



CONSTITUTION OF LOWELL SOCCER CLUB

ARTICLE I: NAME

The organization shall be known as Lowell Soccer Club, (hereinafter referred to as the "Club"), and shall be affiliated with Soccer Association for Youth, (hereinafter referred to as "SAY"), and the Northwest Indiana Soccer League, (hereinafter referred to as "NWISL") and any state and/or national organization affiliated there within.

ARTICE II: PURPOSE

Section 1:

This Club was formed and exists to serve and promote the physical, mental, and emotional growth of the youth through the sport of soccer. This Club will provide an opportunity to youth of all skills and abilities, beginning at the age of 4, with the opportunity to learn the fundamentals and to participate in an organized program of soccer training and recreation.

Section 2:

To develop and encourage a philosophy and practice of good sportsmanship among its members and players through the appropriate assistance, instruction, and training of soccer players, coaches, and referees in the development and improvement of their capabilities. This could include training from associated organizations.

Section 3:

To receive and administer funds, gifts, bequests, and devices from any person, firm, or club, and to use them for the purpose of carrying out the said soccer program.

Section 4:

The purposes for which this Club has been organized are exclusively those set forth in Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

Section 5:

To do any and all other acts necessary or desirable in the furtherance of the foregoing purposes and for the good and promotion of youth soccer.

ARTICE III: POWERS

Section 1:

This Club shall have the following powers in addition to the powers expressly or implicitly conferred on it by law. Namely, to make and enforce rules and regulations for the benefit of the Club members or as promulgated by SAY and the NWISL to which this organization is subject. Also, having the power to enter into contracts and to hold and/or own property.

ARTICE IV: SCOPE

Section 1:

The program will be open to any athlete, having met the age appropriate criteria established by the Club and/or its governing bodies.

Section 2:

To ensure the quality of our Club, coaches training, policy manual, and other publication will be made available to all coaches for their development. Coaches will be encouraged to use such materials and participate in Club-sponsored training and clinics.

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1:

Membership in the Club shall be open to all persons interested in the purpose for which it is organized. All persons accepted as members of the Club shall agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Club.

Section 2:

There shall be three classes of membership in this Club, namely: Administrative Members, Participating Members, and Associate Members.

A. Administrative Members shall consist of a governing body also known as the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the following:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Registrar
6. NWISL Representative

B. Participating Members shall consist of any coach, assistant coach or volunteer within the Lowell Soccer Club.

C. Associate Members shall consist of any parent or guardian of a child actively enrolled in the club.

ARTICLE VI: ELEGIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 1:

Application for membership must be made on appropriate form(s) to the Club. Applications must be accompanied by any necessary fees designated by the Club. Completion of the appropriate form(s) and payment of fees does not guarantee placement of a member to the Club and/or a team.

A. Membership fees shall be established by the Board of Directors prior to the registration for that season. All fees are required in full at the time of registration.

B. In the case of hardship, deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors., shall be voted by the Board of Directors for a payment plan or waiver of fees.

C.

ARTICLE VII: CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1:

The Board of Director positions known as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Registrar, NWISL Representative and Treasurer shall be further defined as the "Officers" of the Club and be known as the Executive Board. When not referred to as Officers or Executive Board, they will be included as part of the entire Board of Directors.

Section 2:

The Board of Directors may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its meetings and the management of the organization as it may deem proper but may not be in conflict with the rules and regulations of SAY and NWISL.

Section 3:

Members of the Board of Directors, excluding Officers, are to be nominated and approved by the entire presiding Board of Directors in a majority vote.

Section 4:

In the event of a vacancy in the Board of Directors, the President has the ability to appoint a person to that position, with approval by the entire Board of Directors in a majority vote. If the vacancy cannot be filled, the President obtains the responsibility of that position.

Section 5:

The Board of Directors of this Club shall meet once a year at an Annual Meeting, the date and place of which shall be set by the Board of Directors.

Section 6:

A quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors shall consist of a simple majority of the Board of Directors. The taking of an action will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors present at any meeting at which a quorum is present. If at any meeting of the Board of Directors, less than a quorum is present, no business may be transacted until such time as a quorum is achieved.

Section 7:

A Board of Director entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting, General Meetings, or at any Special Meeting may vote by Absentee Ballot. Every such Absentee Ballot must be signed and dated by the Board of Director. In order to be valid, the Absentee Ballot must be delivered to and accepted by the Secretary of this Club prior to the opening of the meeting for which the Absentee Ballot has been authorized.

Section 8:

The Board of Directors may be heard and shall vote at the Annual Meeting, General Meeting or at any Special Meeting on any issue affecting this Club. In voting upon any issue except for the election of Officers, each Board of Director shall have one vote.

Section 9:

In the event one individual is maintaining the duties of more than one position on the Board of Directors, that individual shall only be allowed to cast a single vote for the position to which they were originally elected. The position in which they have assumed duties shall be indicated as a "vacant vote".

Section 10:

In the event a position on the Board of Directors is filled by more than one individual that position shall only record as a single consensus vote. If a consensus cannot be reached by the individuals, a "vacant vote" shall be recorded.

Section 11:

A Board of Director may not cast a vote in the Annual Meeting, General Meeting, or at any Special Meeting, in the event they have missed two prior consecutive meetings. A Board of Director may also be excluded from casting a vote in the election of an Officer at the Annual General Meeting if he/she has missed four (4) or more General Meetings within that calendar year.

Section 12:

No Board of Director of this Club shall receive any compensation for the services provided to this Club as a Board of Director. This provision shall not prohibit the payment of reasonable expenses to Board Members, or payments to individuals for services provided to this Club that are not part of his/her duties as a Board of Director.

Section 13:

A Board of Director may be removed from office at any time for cause or neglect by an affirmative vote of not less than two thirds off all the eligible Board of Directors. A Board of Director may be removed for any reason at a General Meeting, a quorum being present. No removal of a Board of Director may be voted upon at any General Meeting unless the Board of Director whose removal is proposed has been given thirty (30) days prior notice of the intention to hold such a vote and an opportunity to be present and heard at the meeting at which the removal is to be voted upon.

Section 13:

A member can be eligible to hold Board position only if he/she has been a Participating Member for at least one prior season.

B. PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

Section 1:

The Participating Members of this Club are volunteers and shall be treated with respect. Any Participating Member of this Club may be heard at any General Meeting and/or any Special Meeting on any issue affecting this Club.

Section 2:

Participating Members may be suspended from membership or expelled from this Club upon approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 3:

Participating Members have the right to vote at the Annual Meeting, any General Meeting and/or any Special Meeting on any issue. A Participating Member may not cast a vote in a General Meeting and/or any Special Meeting, in the event they have missed two prior consecutive meetings.

C. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Section 1:

Associate Members have no voting rights to the Club.

Section 2:

Associate Members may attend any General Meeting or any Special Meeting of this Club.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1:

The Board of Directors shall hold an Annual Meeting on the last month of the club's fiscal year, which will conduct an election of Officers, called by the presiding Board of Directors.

Section 2:

The Board of Directors shall hold a minimum of six (6) General Meetings per year at a date and place designated by the Board of Directors and are open to all memberships.

Section 3:

Special Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the Executive Board or a written petition of one-half of the Board of Directors of this Club, stating thereon the purpose or purposes of the meeting. Such petition shall be delivered to the Secretary of this Club. Special Meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 4:

All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order".

ARTICLE IX: ORGANIZATIONAL AND PLAYING RULES

Section 1:

The Playing Rules of this Club shall consist of the Laws of the Game and Universal Guide for Referees published by FIFA, and as modified by SAY and NWISL.

Section 2:

The Organizational Rules of this Club shall consist of the rules and regulations established by this Club that affect the organization and conduct of soccer teams.

ARTICLE X: BY-LAWS

Section 1:

By-Laws shall be adopted for this Club by the Board of Directors. The power to amend or repeal existing By-Laws or to adopt new By-Laws shall be vested in the Board of Directors. The By-Laws shall contain such provisions as are necessary to ensure compliance with this Constitution. The By-Laws may contain any other provisions for the regulation and management of the affairs of this Club which are not inconsistent with this Club.

ARTICLE XI: POLICY DECISIONS

Section 1:

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to formulate and adopt policies for the regulation of internal affairs of the Club and for the dealings of the Club with other parties as it deems necessary in the normal course of its business or for any other purpose deemed in the best interest of the Club. These policy decisions shall not be inconsistent with either this Constitution or the By-Laws.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1:

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of its members of the Club, provided the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing to the President at least seven (7) days prior to the General Meeting. Any proposed amendments must be presented for discussion during a

regularly scheduled and publicly listed General Meeting at which a quorum of the Board of Directors is present and can be officially included in the minutes of the same meeting. Such amendments shall be presented for a formal vote at the date and time of the next regularly scheduled General Meeting.

ARTICLE XIII: EFFECTIVE DATE, REPEALER, AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Section 1:

This Constitution is an amendment in its entirety of all prior enacted Constitutions of this Club and upon its adoption; all of those prior Constitutions are repealed. This Constitution shall be effective upon the vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Board of Directors, present and voting, serving in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of this Club in effect on the date of voting.


This Constitution has been adopted by the Board of Directors on 01/07/25

Eric VanVleck, President 

Michael Colson, Vice President 

Michael Colson, NWISL REP 

Richard Oman, Treasure 

Michael Keilman, Secretary 

Michael Keilman, Registrar 