 **Medford Soccer Club Bylaws** 

Item 1. Objective

1. The Medford Soccer Club sponsors recreational and competitive boys and girls travel soccer teams to participate in the South Jersey Soccer League (Boys), South Jersey Girls Soccer League, State Cup, MAPS, and JAGS. The Club promotes team selection based on player ability, with the goal of forming teams with equal or similar ability to compete at the highest level within each age group.

Item 2. Travel Program Tryout Process

1. The club requires potential players to try-out under either the birth date divisions established by NJ Youth Soccer, or when league rules allow, for the child’s school grade age group. Any player who wishes to be considered for a position on an MSC sanctioned team must attend at least one evaluation tryout. In the event of dispute, the Club President will determine appropriate age group assignment in coordination with the respective Travel Commissioner.
2. **Selected candidates will be contacted by the team head coach within 10 business days of the conclusion of tryouts to accept the clubs offer to participate in the travel soccer program. Invitations must be accepted or declined within 48 hours.** Should a candidate not accept the invitation from the team he or she has been selected for, the candidate is not permitted to participate on any other travel team the Medford Soccer Club establishes to compete during the Fall and Spring seasons. Once a player accepts an invitation from MSC, the player and parent are bound by the Bylaws and Code of Conduct established by the Medford Soccer Club.
3. A player cannot be released by a team until the conclusion of the season. The travel soccer season consists of fall/spring. Players, can, however be released with cause due to violations of the Code of Conduct, failure to remit payment, or inappropriate behavior by either the Player or Parent as determined by the Club President and Soccer Commissioner in coordination with the respective program commissioner. Any player released with cause forfeits all monies paid to the Club, team, or MYAA.
4. A current “A” team player who is released from a travel team at the conclusion of a season is guaranteed a spot on the next level team at their age group.

Item 3. Programming

1. MSC sanctioned travel teams must maintain a minimum residency requirement of 55% players of 08055 (Medford/Medford Lakes). Recreational teams maintain a 95% residency requirement with out of town participants paying an additional fee.
2. The MSC prides itself on offering diverse youth soccer programming to meet the expectations of every ability level. Recreational, travel, and academy level training are available to provide each child with a developmental and positive soccer experience.
3. Travel teams are expected to practice twice per week in the fall season and at least once per week in the spring season. Scheduling requests for field usage must be submitted to Bill Mead in advance. Requests for field usage are honored based on seniority of age.

Item 4. Coaches and Trainers

1. Volunteer parent coaches and trainers are a valuable part of the travel program. All coaches and trainers must complete a background check, attend the RUTGERS safety course, attend PCA training, and maintain a minimum of an F license.
2. Travel Coaches and trainers must be carded by SJSL or SJGSL to be on the field. MSC permits only 2 carded coaches per team.
3. Trainers must submit a bio and background check to the Club President prior to working with teams. Teams that elect to engage a trainer bear the responsibility for all associated costs and expenses.
4. Interested parent coaches must submit a coaching application. Applications will be reviewed by the respective program commissioner and coaches will be selected based on previous soccer experience, knowledge of the game, and ability to work effectively with youth. Coaches will be evaluated annually to effectively support the program and continue developmental growth.
5. Coaches are required to attend regular meetings and possible training opportunities for MSC as determined by the Club President or respective program commissioner.

Item 5. Fees

1. MSC covers the cost of entry in to the Pinelands Soccer League, South Jersey Soccer League and the South Jersey Girls Soccer League, as well as associated referee expenses (to be provided to coaches via reimbursement at the conclusion of the season). Entry into additional leagues is at the discretion of individual coaches/teams in coordination with the Travel Commissioner and each team bears the responsibility for associated costs and expenses.
2. MSC provides patches to be distributed to the opposing team at tournaments. This exchange of friendship and sportsmanship is a long standing tradition and the Club strongly encourages participation. Each team is responsible for their entry fees for tournaments.
3. The MYAA registration fee for travel soccer (currently $265 for ages U8, U9, U10 and $295 for ages U10+) covers referee fees, field usage, field maintenance, basic club equipment, and insurance. Families should expect additional fees for uniform kit pieces, trainer fees, tournament and league entry fees, and possible travel/lodging expenses to be determined by each coach at the start of the season.

Item 6. Player and Parent Code of Conduct.

1. The MSC has the highest expectations of both players and parents who represent the organization. Therefore, it is essential for parents, coaches, spectators, and trainers to demonstrate a superior level of sportsmanship at all times. Membership in the Medford Soccer Club and attendance at MSC sanctioned activities is dependent upon all participants setting a positive example. ***It is expected that all parents/guardians of players in the Club shall conduct themselves in a manner that is of the highest caliber of professionalism while at training, practice sessions, games, tournaments, or any other function or event.***  The Board of Directors and coaching staff are instructed to not tolerate any unsportsmanlike or derogatory behavior during training, practice sessions, games, tournaments, or any other function or event when the players are representing the Club.
2. Players and parents who do not conduct themselves in a manner befitting a member of our club are subject to penalties including instructional dialogue from the coaching staff, reduced playing time, possible game suspension or possible expulsion from MSC or MYAA activitities.

These bylaws of the Medford Soccer Club are adopted by the MSC Board 20 January, 2015.