BYLAWS OF THE
ROYSE CITY SOCCER ASSOCIATION

ADOPTED JUNE 26, 2003
REVISED JULY 2025

Bylaws

Table of Contents

These amended and restated Bylaws of the Royse City Soccer Association (the "Association") were duly approved and adopted by the Board of Directors as the Bylaws of the Association on July 10, 2023.

ARTICLE I – OFFICERS

1.1. The principal office of the Association in the State of Texas shall be located in the City of Royse City, Counties of Rockwall, Hunt and Collin, Texas. The Association may have such other offices, either within or without the State of Texas, as the Board of Directors may determine or as the affairs of the Association may require from time to time.

1.2. Registered Office and Registered Agent. The Association shall have and continuously maintain in the State of Texas a registered office and a registered agent whose office is identical with such registered office, as required by the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act. The registered office may be, but not need be, identical with the principal office of the Association, and the address of the registered office may be changed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP IN ASSOCIATION

2.1. This Association shall be composed of youth and adults who have become members of the Association by application to and approval of the Board of Directors and who also adhere to the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of the Association. Any player may become a member of another Association upon submission to and approval by the Board of Directors of the Association of a properly executed Application/Release form, birth certificate and payment of all fees. Any adult who agrees to abide by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Association may become a coach upon the signing of a Coach's Agreement and the approval of the Board of Directors and continue coaching, subject to removal for a cause by the Association.

2.2. Any member of the Association (or coach, team or official) may be expelled and his or her membership canceled, forfeited or suspended unilaterally by the Association's Board of Directors or through its consideration of a recommendation of the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee or he or she may be censured by the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee and/or by the Association's Board of Directors for a violation of the Association's Bylaws, Rules and Regulations or for conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Association. A red card shall not in itself be considered an expulsion for these purposes.

2.3. The Association will honor all orders of suspension of players, coaches or referees issued by this Association or any other North Texas State Soccer Association Member or United States Soccer Federation Member Organization.

2.4. An annual membership is established as being from September 1 through August 31 of the following calendar year.

ARTICLE III – GOVERNMENT OF ASSOCIATION

3.1. This Association shall be governed by its members who shall consist of the Board of Directors and the recognized delegates from each registered team in good standing, each of whom shall be entitled to one vote. No delegate shall be entitled to more than one vote. Only the designated delegates may introduce anyone to speak provided they have the permission of the chair. The designated delegate shall be the coach of the team unless otherwise specified in writing. There shall be no vote by proxy.

3.2. <u>Affiliation with the North Texas State Soccer Association (the "NTSSA")</u> This Association shall be directly affiliated with and comply with the authority of the NTSSA and shall represent all its members and respective interest in and before the NTSSA.

3.3. <u>Superseding Authority of the NTSSA.</u> The Association recognizes the superseding authority of the rules and the NTSSA.

3.4. <u>Territory of the Association.</u> The territory under jurisdiction of this Association is defined as being that part of Texas which includes:

Royse City Independent School District

A map reflecting the territory under the jurisdiction of the Association shall be on file with the NTSSA.

3.5. <u>Jurisdiction</u>. This Association shall have jurisdiction over all members, administrators, referees, coaches, assistant coaches, managers, registered players, teams, parents, and other persons affiliated with such teams. Each member will adhere to these Bylaws and Rules and Regulations and will comply with the authority of the Association. If the Association is presented with sufficient evidence that a Member is not adhering to these Bylaws and Rules and Regulations, the Association will ask the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee to investigate the allegations and take necessary action.

3.6. <u>Fiscal Year.</u> The fiscal year of the Association shall be from September 1 to August 31 of the following year.

3.7. <u>Books and Records.</u> The Association shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and shall keep minutes of all meetings at its principal office.

3.8. <u>Resignation.</u> Any director, committee member, officer or agent may resign by giving written notice to the President. The resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or immediately if no such time is specified. Unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

3.9. <u>Amendments to Bylaws.</u> These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed, or new Bylaws may be adopted at any meeting of the Association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the total present membership, provided, however, that all members have been given ten (10) days written notice, including a written copy of the proposed changes. Amendments to the Bylaws may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting without advance notice.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

4.1. Place of Meeting. All meetings of the Association shall be held at such place as shall be designated by the President. All meetings of the Association will be open to the members and the general public. Executive sessions may be called by a two-thirds (2/3) approval of the Board of Directors or a Committee to discuss personnel or legal matters.

4.2. Meetings. The meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the discretion of the President at a time and place appointed by him/her. A member of the Board of Directors may participate in a board meeting by conference telephone or other electronic means so long as all members participating in the meeting may hear each other at the same time. Participation by such means shall be deemed present at the meeting.

4.3. Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held each year on a day to be selected by the President during the month of June at which they shall elect officers in accordance with Article VII hereof, and transact for this meeting as long as notices of such meetings were properly given. The order of business for such meeting shall be:

Roll Call and Vote Accreditation
Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting
Communications
Unfinished Business
Reports of Chairperson of Standing Committees
Reports of Officers
New Business
Bylaws and Rule Changes
Election of Officers
Good of the Game
Adjournment

4.4. General Membership Meetings. This Association will hold monthly meetings beginning with the Annual Meeting in June. Such meetings shall be at a reasonable location designated by the President. A quorum is not required for this meeting as long as notices of such meeting were properly given. The order of business shall be:

Roll Call and Vote Accreditation
Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting
Communications
Unfinished Business
Reports of Officers and Committees
New Business
Bylaws and Rule Changes
Election of Officers
Good of the Game
Adjournment

4.5. Special Meeting. Special meetings of the Association for any purpose or purposes, unless otherwise prescribed by statute or by the Articles of Incorporation or by these Bylaws, may be called by the President or by a petition of 20% of the designated delegates from registered teams in good standing. Business transacted at all special meetings shall be confined to the purpose stated in the notice of the meeting. A quorum is not required for this meeting so long as notice of such meeting was properly given.

4.6. Board of Directors Meeting. The meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held on the 1st Monday of each month. A quorum of 50% is required for this meeting. If the meeting is changed, then notice must be given. Once quorum is established, all actions taking place at the meeting shall be legal regardless of the number present at the time of a vote, providing the meeting had not been previously legally adjourned.

4.7. Emergency Actions. Any three (3) members of the Board of Directors (which may include the President) may take emergency action on matters demanding immediate attention when it is impractical or impossible to call a meeting and shall report their actions to all Board of Directors meetings in writing within three (3) days.

4.8. Notice of Meetings. Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour, of a meeting, and the purpose or purposes for which the meeting was called, shall be delivered not less than three (3) nor more than fifty (50) days before each meeting, either personally, or by mail, by or at the direction of the President, to each delegate or Board Member of record entitled to vote at the meeting unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the delegate or Board Member at their address as it appears on the records of the Association, with postage thereon prepaid.

4.9. Proxy. There shall be no vote by proxy for any meeting.

ARTICLE V – NOTICE

5.1. Manner of Giving Notice. Whenever, under the provisions of applicable statutes, the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, notice is required to be given to any delegate or Board Member of the Association and no provisions are made as to how such notice shall be given, it shall be construed to mean personal notice, shall be given in writing, by mail, postage paid, addressed to such delegate or Board Member at the address appearing on the records of the Association. Any notice required or permitted to be given by mail shall be deemed given at the time when the same is thus deposited in the United States mail as aforesaid.

5.2. Waiver of Notice. Whenever any notice is required to be given to any delegates or Board member of the Association under the provisions of applicable statutes, the Articles of Incorporation or these Bylaws, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated in such notice, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice. Attendance at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a person attends for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the grounds that the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

ARTICLE VI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

6.1. Board of Directors. The business and affairs of the Association shall be managed by its Board of Directors, which shall consist of the Directors of this Association, each of whom will be entitled to one vote. The Board of Directors shall transact all business of the Association and shall have the power to enforce the Laws of the Game, Rules of the NTSSA, the United States Soccer Federation (the "USSF") and its respective members, and the Bylaws and Rules and Regulations of this Association. The Board of Directors shall also hear appeals of decisions of the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee.

6.2. Election of Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall be elected to a term of two (2) years and may succeed them in office. Any Director that desires to seek election to another office must first resign the office he or she is holding prior to the election. Elections shall be held at the Annual Meeting with one-half (1/2) of the Board of Directors being elected each year in the following manner:

President	Elected even years
Executive Vice President or President Elect	Elected odd years
Chairperson of Appeals and Disciplinary	Elected even years
Treasurer	Elected even years
Secretary	Elected odd years
Registrar/Scheduler	Elected odd years
Coed Commissioner (U4)	Elected odd years
Coed Commissioner (U5)	Elected even years
Coed Commissioner (U6)	Elected even years
Commissioner (U7/8 – Boys and Girls)	Elected odd years
Commissioner (U10 – Boys and Girls)	Elected odd years
Interleague Commissioner (U12 and up)	Elected odd years
Adult Commissioner	Elected odd years
Chairperson of Coaches	Elected odd years
Chairperson of Fields	Elected odd years
Chairperson of Marketing	Elected even years
Purchasing Administrator	Elected even years
Chairperson of Concession Stand	Elected even years
Referee Assignor	Elected even years
Director of Referees	Elected odd years
Immediate Past President	Ratified even years

All Officers shall be elected by the delegates and the Board of Directors.

6.3. Qualifications. To serve as a Board member, you must be an adult member of the Association, you must submit to and pass the NTSSA background check, and you must be a member in good standing.

The President must have two (2) years experience as an Officer or Director of the Association within the last three (3) years, one of which must be the current year of the election. (This requirement may be reduced to one (1) year of experience within this Association if the candidate has previous experience on another Board. For this requirement to be reduced, the candidate must have the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and the Board must approve it by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.)

The Vice-president must have one (1) year experience as an Officer or Director of the Association within the last two (2) years

All other Officers and Directors must have one (1) season of experience in a leadership position. A leadership position is defined as:

1. Head Coach
2. Official assistance coach (listed on official team roster)
3. Certified referee
4. Official team manager (listed on official team roster)
5. Assigned committee member

6.4. <u>Salary Positions.</u>

Registrar	Elected odd years
Referee Assignor	Elected even years

6.5. <u>Volunteers.</u> The following positions are volunteer positions. These positions are by volunteers who want to be part of the Association. These volunteers are welcome to attend all meetings and Board functions but do not have voting privileges.

<u>Website Manager</u> – Responsible for maintaining the website with the most accurate information.
<u>Alternate Referee Assignor</u> – Back up person for when primary Referee Assignor is unavailable.
<u>Field Assistants</u> – Report to Chairperson of Fields to help in duties relating to the preparation of all playing fields.

6.6. <u>Removal.</u> Any member of the Board of Directors shall be required to resign following a vote of no confidence in his or her ability to remain in office. 20% of Association members may petition for such a vote. The petition must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors which in turn, will review the petition within fifteen (15) days of receipt of such petition. The vote of no confidence must be passed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of all the Board of Directors. If an officer receives this vote of no confidence, they are automatically suspended from the Board.

6.7. <u>Attendance at Meetings.</u> A Board of Directors member not attending three (3) consecutive meetings, including regular meetings of this Association or Board of Directors meetings, will have their office declared vacant unless the Board of Directors excuses such absences. Their office shall be filled in accordance with procedures under Special Election.

6.8. <u>Vacancies.</u> The nominating committee will find a candidate and present this person to the Board of Directors for a majority Board approval.

6.9. <u>Compensation.</u> The Board of Directors shall serve without salary for their services. Any Board of Directors member may be reimbursed for expenses approved by the budget and/or the Board of Directors. Board members receive a 50% discount on player registration fees.

6.10. Written Reports. With the exception of the President, all Board of Directors of this Association shall report the functions of their office, in writing, at each regular meeting of the Association.

6.11. Parliamentarian. The Chairperson of Appeals and Disciplinary shall act as Parliamentarian, using "Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised" as a guide.

6.12. Minutes. The Board of Directors shall keep regular minutes of its proceedings. The minutes shall be placed in the minute book of the Association. Minutes shall be approved at the next Board Meeting.

6.13. Grievance Involving Board of Directors Members. A member of the Board of Directors can be a member or official of a team, or club. In the event of any grievance involving such an organization, he or she may not act on its behalf or be entitled to vote on the grievance.

ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS, EMPLOYERS, VOLUNTEERS AND AGENTS

POWERS AND DUTIES

7.1. President. The President of the Association shall preside at all Association meetings. They shall appoint all service committees and be an ex-officio voting member of such committees. They shall cast the deciding vote in the event of a tie at any meeting, or may waive the right to do so. They may appoint delegates to any meetings of members. They shall submit an annual report in writing at the Annual Meeting and said report shall become part of the minutes of such meeting. They shall be responsible for ensuring that all the members with check signing authority be bonded. They are empowered to take prudent and reasonable action in cases not covered in these Bylaws, and such authority is implicit in the office. They shall fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.2. Executive Vice President or President Elect. The Executive Vice President shall succeed to the office of President in the event that office becomes vacant. They shall serve in that office until the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting, at which time the Board of Directors will appoint a President to serve until an election can be held at the next Annual General Meeting. The Executive Vice President shall succeed to the powers of the President in their absence. They shall be responsible for seeing that the administrative policies and operations of the Association are carried out. They shall be Co-Chairperson of the Rules and Regulations and Bylaws Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.3. Chairperson of Appeals and Disciplinary. The Chairperson of Appeals and Disciplinary shall be the Chairperson of the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee and shall report the activities of this Committee, in writing, at each regular meeting of this Association. They shall succeed to the powers of the Executive Vice President in the absence of both the President and the Executive Vice President. They shall be Co-Chairperson of the Rules and Regulations and Bylaw Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.4. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all Board of Directors meetings and Membership meetings. The Board of Directors will approve their minutes and the members will approve membership meeting minutes. The Secretary will keep all approved minutes in a book and have this available for review by all Board of Directors and Association members.

7.5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall serve as the financial officer of the Association and shall be responsible for coordinating budget appropriation, complete financial reconciliation and report in writing, prior to each scheduled Board of Directors, a balance sheet and income statement. The reporting will be itemized by category and listed in the following manner.

Activity during the month
Accumulative to date
Approved budget
Difference (plus or minus)

They shall chair the Budget and Finance Committee and shall review and initial all contracts by this Association. They shall require all checks to have two (2) authorized signatures on the check. All financial records are available for review by any Member. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.6. Registrar. The Registrar/Scheduler shall be responsible for online and in-person registration and eligibility of all players and teams within the jurisdictions of the Association. They shall process all players' release and academy player requests.

7.7. Scheduler. The Scheduler shall be responsible for producing the regular season schedule for the Association as well as the rescheduling of any games.

7.8. Coed Commissioner (U4). The Coed Commissioner shall be responsible for team formation within their appropriate age group. They shall be responsible for arbitration of issues/infractions involving coaches and assistant coaches (in cooperation with Chairperson of Coaches), managers, registered players, team representatives and/or teams within their jurisdiction. Problems of a more serious nature shall be reported to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.9. Coed Commissioner (U5). The Coed Commissioner shall be responsible for team formation within their appropriate age group. They shall be responsible for arbitration of issues/infractions involving coaches and assistant coaches (in cooperation with Chairperson of Coaches), managers, registered players, team representatives and/or teams within their jurisdiction. Problems of a more serious nature shall be reported to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.10. Coed Commissioner (U6). The Coed Commissioner shall be responsible for team formation within their appropriate age group. They shall be responsible for arbitration of issues/infractions involving coaches and assistant coaches (in cooperation with Chairperson of Coaches), managers, registered players, team representatives and/or teams within their jurisdiction. Problems of a more serious nature shall be reported to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.11. Commissioner (U7/U8). The Commissioner(s) shall be responsible for team formation within their appropriate age group. They shall be responsible for arbitration of issues/infractions involving coaches and assistant coaches (in cooperation with Chairperson of Coaches), managers, registered players, team representatives and/or teams within their jurisdiction. Problems of a more serious nature shall be reported to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.12. Commissioner (U10). The Commissioner(s) shall be responsible for team formation within their appropriate age group. They shall be responsible for arbitration of issues/infractions involving coaches and assistant coaches (in cooperation with Chairperson of Coaches), managers, registered players, team representatives and/or teams within their jurisdiction. Problems of a more serious nature shall be reported to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.13. Interleague Rep (U12 and above). The Interleague Rep shall be responsible for team formation within their appropriate age group. They shall be responsible for arbitration of issues/infractions involving coaches and assistant coaches (in cooperation with Chairperson of Coaches), managers, registered players, team representatives and/or teams within their jurisdiction. Problems of a more serious nature shall be reported to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. They shall also be responsible for maintaining a working relationship with all other cities involved with the Interleague. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.14. Adult Commissioner. The Adult Commissioner shall be responsible for team formation within the adult group. They shall be responsible for arbitration of issues/infractions involving coaches, assistant coaches, managers, registered players, team representatives and/or teams within their jurisdiction. They shall be responsible for every adult player signing a release prior to playing the first game. Problems of a more serious nature shall be reported to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or voluntary position that is not filled.

7.15. Chairperson of Coaches. The Chairperson of Coaches shall be the Chairperson of the Coaches Committee and shall report the activities of this Committee, in writing, at each regular meeting of this Association. They are responsible for setting up and organizing training and meetings for Association coaches. They shall work with age group Commissioners in any arbitration of issues/infractions involving coaches and assistant coaches. Problems of a more serious nature shall be reported to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. They shall help fill the void of any Board or volunteer position that is not filled.

7.15. Referee Assignor. The Referee Assignor shall be a registered USSF Referee and shall be a member of the Referee Committee. They are responsible for assigning referees for all games on Association soccer fields.

7.16. Director of Referees. The Director of Referees shall currently be, or within the last 3 years have been, a registered USSF Referee. The Director of Referees is responsible for all aspects of the overall development for referees. This includes, but is not limited to, training, recruiting, critiquing, grading, etc. In addition, they shall investigate and review all allegations of referee misconduct or misapplication of the Laws of the Game and discipline referees accordingly within NTSSA and RCSA procedures. The Director of Referees may also serve as the Referee Assignor. It is understood that the Director of Referees may receive compensation when acting in the capacity of either a Referee or Referee Assignor or both. However, at no time will the Director of Referees receive a salary for their work on the Board.

7.17. Chairperson of Fields. The Chairperson of Fields shall be the Chairperson of the Facilities Committee and shall report the activities of this Committee, in writing, at each regular meeting of this Association. They are responsible for maintaining all play fields. This would include working directly with the city in all needs regarding mowing, seeding and trash removal. Their ultimate responsibility is to make sure all fields are correctly marked for each game day. They also make the decision whether the fields need to be remarked each week. They are responsible for their own Field Assistants. They will work hand in hand with each other to make sure the fields are ready to play each game day.

7.18. Chairperson of Marketing. The Chairperson of Marketing shall be responsible for all sponsorship and advertising of the Association. They are responsible for coming up with guidelines for team and Association sponsorship, for sending correspondence to player's families about upcoming events for the Association. They shall coordinate with local news outlets to distribute information concerning the Association. In addition, they are responsible for ordering or revising player registration signs. Any changes to these guidelines will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

7.19. Purchasing Administrator. The Purchasing Administrator shall be responsible for all uniforms, coaching equipment, trophies transactions. In addition, they are responsible for coordinating pictures for the Association. They are responsible for ordering all uniforms for all age groups.

7.20. Chairperson of Concession Stand. The Chairperson of Concession Stand shall be the liaison between the Association and the vendor of the concession stand. The Chairperson shall recommend a vendor to the Board of Directors to work the stand. The vendor is responsible for staffing, supplies, and upkeep of the concession stand building. In the event the Chairperson becomes the vendor, they shall forfeit any voting rights under the Bylaws of this Association.

7.21. Immediate Past President. The Immediate Past President shall be ratified by the membership at the Annual General Meeting. They will assist the President.

ARTICLE VIII – STANDING COMMITTEES

8.1. The following Standing Committee shall be appointed by the appropriate Chairperson and approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Directors at the first Board of Directors Meeting following the Annual General Meeting each year. Vacancies of such committees shall be filled by appointment, within thirty (30) days of occurrence of such vacancy. In case of emergency, the Committee Chairperson shall have the authority to fill vacancies of their Committee by appointment until such vacancy can be filled in accordance with normal procedures. All committee meetings/hearings are open to the membership.

8.2. Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. It shall be composed of the Chairperson of Appeals and Disciplinary and three (3) members, who shall constitute a quorum. The Chairperson shall notify those parties involved in an Appeals and Disciplinary hearing within three (3) days, in writing, of the rulings of this Committee. The Board of Directors shall appoint a referee who will serve as an advisor to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee. All reports shall be heard in a timely manner by the Committee and in no event shall this time period exceed fourteen (14) days.

8.3. Budget and Finance Committee. It shall be composed of the Treasurer as Chairperson and two (2) members. It shall submit a proposed budget for the Association for the upcoming fiscal year to the Board of Directors two (2) months prior to the Annual General Meeting. It shall report the status of the budget to the Members at the General Membership Meetings. An annual audit shall be conducted by an agency appointed by the Board of Directors. The agency shall be instructed to make any recommendations to improve the Association record keeping processes. The Budget and Finance Committee shall not include a salaried employee of the Association.

8.4. Rules and Regulation and Bylaw Committee. It shall be composed of the Executive Vice President and along with three (3) Association members. It shall be responsible for annually reviewing the Association's Rules and Regulations and Bylaws and proposing changes as required to such at the meeting immediately preceding the Annual General Meeting of this Association. All proposed changes shall be presented to the membership for approval. The proposed changes will be voted on by the members at the Annual General Meeting each year. The Committee shall maintain a list of rules and regulations enacted by the NTSSA and shall provide a notice to all coaches and team administrators of the Association's Rules and Regulations and Bylaws after posted.

8.5. Coaches Committee. It shall be composed of the Chairperson of Coaches as Chairperson and two (2) members. Its purpose shall be to implement and administer the coaching system of the NTSSA throughout the territory under the jurisdiction of this Association, in compliance with the United States Soccer Federation coaching system.

8.6. Referee Committee. It shall consist of the Referee Assignor, Director of Referees, and a minimum of two (2) USSF registered referees from the Association. The Referee Committee shall organize the programs for instruction, registration and administration of all USSF referees within the Association in compliance with the programs and policies of the NTSSA and USSF National Referee Committees. Designated Chairperson of the Referee Committee shall report the activities of this Committee, in writing, at each regular meeting of this Association.

8.7. Facilities Committee. It shall be composed of the Chairperson of Facilities as Chairperson and two (2) members. Its purpose shall be to acquire and maintain the facilities and equipment utilized by this Association.

8.8. Nominating Committee. It shall be appointed by the President and will consist of three (3) Association members with no Board of Directors on the Committee. It shall present a slate of candidates, in writing, ten (10) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

ARTICLE IX – PROCEDURE FOR APPEALS

9.1. In no event shall any person or persons or organization under the jurisdiction of this Association resort to the Courts until all appeal procedures have been exhausted. For violations of this rule, the offending party shall be subject to the sanctions of suspension and fines set forth by the USSF and shall be liable for all expenses incurred by the Association and its officers and members in defending each court action, including but not limited to court costs, attorney fees, reasonable compensation for time spent by the Association officers and members in responding to and defending against allegations in the actions, including responses to discovery and court appearances, travel expenses, and the expenses for holding special meetings necessitated by the Court action.

9.2. Procedure for Filing Appeals. The procedure for filing appeals shall be as follows:

1) All appeals to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee must be submitted in writing and received within five (5) days of the appealed decision. A $50.00 fee (cash or cashier's check) shall accompany all appeals. If the Committee upholds the appeal, the fee will return. If it is denied, the fee will be forfeited to the treasury of this Association.
2) This Committee, at its discretion, may, when requested in writing to do so, waive the time limit for filing appeals but in no case shall an extension of more than ten (10) days be granted.
3) All appeals to this Committee must be made in writing to the Chairperson of the Committee. In cases of controversy as to timely receipt of appeals, the postmark date (postage meter not acceptable) will govern.
4) Upon receipt of appeal, properly submitted, the Chairperson of the Committee shall set a time and place for the hearing and will serve notice to all appropriate parties. Such hearing settings are solely the responsibility of the Committee, but all such hearings must be scheduled within ten (10) days of receipt of the appeal and the appealing party is bound to present all information and evidence relative to the appeal at the hearing.
5) Decisions of the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors of this Association. Procedures for filing appeals with the Board of Directors shall be exactly (including time limit and filing fee) as for filing with the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee except that all material shall be submitted to the President, who shall serve notice to all concerned parties of the receipt and the time and place for the hearing.
6) Any decision of a Board Member or Standing Committee may be appealed to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee.
7) Decisions of the Board of Directors may be appealed to the NTSSA. Appeals must be submitted, in writing, to the NTSSA within five (5) days of the Board of Directors decision and accompanied by the fees set forth in the Bylaws of the NTSSA.
8) All decisions at all levels of the appeal process shall stand and be in full force and effect until changed by a higher authority.

ARTICLES X – RULES AND REGULATIONS

10.1. Except as otherwise specified under the Rules and Regulations of this Association herein, Rules of Play of the USSF and its National Association of which North Texas State Soccer Association and this Association is a member, will apply in all competitions.