

**HOBBS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION  
CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS,  
GENERAL PROCEDURE AND SPECIFIC RULLES**

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HYSA BYLAWS  
Revised May 19, 2009

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**1. Constitution**

1.01 **NAME** This Association shall be known as the Hobbs Youth Soccer Association (hereinafter referred to as “HYSA”).

1.02 **PURPOSE** The purpose of this Association shall be to develop, promote, teach and administer the game of soccer for youth (boys and girls under the age of nineteen (19) within the boundaries of this Association. The principles of sportsmanship, participation, player enjoyment, and development shall guide the Association. This Association shall offer its soccer program without restriction to race, color, sex, religion, age, physical limitation, or national origin.

1.03 **BOUNDARIES** The territory of this Association shall include the school district of Hobbs, New Mexico, and any adjacent communities that do not have a United States Youth Soccer Association affiliated program. Residents of the Hobbs School District who wish to play soccer under the sanction of the New Mexico Youth Soccer Association must be registered and be in good standing with HYSA.

1.04 **AFFILIATION** This Association shall be an affiliation unit of and comply with the authority of the New Mexico Youth Soccer Association (hereinafter referred to as “NMYSA”) and the United States Youth Soccer Association (hereinafter referred to as “USYSA”).

1.05 **COLORS** The representative colors of this Association shall be Gold and Black.

1.06 **AUTHORITIES**

1.06.01 **HYSA Governing Authorities and Documents** This Association shall be governed by its Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures, and Specific Rules, except when they are superceded by NMYSA and/or USYSA. Copies of this Association’s documents shall, upon reasonable request, be made available to members.

1.06.02 **Board of Directors** The governing authority of this Association shall be vested in the Board of Directors. The members of the Board of Directors and the powers and responsibilities of each member are designated in paragraph 2.02 of the Bylaws.

1.07 **MEMBERSHIP** Membership in this Association is by registered player, parent(s) or guardian(s) of registered players in good standing, approved coach registration and elected Board membership.

1.07.01 **Requirements of Members:** All members of this Association shall abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, and General Procedures and Specific Rules set forth by the Board of Directors and all applicable rules and regulations set forth by NMYSA and USYSA. Failure to follow this direction may result in loss of good standing.

1.08 **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

1.08.01 **Meeting Notice:** The Annual General Meeting shall be held during the month of May each year at a time and place that will encourage maximum member participation. Notification of this meeting will be provided to all members at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting.

1.08.02 **Order of Business:** The order of business at the Annual General Meeting shall be the following:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Credentials
- D. Introduction of Guests
- E. Acceptance of Minutes from previous AGM
- F. Reports:
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Registrar
  - Ways and Means Director
  - Uniforms Director
  - Equipment Director
  - Referee Administrator
  - Coach Administrator
  - Scheduling Director
- G. Old Business
- H. Proposals for changes in the Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures and Specific Rules
- I. Election of Officers
- J. New Business
- K Items for good of the game
- L. Adjournment

- 1.08.03 Votes and Voting Procedures at AGM: Each registered head coach, parent/guardian of a registered player in good standing, and director in good standing shall be entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not allowed. The President shall cast a vote only in the case of a tie.
- 1.08.04 Recommendation for and Approval of Changes to the Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures, and Specific Rules: The Board of Directors will annually recommend to the membership any changes in the Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures, and Specific Rules to be required during the twelve months at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The proposed changes in the Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures, and Specific Rules being recommended by the Board of Directors or by other HYSA member(s) shall be forwarded to all members at least fifteen days prior to the AGM.
- 1.08.05 Proposed Changes from Members: Each member shall submit proposed changes to the existing Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures, and Specific Rules being to the Board of Directors no later than the first of April for consideration at the Annual General Meeting. Proposals for temporary changes to the General Procedures and Specific Rules may be submitted to the Board for their consideration at anytime. (see 2.06)
- 1.08.06 Amendments/Changes: Amendments to the Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures, and Specific Rules shall be made at the Annual General Meeting, except in such cases as specified in the By-Laws of this Association. (see 2.01.02 G)
- 1.08.07 Adoption of Amendments/Changes: Amendments/changes to the Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures, and Specific Rules shall be deemed adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the AGM.
- 1.08.08 Implementation of this Constitution: This Constitution replaces in total the By-Laws of the Hobbs Soccer Association and becomes effective upon approval.

## 2. **ByLaws**

### 2.01 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

2.01.01 Board of Directors Offices: The Board of Directors of HYSA shall consist of the following:

- A. President
- B. Vice President
- C. Secretary/ Treasurer
- D. Registrar
- E. Ways and Means Director
- F. Uniforms Director
- G. Equipment Director
- H. Referee Administrator
- I. Coach Administrator
- J. Scheduling Director
- K. Webmaster

2.01.02 Responsibilities and Authority: The Board of Directors shall be responsible for and have sole authority for the following:

- A. Establishing policies, enforcing and interpreting the Constitution, Bylaws, General Procedures and Specific Rules.
- B. Approving the registration of all players.
- C. Approving the registration of all coaches, assistant coaches, managers.
- D. Setting procedures for the creation of and approval of all teams and sponsors.
- E. Setting procedures for and approving the participation of all teams in all games.
- F. The formation and/or operation of all tournaments within the territory.
- G. From time to time make temporary rules, procedures or regulations for the specific cases on occasions not provided for in the Bylaws, General Procedures and/or Specific Rules but which are deemed necessary by the Board of Directors to carry out the objectives of this Association.
- H. For just cause to suspend, bar completely, or otherwise discipline any player, coach, manager, team assistant, league officer or other persons who are affiliated or associated with HYSA.
- I. Elect the District Commissioner and have the authority and responsibility to remove the District Commissioner if he/she fails to represent the needs of HYSA at state meetings.

### 2.01.03 **DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- A. President: Shall, subject to the control of the Board of Directors, exercise general supervision, direction and management control over the business activities of the Board of Directors. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Board of Directors. The President shall only vote in the event of a tie. The President shall appoint, at the beginning of each season or as the need arises and subject to approval by a majority of the Board of Directors, the members of and/or the chairperson of all committees and other members as needed. The president is responsible for the day-to-day activities of HYSAs and shall have such other powers and duties as the Board of Directors or Bylaws may prescribe.
- B. Vice President: Shall, in the absence of the President, preside over and conduct meetings of the Board of Directors, and assumes responsibilities of the President in his/her absence. The Vice President is responsible for and coordinates and directs all HYSAs sponsored tournaments. Coordinates competition for HYSAs teams beyond that scheduled among HYSAs teams. This includes games, fields, travel, referees, meals, lodging, etc. (when appropriate). Coordinates HYSAs representation to all HYSAs approved away tournaments. Assists Referee Administrator in setting up clinics and scheduling.
- C. Secretary/Treasurer: Shall maintain and keep the minutes of all meetings, and maintain the files of HYSAs. The Secretary shall be responsible for communications within HYSAs, give notice of meetings and shall be responsible for the preparation of the Annual Report to be submitted at the Annual General Meeting. The Secretary shall assist in fund raising activities with Ways and Means Director. The Treasurer shall maintain all financial records, make bank deposits and present the financial report at all meetings. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for preparation of all papers pursuant to and maintenance of the Articles of Incorporation and tax-exempt status of this Association. The Treasurer shall assist in fund raising activities with the Ways and Means Director.
- D. Registrar: Shall be responsible for the registration of players and teams. The registrar shall assign players and coaches to teams with approval of the Board and assign teams to divisions with approval of the Board. The registrar's other duties shall include assisting coaches with tournament and/or travel credentials.
- E. Ways and Means Director: Shall be responsible for raising funds with the approval of the Board. The Ways and Means Director shall

organize fund raising and procure sponsors for teams with the approval of the Board.

- F. Uniforms Director: Shall present uniform choices to the Board and recommends purchases. The Uniforms Director shall distribute uniforms to teams at the beginning of each season. The Uniforms Director shall also be responsible for collecting uniforms at the end of fall season.
- G. Referee Administrator: Shall be responsible for recruiting, training, and scheduling of referees.
- H. Equipment Director: Shall maintain goalie shirts, nets, and soccer balls, and maintain and arrange for storage of all equipment. The Equipment Director shall be responsible for inventory of equipment and for getting goalie shirts, nets, and soccer balls to and from all sanctioned HYSA games and tournaments.
- I. Coach Administrator: Shall assist and train coaches in each age group. The Coach Administrator shall keep coaches informed on Board decisions affecting them, and of NMYSA and intrastate rules and regulations on travel, conduct, etc., and their responsibilities to their team and the Association. The Coach Administrator will conduct clinics, provide learning materials (such as films and/or books), help with practice problems and all things necessary to keep the coaches of HYSA informed, educated and coaching.
- J. Scheduling Director: Shall schedule all league games in each age group and coordinates field use with referees and with any club teams.
- K. Webmaster: Shall be responsible for updating and maintaining the website for the Hobbs Youth Soccer Association ([www.hobbssoccer.org](http://www.hobbssoccer.org)).

\*The President may assign additional duties to any member of the Board of Directors whenever it is deemed necessary.

- 2.01.04 Signatory Authority: Unless otherwise specified in the HYSA General Procedures and Rules, or in this document, the HYSA signatory authority for persons authorized to sign documents for this Association are the President, Secretary/Treasurer, Ways & Means. All checks shall bear two (2) signatures, which are recognized signatures on the bank account of HYSA. The signatures recognized on this account shall be bonded by a

reputable bonding agency. HYSA will require three (3) signatures on the bank account signatory card, at all times

2.02 **ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Election of the Board of Directors shall occur at the Annual General Meeting.

2.02.01 Election Requirements/Terms of Office: The election of the Board of Directors shall adhere to the following requirements and procedures:

- A. There is no limit upon the number of terms a Board Member may serve.
- B. Each registered head coach, parent/guardian of a registered player in good standing; and Director in good standing shall be entitled to one vote.
- C. Proxy votes are not allowed.
- D. The President shall cast a vote only in the case of a tie.
- E. Election to an office is by majority vote of those casting votes. In the event a candidate does not receive a majority of the votes cast, a run-off election of the top two vote-getting candidates will decide the election. Should the run-off not provide a majority, the presiding officer shall vote to determine the winner.
- F. The President, Secretary/Treasurer, Uniforms Director, Equipment Director, Coach Administrator and Scheduling Director shall be elected for a two year term in even numbered years. The Vice President, Webmaster, Registrar, Referee Administrator and Ways and Means Director shall be elected for a two year term in odd numbered years.
- G. The Annual General Meeting will be held annually in mid-May and Board of Directors terms shall start and end accordingly.

2.02.02 Removal of Board of Directors: The removal of any member of the Board of Directors shall adhere to the following procedures:

- A. Shall be requested by a voting member in writing, listing the reasons for such action and filed with the President of HYSA not less than 14 days and not more than 30 days after receipt of the request.
- B. Shall be voted upon by the Board of Directors not less than 14 days and not more than 30 days after receipt of the request.
- C. Each Board member shall receive a copy of the request within 7 days of filing.

- D. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors present shall be required to remove a member of the Board of Directors.
- E. The Board of Directors shall elect a replacement within 15 days.
- F. The officer elected in this manner shall fill the unexpired term of the removed board member.

## 2.03 **MEETINGS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

2.03.01 **Board of Directors:** Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held each month, January through November. The agenda of a regular meeting shall be as follows:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Introduction
- D. Acceptance of Minutes
- E. Correspondence
- F. Financial Report
- G. Committee Reports
- H. Old Business
- I. New Business
- J. Good of Game
- K Adjournment

2.03.02 **Call for Special Meetings of Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors shall meet for a special meeting whenever the President deems it necessary, or if he/she is directed to do so by six (6) or more members of the Board.

2.03.03 **Voting:** Voting shall be by majority vote of those present. Proxy votes are not accepted. The President shall vote only in the case of a tie.

2.03.04 **Quorum:** At all meetings of the Board of Directors, fifty percent (50%) of the said Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## 2.04 **PROTESTS AND APPEALS**

2.04.01 **Appeals:** Every decision rendered by this Association may be appealed as described by NMYSA through the District Commissioner.

2.04.02 Protests: Protests regarding the actions of any HYSA member may be made to the Board of Directors in writing. Upon receipt of the protest, the Vice President shall convene a Grievance Committee, subject to Board approval. A copy of the protest will be provided to the person subject to the protest prior to the Committee meeting. A written response to the member lodging the protest will be made within fifteen (15) days of receipt. Rules and procedures for protests are defined in the General Procedures (3.10).

## 2.05 **MEMBER RESPONSIBILITY**

2.05.01 Members: All members are responsible for abiding by HYSA rules and procedures, as well as those of higher youth soccer authority.

Any HYSA member threatening harm (verbally or physically) to any Board Member shall be called before the Board of Directors for appropriate sanctions. Failure to appear is an automatic admission of guilt.

2.05.02 Falsification of Records: Falsification of records shall be grounds for disciplinary action by HYSA.

2.05.03 Pleas of Ignorance: A plea of ignorance to the Constitution, By-Laws, General Procedures, or Specific Rules of this Association is not sufficient and violators may expect appropriate action by the Board of Directors.

2.06 **TEMPORARY CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE GENERAL PROCEDURES, SPECIFIC RULES** Temporary changes/additions shall be made by providing a written description of the proposal(s) to the Board of Directors at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of the changes/additions. A majority vote of the Directors is required to approve changes/additions. Temporary changes/additions may be made as described in 2.01.02 (G) by the Board of Directors.

2.07 DISSOLUTION Should this Association be dissolved, all assets remaining after the full payment of all liabilities shall be turned over to the Recreation Department of the City of Hobbs.

## 2.08 **ORGANIZATION FOR COMPETITION**

2.08.01 This Associate will comply with USYSA age divisions for play.

- 2.08.02 Players will not register in an age group above that for which their age dictates. Consideration of such request will only be made if it is in the best interest of the player and HYSA. Approval of the HYSA Board is required for such a registration.
- 2.08.03 All players must register in accordance with HYSA procedure. Players may not participate in any HYSA activity until their registration is complete, as determined by the Registrar.
- 2.08.04 Only developmental teams will be established in the U5, U6, U7 U8, U9, U10 age groups. Both Intermediate and Club teams may be established in the U11 through U19 age groups, pending HYSA approval.
- 2.08.05 Players will be assigned to U5, U6, U7, U8, U9 and U10 teams. The Registration Committee will conduct a draft in U11 through U19 intermediate city teams. The Club will conduct tryouts according to HYSA procedure.
- 2.08.06 Developmental and Intermediate team players are to play at least one half of each game, which will include tournaments.
- 2.08.07 All U5, U6, U7, U8 and U9 teams are limited to 3 soccer activities a week. U10 through U12 teams are limited to 2 soccer practices and two regularly scheduled games per week during the regular season with unlimited soccer activities for pre-season and pre-tournament. U13 through U19 teams have unlimited soccer activities. All teams registered Club have unlimited soccer activities. All scrimmage games (no referees) are considered practice.
- 2.08.08 A player may be released from a team by the coach only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons.
1. The player has violated USYSA and HYSA or State Disciplinary Rules:
    - a. Repeated ungentlemanly conduct at practice or game sessions.
    - b. Repeated unexcused absences. After four (4) unexcused absences from either practices or games, the coach must notify the League Coaching Director. The Coaching Director will then call the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the player and try to ascertain what the problem is. The Coaching Director will then get back with the Coach and review the discussion with the player's parent(s) or

guardian(s). In any event, the player will only be allowed two (2) more unexcused absences and will then be dropped from the team's roster. An unexcused absence shall be defined as "any absence in which the player, parent(s) or guardian(s) neglect to call the Coach and inform him/her that the player will not be present for a scheduled practice or game.

- c. Player or Parental conduct that, if allowed to continue, would have a negative or detrimental impact on the team.
  - d. Other administrative reasons such as human error involving registration matters or exceptions granted by the HYSA Executive Committee.
  - e. A player who no longer wishes to play as a registered member.
2. The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Player moving, from area/district of more than fifteen (15) miles, at the time of registration.
  3. The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.
  4. A child may also be dropped from a previously appointed team if he or she has not registered by the close of the second Saturday of registration unless an arrangement has been made with the registrar.

2.09 **COACHES** The Board has the right to deny, for good reason, any person the opportunity to coach a HYSA team.

2.10 **SPONSORS** HYSA will find and/or approve sponsors for each registered recreational team. The sponsors will provide a fee, as determined annually, to HYSA, which will be utilized to provide uniforms, practice ball(s) and/or other items as determined by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has the right to deny, for good reason, any sponsor, and the opportunity to associate with HYSA.

2.11 **UNIFORMS** HYSA will provide or approve uniforms for all HYSA teams, to be used in HYSA sanctioned play. No HYSA team will play in a sanctioned game in other than HYSA approved uniforms. Nothing may be added to HYSA approved uniforms without Board approval.

2.12 **PLAYER EQUIPMENT** Each player is required to wear shin guards at all soccer activities.

## 2.13 RECRUITMENT POLICY

2.13.01 Teams may recruit players only during the following time periods; starting 15 days after the last day of the last official state sponsored tournament and ending August 1<sup>st</sup>.

2.13.02 “No recruiting” according to these Bylaws would include City-to-City teams, Club to City, City to Club. Coaches, assistant coaches, managers, parents, players, sponsors, etc. are all covered by the “no recruiting” rules and regulations.

2.13.03 When the Registrar submits the rosters to NMYSA in the Fall all rosters are considered “frozen” or “set in cement”. Transfers during the Fall and/or Spring seasons or between seasons are not allowed except under very special circumstances.

## 3. General Procedures

3.01 RESPONSIBILITIES Each team shall be responsible for the conduct of its players, coaches, managers, assistants and parents. It is also the responsibility of each team to ensure that its actions, on or off the field, do not bring discredit upon this Association.

3.02 REGISTERED PLAYERS Only those players currently registered with HYSA and in good standing may participate in a HYSA sanctioned game. Violation of this rule may result in forfeiture of all games in which the offending player participated.

3.03 AGE GROUPS the age requirements and limitations shall be governed by the ByLaws and General Procedures as outlined in is this document as well as mandated by NMYSA.

3.03.01 Table of Maximum Birth Years: Shall be comprised of players who have reached their noted birthday before the first say of August of the preceding seasonal year.

U5 Have not reached their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

U6 Have not reached their 6<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

U7 Have not reached their 7<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1

U8 Have not reached their 8<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

U9 Have not reached their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

U10 Have not reached their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

U12 Have not reached their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

U14 Have not reached their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

U15 Have not reached their 15<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

U16 Have not reached their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

- U17 Have not reached their 17<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.
- U18 Have not reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.
- U19 Have not reached their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday before August 1.

3.03.02 Playing Up in Age Group: Players who wish to be rostered on a team above their normal age group, may only do so provided the request is approved by HYSA. Also provided further, the player has played at least one (1) year in their respective age group before requesting to play up. The coach, player and the players parent/guardian must agree and sign the waiver on the membership form at the time of registration. Furthermore, the player's parent/guardian accept responsibility for any injury to their child as a result of his/her playing up and will not hold the team, coach and HYSA liable. A player may never play down in age group, except when circumstances are determined by physical/mental limitations.

3.04 **MULTIPLE ROSTERED** A player can be rostered on only one other team in addition to the primary team. A player's primary team will be the first team with which he/she is rostered. The secondary team is the team the player rosters with after the primary team. The primary team will take preference over any secondary team and the secondary team will defer to the primary team should any conflicts arise.

3.05 **RULES OF PLAY**

3.05.01 Only those players currently registered with HYSA and in good standing may participate in a HYSA sanctioned game. Violation of this rule may result in forfeiture of all games in which the offending player participated.

3.05.02 A player shall not wear anything that is dangerous to another player or to himself or herself

3.05.03 The coach(s) designated prior to the game, may coach from the sidelines by giving tactical instructions to one's own team on points of strategy and positioning. Such tactical instructions cannot be continuous in nature, and must be conveyed to players in a positive civil tone. No negative or abusive comments may be directed to players on the field of play when giving tactical instructions.

3.05.04 Players may be substituted pursuant to the rules for each age group (WITH YOUR REFEREE'S PERMISSION) The number of substitutes shall be unlimited, unless a competition superseding the jurisdiction of this Association determines otherwise. In any case, a substitute shall not enter the field of play until he/she has been given the signal to do so by the referee.

3.05.05 A team will not be allowed to start or continue a game with fewer than seven (7) players on the field except in those cases of small-sided games for certain younger age categories who may, at their discretion, modify rules to accommodate the small-sided play. Should any team not be present within 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time, that team shall forfeit the game. In the event both teams do not show up for a scheduled game and the referee rules the field as playable, then both teams shall be assessed with a loss.

3.05.06 No regularly scheduled HYSAs game may be postponed except by the referee (in case of field conditions) or HYSAs authority.

3.05.07 If, for any reason, a game is not played for the full time period, the following rules shall apply: a game abandoned at, or before halftime shall be declared void and must be rescheduled, if at all possible, before the next regularly scheduled game. A game abandoned in the second half shall be considered the same as a completed game.

3.05.08 The length of game and ball size shall confirm with HYSAs guidelines:

U5	8 min quarters	3 size ball
U6	8 min quarters	3 size ball
U7	20 min half	3 size ball
U8	20 min half	3 size ball
U9	25 min half	4 size ball
U10	25 min half	4 size ball
U12	30 min half	4 size ball
U14	35 min half	5 size ball
U16	40 min half	5 size ball
U19	45 min half	5 size ball

The Board of Directors will determine tie-breaking procedures in city tournaments seasonally.

3.05.10 The standing of teams within each division shall be established by a point system as follows: two point for a win; one point for a tie; no points for a loss. Shall a tie develop, a Board approved playoff system will be used to determine final standings. The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining standings.

3.05.11 Regularly scheduled HYSAs games shall take precedence over all other games and events sponsored by HYSAs or NMYSA.

3.06 **GAME CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE**

- 3.06.01 Any player or coach ejected from a game by the referee will be reported to the Vice President and Registrar for disciplinary action.
- 3.06.02 A player or coach ejected from a game shall stand suspended for the duration of that game and the next scheduled game.
- 3.06.03 Any additional suspension handed down by HYSA shall apply to scheduled HYSA and/or tournament games.
- 3.06.04 HYSA may recognize suspensions or like rulings of co-equal soccer leagues or associations of which official notification has been received.
- 3.06.05 Every member team of the HYSA is responsible for the actions of its players and coaches and is required to take all possible precautions to prevent spectators threatening or assaulting officials or players before, during or at the conclusion of the game.
- 3.06.06 Coaches are expected to display good sportsmanship and gentlemanly conduct while on the field of play.
- 3.06.07 No mechanical devices shall be allowed for coaching purposes during the game.
- 3.06.08 HYSA, does not permit coaching, substitute player, beyond the 18 yard lines, or behind the goals, at either end of the field while play is in progress.
- 3.06.09 When conditions exist within a HYSA team, which reflect poor management and/or are not in the best interest of soccer or HYSA, then the Board shall have the power to investigate such conditions and make recommendations to correct them.
- 3.06.10 Parent and/or spectator harassment or abusive criticism of player, referee, or coaches' performance during HYSA games will not be tolerated by the HYSA. [Such unsportsmanlike conduct may be treated with a yellow card for the first offense and a red card for the second offense.] These penalties are to be given to the coach of the offending team's spectators/parents. Coaches, parents, teams, fans, etc. will occupy opposite side of the field between the 18 yard lines at all times.

- 3.06.11 Verbal criticism of the referee during the game by coaches or players will not be allowed.
- 3.06.12 Physical violence and/or personal attack will not be tolerated from any coach, player, parent/guardian, spectator or team before, during or after a game or tournament. Physical violence and personal attack shall include, but shall not be limited to, such things as: hitting, kicking, choking, slapping, spitting at or on, violently grabbing or bodily running into another person with intent to knock them down, the act of throwing any object at another person or vehicle such as rocks, sticks, pipe, bottle or can, shoe or any other object that could inflict injury or damage. The HYSA Board will act on every violation, which could include, but not be limited to, game suspension, suspension for a calendar year, and/or teams suspension.
- 3.06.13 The President, Vice President, and/or the Officer of the Day shall have the authority to stop and/or terminate any game for just cause.

NOTE: All HYSA members are charged with the responsibility of seeing that this rule is known to every player, coach, parent/guardian, spectator and referee.

3.07 **REFEREE RESPONSIBILITIES**

3.07.01 The Referee shall:

- A. Prior to the state of the game, verify the identity of each player.
- B. Submit his/her Referee Report of every game worked to the Referee Administrator. A report shall also be filed if the game was a forfeit (Single or Double). He shall also notify, by phone, the proper authority of the name and circumstances of any player ejections.
- C. Inspect all players' equipment and the playing field prior to the start of the game. This inspection is to assure that the game can be played without jeopardizing the safety of the participants.

3.07.02 All games played under the jurisdiction of HYSA shall be officiated by referees approved by the HYSA Board.

3.07.03 In case the designated referee fails to appear, a referee shall be appointed by mutual agreement between opposing team coaches.

- 3.07.04 Should a referee become incapacitated during the progress of a game from any cause that would prevent him from continuing, he shall turn control of the game to any other qualified referee, or person mutually agreed upon by both team coaches, who shall conduct the game to its conclusion in accordance with the By-Laws.
- 3.07.05 The referee's judgment with regard to the physical condition of the field and its acceptance of play. The referee shall be the sole judge on the field of play and his decision is final.
- 3.07.06 Referees shall not officiate in any scheduled HYSA game if relatives of the referee are participating in that game.
- 3.07.07 Any card (yellow or red) issued, during any HYSA scheduled game will be followed by a written report by the referee. This report shall be given to the President or Vice President or the HYSA Association within a 48 hours time period. Any report not filed with the above mentioned officers within the required time frame, automatically voids the issued card.
- 3.08 **REFEREE ABUSE** The coach of a duly registered team is responsible for the actions of his/her team's spectators. The coach shall take all possible precautions to prevent such persons from threatening, harassing, or abusing Referees, game officials, players or other spectators before, during or after matches. The coach is responsible for identifying any spectators who do threaten, harass or abuse Referees, game officials, players or other spectators. Any player, coach, parent or other adult (spectator either associated or not with a specific team) guilty of referee abuse shall be suspended from all HYSA activities for a minimum of 3 scheduled matches. HYSA must address a Referee Abuse allegation within 14 days from the date of verification of an incident.
- 3.09 **REFEREE MISCONDUCT** Any allegation of misconduct or conflict of interest by a game official at a match or away from a match shall be made in writing to the Referee Administrator.
- 3.10 **GAME PROTESTS**
- 3.10.01 Protests based on referees' judgment calls will not be allowed.
- 3.10.02 Any team protesting a game must, through its coach, verbally notify the referee and the opposing coach of such protest before leaving the field of play. A formal protest in writing stating all the known facts shall then be sent to the Vice President, together with a filing fee of \$25.00, and postmarked

within three days after the game. Protests submitted after the due date or without the filing fee will be considered void. If the protest is upheld, the filing fee will be returned

- 3.10.03 Should any person or team want to appeal any protest decision, the line of authority will be: from the HYSA to the District Commissioner to the Board of Directors of the NMYSA, to the USYSA, to USSF, and to FIFA.
- 3.10.04 Teams that wish to file a grievance concerning suspected rules violations by another team in the HYSA must do as follows:
  - A. Send a written request presenting all details of the alleged rules violation to the Vice President not later than two weeks (14 days) after discovery of violation. Disposition beyond the review stage, e.g. full Committee review, will be determined by a vote of the Board.
  - B. Post a \$25.00 filing fee at the time the grievance is filed. Grievances submitted after the due date or without the filing fee will be considered void. If the grievance is upheld, the filing fee will be returned.