board meetings.

b. When necessary for the uninterrupted operation of the club between Board meetings, an Email vote may be taken. All responses to the vote will be made with the “reply all” feature. The results of the vote will be included in the monthly minutes.

Article 10 – Semi Annual Meeting

Section 10.1

The President of this Association shall call a meeting of the members to be known as the Semi-Annual Meeting in February of each year. Notification of said meeting must be made available to all members fourteen (14) days prior to that meeting.

Section 10.2

The purpose of this meeting shall be to:

- a. Review reports from the Board of Directors.
- b. Review amendments in policy, rules of play or regulations for the Spring Season.
- c. Elect members (if necessary) to the Board of Directors in a special election.

Section 10.3

A voting representation at the Semi-Annual Meeting shall be as follows:

- a. Each member in good standing, having paid all fees, submitted all required documents, and not under disciplinary suspension, shall have one (1) vote.
- b. Each Board of Director member, elected and appointed, shall have one (1) vote.
- c. The President shall have one (1) vote in the special election.

Section 10.4

A member must be present in person to vote.

- a. No proxy, written or oral, shall be permitted.

Article 11 - Annual Meeting

Section 11.1

The President of this Association shall call a meeting of the members to be known as the Annual Meeting in August of each year. Notification of said meeting must be made available to all members fourteen (14) days prior to that meeting.

Section 11.2

The purpose of this meeting shall be to:

- a. Review annual reports from the Board of Directors.
- b. Amend the Constitution and By-Laws of HCSA.
- c. Review changes in policy, rules of play or regulations for the Fall Season.
- d. Elect officers to the Board of Directors as described in Article 8, Sections 8.2 and 8.3.

Section 11.3

A voting representation at the Annual meeting shall be as follows:

- a. Each member in good standing, having paid all fees, submitted all required documents, and not under disciplinary suspension, shall have one (1) vote.
- b. Each Board of Director member, elected and appointed, shall have one (1) vote.
- c. The President shall have one (1) vote in the general election.

Section 11.4

A member must be present in person to vote. No proxy, written or oral, shall be permitted.

Article 12 – Rules of Play, Policy, Regulation and Procedure

Section 12.1

The HCSA shall have an official set of rules of play, policy, regulation and procedures, the contents of which shall be approved by the Board of Directors, and shall address those areas as required by this Constitution.

Section 12.2

No rule of play, policy, regulation and procedure shall conflict with or in any way serve to amend the HCSA Constitution and the HCSA By-Laws.

Section 12.3

The Board of Directors may amend or adopt rules of play, policy, regulation and procedures of this organization at any Board of Directors meeting.

Article 13 – Amendments, Changes and New Adoptions

Section 13.1

This Constitution may be amended at the Annual Meeting or the Semi-Annual meeting by a vote of three-quarters of Associate members present.

Section 13.2

Any two (2) members in good standing with the Association may submit in writing, proposed amendments or changes to the Rules and Policy Committee by the first Board of Directors meeting in May (for the annual meeting) or November (for the semi-annual meeting).

Section 13.3

Proposed changes, new adoptions, and amendments to the HCSA Constitution must be submitted, in writing, to the Board of Directors and include the following information to be considered:

- a. Name of individuals submitting proposed change.
- b. Existing rule.
- c. Proposed change.
- d. Rationale.

Section 13.4

The Executive Committee shall review each proposed amendment to the Constitution and either recommend to the Association to accept or deny such proposal.

Section 13.5

The Executive Committee shall give reason in writing for their recommendations.

Section 13.6

Notification of any proposed amendments, adoptions or changes to the HCSA Constitution must be made available to each Associate member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual Meeting.

Section 13.7

No amendments or changes to the HCSA Constitution will be considered if presented from the floor during the Annual or Semi-annual Meeting.

Section 13.8

Any changes or amendments to the HCSA Constitution shall take effect immediately following the Annual or Semi-annual Meeting.

Article 14 – Dissolution

Section 14.1

In the event of the dissolution of this organization, any assets shall be held in trust by GYSA until such time another GYSA chartered organization becomes headquartered in Henry County

Section 14.2

In the event after 12 months another GYSA chartered organization has not become headquartered in Henry County, any assets held in trust by GYSA shall become property of US Soccer Federation.

Section 14.3

No assets will be used to the benefit of individual members.

Article 15 - Rescission

Section 15.1

The HCSA Constitution and the HCSA By-Laws may be rescinded and replaced by a new Constitution and By-Law provided the new Constitution and By-Laws have been submitted to the HCSA Executive Committee thirty (30) days prior to any vote being taken on said new Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 15.2

Adoption of the new Constitution and By-Laws shall be made by an affirmative vote by three-quarters of the Associate members present in a special Association meeting.

Section 15.3

Notification of any proposed new Constitution and By-Laws must be made available to each member of the Board of Directors and association member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the special meeting.

Section 16.4

The new Constitution and By-Laws will become effective on the date such Constitution and By-Laws is approved by the membership as described in Article 15, Section 15.2. On that date, the old Constitution and By-Laws are automatically rescinded.