

# **Grimsby Town Youth Soccer Inc.**

**Established in 1973**



# **By-Laws**

**Oct 2013**

## **By-Laws**

32.1 The following rules and regulations shall be considered as By-Laws and lie outside the Constitution.

32.2 Amendments to these By-Laws may be made without notice by any member in good standing at the Annual General Meeting.

32.3 All shall adhere to these By-Laws. However, it is also recognized that unique situations develop from time to time. Should such a unique situation develop prior to the AGM, these By-Laws may be amended for the season only, by a majority vote, of the Board of Directors.

32.4 Rules shall be issued and revised annually by the Board of Directors.

32.5 The previous year's issued rules shall form the basis of first review.

32.6 Travel League rules issued by South Region, NRGSL or NYSL or other leagues shall apply to any GTYSC team participating in that specific league. In the event of a conflict of rules, the governing league rule shall apply.

32.7 All coaches and team officials shall submit a current police check to the club within 60 days of their appointment

## **All Star Teams**

33.1 Teams of any age or gender may enter any OSA sanctioned tournament.

## **Travel Team By-Laws**

34.1 The Board of Directors shall annually set reasonable dates and rules for selection of the Travel and House League players.

34.2 These rules shall comply with the OSA and the Grimsby Town Youth Soccer Club policy.

34.3 No travel team shall be registered with a travel league until it has met a minimum number of paid registered players for that team. Mini soccer teams 10 players. Regular teams 14 players.

34.4 Travel teams registering with a travel league after the league registration deadline date are required to pay league late registration charges.

## **Travel Team Regulations**

35.1 That selection of all travel and select coaches will be made towards the end of the current season, and before the AGM takes place.

35.2 All team officials require approval by the Coaches Selection Committee.

35.3 The selection process will be implemented as follows:

35.4 Applications will be received by The Club until September 30th and forwarded to the Director of Coaching.

35.5 A coaches selection Committee will be appointed by the Director of Coaching, in consultation with the Board of Directors.

35.6 The selection committee will consist of not less than four persons.

35.7 The Selection Committee will develop evaluation criteria and conduct appropriate interviews.

35.8 The Selection Committee will submit their recommendations to the Board of Directors for approval not later than the first board meeting after the AGM.

35.9 Selection of Coaches will be approved at that Board Meeting.

35.10 The Director of Coaching prior to publicly releasing selected coaches names will notify all candidates, both successful and otherwise.

35.11 All coaches and team officials will hold their position for one season and will be accountable to The Club Executive for their conduct and that of their players.

35.12 Travel teams are to be selected from the best players in their age group.

35.13 Travel Team Coaches are required to hold open trials for all eligible players.

35.14 Travel Team Coaches are required to report to the Registrar the name of all players who have tried out and been cut, not later than the second Saturday in April.

35.15 Recreational Travel Teams must consist of not less than 50% Grimsby residents. (Postal Code L3M)

35.16 Competitive Travel Teams must consist of not less than 50% Grimsby residents. (L3M)

35.17 The 50% Grimsby resident requirement is waived for all Senior Ladies and Senior Menes teams.

35.18 All travel team and select team uniforms shall have the same predominant colour combination.

35.19 The Board will determine travel and Select team uniform colours.

35.20 Players may play or try-out with a travel team up to April 30 providing that player was registered with the OSA for the previous outdoor playing season. (Coaches are responsible to obtain signed confirmation from each participant and retain a record prior to that player participating).

35.21 Fines (*current and outstanding from previous seasons*) levied by soccer leagues on a player for misconduct is the responsibility of the player.

35.22 The Club Registrar shall not accept a registration for a player without that player first reimbursing the Club in full, any outstanding monies.

35.23 Players may be brought up from the house league for trial games with the travel teams providing 39.15 ~

39.25 have been met and the House League Convener and Coach have been informed. Signed parental consent on file with The Club Registrar is mandatory. Trial player permits and player books are required. Cost of permits and player books are the responsibility of the player.

### **Travel Team Finances and Fundraising**

36.1 The Treasurer Will set-up and open a bank account with a local banking institution for each travel team, an initial deposit of \$25.00 will be made by The Club.

36.2 The account will be identified by the name of the team, e.g. Grimsby Eclipse, Grimsby Greens etc.

36.3 Each team account shall be the responsibility of the team and operated by at least two team officials with full signing authority.

36.4 The Club will appoint two executive members who have access signing authority.

36.5 All financial transactions pertaining to a travel team must be processed through the authorized team account and a proper record maintained.

36.6 Subject to parental approval, balances at the end of each season will remain with the team and be carried forward to the next season for that team.

36.7 If no team exists the following year, any balance in the account after April 1st will be removed, the account closed and monies placed in a reserve fund for the travel program.

36.8 Team accounts are not permitted to be in a deficit or carry a negative balance at any time.

36.9 All monies raised by fund-raising and other activities are to be used to offset the cost of the team (i.e. tournaments, team meetings, team transportation).

36.10 All monies earned from fund-raising and other activities are to be properly accounted for by the Team Manager.

36.11 The Head Coach is considered the Team manager unless stated otherwise.

36.12 The Team Manager is required to submit to The Club Treasurer a financial statement detailing all receipts, disbursements and profits not less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the AGM.

36.13 Equipment purchased by any team or combination of teams through approved fund-raising activities, in excess of \$1000.00 will become the property of the club.

36.14 Paid equipment is to be turned over to the Equipment Manager at the time the team folds.

36.15 All team fund-raising and other related funding/equipment raising activities require Board approval prior to the activity commencing.

36.16 No Coach, Team Member or Club Member, Elected or Appointed Official may contact an existing sponsor or approach same to discuss or solicit, funding, additional funding, gifts or equipment. Without written permission from the Board of Directors.

36.17 No Coach, Team Member or Club Member, Elected or Appointed Official may engage in any direct or indirect fund-raising activity without written permission from the Board of Directors.

36.18 Any person or persons contravening 36.16 and or 36.17 is subject to dismissal from the Grimsby Town Youth Soccer Club.

### **House League By-Laws - Player Regulations**

37.1 A youth player shall mean an amateur player who is 18 years of age or below and has not attained his/her 19th birthday before January 1st of the current year.

37.2 A player reaching the age limit of the division in which they were properly registered shall be eligible to continue to play in that division for the remainder of the current season.

37.3 Divisions may be comprised of the following age groups:

37.4 Pre Soccer School Players must be 4 years of age as of April 1st of the current year.

### **Player Registration**

38.1 Players in all competitions sanctioned by The Club must be registered on the official club form.

38.2 The Board shall set registration fees annually.

38.3 Travel player fees must be paid in full not later than the second Saturday of April for the current season.

38.4 It is mandatory for players registering for the first time to submit proof of age at the time of registration.

38.5 League and Division conveners shall have absolute discretion in assigning all players to teams. Transfer of players to another team after the first game of the season may only be made with Board approval.

38.6 No player shall be permitted to play unless assigned to that team by the league conveners.

38.7 No player shall be permitted to play in two (2) different age groups full time, as defined by the current year only.

38.8 Any person registering as a player with the GTYSC may not register as a player with another Club in Ontario during the same season. Should a player be found to be registered elsewhere during the same season, their GTYSC registration shall be cancelled. Any fees paid shall be refunded in accordance with Club policy.

### **Team Regulations**

39.1 Eighteen (18) shall be the maximum number of players on a team, except in U9, U8 and U7 age groups where the maximum number of players shall be twelve (12).

39.2 The Board of Directors may adjust down the numbers of players per team depending on registrations.

39.3 A game shall not be official unless both teams can field at least seven (7) or more players. U9, U8 and U7 minimum of five (5) players.

39.4 If one team meets the minimum requirements, while the other team does not, then the team meeting requirements shall receive two (2) points by default.

39.5 If both teams fail to field the minimum player requirement, both teams shall receive zero (0) points.

39.6 A team shall be given fifteen (15) minutes grace after the scheduled kick-off time to field a team.

- 39.7 Teams shall not enter into extra-curricular activities such as fund-raising events, purchasing, trips or other such endeavors without the expressed authorization of the Board of Directors.
- 39.8 Exhibition games against teams outside the club require Board approval.
- 39.9 Before the start of a game the Home team coach (defined on Schedule) must provide a four part game sheet to the Away Team Coach, filled out with the following, Game Date, Field Location, Division Conveners Name, their Team Name, Player Names and Player Numbers.
- 39.10 Not later than half time the Away Team Coach must return to the Home Team Coach, the Game Sheet duly filled out with the Away Team and Player details completed. The game sheet must reflect accurately the player assigned to that team, this includes the names and number of any "call up" players who shall be identified by A/P on the game sheet. Coaches must notify their home club and away club Interlock team convener with the result of the game played within & within 24hours of completion, details to include division, date, and field. Team Coaches must ensure that a completed game sheet, indicating all relevant information including score results, signed by the referee, is delivered to the Grimsby Division Convener within 6 hours of the end of the game.
- 39.11 Coaches are required to nominate two players from their respective teams, who will receive honorary mention in media publications. Please specify a reason for mention, i.e. Goaltending, defense play, midfield etc.
- 39.12 Division conveners will assign on a rotational basis Call-Up players.
- 39.13 Only players with written parental consent may be considered as a call-up player.
- 39.14 Coaches are not permitted to arrange for call-up players without the express permission of their division convener.
- 39.15 Convener permission must be obtained for each game on an individual basis.
- 39.16 Beginning after the first league game of the season within each division, a coach may draw up to three (3) players (call-ups) from the division immediately below his/her team up to, but not exceeding, the number of players registered to his/her team.
- 39.17 Call-Ups are permitted for all games, including Canada week and Play-offs.
- 39.18 The following call-up procedure will be observed, For Division U8 & U9. The first 7 players must consist of your regular roster players. If you are able to field 10 players No call-ups permitted. 9 players 1 call-up, 8 players 2 call-ups, 7 players 3 call-ups. Divisions U11, U 12, U 13, U 14, U15, U 16, U17. The first 9 players must consist of your regular roster players. If you are able to field 12 Players No call- ups, 11 players 1 call-up, 10 players 2 call-ups, 9 players 3 call-ups.
- 39.19 Call-up players must be listed on the game sheet in the space provided.
- 39.20 When a Call-Up player is assigned, that player must be given equal playing time by the coach.
- 39.21 Called up players assigned to a game shall be not be replaced with a regular team member should sufficient regular team members show up for the game. (See 39.9).
- 39.22 The regular (late arriving) team member may not remain on the player bench during the game.
- 39.23 Call up players must meet their original team/practice schedule commitments before assuming a temporary position with a higher level of play.
- 39.24 The Home Team Coach shall provide the game ball, which shall meet the approval of the referee. Ball size: U4, U5, U6, U7 = **#3**. U8, U9, U11= **#4**. U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U18 = **#5**.
- 39.25 At the conclusion of the season, coaches shall meet with Division Conveners for the purpose of grading all players in that Division. This will form the basis of rating for the next season.

## Duration of the Game (House League)

40.1	U 18	U 17	U 16	U 15	45 minutes each half
40.2	U 14	U 13	U 12		40 minutes each half
40.3	U 11	U 10	U 9	U 8	30 minutes each half
40.4	U 7				25 minutes each half

## Discipline and Protest

- 41.1 Disciplinary/Protest Committee will comprise of not less than three (3) persons, and will include, Referee-in-Chief and League Convener plus one other two year term board member.
- 41.2 A player who has been sent off of the field may not be replaced with a substitute player.
- 41.3 The Disciplinary/Protest Committee; must review a case within five days from the time of receiving written protest. Subject to 41.14
- 41.4 Any decision reached must be made known the same day, in all cases, not later than the day following the decision, to: a) The Players Coach, b) The Player, c) The parent/guardian of the player.
- 41.5 A player receiving a Red Card during any game sanctioned by The GTYSC will immediately be suspended from play in the next game/games, based on 41.6 ~ 41.12
- 41.6 Serious Foul Play - One game.
- 41.7 Violent Conduct - Two games.
- 41.8 Spits at or on an opponent - Two games.
- 41.9 Uses Offensive, Abusive, insulting language or gestures - Two games.
- 41.10 Denies a goal scoring opportunity to an opposing team - One game.
- 41.11 Receives a second yellow card during the same game - One game.
- 41.12 If a player directs any sanction able conduct towards a game official. - One Additional game.
- 41.13 A suspended player shall not participate in any organized soccer until the suspension is lifted.
- 41.14 Written protest shall be delivered personally to The Club Secretary and to the other coach within twenty- four (24) hours of the game ending, to which it relates.
- 41.15 A protest fee of \$50.00 must be submitted with the written protest. In the event that the protest is upheld the fee will be refunded in full.
- 41.16 Decisions of the Protest Committee are binding subject to appeal to The Club Board of Directors.
- 41.17 A twenty- four (24) hour time limit for notification of a protest will apply, with commence timed from the end of the game. In the case of an appeal, 24hrs following the committee decision.
- 41.18 The signatory of protest is responsible for all forwarding requirements and notification (see 41.14) including subsequent notification of appeal, within the stated time limits.
- 41.19 Decisions by The Board of Directors may be appealed to the Ontario Soccer Association (OSA).
- 41.20 All coaches will be held accountable to the Club Executive for their conduct and that of their players.

## General Rules

- 42.1 The referee has full control of the players and team officials from the time he/she arrives at the field, until such time as he/she leaves the park. The referees authority is final and absolute.
- 42.2 If a referee fails to appear at a game, the coaches of the two (2) teams shall agree as to the refereeing of the game.

42.3 No Game shall be cancelled because a referee fails to show.

42.4 In the event that the two (2) coaches are unable to reach consensus as to who will officiate, the Home team coach shall officiate.

42.5 Further refusal by either coach to commence the game will result in the game being declared with a result of 0 – 0. Neither team will receive any league points.

42.6 If the game in question is part of a double knock-out tournament and a referee fails to show, items 42.3 and 42.4 apply.

42.7 Further refusal by either coach to commence the game will result in both teams being disqualified from the competition. A team previously knocked-out will be advanced.

42.8 The team advancing will be selected based on the highest number of goals scored for and lowest against during the regular season.

42.9 Player changes shall be made only when the ball has crossed the goal line resulting in a goal, on a goal kick or on your own throw-in or at the referee's discretion to replace an injured player.

42.10 The substitute shall not enter the field of play until receiving a signal from the referee.

42.11 The six second rule shall be implemented for goalkeepers in the U 11 and all divisions above.

42.12 Players not sporting their team shirt as supplied by The Club will not be allowed to play.

42.13 Any team playing an ineligible player will forfeit that game.

42.14 The goalkeeper shall be left alone when in possession of the ball.

42.15 No player shall be added to any team after June 30th, without approval by the Head Convener.

42.16 Games rained out will be played within six days.

42.17 Division Convener may not cancel a game for any reason without 12 hours notice to affected players, coaches and referees.

42.18 The division Convener shall personally notify all persons.

42.19 Despite bad weather or playing conditions, teams must report to the field by game time.

42.20 The referee shall be the sole judge as to whether a game shall be played.

42.21 If a game is stopped for inclement weather, both teams shall remain near the field of play for fifteen (15) minutes, after which time the referee shall decide if the game is to continue.

42.22 If the referee for any reason stops a game and 2/3 of the playing time (excludes half time break) has expired the game result will stand. The referee should note the time at which the game was stopped and the reason for it not continuing to the full time.

42.23 The referee shall use the card system. A yellow card displayed to a player indicates an official caution, a red card displayed to a player signifies that the player has been ejected from the game and that player must leave the field and remain no closer to the field than ten meters.

42.24 A second yellow card displayed to the same player signifies that the player has been ejected from the game and that player must leave the field and remain no closer to the field than ten meters.

42.25 A youth player shall not be forced to leave the park without adult supervision when outside the park.

42.26 Coaches are not permitted to enter the field of play without first obtaining permission from the referee.

42.27 Coaches and players not on the field of play shall be between the eighteen (18) yard lines.

42.28 As far as practical, each player shall be afforded equal playing time and in any event not less than half the playing time of the game

42.29 No players, coaches or spectators are permitted to remain along the goal lines or within one (1) meter of the touch lines.

42.30 Referees may designate two (2) lines people per game.

42.31 Authorized games shall have priority over use of a field.

42.32 Division Conveners shall maintain team standings showing games won, lost and tied.

42.33 Two (2) points shall be awarded for a win, one (1) point for a tie. The quarter (1/4) point system shall come into effect if necessary at the end of the season to break ties in the standings. A quarter (1/4) point for each goal scored to a maximum of one (1) bonus point per game; won lost or tied.

42.34 In the event of a tie in the final standing, a tie breaking game shall be played.

42.35 If at the end of regulation time that game is tied, (also applies to knock out tournament games) overtime will be played as follows. Two (2) five (5) minute halves. Golden Goal Rule applies. The first goal scored will end the game.

42.36 If at the end of overtime the score remains tied. The game shall be decided by five (5) penalty kicks taken alternately by five (5) players chosen from each team.

42.37 If still tied, penalty kicks will be taken alternately until one team scores and the other does not.

42.38 No player may kick twice until all other team members have had a kick.

42.39 The soccer uniform as issued shall remain the property of The Club until the last game of the season.

42.40 No modifications shall be made that detract from the basic design.

42.41 Spandex shorts as per O.S.A. guidelines may be worn under team shorts provided they are the same colour and do not distract from the uniform colour.

42.42 Directors, elected officials, appointed board members, and league conveners are not permitted to (in any capacity, including coach, parent or spectator) respond to any submissions related to soccer activities in media publications, unless prior approval is given at a board meeting.

42.43 Should there be a need for comment or submissions of a responsive nature through the media, "The Board of Directors" and not an individual member shall sign them.

### **Zero Tolerance**

43.1 The Grimsby Town Youth Soccer Club is a strong supporter of making sport safe for our youth.

43.2 Verbal abuse directed towards referees will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

43.3 Any coach, parent, grandparent or guardian judged by the GTYSC Discipline Board to be guilty of abusive conduct towards a game official during a GTYSC House League game will be reprimanded in writing.

43.4 A second incident involving the same person, during the same season will result in the member being restricted from all services rendered by the Club including attendance any and at all soccer activities including games, within the Club.

43.5 A member may be considered for reinstatement subject to a review hearing.

43.6 If during the same game, abuse continues toward the official, the official will be allowed to stop any further playing of the game and advise the coaches that the game has been abandoned and that a special incidence report will be forwarded to the GTYSC Discipline Board.

43.7 The official must clearly indicate on the game sheet that the game was abandoned due to abuse, specifying whether the abuse was physical or verbal.

43.8 The game official must contact either their Referee Coordinator or a member of the Executive to verbally report the incident within 24 hours.

43.9 A Special Incident Report, with the assistance of the Referee Coordinator or a member of the Executive, is required and must then be forwarded to the GTYSC within 72 hours of the incident.

43.10 The GTYSC Discipline Board will review and deal with the report as per their guidelines.

43.11 If the game was abandoned due to the conduct of a fan not associated with either team, the Executive will determine the status of the game.



## **Procedures**

- 44.1 When a game official feels that they are being abused, as per the scope of this policy, by either a coach or a spectator, the official will be allowed to suspend the playing of the game.
- 44.2 A game stopped due to physical abuse directed towards a game official, shall be abandoned and may not be resumed.
- 44.3 The official will advise both team coaches that the game has been abandoned.
- 44.4 A game stopped due to verbal abuse directed to a game official may be restarted once only.
- 44.5 The restart will be with a dropped ball between the two teams at the location where the play was stopped.
- 44.6 If the abuse is verbal, the official will advise both coaches that the game has been stopped due to verbal abuse and inform both coaches as to the source.
- 44.7 If the source is one of the coaches, the official will advise the coach that the next occurrence of a similar nature will result in an abandonment of the game.
- 44.8 If the source of abuse is a spectator, the appropriate coach will assist the official in determining the spectators identity.
- 44.9 The Coach must advise the fan that the next occurrence of a similar nature will result in an abandonment of the game.
- 44.10 If the fan is not associated with either team, both coaches are asked to speak to the fan and ask the individual(s) to leave the park

## **Refund Policy**

For the purpose of this refund policy the official start date for the season is deemed to be the first Monday of May when a scheduled house league game takes place.

- 45.1 Any refund is contingent on all issued equipment and full uniform being returned to the club in pristine condition, the date of return will be deemed the effective date for the purpose of applying this refund policy
- 45.2 Players who submit their registration to play in a travel league and subsequently cancel their registration with the GTYSC prior to the start of the season will be subjected to a \$30.00 cancellation fee. In addition to 45.9
- 45.3 Travel team try-out players who are not offered a position with a travel team and or wish to transfer to house league prior to the start of the season may do so without any charges, repayment of fees in excess of the house league rate will be made without any fee or administration charge levied.
- 45.4 Travel players withdrawing to play house league after the start of the season will be charged a \$35.00 penalty, their travel uniform to be returned, any payment above the house league fee plus the penalty amount will be refunded without additional administration charges.
- 45.5 Travel players withdrawing to play house league after the start of the season will be charged a \$35.00 penalty, any payment above the house league fee plus the penalty amount will be refunded without additional administration charges.
- 45.6 Refund of player registration fees will be as follows:
- |                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Prior to the start of the season..... | 100% |
| Before May 31.....                    | 70%  |
| Before June 30.....                   | 50%  |
| 45.7 After June 30.....               | Nil  |
- 45.8 All refunds are subject to a \$15.00 administration charge which will be deducted from the refund amount.
- 45.9 Individual illness extending more than 50% of the regularly scheduled season, supported by a doctors affidavit.

## Family Rate & Family Rate Refunds

46.1 Family of four or more youth players from same household. Regular rate discounted by 25% for each player in the division that they play. There is no discounted rate for adult players.

46.2 Refunds on family rates: Refunds of an applied family rate will be calculated as follows:

46.3 With less than four youth participants remaining in programs the full regular rate will apply.

46.4 Any repayment exceeding the regular rate for the remaining participating players will be refunded in accordance with the stated refund policy

46.5 Example of applied Family Rate (This example uses the fees set for the 2007 season).

Example of 8 players from same household

# of Players	Division	Regular Rate	Discount	Payment Due
Player 1	Tyke	85.00	21.25	63.75
Player 2	Rec Travel U9 or U10	160.00	40.00	120.00
Player 3	Rec Travel U11 & up	200.00	50.00	150.00
Player 4	House League	120.00	30.00	90.00
Player 5	South Region Travel	220.00	55.00	165.00
Player 6	Soccer School	55.00	13.75	41.25
Player 7	Pre Soccer School	55.00	13.75	41.25
Player 8	Adult	130.00	0.00	130.00
Totals	1025.00	223.75	801.25	

## Tournament Regulations

47.1 The Board must approve all Club tournaments.

47.2 The club treasurer shall set up separate bank accounts for each official club tournament.

47.3 The designated account shall be utilized exclusively and entirely for the purpose of the named tournament.

47.4 All transactions including deposits and expenses must pass through that account.

47.5 Each tournament account shall be the responsibility of the tournament chair and operated by at least two tournament committee members, with full signing authority.

47.6 The Club will appoint two executive members who have access signing authority.

47.7 All tournaments sanctioned by the G.T.Y.S.C shall submit a financial statement to the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days of the tournament completion.

47.8 If all monies are not collected and a full financial statement is not available, a balance sheet may be submitted in the interim.

47.9 A full financial statement must be submitted to the Board by September 30th.

47.10 Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the tournament committee's authority to further operate the account.

47.11 The Club shall receive 10% of the net proceeds from any tournament sanctioned by the G.T.Y.S.C. to offset operating and building expenses.

47.12 The 10% fee payable is due within thirty (30) days after the last day of tournament play.

47.13 The Snack Bar at the clubhouse shall be operated by the Ways and Means for all tournaments, and all monies raised will remain within the Ways and Means account unless otherwise provided for.

47.14 All tournament committees must have a Board member on the committee.

47.15 A list of potential sponsors for any Club Tournament must be submitted to the Board for approval prior to any agreement being made with a sponsor. Refer to By-Law 36.16 & 36.17