

BRENTWOOD SOCCER CLUB GENERAL RULES

1.0 TEAMS

- 1.1 Teams will be organized in accordance with USSF (United States Soccer Federation) and related Club affiliations, and FIFA (Federacion Internacional de Futbol Asociacion) rules. Team rosters will not exceed guidelines for the appropriate age groups as established by Club-affiliated organizations.
- 1.2 The names of all teams and changes thereto shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

2.0 TRY-OUTS

- 2.1 All players will be required to retry for their positions annually. Exceptions may be as follows.
 - a. A team may have try-outs at any time during the year to fill vacancies on the team.
- 2.2 Team try-outs will be open to all youths interested in playing soccer. Try-outs will be conducted under the direction of the BWSC (Brentwood Soccer Club) Board of Directors, by appointed team coaches and other appointed Club members.
- 2.3 Try-outs will be announced at least two weeks in advance of the try-out dates.
- 2.4 During try-outs a meeting will be held with prospective players and their parents/guardians for the purpose of explaining Club philosophy, goals, policies, rules, etc.
- 2.5 See Section 18 for special rules regarding tryouts when an age group has multiple teams.

3.0 PLAYER SELECTION

- 3.1 Final team selection shall be conducted by the team Coach through practice elimination sessions and player selection will be completed within a reasonable time. The Coach will furnish the Manager the names of players selected for referral to the registrar. The following is applicable to the selection process:
 - a. The number of players selected will not cause the team roster to exceed club affiliated organization roster limits for the age group.

- b. Alternates or developmental players will not be identified nor will commitments be made to players not selected.
- c. Player selection will be made solely on the basis of player skill, attitude, performance and potential.

4.0 REGISTRATION

- 4.1 Initial team registration should be completed annually prior to any scheduled game play. Player registration will be completed immediately following final player selection. The method for player registration will be announced by the registrar.
 - a. Players will provide a copy of their birth record, a notarized medical release form, a recent photograph (full face, approximately 1" x 1"), and their team membership fees at registration.
 - b. Initial registration forms will be forwarded immediately to the Registrar of the BWSC, with registration fees payable per the Registrar's instructions.
 - c. Only one initial team registration will be conducted a year. Subsequent player registrations to round out teams will be accomplished within Club affiliation guidelines.
 - d. The cost of player member registration for Club affiliations will be paid by each team.

5.0 TEAM MEMBERSHIP FEES

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- a. Are set annually by the Board of Directors and are due at registration.
- b. Cover the unexpired portion of the playing year.
- c. Are not refundable.
- d. Will be assessed for each season in which the team participates.

6.0 PLAYING SEASONS

- 6.1 There will be three playing seasons during the calendar year, a fall, winter (indoor) and spring season, generally falling in the months of September - November (fall), December - February (winter - indoor), and March - June (spring).

6.2 Tournament play may occur outside the usual playing season.

7.0 GAMES

7.1 The Coach is responsible for scheduling a sufficient number of games and tournaments each season. Games to be played may include "friendlies" between other USSF member teams, Classic League soccer games, and soccer tournaments.

7.2 Teams may not play games with teams not registered with the USYSA.

8.0 PRACTICES

8.1 Organized practices will normally be limited to three a week, not to exceed three hours per practice, unless otherwise authorized or conducted as part of a team camp by the Boys or Girls Vice President.

8.2 Safety- Coaches, Trainers, and Team Managers are responsible to ensure that all players during practice sessions wear shinguards. Safety also includes appropriate use of goals and other soccer-related equipment. Discipline for violations may include warnings, loss of practice field times, team fines, or other sanctions as determined by the Executive Board.

9.0 PLAYER PARTICIPATION

9.1 Players are encouraged to participate in other athletic endeavors, but must not do so to the detriment of the Club. The player's first commitment is to the Club, its practices and games. Absences will be categorized as unexcused unless excused by the Coach **in advance** of the absence.

9.2 Scheduled school athletic events (practices/games) are an exception to paragraph 9.1 above. For school events, the player will furnish the Coach and team coordinator a complete schedule (when possible) and must notify the Coach of the intent to miss team practice/games **in advance of each occasion**.

10.0 PLAYING TIME

10.1 It is in the best interest of the Club and its team to afford each player as much playing time as possible. This will provide the opportunity for player development and advancement in the Club. However, a minimum playing time is not prescribed. Playing time may be regulated by the Coach for reasons such as:

- a. Unexcused absence.

- b. Lack of participation in practices and/or poor physical condition.
- c. Player attitude.
- d. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- e. General lack of skills or low potential for development.

11.0 DROPPING PLAYERS

- 11.1 Players may not be dropped involuntarily in contravention of Club-affiliated organization rules.
- 11.2 Not in contravention of Club-affiliated organization rules, a player may be dropped from the Club membership during the year by a panel consisting of the team Coach, BWSC President, appropriate gender Vice President and Director of Coaching for any of the following reasons:
 - a. Repeated acts of unsportsmanlike conduct that may occur during practice sessions or game play.
 - b. False registration.
 - c. Failure to pay team fees.
 - d. Unexcused absences from regular scheduled practices and/or games. Players are responsible for notifying the Coach when scheduled events must be missed. A legitimate excuse is generally considered to be a cause over which the player or parent has no control.
 - e. Acts or conduct of parent/guardians that reflect unfavorably on the Club, that do not promote Club policy and objectives, that create dissension and disharmony within the membership.
- 11.3 A team Coach must immediately notify the Director of Coaching in writing of any registered players that become inactive due to voluntary withdrawal from the team by a player. Within two weeks of notification of player withdrawal, the Director of Coaching will conduct an exit interview with a parents of the withdrawn player.
- 11.4 The Director of Coaching will complete the Exit Interview form and send a copy to the President, appropriate gender Vice President, and team Coach.

12.0 SCHEDULING

12.1 Game scheduling will be conducted by the team coach/Manager or their designees.

13.0 UNIFORMS

13.1 Each team (player) will be required to purchase new uniforms once the team has been selected. In the event uniforms are available from the previous year and meet the needs of the team for the upcoming season, the purchase of new uniforms will not be required.

13.2 The colors of the BWSC are navy blue and white. Uniforms are required to have the club-approved BWSC Club Crest and be approved by the BWSC Executive Board.

13.3 Individual team names will not be permitted to be printed or sown on uniforms, which include shirts, shorts and socks.

13.4 All teams are required to wear club approved uniforms in all tournament games.

13.5 The Executive Board may approve kits of uniforms from which teams will be required to purchase.

13.6 The Executive Board will select a vendor from which approved uniforms are to be purchased, the club approved vendor.

13.7 At a minimum, each uniform (kit) provided to a player includes the following: one (1) primary game jersey, one (1) secondary game jersey, one (1) (2) pair of game shorts, two (2) pair of soccer socks and one (1) practice t-shirt . All of which shall be approved by the BWSC Executive Board.

13.8 Process for purchasing uniforms:
Each team will notify the club approved vendor by March 1st of the current season of their intent to purchase new uniforms.

Upon completion of try-outs, said team will notify the club approved vendor with their purchase order adjustment, complete with the total number of uniforms and sizes for each. This purchase order adjustment must be made no later that July 1st, four (4) months after said team notified vendor of their intent to purchasing uniforms March 1st.

13.9 The player shall retain ownership of all uniforms and related gear. There is no reimbursement policy to players for uniforms.

14.0 REFEREES

14.1 Referees will be requested through the referee assignee or his designated alternates.

15.0 COACH SELECTION

- 15.1 Club members will identify potential coaches and submit their names to the Director of Coaching.
- 15.2 Potential coaches will complete a profile form covering employment, available time commitment, age, team age group preference, soccer background, etc.
- 15.3 The Director of Coaching and applicable team Manager will interview potential coaches for each team.
- 15.4 Final Coach appointments and removals will be made by the Director of Coaching, with the approval of the elected officers.

16.0 RED CARD RULE

- 16.1 Unsportsmanlike conduct by a coach, player, team supporter, or other member of the BWSC will not be condoned.
- 16.2 Coaches are responsible for the conduct of the team and its supporters and, as such, are expected to support the Referee in efforts to control the game. Managers are expected to assist the Coaches in dealings with non-playing members of the Club.
- 16.3 Any ejection of a Coach or team supporter shall be reported to the President and appropriate gender Vice President by the Manager within 24 hours of the ejection. The report will be given to the appropriate gender Vice President.
- 16.4 If the President receives a report indicating that a Club member has been ejected from more than one game in a playing year, the President, Coach and/or Manager will report on the incidents at the next board meeting.
- 16.5 Disciplinary actions taken by the Club will be consistent with TSSA's policies on Conduct and Discipline.

17.0 CLOSED FIELDS

- 17.1 Any team that is in violation of the City of Brentwood Rules on Closed Fields will be subject to a fine (the greater of \$250.00 or \$75.00 per player if assessed by the City). If assessed by the City, then the money shall be sent to the City. Otherwise the money collected from these fines will be applied to items needed at the fields (ex. team benches, goals, nets, etc).

The fine shall be payable within two weeks of the assessment. Failure to pay the fine will put the team in bad standing with the BWSC and Club-affiliated organizations will also be notified. There will be no administrative duties performed by the BWSC (ex. drops, adds, registration) until the fine is paid in full. Second offense to this rule will result in suspension of field use for practice times and third offense will result in the coach's suspension from the BWSC.

Any team that violates this rule, will also be entitled to a fair hearing before the Executive Committee of the BWSC, if they so choose.

The City of Brentwood posts individual field signs at each of multi-purpose fields at Crockett Park. If any of these signs are posted "Closed" for the field that is assigned to a team, and the Crockett Park Hotline (373-7752) states that the field is closed, this will constitute a violation of the City of Brentwood Rules. The same will apply to Granny White fields.

Any violation may be reported to the Executive Committee by any member of the Brentwood Soccer Club.

18. MULTIPLE TEAMS IN AN AGE GROUP.

- 18.1 A second or third team will be added in an age group when sufficient players of appropriate quality are available, adequate coaches can be located and fields are sufficient.
- 18.2 Any existing or new team changes in Division level must be reviewed and approved by the Executive Board.
- 18.3 In the event there are multiple teams in a single age group, try-outs will be organized by the respective coaches. If this is not possible, the Executive Board will work with the respective teams to resolve the issue.
- 18.4 In the event a player not currently registered with the BWSC indicates an interest in playing with in the BWSC, they will be referred to all team coaches or managers within the appropriate age group.
- 18.5 During the soccer year, BWSC teams are prohibited from recruiting players from other established and registered teams.
- 18.6 It is anticipated that each team will operate independently of the other. However, if agreeable to the managers and coaches, multiple teams in an age group may decide to adopt joint operation.

19.0 INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENTS/FORM 1099

- 19.1 An Income and Expense Statement is due from each team at the end of May. Each team must have a representative comply with this information and deadline. If a team does not comply, that team will not have privileges at the Fall Practice Meeting.
- 19.2 Form 1099 information for Coaches and Trainers must be submitted to the Treasurer who will prepare Form 1099 for the BWSC for each calendar year. This information must be submitted by mid January. If a team does not comply, that team will not have privileges at the Spring Practice Meeting.
- 19.3 In addition to reporting Form 1099, all teams of the BWSC must submit records of payments paid to any coach or trainer for their team. This money shall be paid through the checking account of each team. Any penalties enforced to the BWSC will transfer to the Treasurer and Manager of each team and the team will be held responsible.

20.0 CONFLICTS OF RULES

- 20.1 When any BWSC rule is contrary to a TSSA, USCS, USSF, USYSA, or FIFA rule, the BWSC rule shall be void and the applicable TSSA, USCS, USSF, USYSA or FIFA rule shall apply.

21.0 COMPLAINTS AND DISPUTES

- 21.1 Any individual associated with the BWSC (coach, manager, parent, player, etc.) is allowed to submit a complaint or dispute for review by the BWSC per the process outlined within these by-laws. Only violations of the By-Laws, Constitutions, or General Rules of BWSC shall be proper subjects to be considered for action. It is not the function of the complaint and dispute process to hear or make any decisions on protests of game play or referees. This type of action shall go through the normal procedures of USSF or other appropriate club-affiliated organizations. Club Discipline: Teams, coaches, managers, parents or players who do not abide by the intent and letter of the BWSC By-Laws, Constitution, and General Rules are subject to club sanctions. Sanctions can range from reprimands to suspension of participation to exclusion.
- 21.2
- Complaints shall be in writing and signed by the individual(s) and sent to the Club at PO Box 3113 Brentwood TN 37024-3113.

- The complaints shall contain: the names and addresses of the parties, the alleged issue or grounds of noncompliance, supporting evidence that forms the basis of the complaint and a description of the specific sanctions being sought.
- The complaint will be routed to the appropriate Officer of the Club and will be acknowledged within 14 days of receipt.
- The assigned Officer of the Club shall investigate the complaint/dispute (through communication with coach, manager, team members, etc. as deemed necessary). If merit is found and resolution is not achieved through the involvement of the Club Officer, a Conduct Review Board will be established to review the issue and provide a recommendation for resolution to the Executive Board.
- The review shall be held no later than 90 days after filing the complaint.
- All parties will receive written notice of the time and place of the review with at least five days notice listing specific complaints and disputes.
- A written record will be kept of the review.
- A written recommendation by the Conduct Review Board shall be issued to the Executive Board within seven days of the review meeting.
- The Executive Board will communicate the club's resolution to all involved parties within seven days of receiving the recommendation from the Conduct Review Board.

21.3 A Conduct Review Board shall be convened as needed. The Conduct Review Board shall review Complaints and Disputes that are delegated to them through the Executive Board.

The Conduct Review Board will be chaired by an Officer of the Club and consists of at least three (3) persons who are BWSC members.

Reappointment of a Conduct Review Board member prior to the beginning of a Complaint and Dispute investigation may be necessary in the event of a conflict of interest regarding the parties involved.

21.4 Any Club member may appeal an organizational decision to other club-affiliated organizations inside the USSF structure.

In the matter of Protest and Appeals, no person associated with the BWSC shall invoke the aid of courts of any state or of the United States without first exhausting all available remedies within the appropriate soccer organizations, including final appeal to the annual general meeting of the USSF organization.

22.0 AMENDMENT OF GENERAL RULES

22.1 These General Rules may be amended by a majority of the Directors present at any meeting of the Directors.