



Constitution

1. Name, Purpose and Affiliation

- a. Name:** This organization shall be the Mississippi Soccer Association (MSA), Incorporated, doing business as Mississippi Soccer Association and shall maintain its tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code.
- b. Purpose:** The Association's purpose shall be the control, regulation, promotion, and development of and education for soccer in the State of Mississippi at all playing levels of competition. In order to accomplish its purpose, the Association shall have jurisdiction over all affiliated organizations within its territory.
- c. Affiliation:** This Association may be associated with national soccer associations such as the United States Youth Soccer (UYS), Incorporated, United States Amateur Soccer Association (USASA) divisions of the United States Soccer Federation (USSF); may be an integral part of these Associations; and if so associated, shall at all times recognize the authority, rules, and laws of these bodies.
- d. Membership:** shall be open to any soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials not subject to suspension under any of the associated national organization bylaws, and to any amateur soccer organization in its territory. MSA will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex or national origin.

2. Territory and Headquarters

- a. Territory:** The territory shall be the State of Mississippi.
- b. Headquarters:** The legal headquarters domicile, and residence shall be in the County; Judicial District, if any; and the city, if any, of the residence of the President. The Council may designate other business headquarters as appropriate.

3. Administration and Rules Suspension

- a. Administration:** This Association shall be governed by its Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Policies and Regulations and as supplemented by the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules, Policies, and Regulations of any of the associated national organizations

- b. Other Organizations:** MSA will not join any organization that has requirements that conflict with articles, bylaws, policies and requirements, unless amended in accordance with these bylaws
- c. Dues:** MSA shall register all of its players, coaches, teams, referees and administrators with its associated national organizations at least once each year and timely pay all dues and fees.
- d. National Association Review:** MSA will allow it's national associations to review the documents and procedures of the MSA, on request not less than once every 4 years, to determine compliance with these bylaws.

4. Rules Suspension: Any rule may be suspended at any Council meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members in order to deal with an emergency and to protect the purpose of the Association (Section 2.b).

5. Disaffiliation, Savings Clause and Amendments

- a. Disaffiliation:** This Association shall not disband or withdraw from a national association except on a two thirds (2/3) vote of MSA members-in-good standing at any business meeting as defined in the MSA By-Laws. If the membership chooses to dissolve for any reason, it shall immediately notify the national associations.
- b. Savings Clause:** If any word, phrase, sentence, or other provision of this Constitution or its application to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect the other words, phrases, clauses, sentences, and provisions or applications of this Constitution, and to this end, the provisions of this Constitution are declared to be severable. In the event that any provision of the Constitution, By-Laws or Rules shall be deemed in illegal or contrary to; or amended by national soccer associations of which MSA is a member, such portions shall be changed administratively.
- c. Amendments:** This Constitution shall only be amended at the Annual General Meeting by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the voting members acting on proposed amendments which are submitted to the AGM in accordance with the established MSA Rules and Revisions Process. Except where provided in Section 5B above, any additions or amendments to this Constitution, By-Laws, or Rules or policies shall not be effective until they are set down in writing and physically appended to this document as a part thereof.

•Revised by the MSA Membership at the Annual General Meeting, Jan 28, 2007 in accordance with it's Bylaws, superseding revisions made September 1st, 1999