

# **MIDWEST REGIONAL LEAGUE CHARTER**

Adopted on January 17, 2015 by US Youth Soccer Region II Council  
Effective February 1, 2015; Revised April 6, 2015

## **PART I--GENERAL**

### **Section 101. Purposes**

To assist Region II of US Youth Soccer in ensuring the best possible competitive play among the highest level soccer teams in Region II, to promote opportunities for increased development of youth soccer players and teams of US Youth Soccer, and to provide for an improved administrative structure, the Region II Council establishes the Midwest Regional League for youth soccer players in Region II as provided in this Charter.

### **Section 102. Application**

This Charter applies to the following Midwest Regional League seasonal years: the MRL seasonal year 2015-2016 and each seasonal year thereafter.

### **Section 103. Definitions**

The following definitions apply to this Charter:

(1) "CEO" means the chief executive officer of US Youth Soccer provided by section 1 of article XVIII of the bylaws of US Youth Soccer.

(2) "Club" means a youth soccer club, league, association, or other organization that registers youth soccer players with US Youth Soccer through a State Association of Region II.

(3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Midwest Regional League.

(4) "Executive Committee" and "Committee" mean the Executive Committee provided by section 202 of this Charter.

(5) "MRL" means the Midwest Regional League provided by this Charter.

(6) "MRL seasonal year" and "seasonal year" mean the Midwest Regional League seasonal year from August 1 of one calendar year through July 31 of the following calendar year.

(7) "Region II" means Region II of US Youth Soccer as provided by article VIII of the bylaws of US Youth Soccer.

(8) "Region II Council" means the Region II Regional Council as provided by article VIII of the bylaws of US Youth Soccer.

(9) "State Association" means a State Association that is an Organization Member of US Youth Soccer as provided by article IV of the bylaws of US Youth Soccer.

(10) "US Youth Soccer" means the United States Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

### **Section 104. Charter Amendment and Repeal**

This Charter may be amended or repealed at any time by a majority vote of the Region II Council.

## **PART II—LEAGUE STRUCTURE AND FINANCE**

### **Section 201. League Structure**

(a) MRL will consist of at least 2 playing divisions for teams in specified age groups, with the most competitive MRL teams in a Premier Division and other teams in one or more less competitive divisions than the Premier Division. The Executive Committee of MRL, established

under section 202 of this Charter, has the authority on structuring the MRL, dividing it into various age groups and playing divisions, assigning teams to the age group divisions, and providing for the promotion and relegation of teams in those divisions.

(b) The Executive Committee may determine on a seasonal year basis to offer other competitions for specific clubs, teams, or both clubs and teams. Teams from these competitions may not advance from those competitions to the Region II Championships. These competitions shall be administered by the Committee with specific competition rules and procedures approved by the Committee.

### **Section 202. Executive Committee**

The MRL has an Executive Committee with authority as provided by this Charter. The Committee shall be composed of the following:

- (1) a Commissioner appointed as provided by section 204 of this Charter; and
- (2) two members of each of the 3 subcommittees established under part III of this Charter, with those 2 members being the chair of each subcommittee and one other member of each subcommittee selected as provided by section 306(d) of this Charter.

### **Section 203. General Authority of the Executive Committee**

(a) In addition to any other specific authority provided to the Executive Committee by this Charter, the Committee has the following general authority:

- (1) planning, developing, managing, regulating, supervising, administering, and conducting the MRL;
- (2) prescribing all MRL rules, policies, and procedures reasonable and necessary for the administration and growth of MRL, as provided by subsection (b) of this section;
- (3) designating MRL seasons and team schedules;
- (4) establishing and enforcing team participation and eligibility and disciplinary rules;
- (5) prescribing and providing for the collection of team fees and other fees appropriate in administering MRL, as well as raising money and accepting donations for MRL;
- (6)(A) establishing and prescribing responsibilities for various volunteer administrative positions of MRL, including age group coordinators, (B) appointing volunteers to fill those positions, and (C) supervising the work of those volunteers; and
- (7) establishing one or more paid staff and contract positions (other than the position of Commissioner) in MRL and retain persons to fill those positions.

(b)(1) All proposed MRL rules, policies, procedures, and proposed amendments to them must be in writing and note an effective at least 10 business days after the date they have been approved by the Executive Committee. Any such proposal must be provided to each member of the Region II Council at least 7 business days before the effective date of the proposal. Notice may be provided by mail, email, fax, or some other means reasonably certain to provide a written copy of the proposal to each Council member. Notice is effective when a mailing is postmarked or an email or fax is sent. Council members may specify to the Commissioner how they wish to receive notice of proposals.

(2) All MRL rules, policies, and procedures must be in writing and available for inspection by coaches, teams, players, parents, guardians, and Region II Council members.

#### **Section 204. Commissioner**

(a) The Commissioner is appointed by the CEO in consultation with the Region II Council. The appointment shall be for a period agreed on by the CEO and individual being appointed.

(b) The Commissioner (1) is the chair of the Executive Committee, (2) has the general overall responsibility for the administration of MRL and seeing that this Charter is carried out, and (3) carrying out the responsibilities provided to the Commissioner under this Charter.

#### **Section 205. Executive Committee Procedures and Proceedings**

(a) The Executive Committee shall hold at least 2 meetings for each seasonal year, with at least one meeting being held prior to the beginning of the next seasonal year for that seasonal year.

(b) A quorum of the Executive Committee is at least 4 members.

(c) Any action of the Executive Committee shall require a two-thirds vote.

(d) An Executive Committee meeting is open only to members of the Committee. The Commissioner, however, may give consent to persons to appear before the Committee and make statements.

(e) The Executive Committee will meet by telephone conference call, video conference call, or in person. Any telephone or video conference call must provide a means of communication for all committee members to at least hear and communicate with all the other members of the committee.

(f) The Commissioner or any 3 members of the Executive Committee may call a meeting of the Executive Committee.

#### **Section 206. Finance**

(a) The Executive Committee shall prepare and adopt a budget for MRL for each seasonal year through the Region II Council.

(b) All MRL revenue will be submitted to the US Youth Soccer national office for deposit into an appropriate account according to procedures established by the US Youth Soccer Financial Policy.

(c) All MRL expenses will be paid according to procedures established by the US Youth Soccer Financial Policy.

### **PART III—SUBCOMMITTEES**

#### **Section 301. Establishment of Subcommittees**

The Executive Committee has the following 3 subcommittees:

- (1) the Operations Subcommittee;
- (2) the Technical Subcommittee; and
- (3) the Club Leaders Subcommittee.

### **Section 302. Operations Subcommittee**

(a) The Operations Subcommittee shall provide guidance and long-term vision to the Executive Committee on matters related to the operations of the MRL.

(b) Only a professional representative that is a full-time employee, part-time employee, or an independent contractor of a State Association of Region II may be appointed to the Operations Subcommittee.

(c) The 6 members appointed to the Operations Subcommittee shall come from different State Associations of Region II.

### **Section 303. Technical Subcommittee**

(a) The Technical Subcommittee shall—

(1) provide guidance and long-term visions to the Executive Committee on technical matters related to the MRL; and

(2) provide recommendations to the Committee about team selection and placement of teams within the MRL divisions.

(b) Only a full-time technical professional representative of a State Association of Region II may be appointed to the Technical Subcommittee.

(c) The 6 members appointed to the Technical Subcommittee shall come from different State Associations of Region II.

### **Section 304. Club Leaders Subcommittee**

(a) The Club Leaders Subcommittee shall provide guidance and long-term vision to the Executive Committee on matters related to clubs and their participation within the MRL.

(b) Only a professional representative having full-time duties with a MRL member club may be appointed to the Club Leaders Subcommittee.

(c) The 6 members appointed to the Club Leaders Subcommittee shall come from different State Associations of Region II.

### **Section 305. Subcommittee Membership**

(a) Each subcommittee shall have 7 members: the Commissioner and 6 members appointed as provided by this section.

(b) Each of the 6 members of each subcommittee shall have a term of office of 3 seasonal years, except that initial subcommittee appointments shall be as follows:

(1) Two of the members of each subcommittee shall have terms from the dates of their appointments through July 31, 2016, and their initial appointments shall only apply with respect to 2015-2016 seasonal year matters.

(2) Two of the members of each subcommittee shall have terms from the dates of their appointments through July 31, 2017, and their initial appointments shall only apply with respect to 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 seasonal year matters.

(3) Two of the members of each subcommittee shall have terms from the dates of their appointments through July 31, 2018, and their initial appointments shall apply with respect to 2015-2016, 2016-2017, and 2017-2018 seasonal year matters.

(c) (1) A person may serve on the same subcommittee for 2 consecutive 3-year terms, and may be reappointed to that same subcommittee only after at least one year has lapsed since the person's prior term on that subcommittee has ended. Any subsequent reappointment is subject to the same 2 consecutive 3-year appointment requirements.

(2) A person may serve only on one subcommittee at the same time.

(d) If a person is appointed to serve on a subcommittee prior to the beginning of a seasonal year to begin serving that next seasonal year to replace another person on the subcommittee, that person may serve on the subcommittee prior to the beginning of that next seasonal year for only those matters of the subcommittee related to the next seasonal year and replaces that other person only for those matters.

(e) Prior to the beginning of each seasonal year, the Commissioner and CEO shall determine the procedure for seeking applicants for appointment, and receiving applications for appointment, to subcommittees for those positions becoming vacant for that coming seasonal year. The Commissioner and CEO shall select the applicants for appointment and submit those applicants so selected to the Region II Council for approval prior to the beginning of the seasonal year. The Region II Council may provide its approval by a meeting, a video meeting, mail, email, fax, or by any combination of those means.

(f) If a vacancy occurs on a subcommittee during a term of a subcommittee member, the Commissioner and CEO shall appoint a person to fill the balance of the remaining term.

### **Section 306. Subcommittee Procedure and Proceedings**

(a) Each subcommittee shall hold at least 2 meeting for each seasonal year, with at least one meeting being held prior to the beginning of the next seasonal year for that seasonal year.

(b) A quorum of a subcommittee is at least 4 members.

(c) Any action of a subcommittee shall require a two-thirds vote. The Commissioner may not vote in regard to subcommittee matters.

(d) For each seasonal year, the subcommittee shall select a chair and one subcommittee member to serve on the Executive Committee for that seasonal year. If a vacancy occurs for either of those 2 positions in a seasonal year, the subcommittee will select the person to fill the balance of the term of that position. If the subcommittee is unable to select a chair or subcommittee member to serve on the Executive Committee, the Commissioner shall make the selection for that seasonal year after consultation with the CEO.

(e) A subcommittee will meet by telephone conference call, video conference call, or in person. Any telephone or video conference call must provide a means of communication for all subcommittee members to at least hear and communicate with all the other members of the subcommittee.

(f) The Commissioner, the chair of the subcommittee, or any 3 members of a subcommittee may call a meeting of the subcommittee.

(g) A subcommittee meeting is open only to members of the subcommittee. The subcommittee, however, may give consent to persons to appear before the subcommittee and make statements.

**Section 3.** On adoption of the Midwest Regional League Charter provided by section 2 of this Resolution, the Charter shall be submitted to the US Youth Soccer Board of Directors for its consent.