

SOCCER RHODE ISLAND

Policies and Procedures



Address: 1150 New London Avenue, Suite LL1

Cranston, RI 02920

Website: www.Soccer-RI.com

Phone:

401-732-7800

Fax:

401-732-7802

Email address:

Registrar@Soccer-RI.com

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Preface

Advantages of Membership

- Organized Leagues for all youth ages and skill levels
- State Cup Tournaments
- Medical and liability insurance
- Select team programs leading to national team considerations
- Referee training and growth opportunities
- Coaches training and State certification opportunities
- Opportunities to participate in interstate and international invitational tournaments
- Player development clinics available to members.

The purpose of Soccer Rhode Island (SRI) is to promote and develop the sport of soccer at the youth level, providing avenues of participation at various skill levels to meet the needs of the membership. The Soccer Rhode Island Board of Directors (SRI Board of Directors) is charged with providing administrative support to the Leagues, Clubs, Teams and Players under its jurisdiction. At one end of the spectrum, we attempt to afford all young people an opportunity to participate in this game and have fun while they learn to enjoy the finer points and skills.

The SRI Board of Directors of this organization, as well as the thousands of other adult volunteers, who donate so much time and energy to supporting youth soccer, don't claim to be perfect. We need ideas and input of all our membership in order to achieve these goals

1000 PRINCIPLES OF SOCCER RHODE ISLAND

- 1010 Lack of knowledge** of these rules will not relieve any coach, team official, parent, or player from the responsibilities and possible penalties herein. All clubs, team officials, parents, and players by their participation in SRI, agree to be bound by these rules.
- 1011 SRI promotes good sportsmanship** by players, coaches, and spectators and expects the support of players and officials in a positive manner. Profanity, racial or sexist comments, or other intimidating comments or actions directed at officials, players, coaches, team representatives, or spectators will not be tolerated and are grounds for removal from the site of the competition and for disciplinary action.
- 1012** Soccer Rhode Island is not responsible for any item lost or delayed through any means of conveyance.
- 1013** SRI agrees to abide by rules and regulations of governing bodies of which it is a member. All members of SRI will be given appropriate notice of these rules and regulations.
- 1014 Use of Registrations.** SRI may use the membership mailing list for purpose only related to the promotion for the Good of The Game.

1200 DEFINITIONS

- 1201 Registration** means the signing of intent to play the sport of soccer and the paying of fees to become a member of Soccer Rhode Island and the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYS). (USYS Rule 201.1)
- 1202 Player** means a properly registered youth who is 19 years of age prior to December 31 for the current seasonal year.
- 1202.1 Premier Player:** means a player registered to a SRI Premier club, or to a non-SRI member association a player registered to a team that participates in a league considered a premier league.
- 1203 Recognized age division** means those age divisions listed in Section 1206. Boys and girls are recognized as separate age divisions.
- 1204 Add** means the addition of a player to a team's roster (USYS Rule 101.2)
- 1205 Rostering** means the assignment of a registered player to a team (USYS Rule 101.2)
- 1206 A multi-year age division** means the age divisions as follows: Under (19, 18, 17), Under (16, 15), Under (14, 13), Under (12, 11), Under (10, 9), Under (8,7), and Under (6, 5). Policies applicable to the First numbered year within an age division apply to all of the following numbered year(s) within that same multi-year age division, except where otherwise specified herein.

- 1207 **Voluntary Release** means the removal of a player from a team’s roster at the request of the player. (USYS Rule 101.2)
- 1207.1 **Release** means the permanent removal of a player from a team’s roster at the request of the player.
- 1207.2 **Temporary Release** means the release of a player from one team’s roster at the request of the player to play on another team’s roster for a particular event (i.e. tournament play).
- 1208 **Involuntary Release** means the removal of a player from a team’s roster at the request of team authorities (USYS Rule 101.2)
- 1209 **A seasonal year** Means the period from September 1st and end on August 31st of the following calendar year. (USYS Bylaw 106)
- 1210 **Playing Season.** Means the individual seasons of fall outdoor, winter indoor and spring-summer outdoor.
- 1211 **CLUB/ASSOCIATION** means an organization, affiliated with SRI, which has an identifiable membership of youth soccer players on whose behalf the organization conducts or engages in youth soccer activities. A club (sometimes referred to as a “league” or local association”) is the basic administrative unit of SRI and of the United States Youth Soccer Association.
- 1212 **Suspension** means the temporary withdrawal of rights and privileges such as, but not limited to: the rights to play, coach, or otherwise administer or participate (directly or indirectly) in the game of affiliated soccer. Any person or group (team, club, league, board, etc.) that has been suspended shall be in less than good standing for the entire term of the suspension with all rights and privileges withdrawn unless specifically stated otherwise by suspending authority. (USYS Rule 101.2(8))
- 1213 **Team** means a group of soccer players playing on the same side in soccer games. (USYS Rule 101.1(7)).
- 1214 **In-house team** means any team, which participates only in intra-club play, (a.k.a. Recreational/Developmental non-travel teams).
- 1215 **Travel teams** means any team that participates in inter-club play.
- 1216 **Competitive team** means any team for which the players are selected on the basis of talent or merit or any team for which tryouts are held or any team on which participation is by invitation. U10 and below teams may also be referred to as Recreational/Developmental travel teams.
- 1217
- 1218 **Club/Association Team** means a travel or competitive team composed of players who are listed on the team’s roster for league play and which does not included guest players. (See USYS Travel and Tournament Manual).

- 1219 **Premier Team** means a SRI Premier Club team or a non SRI member team that participates in a Premier League.
- 1220 **State Select Team** means the official "Select Teams" of SRI where players are chosen on a statewide basis from club teams. (USYS Travel and Tournament Manual).
- 1221 **Tournament Team** means a team, which includes guest players and is put together for the sole purpose of playing in a tournament of other sanctioned, non-league competition. A tournament team exists only for the duration of a tournament.
- 1222 **League** means a structured group of 4 or more teams joined for the purpose of inter-team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules; and is differentiated from another league by the rules that govern the rostering of players to each league's teams, and the different terms used to describe each league do not necessarily reflect the level of ability or talent of teams participating in the league. (USYS Rule 101.3(10))
- 1223 **In-House Leagues** (intra-club leagues) means those leagues in which every participating team is sponsored by the same club.
- 1224 **State Leagues** means those leagues sponsored or administered by the SRI Board of Directors.
- 1225 **Independent Leagues** means those leagues that do not meet the definitions of an intra-club, or state league.
- 1226 **Premier League** means an inter-club league in which no rules restricts the manner in which players may be rostered to participating teams, except for rules which:
1. Define and prohibit unethical recruiting behavior; OR
 2. Limit the participation of players previously rostered to another team.
- 1227 **Competitive Leagues** means those leagues in which competitive teams are permitted to participate.
- 1228 **Recreational League** means an intra-club league in which:
1. The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited; AND,
 2. The club administering the league accepts as participants in the league and all eligible youths (subject to reasonable terms of registration); AND
 3. A system of rostering players is employed for the purpose of creating a fair or balanced distribution of playing talent among all teams participating; AND,
 4. League rules require that each player play at least one-half (1/2) of each game except for reasons of injury, illness or discipline.
- 1229 **A club's home field** means the location of the field (s) where a majority of the club's home games are played.
- 1230 **A team's home field** means the home field of the club sponsoring the team

- 1231 **League Team** means a team which participates in regularly scheduled league play.
- 1232 **Guest Player** means a registered player participating in a competition for a team to which the player is not rostered for purposes of league play.
- 1233 **Intra-Club Tournament Team** means a Tournament Team whose roster includes players who are members of only one club.
- 1234 **Inter-Club Tournament Team** means a Tournament Team whose roster includes players whom are members of more than one club.
- 1235 **Transfer/Release** means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player, and the contemporaneous addition of the player to the roster of another team. This may be done on a temporary basis or a permanent basis depending upon the player's request.
- 1236 **Intra-club Transfers** means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player, and the contemporaneous addition of the player to the roster of another team from the same club.
- 1237 **Inter-Club Transfer** means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player, and the contemporaneous addition of the player to the roster of another team from a different club.
- 1238 **FIFA** means the Federation Internationale de Football Associations
- 1239 **USSF** means the United State Soccer Federation
- 1240 **USYS** means the United States Youth Soccer Association
- 1241 **NCAA** means National Collegiate Athletic Association
- 1242 **RIIL** means Rhode Island Interscholastic League
- 1243 **USC** means the National Soccer Coaches Association of America
- 1244 **Database** means any and all of the applications of the GotSport product or other product as approved by the council and as subscribed to by SRI.
- 1245 **Good Standing** means that a member maintains the conditions and requirements of membership.

1500 **Coaching Education**

1501 SRI offers opportunities for coaches to advance their knowledge of the game and techniques of coaching youth players through the offering of license and certification programs. These offerings consist of the Youth Module certification offered through the Recreational/Developmental Program, and USSF licenses offered through SRI's State Coach.

1502 The mission of the Youth Modules is to provide the most current and advanced information on the growth and development of the youth soccer player.

- i) The philosophy for the modules is that the Game with each child is at the center of all decisions and actions taken by the child. The ultimate goal of the coach should be to unlock the game within each child to help them reach their full soccer potential.

1503

1504 The following is a listing of certification and licensing programs held within the State:

- i) Grassroots

In addition, SRI will recognize the following USC United Soccer Coaches diplomas, in lieu of or in addition to the age appropriate USSF licenses.

- Level 3 - U6 & U8
- Level 4 - U10 & U12
- Level 5 - U11 & above

1505 **RECREATION/DEVELOPMENTAL (Non-Travel):** It is strongly recommended that non-travel team recreation coaches attend and obtain the age-appropriate youth module-coaching certification license as offered by USSF or United Soccer Coaches USC.

- 1506 It is highly recommended that all Travel Team coaches have either the USSF or USC age-appropriate coaching license as follows: Grassroots

It is highly recommended that all Premier Coaches have the highest license listed for the age group they are coaching.

Regarding the USSF D and above licenses; SRI will reimburse 1/3 of the fee to the participant upon proof of course completion. It is recommended that the club association absorb an additional 1/3 of the fee. If a coach has already obtained his/her D-License and can show proof of such, he/she is not required to obtain the E-License.

2000 AFFILIATION, STANDING, REGISTRATION AND ROSTERING**2100 CLUB AFFILIATION**

2105 Clubs. No group, organization or association may register players or roster teams with SRI, or participate in any SRI or USYS competition, or solicit player registrations or fees on behalf of SRI unless and until it has become a properly affiliated member.

2111 Registration Fee: Each member Club must pay to SRI a fee (9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule) for each voting delegate by August 1 of the preceding seasonal year. (If you have four delegates' votes, the fee is 4 times the delegate fee.) Any club who has not paid their registration fee by the August 1 deadline will be ineligible to vote at the August AGM.

2200 GOOD STANDING - PLAYER, TEAM, CLUB, ETC.

2210 Loss of Good Standing. Any player, coach, manager, club official, team or club may be declared not in good standing and have his/her/its rights and privileges suspended, in whole or in part, by a two-thirds vote of the Directors present and voting at any regularly scheduled meeting of the SRI Board of Directors for: (A) failure to pay financial obligation and commitments; Or (B) persistent infringement of the rules of SRI, USYS or USSF;. Or (C) for other good cause consisting of actions detrimental to the sport of soccer or SRI. This notification is done so upon written notice by proof of mailing. A player, coach, manager, club official, team, club or Association who does not rectify or attempt to rectify the infringement within six months, will loose membership within SRI and notification will be given to both USYS and USSF.

2211 Reinstatement of Good Standing. Any person, team or club declared not in good standing pursuant to section 2210 shall be reinstated to all rights and privileges upon majority vote of the Directors present and voting at any regularly scheduled meeting of the SRI Board of Directors.

2212 Player Not in Good Standing. Any player declared not in good standing by a club may not be registered or rostered thereafter by any club affiliated with SRI until the player is reinstated to all rights and privileges or the player has been given permission to register and roster by majority vote of the Directors present and voting at any regularly scheduled meeting of the SRI Board of Directors.

2300 PLAYER REGISTRATION, ADULT REGISTRATION

2310 Total Registration. SRI shall register each and every soccer player of each and every soccer team that is sponsored, financed, coached, or administered by its member organizations.

2311 Player Registration. A player is registered with SRI and is register to a club when the player has submitted and the club has accepted a properly completed USYS player registration form (or equivalent form used by the club) and the appropriate SRI registration fee. Once a player is registered with SRI, he or she is registered with SRI and USYS for the entire seasonal year.

A player is registered from the moment the player or the player's agent signs the Registration form and pays the appropriate fees (USYS Rule 201.3) If the club uses its own form it must, in case of a player under the age of eighteen (18), include permission from the player's parent (s) or guardian(s) to participate in the club's program.

2312 Player Registration Fee. The basic registration fee for all players shall be determined by the SRI Board of Directors and posted by August 1 of each year (9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule). Additional fees will be established by the SRI Board of Directors and, subject to approval by the Council at its meeting in January. The fee includes insurance coverage. This coverage is not optional regardless of any other coverage a club or association may carry. The insurance coverage does not follow a player should they register to play for an out-of-state team. In addition, the insurance does not follow a player playing in a non-US Youth Soccer league or tournament.

2313 Local Registration. Except for states that waive this requirement (per US Youth Soccer Rule 201-1), a player must register in the State in which he or she resides with his or her parent(s) or guardians(s), or in the case of a student in residence at a boarding school or college or university, the player may register in the state in which the boarding school, college, or division of the college or university is located. Any other question of residency may be determined by the state in which the player is registered to vote or holds a current driver's license (USYS Rule 201.1) or the player's school district or any indication of the player's primary residence.

2314 Extra-Territorial Registration:

- 1) Any player who wishes to play on a non-Soccer Rhode Island member team may do so however the player must register with the state in which the team is registered. That state will register and insure the player for that seasonal year. The player will not be covered by the Soccer-RI insurance policy while playing on a non-Soccer-RI team.
- 2) For tryout purposes, if the player is currently registered with a Soccer-RI team and attending a published tryout (this does not include games or training sessions) with a non-Soccer-RI team the player will be covered by the Soccer-RI insurance for the published tryouts only.
- 3) Not more than five (5) SRI registered players shall be granted permission to play on a team of any US Youth Soccer NSA other than an SRI member.

2315 Club Registration. Any player registered to a club is bound to that club, for purposes of outdoor play, for the entire seasonal year unless the player requests and obtains a release, except that a player registering to one club for the purpose of participating in state cup play may concurrently register to a second club for the limited purpose of rostering to a team which is participating in, or intend to participate in, a premier league. **It should be noted that for those registered to a premier team, it is understood that the premier team is their primary team for purposes of league, RI Championships and tournament play. Premier players wishing to play for an association team are responsible for notifying their premier club of their intention.**

2316 Release. A player may request a release at any time. No Club/Association can refuse a player's request for a release. All requests for temporary or permanent releases shall be submitted shall include:

- 1) The written consent of the player's parent(s) or guardians(s) unless the player is at least

- eighteen (18) years of age; and
- 2) Either; a) the written consent of the President, or Chief Officer of the club the player wishes to leave AND the written consent of the club the player wishes to join or (b) the written consent of the SRI President.
 - 3) Additionally, player releases for the purpose of RI Championships play will be limited to the rules of that competition. No premier player may be released to another premier team for RI Championships play after March 1 unless the team is not competing in RI Championships.

2317 Notification of Change. Whenever SRI receives a properly completed request for a transfer, SRI shall process the request immediately and forward a copy of the approved request to the club's registrar affected thereby. The change in registration shall be effective upon notification by the SRI Administrator or designee.

2318 Appeal. Whenever a player has not received the written consent of the Club President within 48 hours after a written request for such consent has been made, the player may petition the SRI President to execute the appropriate release.

2319 Submission of Registrations. No later than thirty (30) days after a member (player, coach, assistant coach, team manager or board member) has been registered, the registering club shall maintain and submit to the state for registration verification that a player has been properly registered to the club and the appropriate registration fee must be paid. When registering players at any time, you must utilize a database program (SRI mandated - GotSport) to submit the information to SRI. Clubs not operating on GotSport may submit their registration information to SRI using a user compatible database format to GotSport. The submission of this information (via a compatible database format and not GotSport) may result in a transaction fee (charged to the club by Youth Leagues). The registration information submitted should include First Name, Middle Name (or initial), Last Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code, Gender, Birth Date, Telephone Number and ID number. As a member of SRI, all members are required to submit 100% of their membership registrations to SRI at all times. (USYS Bylaw 214.1(3))

2320 Adult Registration. Each club shall annually register each adult serving the club, or any of its teams, as a coach, assistant coach, team manager/administrator, volunteer referee. The adult registration fee, as published in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule, per seasonal year unless otherwise posted by the SRI Board of Directors. No later than thirty (30) days after an adult assumes such responsibilities the club shall submit the adult's name, complete mailing address and registration fee to the state office. All adult coaches (premier, competitive and recreational) shall be issued a Coach's Pass effective August 15, 2007. This pass is to be in the possession of the coach during all interaction with youth players.

2320.1 Background Check: Each club/association shall follow the USYS and US Soccer Guidelines in reference to disclosure forms. Each adult serving the club, or any of its teams, as a coach, assistant coach, team manager/administrator or volunteer shall complete the on-line registration via their association's link to the database. SRI will perform background checks on each registered volunteer biannually. No roster approvals will take place without documentation to demonstrate a background check has been performed for every adult listed

on a roster. (Adults should keep in mind that the background check process takes about two weeks to complete. During this time, an adult shall not participate unsupervised with the youth of the member association.)

2320.1.1 The background check fee shall be as published in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule per background check performed unless otherwise posted by the SRI Board of Directors.

2320.2 RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The intent of this policy and its rules and procedures is to reduce the risk of a Youth Member of Soccer Rhode Island (SRI) from becoming the victim of sexual or physical abuse.

2321: Standard for Participation in SRI and its Affiliated Programs

- 1)** A person may qualify for participation in SRI and its related activities and affiliated programs upon completion and passing of the screening process outlined below.
- 2)** A person may be disqualified and prohibited from serving as an employee or volunteer of SRI and its affiliates if:
 - a. the person has been convicted of any crime of violence against minors, or any crime which indicates the person may pose a risk to the safety and well-being of children under his/her direction and/or stewardship, including but not limited to:
 - i. Indecent assault and battery.
 - ii. Rape.
 - iii. Statutory rape.
 - iv. Rape of a child under sixteen with force.
 - v. Assault of a child with intent to commit rape.
 - vi. Assault with intent to commit rape.
 - vii. Kidnapping of a child.
 - viii. Felony possession or distribution and trafficking of narcotics or other controlled substances.
 - ix. Lewd and lascivious conduct.
 - x. Open and gross lewdness.
 - xi. Unnatural and lascivious acts with a child under sixteen.
 - xii. Violation of a restraining order involving physical or sexual abuse of a child.
 - xiii. Assault and battery of a child; liability of a person having custody.
 - xiv. Intent to commit any of the above crimes.
 - b. it is determined that: he/she has been adjudged liable for civil penalties or damages involving sexual or physical abuse of children, is subject to any court order involving sexual abuse or physical abuse of a minor, has had his/her parental rights terminated for reasons involving sexual or physical abuse of children; or
 - c. SRI or any one of its affiliates or members comes into possession of verified information that he/she has: a history with another Organization (volunteer, employment, etc.) of complaints of physical or sexual abuse of minors, resigned, been terminated or been asked to resign from a position, whether paid or unpaid, due to verified complaints of sexual or physical abuse of minors.

2322: Uniformity of Standard

- 1)** All personnel of SRI and its Members are subject to the same screening process and standards.

2323: Applicability of Standard

- 1)** The Membership associated with SRI shall screen their personnel pursuant to these rules.
- 2)** For purposes of these rules, Members consisting of individuals, Organizations, teams and Leagues shall be collectively referred to as the Membership or Members.

- 3) For purposes of these rules, personnel shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, officers, Members of the boards, administrators, coaches, managers, referees, instructors and staffs whether or not they receive compensation for the performances of their duties.
- 4) The Membership, Organizations, teams or Leagues may, in their discretion, apply the requirements of these rules to any other personnel including volunteers not carried on rosters, Membership or registration rolls and not specifically mentioned herein.
- 5) Any Member required under these rules to be screened who does not consent to the application of these rules shall not be allowed to participate in any activities of SRI and its affiliates.

2324: Screening Information

- 1) The following information shall be gathered and used in the screening process of all personnel referenced in the above Applicability of Standard.
 - a. A Volunteer Disclosure statement must be completed and signed by all referenced personnel.
 - b. Criminal Offender Record Inquiry (CORI): All personnel shall be bi-annually reviewed by CORI.
 - c. Information from appropriate agencies that is relevant to the purpose of this committee.

2325: Screening Process

- 1) SRI or its Membership, Organization, teams or Leagues shall collect Volunteer Disclosure statements with CORI consent from all individuals.
- 2) SRI or its Membership, Organization, teams or Leagues shall certify by letter and forward the names of all personnel to the State Risk Management Coordinator.
- 3) Each individual is required to complete and sign the Volunteer Disclosure statement which shall be reviewed bi-annually for as long as one remains a Member.
- 4) The State Risk Management Coordinator will collect all Disclosure Statements not processed by the local Risk Management Coordinator.
- 5) Individuals who fail the screening process, that is, refuse to complete and/or sign the Volunteer Disclosure Form, or for whom an unfavorable response is received as a result of a CORI type inquiry, shall not be accepted into SRI Membership or shall be terminated from Membership in SRI or suspended pending appeal.
- 6) The individual does have a right to appeal to the Risk Management Committee, which process is outlined below.

2326: Notification Process

- 1) If the individual's record indicates risk to youth, the State or Local Risk Management Coordinator shall notify the individual shall be prohibited from participation in SRI.
- 2) Notification shall be in writing and indicate that the individual is not in compliance with SRI Policy.
- 3) Local Risk Management coordinators will forward any individual prohibited from participation in SRI to the State Risk Management Coordinator.

2327: Local Risk Management Coordinators

- 1) SRI Members shall appoint a Risk Management coordinator who shall comply with screening process outlined above.
- 2) Local Risk Management Coordinators are to review and retain Volunteer Disclosure Statements.
- 3) Any Volunteer Disclosure Statement rejected must be returned to the applicant together with a letter rejecting or terminating Membership and starting the right of appeal. Copy of the rejection letter only must be forwarded to State Risk Management Coordinator.
- 4) The Local Risk Management Coordinator must keep a list of personnel within her or his club or Organization who have completed the annual disclosure statements.

2328: State Risk Management Coordinator

- 1) The functions of the State Risk Management Coordinator are as follows:
 - a. Verify that SRI and its Membership, Organization, teams or Leagues have provided Volunteer Disclosure Statements and consent forms as required by screening process outlined above.
 - b. Collect and receive all envelopes containing returned Volunteer Disclosure Statements. These envelopes shall be opened and processed only by the State Risk Management Coordinator.
 - c. Construct a data base for all SRI personnel.
 - d. Maintain and update a separate database for all information sent, received and reviewed to or from CORI or any other relevant agency. This data base shall have password protection, known only to the State Risk Management Coordinator.
 - e. Safeguard all information per guidelines.
 - f. Receive, open and review all CORI reports.
 - g. Keep all completed Disclosure Forms, CORI reports, information pertaining to appeals and files containing the results of appeals in locked files except when in use by the State Risk Management Coordinator, the Risk Management Committee or an appeals panel.
 - h. If additional data entry personnel are used to process the forms only the Data Base information shall be seen by the additional personnel. If additional data entry personnel are used, they shall be instructed that failure to maintain the confidentiality of any of the information on the Information Page is grounds for dismissal. If a data entry service is used, that service must be informed of the confidentiality requirements regarding the forms.

2329: Risk Management Committee Responsibilities

- 1) The committee shall:
 - a. Create and implement an appeal process.
 - b. establish or revise policies and procedures relative to the Risk Management program

2330: Membership

- 1) The Committee shall consist of no more than five (5) Members.
- 2) The Risk Management committee Members shall serve for a term of one year
- 3) If a Member resigns, or is removed as a Member, the vacancy may be filled for the remainder of the existing term.
- 4) Members of the Risk Management committee shall be appointed by the President of SRI.

- 5) The official appointment or reappointment date shall coincide with the election of officers at the annual general meeting.

2331: Voting

- 1) All committee action requires a majority vote of five committee Members except for the following:
 - a. removal of a Member which shall require a unanimous vote of all other committee Members
 - b. Actions by the committee as it apply to appeal hearings which are outlined under Appeal Process.

2332: Appeal Process

- 1) If, as a result of the above referenced screening process, one's Membership in SRI is denied, terminated, or one's Membership is suspended pending appeal, that individual, hereinafter, "the Appellant", shall have the right to appeal to the Risk Management Committee, hereinafter, the "Committee".
- 2) The Appellant shall submit a request in writing to the State Risk Management coordinator at SRI requesting an appeal. Said request shall be submitted within ten (10) days of postmark date of notice of termination or denial or within ten (10) days of the date of letter if hand delivered. Failure to appeal within the allowable time period shall be considered a waiver of appeal and the decision for denial of Membership or termination of Membership shall stand. If an appeal is requested the State Risk Management Coordinator shall notify the Committee secretary who shall arrange for a hearing within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the request for a hearing or as soon as practicable thereafter. The hearing shall not be delayed more than sixty (60) days unless both the Appellant and the Risk Management Committee agree in writing. The hearing shall be held at the SRI office or any other convenient location at the discretion of the Committee. No less than three (3) Members of the committee shall sit for any hearing. A decision shall be rendered by a majority vote. The Appellant shall be notified by mail of the decision within seven (7) days of the hearing.

2333: Appeal Process Guidelines

- 1) The hearings shall remain confidential
- 2) Any exhibits submitted by the Appellant shall be returned to the Appellant with the decision. Copies of those exhibits shall be retained in the hearing file.
- 3) At the hearing the Appellant may be represented by counsel. The Appellant may call witnesses, which witnesses shall remain sequestered until called.
- 4) The Appellant should be prepared to present their case within sixty (60) minutes. The chairman of the hearing shall have the discretion to extend the time if needed.
- 5) The Committee reserves the right to question the Appellant or witnesses during the sixty (60) minutes.
- 6) If the committee denies or terminates the Membership of the Appellant, the Appellant shall have the right to appeal that decision to the SRI Executive Board.
- 7) If no further appeal is exercised by the Appellant, the file shall be retained at the SRI office for one year from the date of the hearing and then destroyed.
- 8) Thereafter only a record that the hearing took place and the decision rendered shall be kept in a secure Risk Management file with the State Risk Management Coordinator. That record shall be kept for seven (7) years.

- 9) If the right of appeal from the Committee's decision is exercised by the Appellant the entire file shall be retained for one year after all avenues of an appeal including litigation are exhausted. After one year the file will be destroyed except for any Committee and appellate decision in possession of SRI which shall be kept for seven (7) years.
- 10) The Appellant shall have the responsibility of notifying the Committee of any reversal of the Committee decision by a higher appellate or court authority.

2334: Hearing Panels

- 1) Hearing panels shall be comprised of not fewer than three (3) Members drawn from the Risk Management Committee.
- 2) The Committee Secretary shall set up each Hearing Panel using the following guidelines.
 - a. Impaneling shall be on a rotational basis, in alphabetical order by last name.
 - b. The State Risk Management Coordinator shall contact committee Members for their availability to participate in a hearing. Non-response within 24 hours shall be considered unavailability.
- 3) Contact for subsequent Hearing Panels shall start with the second person from the immediate prior panel (even if appeal has not yet been heard).
- 4) Record of the Members of each Hearing Panel, including the designated hearing chairperson, shall be kept in the appeal file.
- 5) If Membership is rejected or suspended as a result of the CORI report and/or, as a result of information presented at an appeal hearing, the Hearing Panel accepts a person for Membership or re-instates her or his Membership, no subsequent rejection or suspension of Membership will occur for the same matter except if there is some negative change noted on a subsequent Volunteer Disclosure Statement or as reported in a subsequent CORI report.

2335: Awareness Program

SRI shall incorporate into its various literature and clinic programs educational/ awareness information as developed by the Risk Management Committee, or other authoritative sources as pertinent information becomes available.

2336: Miscellaneous

- 1) Policies and procedures established by the Risk Management Committee are subject to review and approval by the SRI Board of Directors.
- 2) The decisions and actions of the Risk Management Committee in administering the Risk Management Program or of Hearing Panels related to appeals are subject to review or approval by the SRI Board of Directors as long as these decisions and actions are in accord with US Soccer, USYS and SRI, by-laws and rules and with applicable federal and state laws.
- 3) Action by consent, voting by telephone, fax or e-mail is permitted provided the vote of each individual is recorded in committee minutes prepared by the secretary and the votes are confirmed at the next meeting of the committee. If the vote affects policies or procedures, the committee Members will be notified by mail of the results.

2337: Prohibited Conduct Policy

This Policy applies to all Soccer Rhode Island employees, contractors and members (collectively "Employees"). This Policy also applies to conduct by any subcontractor,

supplier, customer or third party and their employees in their dealings with Soccer Rhode Island Employees.

Soccer Rhode Island is committed to maintaining an environment that is free from all forms of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of any legally protected status. Accordingly, Soccer Rhode Island does not permit any form of unlawful harassment, discrimination or intimidation against its Employees by anyone, including managers, supervisors, co-workers, executives, directors, officers, other Employees, vendors, clients, customers or third parties. Protected status includes race, color, age, religion, marital status, sex, ancestry, national origin, citizenship, veteran's status, pregnancy, disability, sexual orientation, protected activity, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local law. The policy also prohibits harassment on the basis of the protected status of an individual's relatives, friends or associates.

Soccer Rhode Island is also committed to maintaining an environment that is free from all forms of intimidation, child abuse, sexual misconduct, bullying and hazing.

Any violation of this Policy by an Employee may subject the Employee to disciplinary action. Appropriate action also will be taken against any subcontractor, supplier, or customer found in violation of this Policy.

Prohibited Conduct:

Harassment

Harassment, including sexual harassment consists of unwelcome conduct, whether verbal, physical or visual, that is based upon a person's protected status. Soccer Rhode Island will not tolerate harassing conduct that affects tangible job benefits, that unreasonably interferes with an Employee's performance, or safety, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Behavior that may constitute harassment includes but is not limited to

- inappropriate comments, teasing, jokes or taunting
- display or circulation of inappropriate or offensive written materials, cartoons or pictures
- inappropriate physical contact
- physical or verbal abuse
- refusal to communicate, converse or work with an Employee
- sexual assault/abuse
- unwelcome or unsolicited sexual advances

Remember that unwelcome harassment is determined by the person being harassed. What one person finds acceptable, another may find offensive. Soccer Rhode Island prohibits managers and supervisors from threatening or insinuating, either explicitly or implicitly, that an employee's submission to or rejection of sexual advances will in any way influence any personnel decision regarding that employee's wages, assigned duties, advancement, evaluation, shifts, career development, or any other condition of employment.

Child Sexual Abuse

Any sexual activity with a child is prohibited. This includes sexual contact with a child that is accomplished by deception, manipulation, force or threat of force, regardless of the age of the participants, and all sexual interactions between an adult and a child, regardless of whether there is deception or the child understands the sexual nature of the activity.

Sexual Misconduct

Any sexual interaction between an athlete and an individual with evaluative, direct or indirect authority is prohibited. Such relationships involve an imbalance of power and are likely to impair judgment or be exploitative. This section does not apply to a pre-existing relationship between two spouses or life partners.

Bullying

Intentional, persistent and repeated pattern of committing or willfully tolerating physical and non-physical behaviors that are intended, or have the reasonable potential, to cause fear, humiliation or physical harm in an attempt to socially exclude, diminish or isolate the targeted athlete(s), as a condition of membership are prohibited. Bullying does not include group or team behaviors that (a) are meant to establish normative team behaviors, or (b) promote team cohesion.

Hazing

Coercing, requiring, forcing or willfully tolerating any humiliating, unwelcome or dangerous activity that serves as a condition for (a) joining a group or (b) being socially accepted by a group's members are prohibited. Hazing does not include group or team activities that (a) are meant to establish normative team behaviors or (b) promote team cohesion.

Procedures for Complaints, Investigations and Corrective Action.

All Employees are responsible to help assure that we avoid misconduct. No one is exempt from this Policy. Soccer Rhode Island cannot act to eliminate misconduct unless it has notice of the conduct. Furthermore, Soccer Rhode Island Employees are responsible to help assure that the environment, on or off-premises, is free from harassment. All Employees have an obligation to promptly report any and all allegedly harassing conduct they are the subject of, that they learn of, or that they witness. Our Policy provides for immediate notice of problems to the persons designated in this Policy so that we may address and resolve any problems as quickly as possible.

An Employee must report the harassing conduct to either:

- The person to whom you report;
- Association/Club Board member;
- Soccer Rhode Island Board member;

If the employee feels uncomfortable going to the person to whom he/she reports with the complaint, he/she must report the matter to any other member of management as designated above.

This Policy does not require reporting the misconduct to any individual who is creating the harassment or discrimination.

All complaints and reports will be promptly investigated. All Employees have an obligation to cooperate in any investigation of a complaint of misconduct, including providing any and all information concerning the complaint. Failure to do so may be a violation of this Policy. In determining whether an individual's alleged conduct constitutes a violation of the Policy, the investigator will impartially look at the totality of the circumstances, which includes the nature of the misconduct and the context in which it is alleged.

If an investigation confirms that a violation of the Policy has occurred, Soccer Rhode Island will take prompt corrective measures. These measures may include, but are not limited to, an oral or written warning or reprimand, suspension, or discharge of the employee or placement in bad standing of the Employee engaging in such misconduct.

Soccer Rhode Island's Harassment Policy offers its Employees greater protection from harassment than does the law. Consequently, Employees who are found to have violated Soccer Rhode Island's Harassment Policy shall be subject to corrective measures, even in cases where applicable laws may not have been violated and without regard to whether the conduct constitutes a violation of the law.

An employee wishing to file a complaint outside the Federation may contact either the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or the fair employment agency in his or her state.

Confidentiality

Complaints of harassment, investigation of complaints of harassment, and any corrective action taken in response will be kept confidential, except as disclosure is necessary to perform Soccer Rhode Island's investigation, and to inform the alleged victim of harassment of the outcome of any investigation.

No Retaliation

Soccer Rhode Island prohibits reprisal or retaliation against an Employee for filing a good faith complaint of harassment, for supporting or assisting, in good faith, another Employee in pursuing a complaint or in assisting in the investigation of a complaint. Employees must report incidents of retaliation on the same basis as they are to report incidents of harassment. Soccer Rhode Island will not retaliate or discriminate against any Employee for exercising, in good faith, any rights under this Policy. Retaliation is a violation of this Policy.

False Claims

Investigations of good faith claims may properly result in findings that include violations of the policy, no violation of the Policy, or inconclusive findings. However, any employee who falsely claims sexual misconduct or provides false information in an investigation will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Training and Education

Employees that have contact with athletes must successfully complete an USOC approved training every two (2) years.

Sexual Abuse or Misconduct

The investigation and adjudication of matters involving allegations or reports of sexual abuse or misconduct, or other violations of this Prohibited Conduct Policy that involve prohibited conduct that is reasonably related to and accompanies an alleged violation involving sexualized behavior by Covered Individuals are subject to the jurisdiction of the United States Center for Safe Sport ("USCSS") in accordance with the requirements of the USOC and as set forth in the USSCS Bylaws or other USSCS governing documents. "Covered Individuals" are those athletes who directly register with Soccer Rhode Island and those who are appointed or authorized by Soccer Rhode Island to oversee those athletes; this would include coaches, administrators, medical personnel and the like. Rules and procedures to be followed by Soccer Rhode Island in dealing with allegations or reports of sexual abuse or misconduct, and the enforcement of discipline or other sanctions issued by the USSCS, are set forth in the applicable SafeSport policies and disciplinary procedures of the USSCS or Soccer Rhode Island.

2400 ROSTERING

2401 Player Rostering. A player is considered rostered to a team when a club has submitted to the state registrar a properly completed team roster form assigning the player to a team or when the player first participates for the team in any competition sanctioned by USYS, SRI or its member leagues, clubs or teams, whichever comes first.

2402 Team Rostering. Whenever a club assigns players to a team for purposes of non-recreational inter-club play, the club shall submit to SRI a properly completed roster form. All coaches must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age and three (3) years older than the **age group they are coaching. In addition, whenever a club assigns players to a team for** purposes of participation in a specific non-recreational inter-club competition (i.e. state cup, RI Championships, invitational tournaments, etc.) the club shall submit to a copy of the team roster form submitted to the authority in charge of the specific competition.

Developmental Soccer Programs:

All Coaches MUST be approved by the club/association of the team for which they will coach

All adult coaches are required to have a BCI check

SRI cannot conduct a BCI check on anyone under the age of 18

It is highly recommended by SRI that if a Child under the age of 18 is allowed to assist a coach with practices and matches, that they be approved by the club/association board members of the team for which they will coach

The Under 18 child coaching should ONLY be coaching at a practice or match IF accompanied by an adult coach which has an approved BCI check

2403 Team Roster Forms. A properly completed team roster form must be printed from the Database and shall contain the names, town of residence, verified Age Group and SRI ID numbers of not less than seven (7), nor more than twenty-two (22) players for 11v11 games OR for small-sided games: either one (1) less than the number of players for the competition or seven (7) whichever is less, nor more than eighteen (18) players properly registered to the club submitting the roster form. It is the coaches' responsibility to review and abide by the rostering rules of each competition in which the team is participating.

2403.1 Club Pass: A properly executed pass card or virtual pass issued by Soccer Rhode Island allows a player to participate with any team in the club named on the pass at or above the player's age group.

2404 Dual Registrations: A player may only be registered to one club per league or event. For recreational/developmental program purposes only, a player may register with as many clubs as they wish.

2404.2 A player can be dual rostered in the same club.

2405. Player Transfer and Release: Any player/parent signing a player registration form is bound to that team for the entire seasonal year unless that player requests a transfer. All requests for transfers shall be submitted to the affiliated member's association in writing, stating the reason for the request for transfer.

- 1) Any player whose team completes its schedule, to include cup competitions, tournaments and exhibition matches, may transfer to another team during the seasonal year.
- 2) No team shall be allowed to drop more than three players per seasonal year.
- 3) A team is limited to a total of three transferred players per seasonal year, however, this rule shall not be applicable to house league players transferring within their own association.
- 4) In the U8, U10, U12, U14, Divisions only, no roster for any team representing any member body affiliated with Soccer Rhode Island may contain more than three (3) players previously registered to another club or association during the current seasonal year. The term registered shall include but not be limited to the completion of an official Club, Association or State Application Form, whichever is applicable, as of the first day of the new seasonal year. Any player not officially registered to any affiliated body by the first day of the seasonal year shall become registered and bound to the first affiliated body holding a completed, signed and dated registration form. Any disputed registration/membership shall be settled in favor of the body that has the earlier dated registration form. These provisions do not apply to players rostered on a Premier Club team. These provisions do not apply to Indoor Soccer, Fall Competitive, or other non-standard soccer.

2406 Recruiting. No team, club, coach, player or any other person may approach a registered player to leave his club or team. Recruiting is further defined as: 1. Any team, acting through its coaches, team officials, administrators, players or parents of players, which attempts to induce any player listed on a valid team roster of another team to leave their team shall be deemed to have recruited that player. 2. Any team may conduct publicly announced open tryouts to acquire players. Any players or players' parents may initiate direct contact with any team for the purpose of joining that team. 3. Invitations to players (s) listed on valid rosters for play on indoor teams or as guest player(s) for tournaments, must be initiated through that player's primary association coach.

2406.1 Recruiting: A member organization of Soccer Rhode Island is responsible to abide by all the rules and regulations as outlined in the Constitution, Bylaws and Policies and Procedures of Soccer Rhode Island during the full term of their membership. A registered member association of Soccer Rhode Island must hold its individual members accountable to Soccer Rhode Island rules and regulations. A member association cannot use its status with another USSF affiliate to circumvent, waive, violate or avoid Soccer Rhode Island rules and regulations. Nor can a player with dual membership in another USSF affiliate, and Soccer Rhode Island and USYS, use their dual status to circumvent, waive, violate or avoid Soccer Rhode Island rules and regulations. All members of Soccer Rhode Island must adhere to all the rules and regulations of Soccer Rhode Island and USYS at all times regardless of any other affiliation, every day of the year.

2407 Premier Player Commitment For RI Championships. All players registered and rostered to a Premier Club team must participate with that team and only that team in any Competition for RI Championships. Exception: If a rostered player from a competitive team that is registered for the RI Championships joins a premier team after the close of the RI Championships registration, that player will play with their competitive team in the RI Championships. In addition, all players registered and rostered to a Premier Club team must participate with that team and only that team in any league or tournament event unless they have received appropriate permission from their premier club. Appropriate permission is defined as a written release or temporary release to another team.

2408 Disbanded Teams: When a rostered team disbands and that fact is officially recognized, acknowledged, accepted, and noted by the Association/Club, any player thereof may at once register with the team of another club but shall be considered a transferred player, subject however to the following conditions and restrictions on this rule:

- 1) Players moving onto an existing team roster are subject to the three-transfer rule.
- 2) Players moving onto a roster for a newly formed team (the team did not exist at the time the old team was disbanded) established for league play and which newly formed team was established to accommodate these players shall not be subject to the three transfer rule if SRI determines, after hearing by the SRI Board of Directors, that the disbanding of the old team was for good cause and not for the purpose of moving a team between Association members.

2409 Team Packet Submission Fees:

The club registrar must notify the Soccer-RI office that a team is ready for SRI review no less than 35 days prior to the posted opening day of the league in which the team is participating. If a team is attending a tournament which requires passes, the Soccer-RI office must be notified that the team is ready for review no less than 35 days prior to the tournament start date.

In order for a team packet to be ready for review, the roster must have at least a head coach and at a minimum the number of players who play on the field for that age group plus one.

Each player/coach/manager listed on the roster must have an in focus passport style photo (no sunglasses or hats) uploaded to their account.

Each player's date of birth must be verified by Soccer-RI prior to being added to the roster.

If a player transfer is required, it must be approved by the releasing club prior to the player being added to the roster.

Every coach and manager listed on the roster must have a current background check and have an approved concussion training certification.

No fee is charged to teams submitting their team packet 35 days or more prior to the league/tournament start date

A team submitting their team packet less than 35 days but greater than 25 days prior to the League/Tournament start date the team fee is \$10

A team submitting their team packet less than 24 days or less but greater than 15 days prior to the League/Tournament start date the team fee is \$50

A team submitting their team packet less than 14 days prior to the League/Tournament start date, the team fee is \$100.

The team fee must accompany the team packet before Soccer Rhode Island will process the packet.

Each association must designate only two members of their association who will be responsible for interacting with Soccer Rhode Island for the processing of team packets.

3000. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY, PLAYER PASSES, AGE DIVISION AND COACHES PASSES.**3100. Player Eligibility and Player Passes**

3110 Player Eligibility. No player is eligible to play in any SRI sanctioned competition or activity without being registered and in good standing with SRI. In addition, no player is eligible to participate in any non-recreational inter-club SRI or USYS sanctioned competition until the club to which the player is registered has submitted to the state, a properly completed team roster form assigning the player to a team and the player has on file with the club a copy of the player's completed player registration form for the current seasonal year and verification of the player's date of birth. Except as provided for in Rule 2314 or Rule 3310, no player registered to a club may play for any team sponsored by another club unless the player first obtains a change of club registration.

3111 Playing Ineligible Player(s). Any team playing a player who is not eligible to participate pursuant to Section 3110 shall forfeit the game(s) in which that player takes part and may be subject to disciplinary action (USYS Rule 209)

3112 Player Pass Requirement. A current and validated USYS player pass or virtual pass in accordance with section 3113 shall be required of all players participating in any inter-club competition, unless the rules of the competition specifically waive the requirement. A fee, as published in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule, per pass will be collected.

3113 Proper Player Pass. A properly completed USYS Player Pass shall contain the name, verified Age Group, SRI ID number, photo (1"x 1" passport style) and name of the club to which the player is registered. The pass shall be validated by the signature or stamp of the state registrar. This player pass must be laminated so that the plastic encases the entire pass. A player pass is valid only for the current Seasonal Year. A new pass must be issued each Seasonal Year. Where accepted Virtual Passes may be used in lieu of the laminated pass.

3114

3115 Proof of Age. Acceptable documents establishing a player's date of birth consist of a birth certificate or birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency, board of health records, passport, alien registration card issued by the United States Government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age or a certification of an American citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates will not be accepted. (USYS Rule 204)

3116 Coach Pass. A current laminated and validated USYS coach pass shall be required of all team coaches and assistant coaches participating in any inter-club competition, unless the rules of the competition specifically waive the requirement. A fee, as published in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule, per pass will be collected.

3117 Player and Coaches Pass. The referee or designee must verify all players' and coaches' passes prior to all matches in which sanctioned SRI teams participate.

3200 AGE DIVISIONS AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

3210 Age Division Eligibility. Under NO circumstances may a player participate in inter-club play in a younger age division than his or her age permits. This does not apply to the TOPSoccer Program.

3211

3212 Overage Players - Any team playing a player who is overage shall forfeit the games(s) in which that player takes part. (USYS Rule 209)

3214 Age Division.

New age divisions for teams take effect September 1st of each year Seasonal Year. An age group matrix is posted on the SRI website.

Age groups shall be comprised of youth players who are of age on or before the last day of December of the current seasonal year –

- (1) 19 years of age and under.
- (2) 18 years of age and under.
- (3) 17 years of age and under.
- (4) 16 years of age and under.
- (5) 15 years of age and under.
- (6) 14 years of age and under.
- (7) 13 years of age and under.
- (8) 12 years of age and under.
- (9) 11 years of age and under.
- (10) 10 years of age and under.
- (11) 8 years of age and under.
- (12) 6 years of age and under.

3300 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY (MISCELLANEOUS RULES)

- 3310 Guest Players.** Where permitted by the rules of a tournament or special competition, players registered to one club may play as guest players for a team sponsored by another club. However, all managers and/or coaches of teams containing guest players must ensure that their guest players have obtained written permission from the club or clubs to which the players are registered and must produce the permission prior to the start of the competition. Failure to do so will disqualify those guest players from the competition. The written permission for guest players must be submitted to the State office as well as the Director of the tournament or competition. Such notification is to be made prior to the commencement of a tournament period. NOTE: When using guest players, your team's roster must be revised and recertified by the State Registrar to include guest players. This roster must then be marked: for (name of) Tournament Only.
- 3311 Participation in Senior Amateur Games.** A youth player will be permitted to play an unlimited number of amateur games without losing his or her youth eligibility. The youth player must obtain permission from his or her youth coach or other authorized team official. The youth coach or other authorized team official shall, in writing or by form, request eligibility clearance from the National State Association (SRI). The youth coach or other authorized team official must, in writing or by form, request permission from the State Amateur Association. When the above clearance and permissions have been granted, the State Amateur Association has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play amateur games and will be responsible for establishing the procedures under which this will be implemented. In the event of a conflict between an amateur trial game and a youth game, the youth game shall take precedence. A youth player who is required to sign an amateur form shall retain youth eligibility. (USYS Rule 208)
- 3312 Players and Teams Registered Outside Rhode Island.** Any player or team registered in a state other than Rhode Island wishing to compete in a SRI league must receive written permission from the State Association where they are registered and SRI. These permissions must be obtained each seasonal year. (USYS Rule 201.2)
- 3313 Games against Unaffiliated Teams.** No team sponsored by any SRI affiliated club may play against any team sponsored by any group or organization that is not affiliated with SRI, USYS, USSF or FIFA without the prior and express permission of the SRI Board of Directors.
- 3314 No SRI affiliated club may sponsor, conduct,** or otherwise organize any event or activity (for which a fee is charged or donation solicited) which involves players not registered to such club without a prior 30 day written request sent to the President of SRI or the SRI BOD and approved by the SRI Board of Directors.

4000 PLAYING RULES, REFEREES, PROTESTS AND FIELD RESPONSIBILITIES.

4100 PLAYING RULES

4110 FIFA Laws of the Game. Except as otherwise provided herein, the “Laws of the Game” according to the Federation Internationale de Football Associations (FIFA), shall apply to any and all non-recreational inter-club games under the jurisdiction of SRI.

4111 Laws Modifications. The FIFA “Laws of the Game” shall be modified as follows....

1. LAW I A match shall be played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eleven (11) players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper, except in the following age groups it is highly recommended that the number of player

- U6 3 v 3 (no goalkeeper)
- U7-U8 4 v 4 (no goalkeeper)
- U9-U10 7 v 7 (with goalkeeper)
- U11-U12 9 v 9 (with goalkeeper)

2. LAW II a size five (5) ball shall be used in all games for age divisions’ Under-13 and older. A size four (4) ball shall be used in all games for age divisions’ Under-12, and Under-10. A size three (3) ball shall be used in all games for age divisions’ Under-8 and younger.

3. LAW III Substitutions shall be unlimited except where specified otherwise in the rules and regulations for a particular competition. Substitutions may be made, with the consent of the referee, at the following times:

- a) Prior to a throw-in, by the team in possession.
- b) Prior to a goal kick, by either team.
- c) After a goal, by either team.
- d) After injury, by either team, when referee stops play.
- e) At half time.

4. The length of the game shall be as follows:

- Under-19 Two 45 minute halves. Two 15-minute overtimes if applicable.
- Under-17 Two 45 minute halves. Two 15-minute overtimes if applicable
- Under-16 Two 40 minute halves. Two 15-minute overtimes if applicable
- Under-14 Two 35 minute halves. Two 10-minute overtimes if applicable
- Under-13 Two 35 minute halves. Two 10-minute overtimes if applicable
- Under-12 Two 30 minute halves. Two 10-minute overtimes if applicable
- Under-11 Two 30 minute halves. Two 10-minute overtimes if applicable
- Under-10 Four 12 minute quarters 1 min between quarters and 5 minutes at the half
- Under-9 Four 12 minute quarters 1 min between quarters and 5 minutes at the half
- Under-8 Four 10 minute quarters 1 min. between quarters and 5 minutes at the half

Where overtime is applicable, full time must be played. (*FIFA, Laws of the Game*). In the event that no winner is decided at the end of the overtime periods, the FIFA penalty kick system will be followed to determine a winner where a winner is required.

5. LAW XII Any player or coach sent off (ejected) by the referee from any game played under the jurisdiction of SRI, shall be suspended for one additional game. If the game from which the player or coach is ejected is a league or tournament game, the player or coach shall be

suspended for his or her team's next scheduled game of the same competition. If the game from which the player or coach was ejected was not a league or tournament game, or the game was the final game of such competition, then the player or coach shall be suspended from his or her team's next regularly scheduled game whether or not such game is a league, non-league, or tournament game. (Note: The above sanctions are only the minimums, clubs may impose additional sanctions.)

6. In a game in which the team no longer has an official eighteen (18) years of age or older (Section 2402) who is in possession of a valid coach's pass, the referee shall terminate the game. A report by the referee shall be submitted to the league or tournament documenting the reason for termination. The League or Tournament will then make the determination as to the outcome of the game.

7. **Heading:** This rule is mandatory for all US Youth Soccer conducted events, including but not limited to Regional and National competitions for the National Championship Series, and National Presidents Cup series. This rule is also mandatory for the US Youth Soccer National League, US Youth Soccer Regional Leagues, and the US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program.

All Players age 10 and younger shall not head the ball directly from the air in any match or competition, nor shall these players practice heading the ball in any organized team setting. If a player age 10 or younger inadvertently heads the ball in a match, the referee shall award an indirect free kick to the opposing team at the spot of the infraction. If the heading occurs within the penalty area, the referee shall move the ball outside the penalty area and award an indirect free kick to the opposing team.

Players age 11 and age 12 shall be permitted to head the ball in any match or competition. These players may practice heading the ball in an organized team practice or skill session, but coaches shall monitor this practice so that no single player heads the ball more than 25 times per week, regardless of setting.

Players age 13 and older shall be permitted to head the ball in any match or competition and these players may practice heading the ball in an organized team practice or skill session.

4200 REFEREES.

4210 Referee System. The diagonal, or three (3) man, referee system shall be used in all non-recreational inter-club SRI games. Except in U8 division and/or when 6 v 6 or less competition is being played where 1 referee is utilized.

4211 USSF Referees. Only USSF registered referees shall be used in all non-recreational inter-club SRI games. Whenever three (3) USSF referees are not available, one (1) USSF referee shall be used with each team providing a club assistant referee.

In U8-U12 divisions, a Grade 9 referee may be used.

In U13-U16 divisions, a Grade 8 referee must be used.

In U17 and above, a Grade 7 referee must be used.

4300 PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

4300.5 Protests and Disputes. All protests and/or disputes with respect to the outcome of any

game or competition under the jurisdiction of SRI shall be referred to the league or tournament committee in charge of the competition or the protest committee for the competition if one has been established. The protest committee's decision shall be final and binding on both teams.

4301 Protest Procedures. Every protest must be made in writing, accompanied by the protest fee and must contain the particulars of the grounds on which it is based. The specifics of the protest procedures (e.g. fees, timeliness, hearings, standing) shall be established by the league, tournament, or event chair/committee in charge of the competition.

4302 Protest Re: Grounds, Etc. Any protest relating to the grounds, goal post, field bars or other appurtenances of the game shall not be entertained by the protest committee unless an objection was lodged in writing with the referee before the commencement of the game. If the referee finds grounds for the objection, the referee shall require the responsible team to remove or alleviate the cause of the objection, if this is possible, without unduly delaying the progress of the game. When an objection has been lodged in writing, protest must be made and no objection or protest shall be withdrawn except by consent of the protest committee.

4303 Protests Re: Referee Any protests regarding the qualifications of the referee and/or referee system shall be made in writing, to the referee and opposing coach, before the game begins, or at the point of time where the lack of qualifications of the Referee and or the Referee System becomes known. In such cases the game shall be played. In the event that the lack of qualifications becomes known after the competition was completed, notification to the referee and coach by mail is acceptable. This protest must comply with procedures as defined in Section 4301.

4304 Length of Game. Protest concerning the length of time a referee called each half in a game cannot be considered as protest as long as both halves were equal in playing time.

4305 Game Protest Procedure

The following applies to all Game Protests:

- 1) The Protest must be orally lodged with the Referee and with the opposing coach before leaving the field.
- 2) Judgment decisions by the referee are not subject to Protest.
- 3) A plea of ignorance to the rules and regulations of the Tournament or Cup Competition is NOT sufficient grounds for protest. Violators may expect appropriate action by SRI.
- 4) The written Protest must be received by the Competition Cup Committee within two (2) business days of the scheduled game in question or prior to either teams, next scheduled game, whichever comes first in this competition.
- 5) Only those persons listed as coaches or team manager on the approved SRI roster used for the game may file the Protest.
- 6) A fee, as established in the 9103 SRI Fees & Assessments schedule in cash, check or money order, payable to SRI, MUST accompany five (5) written copies of the Protest along with five (5) copies of any supporting or pertinent documentation.
- 7) The appeal fee shall be refunded to the appellant if the appeal is sustained.
- 8) If the Protest is upheld and the game has to be replayed, it will be up to the Competition's Committee to schedule the game as it sees fit.

4400 **FIELD RESPONSIBILITIES**

4410 Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited. The drinking or possession of any alcoholic beverages, including beer or wine, by any player, coach, assistant coach, manger, club official or spectator before, during or after a game, at the playing site is strictly forbidden. Violation of this rule will lead to disciplinary action.

4411 Protection. It shall be the home team's responsibility to provide protection for the game officials, visiting team players, coaches and spectators before, during, and at the conclusion of the game. Any club not affording this protection shall be held accountable and may be subject to sanctions pursuant to Section 2210.

4412 Playing Site: It shall be the responsibility of the home team to provide a playing area that is suitable for the conduct of the game. It is recommended by SRI that all goals be securely anchored nor should any game be played or practices held, until the condition is corrected.

4413 Shin guards are required equipment. Socks must be pulled up to cover the shin guards.

5000 LEAGUES, CUPS, TOURNAMENTS AND TRAVEL**5100 LEAGUE**

5110 Leagues Must be Recognized and Approved. No team may participate in a league unless the league is recognized and approved by SRI. Any team participating in a league not recognized and approved by SRI shall be subject to disciplinary measures including suspensions.

5111 Recognition and Approval. All in-house (intra-club) leagues, recreational leagues, state leagues are automatically recognized and approved by SRI. Independent leagues may only be recognized and approved by majority vote of the Directors present and voting at any regularly scheduled meeting of the SRI Board of Directors.

5112 Request For Approval. Upon Written request from a league the SRI Board of Directors may specially approve and sanction the participation of SRI players, teams and clubs in one or more competitions sponsored by such league. The written request must be submitted thirty (30) days prior to the next SRI Board of Directors meeting and at least sixty (60) days prior to the proposed start of the league. The request should include a current copy of the leagues rules, regulations, and policies.

5113 Special Conditions. Any league which requests SRI approval must agree to comply with the following special conditions.

- 1)** The facility/league shall ensure that all players and adult volunteers participating in a SRI sanctioned league are registered with SRI or another USYS affiliated National State Association.
- 2)** The league shall ensure that all players and adult volunteers participating in a SRI sanctioned league, which reside in RI are currently registered with a SRI club, or a USYS or USSF affiliate. The league shall also ensure that all players and adult volunteers not registered with SRI who reside outside Rhode Island register with USYS affiliated National State Association in the State in which they reside.
- 3)** All players and adult volunteers must carry a current, valid, laminated USYS member pass or virtual pass.
- 4)** The league shall maintain a file of SRI certified rosters participating in the SRI sanctioned league.
- 5)** The league shall not permit the drinking or possession of any alcoholic beverages, to include beer or wine, along side the playing area, by any player, coach, assistant coach, manager, club official or spectator before, during or after a SRI sanctioned competition.
- 6)** The league shall maintain a safe playing environment that is suitable for play for all SRI participants.
- 7)** The league shall ensure that all teams affiliated with a USYS National State Association other than SRI participate only with the written permission of their own National State Association.
- 8)** The league must honor the rules supported by SRI, USYS, USSF and recognized affiliates. Its' ownership and staff must not support or conduct programs that directly conflict with SRI (USYS) programs.
- 9)** The league must submit to the SRI State Administrator in writing a list of all red cards

given, to whom they were given, and the reason for the card (i.e. violent conduct, hand ball, etc.). This list must be provided on a weekly basis.

- 10)** No club or organization or facility may use another member affiliate (USSF Affiliate member) to avoid the state rules with respect to league play.

5114 Revocation of Approval If a league fails to comply with any of the special conditions of Section 5113, SRI may revoke its approval and sanctioning of any competition (s) and event (s) of such league.

5115 League Registration Fee: The basic registration fee for all leagues shall be determined by the SRI Board of Directors and posted by August 1 of each year. Additional fees will be established by the SRI Board of Directors and, subject to approval by the Council at its meeting in January.

5116 Discipline: SRI reserves the right to conduct hearings with individuals who appear on this list of 5113.9 on a regular basis and to fine clubs and/or individuals.

5150 SRI shall not authorize, permit, sanction or otherwise tolerate inter-club competition or games involving teams U-10 or younger, UNLESS such competition or game is conducted with not more than eight (8) players per side and is non-results oriented. In addition, SRI shall not authorize, permit, sanction or otherwise tolerate inter-club competition or games involving teams U8 or younger, UNLESS such competition or game is conducted with not more than four (4) players per side and is non-results oriented with NO goalkeeper

5151 Leagues are Responsible to enforce USSF, USYS and SRI rules for play. Special league rules may be put in place by the league. The league, then, has the responsibility to administer and enforce those special rules.

5200 PREMIER LEAGUES

5210 Premier Commissioner. Shall oversee the operation of the Premier Clubs and with the approval of the SRI Board of Directors shall oversee the state premier league in accordance with all SRI rules and regulations and in accordance with such rules or mandates as shall be adopted by the SRI Board of Directors.

5211 Age Divisions. All ages recognized U8 and above.

5212 Eligible Clubs. Participation in Premier leagues shall be open to any of the registered Premier Clubs of Rhode Island with properly registered and rostered youth players, provided such team is in good standing with SRI and in compliance with the special eligibility rules governing participation in RI Championships play.

5214 Roster Cutoff Dates: In any case each premier team roster in the U12, U13, U14, U15 and U16 age brackets would be frozen as of February 1. Additions to rosters would not be allowed until February 15 or after.

5215 Exceptions to Section 5214: Premier teams may add players to their roster in the U12 – U16 age groups, if the player is from out of state (non-SRI-registered), or if the player is a non-competitive player. (i.e. If a player is registered to the Green Club for the purposes of playing recreational soccer and is not rostered to a spring competitive team for that club or any other

club, the premier team may add them to their roster after the February 15 date. If the Club/Association and the coach of a team allows the player to play with a Premier club, then that is acceptable. The player is allowed to play for both teams. The player will be allowed to play for the Premier team for RI Championships play.

5300 RI CHAMPIONSHIPS (U.S. YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SERIES)

5301 RI Championship Committee. Each seasonal year the Vice President of Competitive shall appoint, with the approval of the SRI Board of Directors, a RI Championship Committee, which along with the State Administrator shall organize the Championships.

5302 RI Championships: Each Spring season SRI shall administer the RI Championships competition to determine SRI Representatives to Region I Championships or U.S. Youth Soccer National Championships in the Under-19, Under-18, Under-17, Under-16, Under-15, Under-14, Under-13, Under-12 and U12 small-sided age divisions for both boys and girls.

5303 Eligibility. The competitions shall be open to all teams composed of properly registered and rostered youth players (as defined by the rules of USYS and SRI) and coaches provided such team is in good standing with SRI and is in compliance with the special eligibility rules governing the RI Championships competitions.

5304 Special Eligibility Rules (See also the USYS National Championship Policies)

- 1) The team may not be an ODP Team.
- 2) The team must compete in at least a four-team sanctioned league during the current seasonal year.
- 3) The team must have at least fifty percent of its players registered with SRI.
- 4) The team must not allow more than eighteen (18) or less than nine (9) players on its roster at any given time during the seasonal year.
- 5) The team may not RELEASE, voluntarily or involuntarily, any player from its roster UNLESS a written request, stating the reasons why this action has been requested, has been made to and approved by SRI. A team may release involuntarily a player from its roster ONLY if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons. (a) The player has violated USSF, USYS, or SRI rules. (b) The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. (c) The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season. (d) A player is deceased. No Premier player may be released to another premier team for RI Championships play after March 1 unless the team is not competing in RI Championships.
- 6) The team may compete in only the RI Championships competition during the seasonal year.
- 7) A player may play for only one team in the US Youth Soccer National Championships competition in any seasonal year.
- 8) A player who has been suspended may play after the player's term of suspension has expired.
- 9) A non-SRI member team may not have on its roster more than five (5) SRI registered players who have been granted permission to play out of state.

5314 Entries: All teams wishing to enter any of the USYS National Championship competitions must submit a completed entry to the SRI. Each year the Championships Committee shall post the current application process on the USYS RI Championships website www.Soccer-RI.com. Any team withdrawing following the draw or forfeiting any competition shall be fined as published in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule.

- 1) All rosters will only be accepted by the Cup Committee in the form in which SRI has recognized as the official roster of SRI or reasonable facsimile thereof.
- 2) All rosters must be submitted to the Cup Committee with the official standardized registrar stamp.

- 5315 **Deadlines for Entries.** Entries must be received by the State Administrator on or before the date as published on the USYS RI Championships website www.Soccer-RI.com . Incomplete entries, not containing ALL items listed in Section 5314, will be rejected.
- 5316 **Draw.** The State Administrator shall submit to the Cup Championships Committee all entries timely received and complete. Incomplete applications will not be included in the draw. The committee shall oversee the draw where the teams are drawn by chance. **It shall be the responsibility of each team that has entered to send a representative to the draw for the purpose of obtaining a copy of the draw, the RI Championships rules, and a copy of the USYS National Championship** The draw will be held as published on the USYS RI Championships website www.Soccer-RI.com.
- 5317 **Dates, Times, and Places of Competition.** The dates, times, places, and form of the competition shall be as determined by the Championship Committee and approved by the SRI Board of Directors.
- 5318 **Rosters Frozen.** Once a current team roster has been submitted with the entry a team must notify the State Administrator in writing of any changes to the roster. The team's roster, as submitted with the entry and thereafter amended in writing will be frozen as of the date published by the Championship Committee and published on the USYS RI Championships website www.Soccer-RI.com , OR, 24 hours prior to the first game scheduled for an age group, whichever comes first. If a team does not have any opponents in their age bracket, they have until their scheduled championship match to submit a roster.
- 5319 **Player and Coach Passes and Game Roster Forms.** Player and coach passes, game roster forms and game report forms must be used in all RI Championships games. A copy of a team's certified roster as outlined in Section 5318 must be used as a game roster. Coaches have the right to inspect Player and Coach Passes and to request a copy of the certified roster prior to the start of the game.
- 5320 **Referees. The Diagonal Referee System (3 man),** using only USSF currently registered Referees shall be used for all RI Championships quarterfinal, semi-final, and final matches. Failure to provide three USSF currently registered referees for the quarter-finals and semi-finals matches will result in the game being rescheduled at the home field of the team which had traveled.
- 5321 **Protest Committee.** Each seasonal year the Vice President of Competitive shall appoint, with the approval of the SRI Board of Directors, a Championships Protest Committee composed of three SRI members. In the event that a member is not available the President may appoint another member of the SRI Board of Directors to serve. The Championships Protest Committee shall hear all protests of RI Championship games. The committee shall interpret the rules of the competitions and the decisions of the committee shall be final and binding on all parties.

5400 SOCCER RHODE ISLAND (Soccer-RI) CUP.

5401 The Soccer Rhode Island Cup is an open cup and not dependent on any league standings. Teams must complete an application to enter the Cup. An open draw will be held to seed teams for each age, gender and divisional bracket.

5410 Soccer-RI Cups Committee. Each Spring season, the Vice President of Competitive shall administer Soccer-RI Cup competition in various age divisions for both boys and girls.

5411 Eligibility. Soccer-RI Cup competitions will be conducted during the spring season for both boys and girls in the Under-19, Under-16, Under-15, Under-14, Under-13, Under-12, and Under-11 year old age divisions.

- 1)** All teams entered in the U-11 Cup may have no more than three non-rostered players whose birth dates are within the 12 month period of the cut-off dates for U-10 eligibility.
- 2)** The Soccer-RI Cup Committee will set the criteria for inclusion in the Soccer-RI Cup. Each team must be composed of properly registered and rostered coaches and youth players provided such team is in good standing with SRI and each player on the team.
- 3)** Premier Clubs are not eligible to enter.
- 4)** Any team that participates or is currently participating in the Soccer-RI Cup and is found or deemed to be ineligible and/or not qualified by Soccer Rhode Island or other qualifying guidelines shall automatically forfeit all games played, their standing/position in playoffs and vacate any Championship won. The individual trophies and awards shall be immediately returned to Soccer Rhode Island.

5417. Entries. There will be an open registration period for teams to enter the Soccer-RI Cup. No entries will be accepted after the published deadline.

5419 Dates, Times, and Places of Competition. The dates, times, places and form of the competition shall be as determined by the competitive committee and approved by the SRI Board of Directors.

- 1) Matches prior to the semi-finals will be played on **WEEKNIGHTS**. Such games may only be scheduled on weekends with the PRIOR approval of the RI SYRA or designee.

5420 Rosters. Team rosters are frozen as of the date published on the Soccer-RI Cup webpage.

5421 Clubs Entering More Than One Team Per Division. With reference to any club which enters more than one team in the same division of a Soccer-RI Cup competition, any player whose name appears on a frozen roster may not be switched or appear on any roster of the club's other team(s) entered in that division.

5422 One Team Per Player. No player may play on more than one team in Soccer-RI Cup competition each playing season.

5423 Champions. If the teams are tied at the end of overtime in the finals, FIFA penalty kicks will be taken to determine a champion.

5424 Player and Coach Passes and Game Roster Forms. Player and coach passes, game roster forms and game report forms must be used in all Soccer-RI Cup games. Coaches have the right to inspect Player and Coach Passes and the certified roster prior to the start of the game.

5500 TOURNAMENTS.

5510 Hosting Tournaments. SRI Member clubs or sanctioned leagues wishing to host a tournament must request permission from SRI in accordance with the procedures detailed in USYS Travel and Tournament Manual.

5511 Permission To Host A Tournament. Any SRI Member club or sanctioned league, or association affiliated with SRI may be granted permission to host a tournament. When a private organization provides sponsorship for a tournament, the permission to conduct the tournament is granted only to the SRI Member club or sanctioned league and not to the sponsoring organization.

Application To Host A Tournament. Beginning on September 1st of each seasonal year any SRI Member club or sanctioned league planning on hosting a Tournament during the following calendar year should forward to the State Administrator, for approval by the SRI Board of Directors a completed USYS Application to Host Tournament or Games form and a completed and executed USYS Tournament Hosting Agreement with supporting data, a copy of last year's Post Tournament Report (if applicable), a copy of the proposed rules and invitation letter. If teams from outside of the United States will be invited to the tournament, the Tournament Director must complete and forward to Soccer Rhode Island three copies of the USSF Permission to Host International Games form, three signed copies of the Ted William Act and a check payable to USSF for any fees required by the USSF. Documents are available at www.ussoccer.com.

5513 To Host Foreign Teams USSF Approval Required. If teams from countries other than the United States are to be invited, the application and a copy of the tournament rules must be sent to USSF for approval. At least one hundred and (180) days before the tournament the specific invited countries must be identified to the USSF. Late entries will be denied permission to travel.

5514 After Permission Granted. Once permission to host a tournament has been granted by SRI, and USYS where required, invitations may be sent. The invitations must be sent to the state youth associations of each state or the provincial association from which teams are invited and also the United States Youth Soccer Association, Inc., 9220 World Cup Way, Frisco, TX 75034.

5515 U8, U10 and U12 - All SRI sanctioned tournaments shall only play small-sided (8v8 or less) in age groups U12. All SRI sanctioned tournaments shall only play small-sided (6v6 or less) Non-Result oriented games in age groups U10. All SRI sanctioned tournaments shall only play small-sided (4v4 no goalie) Non-Result oriented games in age groups U08 and under. **Effective September 1, 2017: All SRI sanctioned tournaments** shall only play small-sided (9v9 or less) in age groups U12. All SRI sanctioned tournaments shall only play small-sided (7v7 or less) Non-Result oriented games in age groups U10. All SRI sanctioned tournaments shall only play small-sided (4v4 no goalie) Non-Result oriented games in age

groups U08 and under.

5516 INSURANCE – The sanctioned tournament must require a certificate of insurance from any non United States Youth Soccer Affiliate team, evidencing liability and player medical coverage. The minimum liability limits must equal or exceed \$1,000,000.00 and the minimum excess player limits must equal or exceed \$25,000.00. Non USYS affiliates include but are not limited to organizations such as AYSO, Super Y, US Clubs, YMCA, etc.

5600 TRAVEL TO FRIENDLY GAMES, SCRIMMAGES OR TOURNAMENTS

5601 Notification of Travel. All teams traveling to tournaments outside of Region I must complete the US Youth Soccer Notification of Travel to a Tournament or Games. The US Youth Soccer Notification of Travel to Tournaments or Games form is located on the Soccer-RI Forms page. Forms need to be completed submitted five (5) days prior to leaving for the tournament. SRI will review the online submission and contact the team if SRI has any concerns. Teams must follow all Soccer Rhode Island Policies on travel, located at www.Soccer-RI.com, Forms and Policies. ~~By-laws.~~ A fee may be charged with approval of the SRI Board of Directors in which case the fees would be posted each September 1.

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5602 Application (notification) For Travel Form. Only teams traveling to New Jersey or outside the jurisdiction of Region 1 need to complete a USYS Application (notification) for Travel form , except for regularly scheduled league play or as part of a USYS Cup or USYS "Select Team" competition.

5603 Notification of Travel to New Jersey or outside the jurisdiction of Region 1 . The USYS Application/Notification for Travel form and three (3) copies of a SRI Roster Form listing all players and team officials must be submitted to the SRI office at least ten (10) business days prior to playing games. Two (2) stamped and addressed envelopes shall accompany the request – one (1) addressed to the Tournament Director, one (1) addressed to the applying coach.

5604 For Travel within Region 1 (except New Jersey) and all In-State Travel. Teams wishing to travel within Region 1 (except to New Jersey) or in state must use the SRI E-Travel system. In addition to completing the E-travel form, any team traveling with players other than those who are listed on their current certified league roster must submit three (3) copies of the SRI Tournament Roster Form listing all players and team officials participating. The form must be submitted to the SRI office by noon before the last posted SRI business date prior to playing games. Two (2) stamped #10 envelopes with proper postage shall accompany the rosters – one (1) addressed to the Tournament Director, one (1) addressed to applying coach. SRI teams traveling to any tournaments or games must have in their possession a SRI certified roster, which has been validated by the SRI office and includes the names of all players and team coaches participating.

5605 For travel to all foreign countries: Permission of the US Soccer Federation is required for all travel outside the United States. An Application for Foreign Travel and the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sport Act statement are available at the SRI office, online at www.Soccer-RI.com or at www.ussoccer.com. Forward completed forms to the SRI office with four (4) copies of your roster, and all documents and payments required by the US Soccer

Federation. In addition, include three (3) stamped #10 envelopes with proper postage, one (1) addressed to the coach, one (1) addressed to the US Soccer Federation and one (1) addressed to the SRI office.

5606 Discipline. All traveling teams shall be under the primary jurisdiction of SRI and under the secondary jurisdiction of the Association in whose territory the games are to be played. Traveling teams shall remain subject to the rules and regulations of their own Association as far as disciplinary matters are concerned.

6000 OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ODP)

- 6110 ODP Teams.** Each seasonal year SRI shall sponsor a ODP Program for boys and girls in age divisions as determined by the SRI Board of Directors.
- 6111 Director(s) of ODP Program.** Each seasonal year the Vice President of ODP of SRI shall appoint, with the approval of the SRI Board of Directors, the ODP Coaching Director(s) of both the boys and girls portions of the program.
- 6112 Coaching Appointments.** By April 1st of each seasonal year the Coaching Directors of the boys and girls ODP programs shall submit to the SRI Board of Directors a list of coaching assignments for all ODP teams.
- 6113 Team Rosters.** By June 1 of each seasonal year the Vice President of ODP shall submit to the State Administrator a pool roster containing the names of all players participating.
- 6114. Player Eligibility.** Any player wishing to participate in the SRI ODP program must be properly registered with SRI. No player may try out for the Olympic Development Program in more than one (1) state in the same seasonal year. Open Tryouts shall be conducted.
- 6114.1 Commitment of Club Associations and their Coaches:** It is expressly understood by all Clubs, Associations, their administrators, referees, and coaches that no practices or games are to be scheduled on Olympic Development Training Dates. This includes all winter training session and Wednesday evening training dates (April through July) and any mini-camps scheduled and published by March 1st on the SRI website www.soccer-ri.com.
- 6115 Commitment of Players Selected:** It is expressly understood by all players and their parents/guardians that once selected to the program they are responsible for all fees associated with the program. It is further understood that players are expected to participate in all training sessions and designated Olympic Development Events including but not limited to tournaments, scrimmages, College Night, and any fundraising activities. Players may only be relieved of their obligations with the permission of the Vice President of the Olympic Development Program
- 6116 Violation of Section 6115:** Club/Association President and violating coach will be called to next SRI Board of Directors meeting to explain their/his/her reasons for not supporting the program and policy. The board will have the right to refer the matter to the State Disciplinary Board for review and sanctioning.
- 6117 Violation of Section 6115:** The Vice President of the Olympic Development Program may, with the permission of the SRI Board of Directors, suspend a player or place a player in "bad standing" pending a hearing with the State Disciplinary Board.
- 6118 Reimbursement for Travel.** If a player is selected to attend a Regional or National ODP event, upon request SRI will reimburse that player up to 1/3 of the total event fee, up to \$250.00 per event.

7000 DISCIPLINE**7100 BOARDS, SANCTIONS, AND SUSPENSIONS**

7110 Disciplinary Authority. The authority and responsibility of SRI to hear and adjudge matters of discipline and to impose sanctions or punishment against any player, coach, manager, club official, or team shall be as here after set forth.

7111 State Disciplinary Board. Each seasonal year the President of SRI shall appoint, with approval of the SRI Board of Directors, a State Disciplinary Board (SDB) Chairperson. The SDB shall consist of a pool of 5 (five) representatives, 1 (one) from each SRI District. The members of the SDB Pool will be selected by election or unanimous appointment at each of the November District meetings of the previous year and will serve for one full year, subject to any conflict of interest that a member may have with the matter to be heard. Should a pool member not be selected, one will be appointed by the SRI President, District Commissioner and the SDB Chairperson. When it is necessary for the Chairperson of the SDB to bring together a committee, the committee shall consist of at least four (4) members, plus the SDB Chairperson. The SDB shall serve as a Board of Appeals/Discipline for all matters decided by the Club or Association Boards and shall exercise original jurisdiction over matters resulting from inter-state play, or any other matters, referred to the board by the SRI President or the State Youth Referee Administrator. The Chairperson of the SDB shall cast a vote only in case of a tie or to constitute a quorum of the SDB. A minimum of three (3) members of the SDB must be present in order to constitute a quorum at any hearing to be held before the panel.

7112. Withdrawal from Consideration. Whenever the player, coach, manager, club official, or team whose actions are under review is from the same town or club as any state disciplinary board member, such member shall withdraw from consideration of the matter and the chairperson of the respective board shall appoint a temporary board member from among the alternates.

7112.1 Failure to Fulfill Obligation. Any member of SRI that shall fail and/or refuse to fulfill its obligation when required to serve as a rotating member of the SDB shall be subject to a penalty as posted in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule.

7113 Permissible Sanctions. The SDB shall have the authority by affirmative vote of at least three (3) members of the board to impose any, or all, of the following sanctions in matters where it deems appropriate. (If a quorum of the board is not present at the initial hearing or the matter ends in a tie vote the hearing must be re-held within seven (7) days of the initial hearing with a minimum of three (3) board members present. The board may:

- 1)** Issue a letter of reprimand to any player, coach, manager, club official, or team.
- 2)** Place on probation with such special conditions as are deemed appropriate any player, coach, manager, club official, or team.
- 3)** Suspend for a definite period of time not to exceed one (1) year from the date of the offense any player, coach, manager, club official or team.

7114 Suspensions in Excess of One Year. Only the SDB may impose a suspension in excess of

one year from the date of the offense. Whenever a Club Board concludes that a suspension of more than one year is warranted, it shall impose a one-year suspension and, in writing, refer the matter to the SDB for consideration of the imposition of a longer suspension.

7115 Sanctions Prohibited. A team, player, or official may be suspended only for stated reasons, and for a definite period of time. No player or official of any club or team who has been suspended for an offense committed by the management of club or team shall also be suspended, unless proof is submitted connecting such player or official with the offense committed.

7116 Referee Assault. Whenever it is alleged that any player, coach, manager, club official, or game official has assaulted a referee or official assistant referee, which assault shall amount to physical violence, the SDB shall have original and sole jurisdiction to adjudicate the matter.

1) Referee assault is an act of physical violence at or upon a referee

2) Physical Violence/Personal Attack. Assault includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting at, or on grabbing or bodily running into a referee; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee's uniform or personal property, ie. Car, equipment, etc.

3) Automatic Suspension. When the SRI President verifies an allegation of assault with the State Youth Referee Administrator, the person is automatically suspended until the hearing on the assault.

4) Referee. As used in this rule includes all currently registered USSF referees, assistant referees, 4th officials or other duly appointed to sit in officiating in a match and any club assistant referee.

7121 Thirty Day Limit. With respect to any matter heard by the SDB pursuant to Section 7116, the board shall meet, hear, and adjudicate the allegations with thirty (30) days of the incident.

7122 Minimum One Year Suspension. With respect to any matter heard by the SDB pursuant to Section 7116, if the board finds that such assault did occur, it shall suspend the offender for a period of time lasting not less than one (1) year from the date of the assault, unless serious injuries are inflicted, the minimum suspension shall be at least five (5) years. Longer periods of suspension may be provided if warranted.

7123 Appeal From Suspension For Assault. All other rules regarding appeals notwithstanding, a player, coach, manager, or club official who shall be adjudicated guilty under Section 7116 shall have the right of appeal following the format provided in USSF Bylaws within ten (10) days from receipt of the decision to Federation Appeals Committee.

7124 Referee Abuse. Referee abuse is an act which creates apprehension, implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment. Referee abuse can be carried out by actions, threats or harassment.

1. Actions. Actions include using foul or abusive language toward a referee; spewing any beverage on a referee's personal property.

2. Threats. Threats are verbal remarks or nonverbal gestures that carry the implied or direct

threat of physical harm. Such remarks as "I'll get you after the game" or "you won't get out of here in one piece," shall be deemed referee abuse.

- 3. Harassment. Harassment is a continuing pattern of behavior in which an individual expresses dissent, insults, or intimidation towards a referee. Harassment may occur before, during, or after a match and may occur at or away from the field of play. An example of harassment is a coach that dissents continuously through a match and then approaches the referee in the parking lot to continue dissenting. Harassment shall be deemed referee abuse.

Examples. Referee abuse includes, but is not limited to:

- 1. Constant complaining from the bench.
- 2. Questioning every decision.
- 3. Sarcastic remarks.
- 4. Verbal statements regarding the referee that are personal, persistent, or provocative, whether addressed to members of the officiating crew or to other individuals present at the match.
- 5. Offensive or threatening gestures or body movements.
- 6. Kicking or throwing objects.
- 7. Unpleasant comments.
- 8. Failure by a coach to address abusive behavior by spectators associated with his or her team after having been notified by the referee that a problem exists
- 9. Any other behavior which threatens the referee crew in any way.

7125 Penalties for Referee Abuse. The minimum suspension period for referee abuse shall be at least (3) scheduled matches within the rules of that competition. The SDB adjudicating the matter may provide a longer period of suspension when circumstances warrant (e.g. habitual offenders).

7126 Appeal Procedures. A player, coach, manager, or official who is found to have committed the abuse may appeal the decision by following the appellate procedures of SRI.

7127 Suspension Because of Litigation. Any person participating in a USYS program or in any State or local association program who becomes involved as a defendant in litigation detrimental to welfare of youth players or litigation based on activities detrimental to welfare of youth players, shall be suspended from all soccer related activities until completion of the litigation. The suspending body at the completion of the litigation shall review the status of the person. The State Association shall determine suspensions under this resolution. Matters detrimental to the welfare of youth players shall include crimes of moral turpitude and felonies. The person has the right to appeal whether the matter which is the substance of the accusation, if true, is detrimental to the welfare of the youth players.

7200 PROCEDURES, FINES, AND APPEALS. (See Also By-Laws Article II)

7210 Hearing Procedures. Whenever a matter is referred to the SDB the Chairperson shall set a date and convene a hearing within sixty (60) days of the referral, unless good cause exists for further extension of time for the appeal hearing. The Chairperson shall provide timely written notice of the date, time and place of the hearing to all persons concerned and to all persons or teams against whom sanctions or punishment may be imposed. The hearing should be before

a disinterested and impartial body of fact finders. The hearing should allow for the calling of witnesses to present oral, written evidence and argument. The hearing should allow for a record made of the hearing if desired. At the hearing the board shall receive such oral or written testimony as it shall deem appropriate except that any person or team against whom sanctions or punishment may be imposed shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard by the board in person and to submit such written evidence as they feel necessary and appropriate.

7211 Findings. At the conclusion of the fact-finding hearing the board, through its Chairperson, shall submit to the SRI President a written decision stating the names of the persons heard; the documents examined; the procedures the fact-finding process followed; the factual finds of the board; the sanctions or punishments to be imposed if any; and, the reasons for the imposition of the sanctions.

7212 Notification. Upon receiving a written decision from a disciplinary board the SRI President shall immediately notify those persons or teams against whom any sanctions have been imposed and shall forward to all such persons or teams, and to the State Administrator, a copy of the board's written decision, a copy of the USYS Notice of Appeal and a copy of the USYS Procedure for Appeals.

7213 Decisions in Force. All decisions of the SDB shall stand and be of full force and effect until changed by a higher authority.

7214 Appeal of Decision of an Association Board. The purpose of the appeals process to SRI is to provide fair, swift and just avenues of appeals for all members of this association. These appeals should pertain to the SRI constitution, and other rules, regulations and policies of SRI and affiliate organizations. All state avenues of appeals must be exhausted prior to any appeal to USYS or United States Soccer Federation. Any person or team aggrieved by a decision of an Association Board imposing a suspension may appeal the decision to the SDB in accordance with the following rules:

- 1)** The appeal must be in writing and describe in detail the grounds for the appeal.
- 2)** Parties filing an appeal shall have access to all pertinent information regarding their appeal. Affiliated soccer organizations shall not deny access to any information that could apply to the appeal.
- 3)** Eleven (11) copies of the appeal and eleven (11) copies of all supporting documents and previous rulings shall be mailed to the chairperson of the State Disciplinary Board.
- 4)** The written appeal must be mailed within ten (10) days from the date of the receipt of a written decision from the Association Board.
- 5)** The appeal fee, as posted in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule, payable to SRI, in the form of a money order, cashier's check, or certified check shall accompany the appeal.

7215 Decisions of this committee shall be binding unless the decisions are overturned by further appeals.

7216 The operation of a decision of an affiliated subordinate organization from which an appeal is

taken shall be binding upon the parties pending the hearing before this committee. All appeals before the SDB shall be heard no later than thirty (30) days from the date the written appeal is sent to the State Administrative Employee.

7221. Appeal From Decision of State or Association Disciplinary Board. All grievances involving the right to participate and compete in activities sponsored by SRI and its members must be appealed first to the SRI SDB. The purpose of the appeals process to SRI is to provide fair, swift and just avenues of appeals for all members of this association. These appeals should pertain to the SRI Constitution, and other rules, regulations and policies of SRI and affiliate organizations. All state avenues of appeals must be exhausted prior to any appeal to USYS or United States Soccer Federation. A decision of the SRI SDB may then be appealed to the SRI Board of Directors. The SRI Board of Directors shall have jurisdiction to approve, modify, or reverse a decision. The appeal shall be filed, processed and adjudicated in accordance with rules established by USYS. A written appeal, stating clearly all the facts must be sent to the State Administrator within ten (10) days of the decision the appellant is challenging. Eleven (11) Copies of the appeal shall be sent to the State Administrator accompanied by an appeal fee as posted in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule. The appeal fee shall be refunded to the appellant if the appeal is sustained. Any and all costs associated with the calling of a Special Council Meeting will be borne and shared equally by the member association(s) who requested the Special Council Meeting.

- 1) Decisions of the SRI Board of Directors shall be binding unless the decisions are overturned by further appeal.
- 2) The operation of a decision of an affiliated subordinate organization from which an appeal is taken shall be binding upon the parties pending the hearing of the SRI Board of Directors. All appeals to the SRI Board of Directors shall be heard at the next scheduled Board of Directors meeting unless for expediency, the appellant requests a special Board Meeting. Each member of the SRI Board of Directors, except the President, shall cast one vote. The President shall cast a vote only in case of a tie. Should the appellant request a special Board meeting, the President will call a meeting to be held for the purpose of hearing the appeal. The special meeting will be held no later than thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the Appellant's notice to the State Administrative Employee requesting a special Board meeting.
- 3) The next level of the appeal process is to the Council of SRI. Each member of the Council and the Board of Directors, except the President shall cast one vote. The President shall cast a vote only in case of a tie. A written appeal must be made within ten (10) days of the Board of Directors written decision to the appellant. Eleven (11) copies must be sent to the State Administrator accompanied by the appeal fee as posted in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule. The appeal fee shall be refunded to the appellant if the appeal is sustained. This appeal may be heard at the next scheduled council meeting or if for expediency, the appellant may request a special Council meeting. Should the appellant request a special Council meeting the President will call a meeting to be held for the purpose of the Appeal and this special meeting will be held no later than thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the Appellant's notice to the State Administrator requesting a special Council meeting.
- 4) At any appeal to be heard by the SRI Council, the first order of business to come before the Council shall be the procedures to be followed for the hearing, said procedures to be agreed upon by majority vote of Council members, at all times following Roberts Rules of Order.

- 5) The decision of the Council shall be binding unless overturned by a higher authority. Failure to abide by decisions of the Council shall be grounds for disciplinary action by the Board of Directors.
- 6) The operation of a decision of an affiliated subordinate organization from which an appeal is taken shall be binding upon the parties pending the outcome of hearings after the decision of the Council.
- 7) When it is necessary for this Association to expend monies to entertain and adjudicate any of these appeals it may be determined by whom such expense shall be paid, and when so determined the sum fixed upon notice shall be due and payable. At all levels of the appeal process, if a decision is not reached within ten (10) days of the hearing on the appeal, the party filing the appeal may submit the appeal to the next higher level and the appeal fee submitted will be applied at the next level.
- 8) **Exhaustion of Remedies.** Neither SRI nor any official, club, league, team, coach, referee, or player or their representative, may invoke the aid of the courts of any state or of the United States without first exhausting all available remedies within the appropriate soccer organizations as set forth in USYS Bylaw 704.
- 9) No matter in the nature of a dispute or claim shall be presented to or defended in this Association except by a bona-fide member of the league, association or club which is concerned
- 10) For violating this section the offending party is subject to sanctions and fines, and is liable to the Association for all expenses the Association and its officers, employees, and agents incurred in defending any court action, including but not limited to the following:
 - A. Court costs;
 - B. Grievance costs;
 - C. Attorney fees;
 - D. Reasonable compensation for time spent by the Soccer Rhode Island , its officers, officials, employees, and agents in the action, including responses to discovery and court appearances;
 - E. Travel expenses; or
 - F. Expenses for holding special meetings necessitated by the court action.
- 11) **Appeal of an Associations Termination of Membership:** When an association has been notified of membership probation, completed the probation period and then been notified of the Association's termination of membership with Soccer Rhode Island, the Association will be notified that they may appeal the decision of the SRI Board within 10 days of notification. All appeals involving termination of membership after probation must be appealed first to the SRI Council. The purpose of the appeals process to the SRI Council is to provide fair, swift and just avenues of appeals for all members of this association. These appeals should pertain to the SRI Constitution, and other rules, regulations and policies of SRI and affiliate organizations. All state avenues of appeals must be exhausted prior to any appeal to USYS or United States Soccer Federation. The appeal shall be filed, processed and adjudicated in accordance with rules established by USYS. A written appeal, stating clearly all the facts must be sent to the State Administrator within ten (10) days of the decision the appellant is challenging. Eleven (11) Copies of the appeal shall be sent to the Administrator accompanied by an appeal

fee as posted in 9103 the Fee and Assessment Schedule. The appeal fee shall be refunded to the appellant if the appeal is sustained.

- 12)** Decisions of the SRI Board of Directors and the SRI Council shall be binding unless the decisions are overturned by further appeal.

7224 If the party fails to pay to Soccer Rhode Island the expenses due under Section 7221, the party may be suspended or the party's membership or position terminated in Soccer Rhode Island and all of its members.

7300 DISCIPLINE BY CLUBS

7310 Clubs Encouraged to Act. Clubs are encouraged to act on their own to discipline persons or teams within their organization where they feel it is warranted. It is expected that where clubs have taken timely and appropriate disciplinary action the necessity of referring such matters to the State Disciplinary Board will be avoided. Any actions taken by an association or Club resulting in suspension must be sent to the SRI office within ten (10) days of the notification.

7311 This Association and its members shall recognize suspensions and rulings of all organizations under the jurisdiction of the USYS when notified thereof.

8000 INDOOR PLAY

8110 Types of Indoor Play. Indoor play consists of those indoor soccer competitions and/or events which are:

- 1) Sponsored by Soccer Rhode Island
- 2) Sponsored by a commercial indoor soccer facility.

8120 SRI sponsored Events. SRI sponsored indoor competitions and events are those indoor competitions and events, which are administered and/or directly controlled by any SRI, affiliated club or the governing board of Soccer Rhode Island.

8121 Special Approval Not Required. No special approval is needed for any SRI registered player; team or club to participate in any SRI sponsored indoor competition or event.

8130 Commercial Indoor Facility Sponsored Events. Indoor competitions or events sponsored by a commercial indoor facility are those competitions or events administered and/or directly controlled by a commercial indoor facility.

8131 Approval Required. In general, indoor soccer competitions or events sponsored by a commercial indoor facility, MUST BE SANCTIONED OR APPROVED by Soccer Rhode Island.

8132 Players-Teams-Clubs BEWARES. Players, teams, clubs and individuals participating in indoor play at a commercial indoor soccer facility do so outside the jurisdiction, authority and insurance protections of SRI, and participate at their own risk UNLESS the competition or event at the commercial facility has been specially approved and sanctioned by the SRI Board of Directors.

8300 COMMERCIAL INDOOR FACILITIES

8310 Request for Approval. Upon written request from a commercial indoor facility the SRI Board of Directors may specially approve and sanction the participation of SRI players, teams and clubs in one or more competitions or events sponsored by such facility.

8311 Special Conditions. Any commercial indoor facility requesting SRI approval of a competition or event must agree to comply with the following special conditions:

- 1) The facility shall ensure that all players and adult volunteers participating in a SRI sanctioned competition or event is registered with SRI or another USYS affiliated National State Association.
- 2) The facility shall ensure that all players and adult volunteers participating in a SRI sanctioned competition or event, which reside in RI are currently registered with a SRI club or a USYS or USSF affiliate. The facility shall also ensure that all players and adult volunteers not registered with SRI who reside outside Rhode Island register with USYS affiliated National State Association in the State in which they reside.
- 3) All players, coaches, and adult volunteers must carry a current, valid, laminated USYS member pass or virtual pass.
- 4) The facility shall maintain copies of all rosters listing all players and adult volunteers participating in the SRI sanctioned competitions or events. The rosters shall include each participant's name, address, date of birth and SRI club affiliation.

- 5) The facility shall not permit the drinking or possession of any alcoholic beverages, to include beer or wine, along side the playing area of the facility, by any player, coach, assistant coach, manger, club official or spectator before, during or after a SRI sanctioned competition or event at the facility.
- 6) The facility shall maintain a safe playing environment for all SRI participants.
- 7) The facility shall ensure that all teams affiliated with a USYS National State Association other than SRI participate only with the written permission of their own National State Association.
- 8) The facilities must honor the rules supported by SRI, USYS, USSF and recognized affiliates. Its' ownership and staff must not support or conduct programs that directly conflict with SRI (USYS) programs.
- 9) The facility must submit to SRI each year a current copy of its RULES & REGULATIONS.
- 10) The facility must submit it's request to be recognized as a sanctioned facility thirty (30) days prior to the next SRI Board Meeting.
- 11) The facility must submit to the SRI State Administrator in writing a list of all red cards given, to whom they were given, and why (ie. Violent conduct, hand ball, etc.) This list must be provided on a weekly basis.
- 12) Revocation of Approval. If a commercial indoor facility fails to comply with any of the special conditions of Section 8312, SRI may revoke its approval and sanctioning of any competition(s) and event(s) at such facility.

8312 Under 10 Policy - SRI shall not authorize, permit, sanction, or otherwise tolerate games involving Under 10 teams unless said games are played with a format of not more than eight per side (8 v 8) non-results. No more that (3) players shall be under 8 on a team roster for the U10 age group. No standings, no championships, no score.

8313 Under 8 Policy - SRI shall not authorize, permit, sanction, or otherwise tolerate games involving Under 8 teams unless said games are played with a format of not more than 7 per side (7 v 7), non-results, no standings, no scores kept, no championships. No more than (3) players shall be under 6 on a team roster for his age group. It is strongly recommended that it be 4 v 4 no goalie.

8314 Rosters - Players may not appear on more than two rosters during any indoor session.

8315 Age Division Restriction - Players may not play in the same age division in the same league either during regular league indoor play or during any indoor tournament.

8316 Discipline: SRI reserves the right to conduct hearings with individuals who appear on this list, from Section 8311.11 on a regular basis, and to fine clubs for such individuals.

8320 Out-of-State-Travel. Any indoor team wishing to travel out of state or out of country must comply with Section 5600-5606.

9000 PROPOSED CHANGES

9001 Proposed Changes to Policy & Procedures. Anyone who is a member in good standing wishing to propose a change to the Policy and Procedures may do so by following the following procedure. Submit in writing to the SRI Board not less than thirty (30) days prior to a Council Meeting their request. This request must state the policy number affected, the change requested and be sent to the SRI office. The requested change will then be mailed, emailed and /or posted at www.Soccer-RI.com to each club/association prior to the Council Meeting for their review. Upon majority vote of the council, the change would be effective commencing as of the date set forth in the policy request as approved.

9101 WAIVERS A Club in good standing may submit to SRI in writing a request for a waiver to these policies and procedures. The SRI Board, however, may only waive a rule for the good of the game.

9102 ASSESSMENTS: Monetary assessments applicable to all clubs, teams and players shall be determined by the SRI Board and posted by August 1st of each year. Should the SRI Board not post a revised list by August 1 of a particular year, the existing assessments remain in place until the following August 1st at which time the SRI board could once again choose to carry forward the existing assessments.

9103 FEE AND ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Soccer Rhode Island has implemented the following fees and assessments schedule.

Missed Council Meeting	\$100.00
Missed AGM Meeting	\$250.00
Team Traveling without proper filing of forms (Includes a 1-year suspension from participation in SRI events)	\$500.00
Fee to apply for Provisional Membership	\$25.00
Game Protest Fee	\$200.00
Fee for playing ineligible player on a team	\$250.00
Fee for background check	\$3.95 ea.
Player Registration	\$10.25
Competitive & Premier Player Rostering Fee	\$5.00
Player Registration for player playing out of state	\$16.00
Coach/Administrator Registration	\$10.25
Competitive & Premier Coach/Administrator Rostering Fee	\$5.00
Delegate Fees	\$25.00 ea.
League Registration Fee	\$50.00
Appeal of an Association Board Decision	\$100.00
Appeal of a State Disciplinary Board Decision	\$100.00
Appeal of State Board Decision	\$200.00
Failure to Fulfill Obligation on SDB	\$100.00
US Youth Rhode Island Championships Team Registrations Soccer Rhode Island Member Association Teams	\$900
RI Presidents Cup	\$700
Soccer Rhode Island Cup	No Fee
Rhode Island Recreation Tournaments	
Dick's Cup	No Fee
SRI U8 & U10 Festival	No Fee

9103.1. Withdrawal from Event/Competition. Withdrawal is deemed to mean that the assessments are in place if a team withdraws from an event/competition after mandatory deadlines are established for entry.

9103.2. Non-Appearance for Event/Competition. Non-Appearance is deemed to mean that the assessments are in place if a team (1) withdraws from an event/competition ten (10) or less days before an event, or (2) does not arrive at the designated time and location prepared to participate in the event/competition.

	WITHDRAWAL	NON-APPEARANCE
RI Championships	\$1000.00	\$1500.00
President’s Cup	\$500.00	\$1000.00
SRI U8 and U10 Festival	\$100.00	\$150.00
Soccer Rhode Island Cup	\$100.00	\$200.00
Kohl’s American’s Cup	\$100.00	\$200.00
Any other SRI Event	\$100.00	\$200.00

9104 FAILURE TO PAY:

A Club who fails to pay assessments or fees within thirty (30) days of the invoice date will be unable to obtain signed rosters, players’ passes or other documents until the fees/assessments are paid in full. In addition, a club may be placed in bad standing for failure to pay its fees/ assessments.

9105 FEES & ASSESSMENTS DISTRIBUTION

Amounts collected by Soccer-RI for the following fees and assessments shall be summarized at the end of each fiscal year. The total collected less any Soccer-RI direct costs (e.g. referee fees) shall be divided by the number of member organizations who did not incur any of the below fees and assessments, with the resulting amount credited to the following year’s fees due to Soccer-RI from those organizations. The fees and assessments to which this Policy shall apply are:

From Section 9103:

- Missed Council Meetings
- Missed AGM
- Teams Traveling without proper filing of forms
- Fee for playing an ineligible player on a team

All fees listed in Section 9103.2

Team Submission Fees

This policy will take effect for Fiscal Year 2012/2013

9250 Inclement Weather Policy for SRI Events:

Preliminary Games:

In case of Inclement Weather, a game may only be cancelled:

1. By the referees at the field
2. By the City/Town pulling the Field Permit

If your Field Permit is pulled by your City/Town, immediately email:

Competitive events – VP-Competitive@Soccer-RI.com, Registrar@Soccer-RI.com

Recreational events – VP-Recreational@Soccer-RI.com, Registrar@Soccer-RI.com

If anyone other than above reschedules or cancels a game that team shall be assessed the Forfeit Fee as listed in the SRI Policies & Procedures 9103 plus referee fees.

Semi-final and Finals:

In case of Inclement Weather games may only be cancelled:

1. By the referees at the field
2. By the City/Town pulling the Field Permit

If the Field Permit is pulled

1. All team Coaches and Managers will be sent an email
2. The field closure will be posted on the SRI Website, Homepage
3. The SRI office voice mail will list the closure

For All Games:

If thunder or lightening approaches the soccer field during games:

AND the Referee or Governing Authority stops the game(s)

All players, team official, spectators and referees are to proceed directly to their cars or a safe building. Everyone must remain in their safe location until at least 30 minutes have passed since the last clap of thunder or sighting of lightening has been observed. The referees or Tournament Director may call the games if after the 30-minute period the games are unplayable.

1. For games in which the whistle to start the second half has been sounded, the game is final and the scored will be report to the Tournament Director or his designee
2. For games in which the whistle to start the second half has not been sounded, these games must be replayed. Unless otherwise determined by the Tournament Director.

9800 Principles of Conduct for Parents and Other Adults

9810 This statement of Principles of Conduct for Parents and Other Adults is set forth for the purpose of advancing a positive soccer experience for our community. The overriding spirit of these Principles is that we, parents and adults, are acting as role models, mentors, and educators to children participating in youth soccer. Members of Soccer Rhode Island are responsible for educating their parents about appropriate behavior and for taking action to correct any behavior that falls short of expected standards. Member Associations are free to adopt these principles or they may adopt their own which, in spirit and in practice, should encourage community, civility, sportsmanship, and the creation of a positive and fun soccer experience for our children. Parents and other adults participating in Soccer Rhode Island and Member Associations activities should abide by the following Principles of Conduct:

- 1)** Place the emotional and physical well-being of my child and other youth participants ahead of my personal desire to win.
- 2)** Remember that the game is for the children and not the adults.
- 3)** Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being encouraging, supportive, and affirmative in regard to your child's, and other children's, play on the field (for example, applaud good plays by your team and by the opposing team).
- 4)** Provide support for coaches and officials working with the children to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.
- 5)** Do not coach from the sideline and refrain from walking up and down the sidelines yelling at players. This does not set a good example--let the children play and let the coach instruct the team.
- 6)** Respect officials & accept their decisions, do not address a referee except to bring to their attention an injured player, do not engage in dissent directed toward an official, and do not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with an official. Remember, in many instances the referees are also children who are learning and let them do so free from criticism.
- 7)** Remain in the spectator area along the sidelines and do not stand along the endlines (or behind the goal).
- 8)** Do not use foul or abusive language.
- 9)** Do not consume, be in the possession of, or be under the influence of, alcoholic beverages and/or illicit drugs at SRI or SRI members' association youth events.
- 10)** Reduce competition and pressure; strive to make youth sports fun for the children.
- 11)** Recognize opponents as necessary friends without whom there would never be a game.

9820 Parents [and other adults] are to be made aware that their misconduct may result in their or their team's coach's ejection/removal from a game by the referee (and/or forfeiture of the game) and/or may be subject to discipline by their Association or SRI depending upon the nature of the incident. At SRI events (e.g. US Youth Soccer Rhode Island Championships, SRI U8 & U10 Festival, SRI Cup, American Cup) SRI officials shall additionally have the authority to take action against individuals for unacceptable behavior. In addition, parents [and other adults] may be subject to other corrective measures by their association, as they may deem necessary pursuant to their conduct rules and procedures.

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