

## GRSL BYLAWS

- 01. NAME:** The name of this league shall be Gainesville Regional Soccer League (GRSL).
- 02. MISSION STATEMENT:** The mission of the Gainesville Regional Soccer League is to provide an inclusive and respectful means for male and female adult members to participate in organized soccer in a co-ed recreational atmosphere. The competitive aspects of the game are secondary in importance to the recreational benefits to the members and to player safety.
- 03. LOCATION:** The current GRSL Board of Directors will establish the organization's address.
- 04. AFFILIATIONS:** GRSL is affiliated with the United States Specialty Soccer Association (USSSA, <http://www.ussa.com>).
- 05. LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP (PLAYERS AND TEAMS)**
- a. Players:** Player eligibility is established in the GRSL Spring and Fall Season Co-Rec Rules and Regulations.
  - b. Teams:** Teams membership and participating is governed by the GRSL Spring and Fall Season Co-Rec Rules and Regulations.
- 06. GRSL BOARD POSITIONS AND POWERS:** The Board of Directors will consist of a maximum of 9 persons and be divided as two groups: the Executive Board and Board At Large. Being a director is strictly voluntary. No director shall receive compensation of any type beyond reasonable reimbursement for expenses incurred by them on behalf of the GRSL.
- a. The Executive Board:** Is comprised of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. These members will have the right to suspend or remove other Directors and will oversee all activities performed by the Board At Large. These members can make emergency decisions on behalf of the league in the event of bad weather, extraordinary events, safety, or the wellness of individual players.
    - i. President:** The President shall supervise all activities of the league and the work of the other officers. He or she shall be the official spokesperson of the league. The President shall preside at all meetings of the board members and captains and delegate responsibilities. In the event of a tied vote, the President will be the tie breaker, and if he/she is a Team Captain, that tie breaking vote will be considered an additional one to those already tallied. The President shall also perform whatever other duties the board may from time to time prescribe.

- ii. **Vice President:** The Vice President shall attend all meetings and, in the absence of the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President. The Vice President shall also have whatever powers and duties as may be assigned by the Board.
  - iii. **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall manage GRSL funds, securities, and will maintain an accurate record of accounting. The Treasurer shall keep all receipts and disbursements, and shall deposit all association income in a GRSL league bank account. The Treasurer shall be primarily responsible for the management and oversight of the GRSL reserve fund. A background check will be required for this position. The Treasurer will submit an annual budget for approval to the GRSL league captains. The Treasurer shall be responsible for submitting all financial documents for 990 taxes by annual deadline in order to maintain the league's non-profit status.
  - iv. **Secretary:** The Secretary shall attend all meetings and keep a true and complete record of the proceedings of those meetings. The Secretary shall present meeting minutes at all subsequent Board and Captains meetings. The Secretary will be responsible for league communications with team captains and individual players.
- b. **Directors At Large:** These members will assist the executive members in all other aspects to meet the initiatives and goals for this league. The roles and duties mentioned below may be assigned depending on the league's needs. If needed, the Executive Board members can also take on the roles and duties as described below. Each At Large Board members will have the right to vote during a general Board Meeting. Additional volunteer positions can be appointed by the Executive Board as needed.
- i. **Disciplinary Chair:** Shall evaluate all player and team conduct matters of the league and oversee the Disciplinary Committee. Will directly work with the President and/or Vice President before announcing any punishment given to a player or team. Will also be responsible for maintaining an accurate record of the cards and card points during each season. Shall be knowledgeable of all GRSL and FIFA rules and regulations. Shall be knowledgeable of prior GRSL precedents.
  - ii. **Registrar:** Responsible for the creation and maintenance of team rosters. Gives approval and keeps a record of all roster changes made during a season. Ensures all players have signed the liability waiver.
  - iii. **Games Officer:** Responsible for creating the games schedule for all divisions and for each regular season and tournament phases. Also responsible for assigning fields and field lining duties.
  - iv. **Fields Officer:** Ensures the field conditions are playable and field equipment (goals with nets, flags, sandbags, paint, etc) is available prior to each game. Assists county and/or city representative to achieve GRSL's goals and vision plan.

- v. **Public Affairs Officer:** Responsible for arranging and publicizing all GRSL social events, forming community outreach programs or opportunities, communicating with interested players, provide updates through social media, networking with outside organizations, businesses, institutions, or individuals about achieving GRSL's goals
- vi. **Marketing/Sponsorships:** Responsible for promoting the league's brand to the local community. Shall obtain sponsorships and donations from local businesses to help fund the league's initiatives. Assist Public Affairs Officer with social media networking and communicating with outside entities.
- vii. **Referee Liaison:** Represents the USSF certified referees who officiate GRSL games and will act as an advisor to the Board. Will provide input during serious disciplinary reviews and hearings. Responsible for updating the GRSL Board and clarifying any rules in the FIFA Laws of the Game.

**07. ELECTIONS:** Only members in good standing may be nominated, elected, and remain on the GRSL Board of Directors. The individual must be affiliated or have some sort of invested interest with GRSL in order to be nominated. Candidates will be presented to the GRSL Captains and elected by a simple majority vote during the next GRSL Captains' Meeting. Prior to each election, the Board of Directors shall make an effort to find appropriate members for the Board. The Board may appoint a nominating committee if needed.

**08. TERM LENGTHS:** The President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected for a two year term. All other at large Directors shall be selected for a one year term. The terms for the Board of Directors can be staggered in order to assure continuity of GRSLs projects, plans, and vision. All Directors may be re-elected to serve multiple terms.

**09. VACANCIES:** Vacancies shall addressed whenever a Director becomes unable or unwilling to complete his or her duties, or is removed. Should a Board member miss three consecutive meetings (regular or special) without being excused by the President or a majority of the Board, the Board member may be removed by a majority vote of the Board. If a vacancy needs to be filled during the middle of a term, a simple majority vote by the current Board of Directors may elect an interim and fill the vacant position. At the next captains' meeting, an appropriate election vote will be held among the captains in order to permanently install the interim Board member.

**10. BOARD MEETINGS:** The GRSL Board will conduct monthly regular meetings and may schedule additional meetings as needed. All Board meetings shall be open for attendance by league members in good standing. General members may be

excluded for board discussions on privileged or disciplinary topics.

The GRSL President or a majority of board members may schedule special meetings to discuss league business. During Board of Director meetings, a majority plus one of the existing board members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of GRSL business.

A written record of the proceedings of each Board meeting shall be furnished to each Board member and be posted for review by any member of GRSL. GRSL will maintain all permanent necessary records. GRSL members in good standing may request access to the financial records at the discretion of the GRSL President or by an affirmative vote of a majority of GRSL Board members.

**11. PROCEDURES AT REGULARLY SCHEDULED GRSL CAPTAINS' MEETINGS:**

General Captains' meetings will occur at a minimum two weeks prior to each GRSL Season (Fall, Spring, and Summer) and will be held at a disclosed location. Reminders will be sent to all Captains/Team Officials with sufficient advance notice along with elections information, key dates, rule changes, and league information.

The Captains' meeting will be conducted by the GRSL Board and the team captains (or appointed representative) from each registered team. These members will make up the quorum. A quorum will be defined as a majority of the teams plus one, which will be required to hold any Captains' meeting. Each team representative, who is in good standing, will have the right to one vote on any proposed motion. Board of Directors who are not team Captains or representatives will not have franchise.

Robert's Rules of Order will be the format used to govern these meeting proceedings, and a simple majority vote from the Council will be needed for any motion to pass. All approved motions will be effective immediately unless otherwise specified.

The format for these meeting proceedings will be conducted and moderated by the President, or acting chair of the meeting. These are a general list of topics that will be covered:

- a. Quorum established
- b. Review of prior captain's meeting minutes
- c. Season Highlights, Board Overview and Accomplishments
- d. Elections of Board Members and Committees
- e. Reports from Board of Directors
- f. Amendments to GRSL Rules and Regulations and By-laws
- g. Upcoming league schedule
- h. Old Business
- i. New Business
- j. Announcements
- k. Adjournment

**12. GRSL COMMITTEES:** The President may establish ad hoc committees for specific duties that support the mission and operation of the GRSL. The President shall

appoint a Chairman and a Vice Chairman, if needed, for each committee established.

All committee members shall serve at the satisfaction of the Board. All committees must submit minutes for each proceeding to the Board within a reasonable amount of time. Committees may or may not include:

- a. Disciplinary Committee - shall be a standing committee that reviews disciplinary issues by enforcing GRSL rules and FIFA Laws of the Game. This committee will be comprised of the Disciplinary Chair, President, Vice President, and if applicable, a referee. The committee will review game reports, referee statements, captains' statements, league precedents, and witness accounts during an investigation. The committee may review other information as needed.
- b. Appeals Committee - Reference section 5 in GRSL Co-Recreational Fall and Spring Rules.
- c. Nominating Committee - comprised of current Directors who will discuss the selection for an interim to fill a vacancy or seek potential nominees to join the Board. Shall create, distribute, and review all applications submitted by GRSL members and will present all nominees at the general captains meeting. The Nominating Committee should endeavor to include the league's diversity during its deliberations.
- d. Vision Committee - shall be a recurring ad hoc committee comprised of current and former Board of Directors. These individuals will meet every five years to review the league's current status and come up with ideas and plans for improvements.

**13. INTER-LEAGUE PLAY:** If a GRSL teams plays any non-GRSL team in any officiated game, the GRSL team is not covered by our league's insurance and this game is unaffiliated with the league.

**14. FINANCIAL PROCEDURES:** These procedures govern the budgeting, expenditure, and management of the league's financial resources.

a. The league must keep a minimum of \$25,000 in a reserve account during all times of operation. If the GRSL ceases to operate, all reserve funds will be donated to an appropriate not for profit organization.

b. At the Spring Captains' Meeting, a simple majority of captains must approve the annual budget. This includes approval of team fees for each season. This budget must be provided to captains at least a week prior to the Spring Captains' Meeting.

**15. RULES AND OPERATING PROCEDURES:** During a Board Meeting that has a quorum in attendance, a simple majority vote plus one is necessary to do the following:

- a. Enter into a contract;
- b. Appropriate up to \$7,500 of reserve fund money to a specific purpose or function

- c. Approve or amend the Annual Operating Budget;
- d. Discuss and approve a proposed amendment to the Bylaws
- e. Reviewing and ruling on the misconduct of a player or team not covered by the Bylaws or regulations.

**16. REFEREE MANAGEMENT:**

- a. The GRSL Board will review and manage the referee assigner used by our league.
- b. The GRSL Board will conduct a referee training at least two weeks before the start of each official season.
- c. The referee assigner will be responsible for providing the scheduling, communication, and management of certified USSF referees.

**17. MISCELLANEOUS:**

- a. Agreements/Contracts: Before entering into any material written agreement or contract with a third party the Executive Board will supply a copy to all Board members and receive approval by a majority of the Board.
- b. Amendments to Bylaws: The amendment of these bylaws may only be done during the general Captains meeting with the approval of a simple majority of the membership if a quorum is present.
- c. Voting by proxy shall be permitted for all elections and motioned items to those absentees who give advanced notification to the Board of Directors.
- d. Consent to action by conference call: Any meeting which may be required of the Executive Board or Appeals Committee may be conducted by conference call. As long as the respective members of the Executive Committee or Appeals Committee are present telephonically, any action taken during such meeting shall be deemed valid.
- e. The GRSL Board will have the final authority to determine all interpretations of its rules and regulations. The GRSL Board will issue a final determination on all league issues during the Fall, Spring, and Summer seasons.
- f. The GRSL Board will manage the existing Forest Park field usage contract with the City of Gainesville's Parks and Recreation Department.
- g. The GRSL Board will manage the maintenance and organization of the league's physical assets.