



Northport Cow Harbor United Soccer Club, Inc.

By-Laws

NCHU By-Laws

Version History:

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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

This not-for-profit corporation, having been duly constituted under the laws of the State of New York, shall be known as the NORTHPORT-COW HARBOR UNITED SOCCER CLUB, INC. hereinafter referred to as the "Club".

ARTICLE II

The purposes for which this corporation is organized are:

1. To help form the character of our youth regardless of race, sex, color, creed or national origin through the organization and operation of a youth soccer club providing free instruction, facilities, and an environment of healthy competition.
2. To promote the spirit of sportsmanship and healthy competition among all participants.
3. To promote the highest level of soccer by developing each player and each team to its highest potential. These are exclusively scientific, educational and charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE III

It is the avowed philosophy of the Club that all children playing for the Club be accorded the fairest treatment possible. Accordingly, all players on teams where less than 75% of the Team's players are enrolled in 7th grade or above, will play at least 50% of the game. All players on Division 1 or 2 teams where 75% or greater of the Team's players are enrolled in 7th grade or above, (U13 and above) will play at least 25% of the game and players on teams playing on Division 3 or lower will play at least 50% of the game. Exceptions may be made for physical incapacity or disciplinary reasons. Notification must be given to any player who is to be sidelined for disciplinary reasons for more than one-half game prior to such game. The Age Group Administrator must be notified as soon as possible of such event.

ARTICLE IV

The Club shall maintain an official mailing address at the NORTHPORT Post Office, NORTHPORT, New York.

ARTICLE V

The Club is a member in good standing of the Long Island Junior Soccer League under the auspices of the Eastern New York State Youth Soccer Association.

ARTICLE VI

The duration of the Club is to be perpetual.

ARTICLE VII

Membership is open to any person who is a parent of a player within the Club or any person who furthers the purposes and objectives of the Club by acting as a coach, assistant coach, or serves on a committee constituted by the Club. A voting member is defined as one who has attended one-half of the previous twelve (12) Club general meetings immediately preceding the one at which the vote is to be taken and has attended one of the three general meetings immediately preceding the general meeting at which the vote is to be taken.

Any person who has rendered distinguished service to the Club may be named as honorary Member. Such person may be nominated and their status voted upon by the membership. A two-thirds vote of eligible voting members present will be required.

ARTICLE VIII

The business of the Club shall be conducted by the Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the "Board" at dates, times, and places to be selected by the Board. The Board shall consist of nine (9) members, comprised of the following: four (4) officers and five (5) directors, in addition to the immediate Past President, all of whose terms shall be one (1) calendar year measured from the date of election. To be eligible to serve as an officer or Director, you must be a voting member. Five (5) directors are to be elected at the annual general membership meeting convened for such purposes in January and are to be elected by a majority of voting members present and casting ballots. Vacancies occurring during a term of office shall be filled by appointment of the Board. Such appointment will serve only until the next annual meeting.

ARTICLE IX

The Club, at its annual general meeting held in January, shall elect the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers will be members of the Board. The immediate Past President shall serve as a non-elected member of the Board until the Current President has left office. The President shall serve as Chairperson of the Board. Vacancies occurring during a term of office shall be filled by appointment of the Board. Such appointment to serve only until the next annual meeting. The consecutive terms of office of the officers and directors are limited as follows: President and Vice-President: four (4) one (1) year terms for a maximum consecutive service of four (4) years; Secretary and Treasurer: ten (10) one (1) year terms; Directors: ten (10) one (1) year terms. These term limits shall first apply to the terms of office of the officers and directors elected at the annual meeting held in January of 2010; the consecutive terms of such persons serving in office immediately prior to this election will not be counted towards the term limits.

Any officer or director may be removed from office by a 2/3 vote of the voting members present at a meeting if such removal is proposed in writing by any member of the Club at a general meeting of the Club prior to the meeting at which the proposal removal will be voted upon. To be removed it must be proven at a general meeting of the Club that the officer or director willfully violated the By-laws or Operating Rules and Regulations of the Club; or failed to attend four (4) consecutive Board meetings without cause; or has been removed as Coach or Assistant Coach of the Club in accordance with the Operating Rules and Regulations; or has been expelled or suspended from the Club in accordance with Article XX of the Bylaws. The Board shall establish rules for the conduct of the hearing before the membership on a removal motion such that the due process rights of the officer or director are protected as provided by law applicable to the operation of non-profit corporations in the State of New York.

ARTICLE X

The President will appoint the Chairpersons of various committees who in turn will appoint committee members. The President will constitute such committees as are deemed necessary by the Board to carry out the objectives of the Club.

These committees include, but are not limited to coaching, tournament, equipment, fields and scheduling, nominating committee and elections committee. The President shall appoint Age Group Administrators for each age level,. Their duties will be to act as liaison between the coaches and the Board and carry out such tasks as assigned by the Board.

ARTICLE XI

The Vice President will act in the absence of the President and shall be the immediate successor to the President should that office become vacant. Any further succession will be by appointment of the Board.

ARTICLE XII

The Secretary shall be responsible:

1. For all correspondence to and from the Club
2. To keep and maintain the minutes of the meetings.
3. To maintain a current roster of members and their voting eligibility.
4. To supervise administration and content for the NCHU.org website.

ARTICLE XIII

The Treasurer shall be responsible for Club finances. The duties will include the maintenance of Club accounts and record of all Club receipts and expenditures. The Treasurer will report the state of Club finances to the Membership regularly which in any event will be no less than twice a year. The Treasurer will also be responsible to file any reports to government agencies as may become necessary and provide copies to those members that are interested.

ARTICLE XIV

The Directors shall assume such duties as are assigned to them by the President with Board approval. The Columbus Day Tournament Director and Co-Director shall be the primary individuals responsible for the tournament. They will be responsible for the safeguarding and reporting of the tournament accounts and financial reporting thereof. They will enlist the approval of the Board on all major financial and operating decisions (more than \$1,000.00) affecting the annual tournament.

ARTICLE XV

A majority of the members of the Board will constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting Club business at Board Meetings.

ARTICLE XVI

A nominating committee consisting of nine (9) members shall be formed each year at the regular meeting two (2) months prior to the elections. The committee shall consist of three (3) members appointed by the Board and six (6) members appointed at a caucus of the voting members present at the meeting.

The committee will present their slate at the December General Meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at that meeting. All names nominated will be written on the ballot, in alphabetical order for each position. A vote will be taken at the annual general meeting in January.

ARTICLE XVII

General membership meetings will be held periodically at a time and place designated by the Board. No fewer than ten (10) monthly meetings will be scheduled. The annual general meeting for the purpose of conducting elections will be held during the month of January. Members will be notified in writing or e-mail the date of the annual general meeting at least 30 days prior to the date of such meeting. Special meetings may be held upon request of the Board or by written petition of 50% of the general voting membership or 20 voting members, whichever is ever is greater.

ARTICLE XVIII

The business of the Club at Board and General Meetings will be conducted according to usual parliamentary practice governing such meetings.

ARTICLE XIX

Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws may be made by a two-thirds majority of those voting members present. Amendments may be proposed by the Board or by individual members upon written notice to the Board with a seconding motion from the floor. A quorum consisting of one-third of the voting members must be present before a vote may be called. Written notice of any amendment must be given to the membership at the general meeting prior to the meeting at which such amendment is to be formally proposed.

ARTICLE XX

The membership may with two-thirds affirmative vote taken at a regular meeting, expel or suspend a member from membership in the Club upon recommendation of a majority or the Board of Directors. Such action will be taken for any person who willfully fails or refuses to fulfill his or her obligations as a member or who violates the provisions or the Constitution or By-Laws or who commits any act which is inconsistent with the principles and standards or good sportsmanship and fair play. Such actions against any member may be initiated by another member by written letter or personal appearance before the Board of Directors. Any member so charged will have an opportunity to show cause why such action should not be taken prior to the Director's recommendation for action and also prior to the vote of the general membership. Any suspension under this section will be for a period of no more than one (1) year from the date of suspension during which time the member will be prohibited from acting as a coach of a Club team or representing the Club in any capacity. During the period of suspension the member will be permitted to attend regular Club meetings but will not be permitted to vote on any issue before the Club.

Any member who has been expelled may be reinstated after expiration of at least one (1) year upon application to the Board and an affirmative vote of a majority of members present and voting. Notice of any action will be given to the members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which a vote is to be taken.

ARTICLE XXI

In the event of dissolution of this Club, all funds and assets remaining in its treasury after payment of all obligations will be donated to other not-for-profit organizations, to be designated by the Board of Directors and approved by a majority of the voting membership present, in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

Article XXII

All members shall be bound by the operating rules and regulations of the club which are attached and can be modified from time to time by a majority vote of the Board or by a 2/3 vote of the members. Before a vote can be taken, written notice of the proposed amendments must be provided at a prior meeting as follows: (a) a prior general meeting in the case of a vote by the general membership; or (b) a prior Board meeting in the case of a vote by the Board. The Board shall give notice to the general membership of all amendments to the operating rules and regulations.