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1. INTRODUCTION

The Association (“ASSOCIATION”) shall be known as The Old Bridge Soccer Club (“OBSC”). The Association shall provide a chance for the children of the Township of Old Bridge and the surrounding communities, to learn and play the sport of soccer by providing opportunities to play on Recreational and Travel Teams, and to participate in other related activities.

1.1 Purpose of the Association

1. To foster and promote the game of soccer among the girls and boys of the Township of Old Bridge and surrounding communities.
2. To provide soccer coaching and training to the girls and boys of Old Bridge and surrounding communities.
3. To promote good sportsmanship among all participants regardless of race, color, or creed.
4. To foster, promote, and always ensure good sportsmanlike conduct, on and off the playing field, by all members, parents, coaches, and other persons associated with the Association.
5. To raise funds by various means as deemed proper to support any of the objectives of the Association.

2. EXECUTIVE BOARD

The governing authority of this Association, whose powers shall be delegated in these By-Laws, shall be Trustees, synonymously referred to herein as the Executive Board (“BOARD”) and be vested in the Association. The governing body of the Association is the Board. The Board shall be composed of the officers elected during the Annual Election Meeting, to be held at the June Association Meeting. The Board members shall hold office for a period of two (2) years and can be reelected.

2.1 The Makeup of the Board

The Board shall consist of the following:

President **	Secretary *
First Vice President, Travel Program *	Treasurer **
Director of Travel, Practice Scheduling **	Registrar *
Director of Travel, Carding **	Director of Training **
Director of Travel, Game Scheduling **	Equipment Manager and Referee Assignor *
Director of Travel, Future Development *	Procurement Manager **
First Vice President, Recreation Program **	Director of Publicity and Fundraising *
Director of Recreation, Higgins *	Director of Field Maintenance **
Director of Recreation, Ticetown **	Work-Bond Coordinator *
Director of Recreation, Coach Compliance *	Concession Manager *
	Director of Health and Safety **

**The Board positions of President, First Vice President-Recreation, Treasurer, Procurement Manager, Director of Training, Director of Travel-Practice Scheduling, Director of Travel-Carding, Director of Travel-Game Scheduling, Director of Recreation-Tickettown, Director of Field Maintenance, and Director of Health and Safety shall be voted on during “even year” elections.

*The Board Positions of First Vice President-Travel, Secretary, Registrar, Publicity Chairperson/Director of Fundraising, Director of Travel-Future Development, Director of Recreation-Higgins, Director of Recreation-Coach Compliance, Equipment Director/Referee Assignor, Work-Bond Coordinator, and Concession Manager shall be voted on during “odd year” elections.

By staggering the election cycles, the Association will ensure itself stability and continuity from year to year.

A person must serve one year on the Board to run for VP of Travel or VP of Rec. A person must serve two years on the Board to run for President. If a duly elected Board Member resigns his/her position mid-term, the remaining Board Members will appoint another qualified Association member to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of that Board Position until the election year of said Board Position. The Board shall make available to all Association Members an Association Directory, which includes the names, addresses, and phone numbers of all Association Board Members and coaches. This Directory shall be updated once a year and will be maintained by the Secretary.

All Association Members (Head Coaches/Assistant Coaches) are eligible to run for a Board position and must submit a letter of intent to run, no later than May 31st of the election year. The Board reserves the right to go outside of the Association and elect a non-voting member if unable to fill a vacant Board position.

Note: in-regards-to the establishment of this association, as of Fall 2023, the first board positions for odd year evaluation and voting will be completed in 2025, while the first board positions for even year evaluation and voting will be completed in 2026. All subsequent evaluation and voting years will be two years after these pre-noted dates.

All below noted positions are voting positions with the exception of the caveat as noted for the President.

2.1.1 President

The President shall preside over all Association, Board, and General Membership meetings. The President shall not vote at Association or Board Meetings, except in the event of a tie vote. The President, if the Treasurer is unavailable, may issue an Association check(s) not to exceed \$10,000, without majority approval of the Board. The President has the right to temporarily suspend a coach, parent, or player until a hearing

with the Board can be held. The President is responsible for all correspondence between the Association and Old Bridge Township and/or the Old Bridge Board of Education.

2.1.2 First Vice President, Travel Program

The First Vice-President of Travel is responsible for all duties of the President in his or her absence. The VP-Travel shall preside over the Association's Travel & Futures Programs and is responsible for enforcing the By-Laws and the Rules & Regulations of Travel. The VP-Travel is responsible for all Travel Program activities. They shall send monthly meeting notices when the Secretary is unable to do so. The VP-Travel is responsible for scheduling the use of all Association fields and must approve all field changes as associated with Travel play.

2.1.2A Director of Travel, Practice Scheduling

This Director of Travel is responsible for managing all Travel team practice scheduling and to assist the VP-Travel in any situations and activities related to Travel. The Director of Travel-Practice Scheduling will assume all responsibilities of the VP-Travel in his or her absence.

2.1.2B Director of Travel, Carding

This Director of Travel is responsible for managing all Travel team carding and the associated tasks and to assist the VP-Travel in any situations and activities related to Travel.

2.1.2C Director of Travel, Game Scheduling

This Director of Travel is responsible for managing all Travel team game scheduling and to assist the VP-Travel in any situations and activities related to Travel.

2.1.2D Director of Travel, Future Development

This Director of Travel is responsible for managing all team development and is to manage the Futures Program and to assist the VP-Travel in any situations and activities related to travel. The Director of Travel-Future Development will assume all responsibilities of Travel if the VP-Travel and Director of Travel-Practice Scheduling are not available.

2.1.3 First Vice President, Recreation Program

The First Vice President-Recreation is responsible for all Recreation program activities, player drafts, Rec scheduling, and the 3M-Masters program. The VP-Rec will preside over Association functions if the President and First Vice President-Travel are not available. They shall send monthly meeting notices when the Secretary and the First Vice President-Travel are unable to do so. The President is responsible for scheduling the use of all Association fields and must approve all field changes as associated with Recreational play.

2.1.3A Director of Recreation, Higgins

The Director of Rec (Higgins) shall be responsible for assisting the VP of Recreation in any situations and activities related to Rec, specifically focusing on all aspects of the Higgins Road Complex and the teams that play their games there.

2.1.3B Director of Recreation, Ticetown

The Director of Rec (Ticetown) shall be responsible for assisting the VP of Recreation in any situations and activities related to Rec, specifically focusing on all aspects of the Ticetown Road Complex and the teams that play their games there. The Director of Rec (Ticetown) will assume all responsibilities of the VP-Rec in his or her absence.

2.1.3C Director of Recreation, Coach Compliance

The Director of Rec (Coach Compliance) shall be responsible for assisting the VP of Recreation in any situations and activities related to recreation. They shall also manage and track all the coaches in the Association regarding their NJYS background checks.

2.1.4 Secretary

The Secretary shall notify Association members of general meetings and Board Members of board meetings. They shall handle all Association correspondence (not otherwise delegated), record and publish minutes of board meetings, take roll call by team and of Board Members, and send out notices of the Annual Election Meeting. The Secretary is responsible to maintain and update any changes to the By-Laws and the Rules & Regulations. They shall solely manage the postings and communications regarding the Association's website and social media accounts. The Secretary will also maintain the Association Directory.

During the Annual Election Meeting, the Secretary shall preside over all election activities, including:

1. Identify those Association Members eligible to participate in said election,
2. Prepare and distribute the election ballot(s) for said election,
3. Collect and total the election ballots,
4. Inform the President of the results of the election.

2.1.5 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of all fees and dues and their deposit into the Association bank account(s). The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all financial transactions and render a report at each Board and Association meeting. They must sign all checks and tax returns. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual report. Checks written in the amount exceeding \$10,000 must have proper approval of a majority of the Board. They are also responsible to monitor all Travel team bank accounts and any other bank account associated with OBSC.

2.1.6 Registrar

The Registrar shall be the recipient of all Travel, Recreational, and Just4Kixs online registrations and shall maintain a complete record of all teams and players for the purpose of player registration. The Registrar shall assign post draft Rec players in the order designated by the First Vice President-Rec or Director(s) of Rec. They shall ensure that all Association players, (Travel, Recreational, and Just4Kixs), are properly registered for each season with the New Jersey State Youth Soccer Association.

2.1.7 Director of Training

The Director of Training is responsible for all Recreation Program training activities and is to be available to conduct and/or organize other soccer related educational activities (coaches' clinics, parent education sessions, etc.). They shall correspond with the OBSC training organization(s) to setup recreation clinics as well as manage attendance and availability. In addition, they shall assist the Travel Directors with trainers for Travel Tryouts.

2.1.8 Travel Equipment Manager and Referee Assignor

The Travel Equipment Manager shall obtain bids from suppliers and present that information to the Board. They shall make all equipment purchases as approved by the Board and distribute such equipment to the Travel Program team representatives. As Referee Assignor, they shall also manage all referees, associated certifications, and Recreational assignments.

2.1.9 Procurement Manager, Rec

The Rec Procurement Manager shall work closely with both the Equipment Manager as well as the Director of Field Maintenance to ensure both the Higgins Road Complex and the Ticetown Road Complex are operating to their full potential, including fencing, storage, signage, lighting and any other additional procurement related findings. They will also work closely with the VP-Rec to oversee the ordering of Rec uniforms and any other associated Rec gear (pinnies, goalie gloves, etc).

2.1.10 Director of Fundraising and Publicity

The Director of Publicity shall create and maintain relationships with local businesses, to solicit advertising banners for the fields. They are also responsible to distribute flyers to local schools (virtual backpack), flyers must be approved by the Board of Education. As Director of Fundraising, they shall oversee all fundraising activities of the league, including but not limited to, the Spring and Fall fundraisers and picture night(s). They are also responsible for sponsorships and detailing travel team sponsorship policies and procedures.

2.1.11 Director of Field Maintenance

The Field Maintenance person is responsible for maintaining the Association fields, both the Higgins Road Complex and the Ticetown Road Complex, and equipment necessary to

perform such maintenance. In addition, the Field Maintenance person is responsible for setting up and breaking down of the Association fields, including but not limited to the construction of the goals, lining of the fields, insertion of the corner flags, and other activities necessary for playing Travel and Recreation soccer games. They will be the main contact for the lining of fields as well as the upkeep of the fields.

2.1.12 Work-Bond Coordinator

The Work-Bond Coordinator shall be responsible for maintaining concession stand schedules, assigning field maintenance responsibilities, and collection and distribution of work bond checks.

2.1.13 Concession Manager

The Concession Manager is responsible for all concession stand activities including cash receipts, sale of league goods and coordinating the purchase of supplies.

2.1.14 Director of Health and Safety

The Director of Health and Safety ensures all health and safety related items (ice packs, first aid kits, defibrillators, etc.) are fully functional and efficiently operating.

2.2 Board Responsibilities

The Board shall be responsible and have sole authority for:

1. Enforcing the By-Laws of the Association.
2. Establishing, amending, and enforcing the Rules and Regulations of the Association.
3. Organizing and regulating the Travel and Recreational Teams.
4. Making temporary Rules and Regulations for specific cases or occasions not provided for in the By-Laws.

2.3 Meeting of the Board

The Board shall meet:

1. Every other month, or as to the President's discretion,
2. Whenever the President deems it necessary, and/or
3. If the President is instructed to do so by a simple majority of the Board Members.

At all Board meetings, a majority of (11) voting members shall constitute a quorum for conducting Association business. The President is not considered a voting member and shall cast a vote only if there is a quorum and a tie among voting members.

If a Board Member fails to attend two (2) consecutive Board Meetings without notifying the Secretary, that Board Member may be subject to disciplinary action by the Board. The Board will annually review and, if necessary, establish new procedures, rules, and fees required for the Association Members and will appoint any committees that may be required.

2.4 Disciplinary Authority

The Board has the right and authority to suspend, bar completely, or otherwise discipline any player, coach, manager, team assistant, parent, or Board Member who show cause or violates the Old Bridge Township Athletic Code of Conduct as described in Section 6 (Association Code of Ethics). A written notification explaining the Board's decision will be sent to the disciplined individual. The Disciplinary Committee for Travel and Recreation as appointed by the Board of Directors will meet to discuss any matter that may show cause or violates Old Bridge Soccer Club and Old Bridge Township Code of Conduct. The Disciplinary committee will report its finding to the Board and recommend, if any, punishment is necessary.

Each coach is specifically responsible for the conduct of his/her players, parents, and fans, both on and off the field, before, during, and immediately following a game. Failure to exercise this responsibility may result in disciplinary action to the team, the fans, and/or the coach, which may include expulsion from the Association, or lesser penalties as determined by the Board.

The Board shall review all red card offenses. Any coach receiving a red card is subject to the discipline of the Board and will not be reinstated until he/she meets with the Board at the next scheduled meeting. The coach receiving the red card, prior to being reinstated, will pay all red card fines.

3. MEETING OF THE MEMBERS

3.1 Regular Meetings

The regularly scheduled meetings of the Association (Coaches' Meeting) for the transaction of ordinary business will take place twice during each season, at the Old Bridge Municipal Center, unless otherwise notified. Meeting attendance is mandatory for all coaches; but as a minimum, at least one (1) representative from each Travel and Recreation team. It is strongly suggested that all Board Members attend as well.

3.2 Annual Election Meeting

The annual election of the Association shall take place at the June Association Meeting, at the Old Bridge Municipal Center, unless otherwise notified. At this meeting, those Board Positions that are up for election will be voted on. Refer to Section 2 (Executive Board), for details.

3.2.1 Board Position Elections

Any Association Member wishing to run for a Board Position, that will be voted on during the Annual Meeting, must inform the Secretary, in writing, on or before 8:00pm on May 31st of their intent to run and clearly identify the said Board Position. The Secretary will then officially inform the Association of those members seeking election to the Board. Floor nominations will only be accepted if no Association Member has declared intent to seek a particular Board position. Association Members must serve two

(2) years on the Board in order to run for President and must serve one (1) year on the Board to run for VP of Travel or VP of Rec.

During the Annual Election Meeting, only those voting Association Members present and in good standing shall be eligible to vote. Refer to Section 3.5 (Voting Power), for details.

In the event of a tie vote the current Board Members will meet privately to declare a winner. After all elections are complete and the duly elected new Board Members are announced, the Board Members “ELECT” will assume the roles and responsibilities of their respective Board Positions on the 1st day of July.

The Association Secretary will preside over all Annual Election Meeting activities. Refer to Section 2.1.4 (Secretary), for details.

3.3 Special Meetings

The President may call Special Meetings of the Association, by majority of the Board, or a majority of the Association Members voting at a Regular or Special Meeting.

3.4 Amendments

3.4.1 Proposed Amendment(s) to the By-Laws

Any proposed amendment(s) to the By-Laws may be introduced as an amendment by any active Association Member at any regular meeting or special meetings of the Association and must be submitted in writing to the Secretary. Before the Association may pass any amendment(s) to the By-Laws, it must be read at two consecutive regular meetings including the one at which the amendment(s) is introduced and be voted on (the second reading). The proposed amendment(s) must be approved by a majority of all eligible votes. Refer to Section 3.5 (Voting Power), for details.

3.4.2 Proposed Amendment(s) to the Rules & Regulations

Any active member of the Association, at any scheduled or special meetings of the Association, may introduce any proposed amendment(s) to any rule and/or regulation as an amendment. Before the Association may pass such amendment(s) to the Rules & Regulations, it must be submitted at a regular meeting and voted on at the next scheduled regular meeting. The proposed amendment(s) must be approved by a majority of all eligible votes. Refer to Section 3.5 (Voting Power), for details.

3.5 Voting Power

Voting rules and eligibility:

1. Each Association Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote on all Association matters. If, however, an Association Member happens to coach more than one (1) team (Travel or Recreational), the said coach is allowed only one (1) vote in all Association matters. For voting purposes, each team is allowed to declare only one

- (1) coach and one (1) assistant coach. Each coach/assistant coach, as a member in good standing, shall be eligible to vote on all association matters. To be in good standing and eligible to vote, Association Members must attend the two (2) scheduled spring association meetings.
2. Board Members holding a position of coach or assistant coach on a team shall have the right to one (1) vote only.
 3. All coaches and assistants must be declared thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Election Meeting in order to vote at said Meeting, and prior to voting on all Association matters.
 4. Each eligible Association Member attending the Annual Election Meeting is entitled one (1) vote only, as a described member.
 5. Absentee ballots will not be accepted under any conditions.

3.6 Association Audit

If requested, the President shall appoint two (2) non-Board Members, not later than one (1) month prior to the Annual Election Meeting to audit the financial records of the Association. The auditor's report should be submitted to the Board two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Election Meeting. The Treasurer is responsible for the IRS audit.

3.7 Insurance

The Board shall obtain the insurance for the Association on an annual basis and review and present the particulars of the policy to the Association. Currently, OBSC belongs to NJYS and receives their insurance from them.

4. TRAVEL SOCCER PROGRAM

4.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Travel Soccer Program is to offer the girls and boys of Old Bridge and surrounding communities a higher level of competition than is offered by the Recreational Soccer Program. Each player expressing an interest in the Travel Program will be given an equal opportunity to make a Travel Team; the best players available will be selected to represent the Association. An important goal of the Association is to allow every player the opportunity to reach the highest level of soccer proficiency that he or she can achieve.

4.2 Age Groups

All Association Travel Teams shall be made up of age-appropriate players as outlined by U.S. Club Soccer. Ages 8-14 are allowed to play one-year up and must follow the Travel rules and policies as outlined for that tryout. Players ages 15-19 (High School) can play up two-years. When a new Travel Team is being formed during the Fall and/or Spring season, a tryout must be held by an independent trainer with the current coach of the higher rated team having first choice of any player that has participated in the tryout. The selection process of all players is to follow the outline as determined in the Travel Rules and Policies. The Board reserves the right, to review and settle, all matters pertaining to

travel players “playing up”, for whatever reason, as well as owning a final say in any and all Travel tryout decisions.

4.3 Team Demographics

There is no limit or expectation regarding players and where they reside regarding travel play in Old Bridge Soccer Club.

All boys will be placed on Travel Boys’ Teams and all girls will be placed on Travel Girls’ Teams.

4.4 Travel Teams

4.4.1 Number of Teams

The Association is committed, when possible, to fielding Travel Teams in all age groups from U/8 through U/19.

For U/12 and under, the Association will, when possible, attempt to field two (2) Travel Teams, an “A” Team, and a “B” Team, with the purpose of combining the said Travel teams at the U/13 age group. It is understood that under the “A” Team/“B” Team arrangement, the “B” team will act as a feeder team to the “A” team. When formulating the “A” and “B” teams, it is understood that the coach of the “A” team will receive the higher rated players first and the coach of the “B” team will select from the remaining players. However, the league cannot force a player to play for a particular team or coach.

If there are enough players in the U/13 age group and up, the Association will make every attempt to field two (2) Travel teams to accommodate those additional players. The same “A” team/“B” team concepts apply in older age groups as well.

The President, 1st Vice President-Travel, and Director(s) of Travel have the right to review all the facts and information pertaining to the selection of “A” and “B” Travel Teams and reserve the right to intervene when necessary.

4.4.2 Travel Team Tryouts

Tryouts will be held as early as practicable to facilitate teams for the next travel year. Each tryout will be made known to all players of a particular age group via social media, email blasts and other means of advertisement. When the tryout(s) is concluded every player, as well as their parent(s), will be informed by the coach in that age group as to the result of that tryout. However, specific tryout rating information is confidential and will not be shared with players or parents. The Board reserves the right to contact players from out of town on intentions to play with club or not. When there are enough players to form two (2) Travel Teams in the same age group (an “A” team and a “B” team, as defined above) tryouts for said team must be conducted at the same time, at the same location and under the same conditions. If insufficient players tryout for any given age group, the Board of Directors may choose not to flight a team in that division or may call

for the holding of additional tryouts for that age group. The Board determines the travel tryout process. Any player who wishes to play must go through the tryout process. It is the intent of the League to hold unbiased tryouts. There will be one (1) mandatory tryout for each age group, with the option of a second tryout as required. Players must attend the tryout to be considered for a Travel Team. It is up to the VP of Travel, Director(s) of Travel & the President if additional tryouts are warranted. In addition, players can register for “ID sessions” and those sessions will take place as noted by the VP of Travel and Travel Director(s).

Player Tryout Exceptions and Procedures

Players who do not participate in the tryout process and wish to be considered for a team will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Once approved by the VP of Travel, Director(s) of Travel, and The President, the “A” Travel team shall have the right of first refusal on all new and existing players. The Board of Directors will handle all appeals.

The Assessor

Independent assessors will be selected and utilized by the VP of Travel, Director(s) of Travel, Training Director, and President, for the purpose of ranking and rating U/8 through and including U/14 travel participants. A minimum of two (2) independent assessors will be used for each age group. The same independent assessors will be used if more than one tryout for a specific age group is required.

The Director of Training, VP of Travel, Director(s) of Travel, and President, along with the assessors, will develop the methodology that will be used for the rankings and ratings to be used for the tryouts. The rating sheet must be a standardized, pre-approved form with a comments section, along with a section for non-qualified travel players.

The assessors will determine those participants who are considered not to have the skills necessary to play travel soccer. These participants will be classified as currently “under qualified”. At the discretion of coaches, with the approval of the VP of Travel, Director(s) of Travel, Director of Training, and The President, these players may be selected to play on another travel team. Any player wishing to tryout as a goalie will still be required to demonstrate their overall field skills as the other participants. This type of participant will receive two scores, one for goalie and one overall ranking.

Team Selection Process

- Top 75% as ranked by Assessor assigned to “A” Team.
- Remaining 25% selected by “A” Team Coach.
- “A” Team coach’s child that is not included in the top 75%.
- Same process used for “B” Team.

The Assistant Coach will not be selected until after the teams are assigned.

Players are allowed to turn down the “A” Team and play on a lower rated team.

The assessors will complete their evaluations and present the ranking and ratings of all participants the same day as the tryout for that age group. When appropriate, every player, as well as their parent(s), will be informed by the coach in that age group as to the result of their tryout. Tryout rating information is confidential and will not be shared with players or parents. In addition, no carded travel player can play recreation soccer.

4.4.3 Roster Size and Playing Time

Travel Teams in the U/8-U/12 age groups will have on its roster a minimum of ten (10) “carded” players with a maximum of fourteen (14) “carded” players. The recommended number of “carded” players in these age groups is twelve (12). Small-sided Travel team players are required to play a minimum of 1/3 of the game.

Travel Teams in the U/13-U/16 age groups will have on its roster minimum of fourteen (14) and a maximum of eighteen (18) “carded” players. The recommended number of “carded” players in these age groups is sixteen (16).

U/17-U/19 will have on its roster a minimum of fourteen (14) and a maximum of twenty-two (22) “carded” players with only eighteen (18) “carded” players allowed to participate in a game.

There is no minimum amount of playing time for full sided Travel Team Players U13-U19. The coaches determine playing time and positions. The VP of Travel and the President can make exceptions to all roster sizes.

4.4.4 Uniforms

All Association Travel Teams will conform to a standard uniform. The primary jersey will be black & white symbolizing the Association colors. Individual Travel Team logos may be worn on the upper left of the jersey. The words ‘Old Bridge’ must be visible in the logo and black shorts and black socks are also part of the uniform. An alternate jersey (white) should also be procured by each Travel Team player. All Travel teams are allowed to purchase a pre-approved 3rd kit once the first two kits have been satisfied. The 3rd uniform will be determined by the Board of Directors.

All Travel team uniforms must be approved by the Board of Directors and purchased with the approved vendor selected by the Equipment Director. It is the decision of each team to wear either the alternate or primary jersey for any sanctioned league match. Travel teams also reserve the right to wear the standardized uniform during tournaments, scrimmages, or winter league play. All teams will utilize a pre-determined practice kit and these kits must be worn during practice and associated sessions.

4.4.5 Tournaments and Training

The Association will establish an account with \$1,600 for each full-sided Travel Team, and \$1,300 for each small-sided. Travel teams playing only half a year shall receive no stipend. The Board reserves the right to adjust stipend amounts as needed. The funds may be only used for tournaments and training. The Travel Team must have all workbond commitment checks received and forwarded to the Treasurer prior to any funds being released to the team.

The Travel Team and/or coach will decide which tournament(s) the team will participate in. The Club will pay for either The State Cup or Mosa Cup plus referee fees for the duration the team is in the tournament; one cup reimbursement per calendar year. The Board reserves the right to review and amend this policy on an annual basis.

All outside bank accounts established by a Travel Team are subject to review by the Treasurer. The Treasurer of the Association shall be supplied with a copy of the latest bank statement for review on a quarterly basis. Each Travel Team must have a designated Treasurer that is not the head or assistant coach.

4.4.6 Travel Team Registration Process

All Travel Team players must be registered with the Association as soon as the team is selected. This shall be the responsibility of the coach. All Travel Team players must be “carded” in accordance with the NJSYSA Rules and Regulations. The President, First VP-Travel, Director(s) of Travel, and the respective Travel Team coach, are jointly responsible for the procedure. No team or player may be carded until the registration form(s) are received, reviewed, and approved by the Registrar. Travel fees are currently set as follows:

- Single Child - \$400 per year
- Additional Child - \$200 per year
- Spring Season Fundraiser - \$50
- Half-Season Travel Player - \$125
- Additional Half-Season Travel Player - \$75
- Sibling Discount - \$62.50 per season
- Work bond - \$150 per season

The Board reserves the right to change the fee structure when needed. If a player is looking to move from one team to another within the Club, there is no sit rule unless determined by the Board of Directors. After the initial “carding” process is complete, a new player may be added, released, or transferred by using the “PlayerStatus” form. The only Board Members allowed to approve/sign the “PlayerStatus” form are the First VP-Travel or the President. The Registrar must be notified of any status change of a player. Once a player is “carded” to a Travel Team they are unable to play Recreation Soccer. The only exception to this rule is if a player began the season in the Recreation program

and was chosen to join a Travel Team during the Recreation season. The player will then be able to finish the current Recreation season.

4.5 Travel Team Manager Selection Process

All prospective Travel Team Managers are required to submit a resume outlining experiences in the sport of soccer and qualifications. This resume along with a formal letter of transmittal, containing the age group of the Travel Team he/she wishes to manage, must be submitted to the First VP Travel, Director of Travel, President and Secretary by April 15th for review and consideration. All prospective Travel Team Managers are subject to the approval of the Board and shall, at the Board's request, appear before the Board for an interview prior to approval. The Board shall endeavor to select the best-qualified managers for each Travel Team. The Board shall consider various criteria in making its determination and coaches will be appointed by the Board before Travel Team tryouts.

The Board reserves the right to evaluate the performance of each Travel Team Manager on an annual OR as needed basis. All returning Travel Team Managers must submit a letter of intent, to manage each year, for approval by the Board.

The criteria needed to be considered as a Travel Team Manager is as follows:

1. "F" License
2. One full year of coaching youth soccer
3. Resume submitted to the Board
4. Character of person applying for team

If there are enough players to form a second Travel Team or "B" Team in a particular age group, the manager that is selected by the Board to manage that team will be considered the "B" team manager. The incumbent manager in that age group will be considered the "A" team manager.

If awarded a Travel Team, a manager will NOT identify his/her assistant until after the new Travel Team has been selected and the players identified. Each Travel Team manager and assistant is required to have at a minimum, "F" license from an approved NJSYSA and USYSA course. Once a manager has successfully completed the "F" license course, the Association will reimburse that manager all fees associated with said course.

4.6 Team Naming

All Travel Teams, both boys and girls, will follow a consistent naming sequence as noted below.

- First team: OBSC 2017 Boys/Girls Select
- Second team: OBSC 2017 Boys/Girls Elite
- Third Team: OBSC 2017 Boy/Girls Premier

All Travel Team naming prior to 2017 will have their selected team names “grandfathered” in.

4.7 Team Trainers and Gameday Coach

All Travel Teams, both boys and girls, upon inception will have an assigned trainer from the respected training companies. As of 2024 all girls Travel Teams will be trained and game day coached by an assigned Soccer Specific Training (SST) representative, and all boys Travel Teams will have a Bulldogs Training representative assigned.

After one full year of training, the manager can approach the VP of Travel, the President, and the Director(s) of Travel regarding a trainer change. This decision to change will lie with these pre-designated Board Members.

If the request is granted, another trainer from either SST (girls) or Bulldogs (boys) will be assigned by this pre-determined group of Board Members.

No SST trainers can train a boys’ team, and no Bulldogs trainers can train a girls’ team.

All teams will be trained at all times and game day coached by our contracted training organizations as detailed above. No parent will serve as any coach if the assigned trainer cannot make the game, unless previously approved by the Travel component of the Board of Directors.

4.8 Winter and Summer Travel Soccer

During the winter and summer months, all teams utilizing OBSC issued cards, and OBSC issued uniforms will continue to be trained and coached by a member of the OBSC training organizations as noted above. Any team that, over the summer and winter months, decides to go with a third-party training organization not approved by the Board will not be able to utilize OBSC cards, OBSC nomenclature or OBSC uniforms.

5. RECREATION SOCCER PROGRAM

5.1 Purpose

The Purpose of the Recreation Soccer Program is to promote the game of soccer in a fun atmosphere for the children of Old Bridge and the surrounding communities. The Association will provide all players with training and leadership, while promoting good sportsmanship. All recreation players will be afforded the opportunity, and encouraged to play the game of soccer, regardless of ability and skill level.

5.2 Regular League Play

1. Competition will be between the Recreation teams affiliated with the Association.
2. Recreation team colors shall consist of a designated team jersey and matching socks, as determined, and distributed by the Equipment Manager. Players are expected to wear black soccer shorts, shin guards, and soccer cleats.
3. Goalie shirts or pinnie, as provided by the Equipment Manager, shall be a different color and distinguishable from all other jerseys.
4. All Recreation players must play a minimum of half the scheduled game.
5. There will be no movement of Recreation players between teams.
6. Prior to the start of the game, the President, First VP-Rec, or the Field Maintenance Director will decide as to whether a game(s) can be played due to weather conditions or other limiting conditions.
7. The assigned referee(s) of all youth, junior, and senior games shall make sure that each player has the proper equipment.
8. If during the first half of a regular league game, the President, First VP-Rec, or referee halts play due to weather, darkness, or other conditions which in his/her judgment, warrants discontinuation of play, this game will be replayed in its entirety, if possible. Once a game enters the second half, it becomes official and cannot be replayed. The final score will be at the point the referee stops play.
9. The season will be officially over after the last scheduled game and the standings are made official, as determined by the Board of Directors.
10. The First VP-Rec, in conjunction with the President, will reschedule rainout games, if possible.
11. The Referee Assignor, or the President, shall appoint the referee in all Recreation games.
12. Any player receiving a red card will be ejected from the game and suspended for the next game. After issuing a red card, the referee must file a game report with the First VP-Recreation and the President.
13. Any head coach or assistant coach receiving a red card will be ejected from that game, asked to leave the field of play before the game continues, and will not be allowed to coach until the Board has conducted a review of the incident. After issuing a red card, the referee must file a game report with the First VP-Recreation and the President.
14. Any child noted as cursing by the assigned referee will be issued a yellow card and will have to exit the field of play for approximately five minutes. If the cursing continues, that child may be suspended for the entirety of the current game. The Board of Directors will decide on further suspension.
15. Any player, parent, coach, or fan that argues with a referee will have one warning issued. If the argument continues, those individuals may be removed from the complex. The definition of "argument" is under the discretion of the Board of Directors and can be case specific. Any additional suspensions will be determined by the Board.

5.3 Games per Season

The Board of Directors guarantees between eight and ten games per season, which is weather dependent. The Board reserves the right to change this notation at any time due to extenuating circumstances.

5.4 Standings and Tiebreakers

1. For gameplay, three (3) points are awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie.
2. In case of a standings tie after using the point system, the team with the most victories will be declared the division winner.
3. If teams are still tied after implementing step 2, the team with the most wins in head-to head competition during the season will be declared the winner.
4. In case of a tie using steps 2&3, the team with least goals against shall be declared the winner.
5. If a tie still remains after using steps 2,3&4, the Board reserves the right to determine, at the start of the season, of any additional tiebreakers that are needed.
6. The Board reserves the right to change the point system before the start of the season if they deem it necessary. All Association members must be notified before the start of the season if a change has occurred.

5.5 Team Demographics

1. There is no limit or expectation regarding players and where they reside regarding recreational play in Old Bridge Soccer Club.
2. All boys will be placed on Rec Boys' Teams and all girls will be placed on Rec Girls' Teams.
3. Carded travel players are ineligible for our Recreation program, sans the 3M-Masters program.
 - a. Exception: Rec players who try-out and make a travel team roster shall be permitted to play out the remainder of the Rec season.

5.6 Age Groups

Children who have reached the age of three (3) as of the end of the season, up to age eighteen (18) as of December 31 of the participating year, as per USYSA guidelines, are eligible to participate. The VP-Rec, in conjunction with the President, Registrar and the Board shall determine the make-up of the Recreation Soccer Program age groups to which the players will be assigned on a seasonal basis. Generally speaking, the age groups are broken down as follows:

Division Breakdowns

Mini Mites: Pre-K Group (age 3 & 4)

Youth: First and Second Grade

Seniors: Sixth thru Eighth Grade

3M Masters: Ninth thru Twelfth (High School)

Pee Wee: Kindergarten

Juniors: Third thru Fifth Grade

* The Board reserves the right to review and amend the policy on an annual basis.

5.6.1 Senior Division

Each team will be given ten (10) minutes after the scheduled kickoff time, to field the minimum number of players, based on roster size, as determined by the VP-Recreation and the President. The minimum number of players for a Senior Division game must be determined before the start of the season and all coaches must be made aware of the ruling. If a team is unable to field the minimum amount players, the opposing team will be declared the winner (1-0). If both teams are unable to field a minimum number of players, the game will be recorded as no contest. No points will be awarded to either team. The Senior division will, under normal conditions, play 7v7. The VP-Recreation, President, and Board reserve the right to alter the number of players on the field, at any time. The length of the game in the Senior Division will be fifty (50) minutes; two twenty-five (25) minute halves.

5.6.2 Junior Division

Each team will be given ten (10) minutes after the scheduled kickoff time, to field the minimum number of players, based on roster size, as determined by the VP-Recreation and the President. The minimum number of players for a Junior Division game must be determined before the start of the season and all coaches must be made aware of the ruling. If a team is unable to field the minimum amount players, the opposing team will be declared the winner (1-0). If both teams are unable to field a minimum number of players, the game will be recorded as no contest. No points will be awarded to either team. The Junior division will, under normal conditions, play 9v9. The VP-Recreation, President, and Board reserve the right to alter the number of players on the field, at any time. The length of the game in the Junior Division will be forty-four (44) minutes; two twenty-two (22) minute halves.

5.6.3 Youth Division

Same rules apply as stated in the Junior Divisions. The Youth division will, under normal conditions, play 7v7. The VP-Recreation, President, and Board reserve the right to alter the number of players on the field, at any time.

5.6.4 Pee Wee Division

1. Under normal circumstances, play 5v5, or as deemed appropriate by the trainer.
2. Gameday for the Pee Wee Division is strictly for fun and training fundamentals.
3. Standings and scores will not be kept.
4. The length of the session will be 45 minutes, split between training and instructional game.

5.6.5 Mini Mite Division

1. The Mini Mite Division is made up of three- and four-year-old players.
 - a. All players must be three (3) years of age before the season ends to participate in this program.
2. Gameday for the Mini Mite Division is strictly for fun and training fundamentals.

3. Standings and scores will not be kept.
4. The length of the session will be (45) minutes, which will be split between training and instructional game.

5.7 Registration

Registration sessions for the Recreation Soccer Program are held twice during the year, proceeding each Spring and Fall season. Registration information will be advertised via social media and email blasts. Registration forms will also be distributed throughout the Old Bridge Township Schools (virtual backpack).

Registration must be filled out on-line (website) and accompanied with full payment. A work bond fee in the amount of \$150 will be put in effect for each season. Recreation fees are currently set as follows:

- Single Child - \$150 per season
- Additional Child - \$62.50 per season
- Spring / Fall Fundraiser - \$50
- Sibling in Travel - \$62.50 per season

The Association reserves the right to impose a late fee if registration forms are received after a specific, pre-determined date. The Board reserves the right to change fee structure when needed.

5.7.1 General Refund Policy

We are committed to providing a high-quality sports experience for all participants. To ensure the smooth operation and sustainability of our program, we have established the following Rec Refund Policy:

- Refund requests must be submitted via email to: president@oldbridgesc.com
- Full refunds are given, without penalty, if the request is made on or prior to the second game of the season.
- No refunds will be processed after the second game, without exception.
- Refunds will be issued in a timely manner.
- Acknowledgment: By registering for our Rec Soccer Program, you acknowledge and agree to the terms of this refund policy. We appreciate your understanding.
- OBSC reserves the right to waive or alter this refund policy at its sole discretion at any time.

5.8 Recreation Team Draft

It is the responsibility of the First VP-Rec, President, and Recreational Director(s) to organize and conduct the recreation team draft. All recreation teams will be assembled based on a blind draft. The only exception pertains to the coach's child, who automatically plays on their parent's team.

Special requirements for a player, such as hardship, transportation, not wanting to be placed with a certain coach, etc., will be given consideration at the draft. Decisions will be made on an individual case basis. There will be no trading between recreation teams. All Recreation players can only be rostered to one (1) team. Once the teams have been selected and players notified, no registration refunds will be given without approval of the President and Vice President-Rec. Under normal circumstances, no refunds will be issued after the first game of the season has been played.

Each recreational player is allowed one (1) and only one teammate/carpool request. The request must be reciprocal. The request cannot name more than one player, and the request must include both first and last name of the requested player. No coaching requests can be made. The Board of Directors reserves the right to deny any friend/teammate requests if they become overbearing or incorrect.

5.9 Recreation Team Coach Selection Process

The First VP-Rec, prior to the recreation team draft, will select each Recreation Team head coach and one (1) or two (2) assistant coaches, if possible. Every coach is required to have an NJYS background check, as noted. The Board reserves the right to amend this process as needed.

5.10 Responsibilities of Recreation Team Coaches

Each Recreation team coach (head and assistant) is responsible for the following:

1. Abiding by the By-Laws and Rules & Regulations of the Association
2. Attending all Association meetings
3. Providing instruction, discipline, and safety for all players under their jurisdiction during practices and league games
4. Having at least two (2) adults attend each practice session
5. Maintaining a healthy and fun atmosphere for all players

5.11 Protests and Appeals

All Recreation League protests and appeals must be submitted in writing to the Secretary and recorded within three (3) calendar days following the incident. In the absence of the Secretary, any Board Member shall record and give a receipt to the individual filing the protest or appeal.

The Secretary should notify the President and the person filing the protest or appeal. The President shall commission a Protest/Appeals committee within a two-week period after official receipt of a protest or appeal. The Protest/Appeals committee shall consist of:

1. One (1) member of an uninvolved team
2. The Board Secretary or any available Board Member
3. The First VP-Recreation

This three-person committee shall review the protest/appeal and decide if penalties are required.

6. ASSOCIATION CODE OF ETHICS

Soccer belongs to the players of the Association and provides physical and emotional satisfaction for them. All members, coaches, and trainers involved in the Association must understand this and put the welfare of the game and the players before their own personal reward.

A Soccer Association is only as good as its members and the conduct they exhibit. Soccer coaches, trainers, and managers must be asked to maintain the trust and confidence placed in them by the players, parents, and the Association. Coaches who are unwilling to comply with the principals of the Association's "Code of Ethics" will not be allowed to coach or assist.

This "Code of Ethics" has been developed to clarify and distinguish ethical and approved behavior from those practices that are detrimental. The Code's secondary purpose is to promote the game of soccer by stressing the proper demeanor expected of coaches, trainers, and managers in the dealings with players, parents, officials, and the public. There can be no success of this "Code of Ethics" without the consent and support of those for whom it was established...the Soccer Coach.

Actions and personal notations of any association member created outside of OBSC activities, inclusive of but not limited to, games, practices, meetings, and events are considered opinions and not reflective of OBSC, its policies and procedures, or its mission to ensure a safe and fun environment for all. This includes social media posts, political viewpoints, and other subjective opinions in relation to anything outside of OBSC activities as noted above. All association members are subject to background checks, and that will be the guiding force for all allowable participation of OBSC activities by the association.

6A Old Bridge Township Code of Conduct

All coaches, Board members, parents, trainers, managers, and players must comply with The Code of Ethics set forth by The Township of Old Bridge. All Association members, parents, managers, trainers, and players must sign the Old Bridge Code of Conduct. Failure to sign the Old Bridge Code of Conduct document will result in the individual not being able to participate in Old Bridge Soccer Club.

6.1 Responsibilities to Players

1. All coaches, managers, and trainers must never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of the players. Winning should be the result of preparation and discipline with emphasis placed on societal ideals and character traits.
2. The Laws of Soccer were written to ensure a continuous flow of action and safety of the players. Coaches, managers, and trainers must always play within these rules and never seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior

to their players. Coaches, managers, and trainers have a responsibility not to tolerate these types of behavior from their players regardless the situation.

3. Medical problems are not the responsibility of coaches, managers, and/or trainers. The appropriate person should handle the diagnosis and treatment of injuries.
4. Under no circumstances should a coach, manager, or trainer or authorize the use of illegal drugs.
5. Demands on players should pertain only to achieving success on the field and never be so extensive as to interfere with their academic progress.

6.2 Responsibilities to the Association

1. The function of the coach, manager, and trainer is to contribute to the intellectual and physical growth of the player through participation in soccer. This must never be disregarded.
2. The coach, manager, and trainer must behave in such a manner that the principles, integrity, and dignity of the sport are not compromised.
3. Coaches, managers, and trainers should discuss problems with the appropriate Board member in a friendly, courteous manner, and then accept and support their decision(s).
4. Coaches, managers, and trainers must support Association decisions in all policies, and rules & regulations, regarding the game of soccer.

6.3 Rules of the Game

1. Coaches, managers, and trainers must be acquainted thoroughly with the rules of soccer. They are responsible for seeing that the players understand the intent as well as the application of the rules of the game.
2. Coaches, managers, and trainers must adhere to the letter and the spirit of the rules.
3. Coaches, managers, and trainers who circumvent the rules to gain an advantage have no place in soccer.
4. Coaches, managers, and trainers are responsible for their players' action on the field.
5. Coaches, managers, and trainers must not permit their players to perform with the intent of causing injury to opposing players.
6. If any coach, manager, or trainer permit, encourage, or condone performance that is not in the letter or spirit of the rules of the game, they become derelict in their responsibilities to their players, the Association, and the sport.

6.4 Officials

1. Officials (Travel and Recreation) must have the support of coaches, players, trainers, managers, and the Association. All must refrain from criticizing officials to their players.
2. The NJSYSA as governing organization are highly professional organizations that have the welfare of youth soccer as their primary concern. Coaches, managers, and trainers should support these organizations.

3. Coaches, managers, and trainers should strive to attend local official meetings. They should also invite officials to discuss rule interpretations.
4. At all times, officials should be treated with respect. The playing rules governing play should be followed to the letter. Criticism of an official should be made in writing to the appropriate club, league, or state administrator, and not address the referee before, during, or after a game in a demeaning fashion.
5. Officials (Recreation) must present to the First VP-Rec, prior to the season, proof of certification for that year and must have and wear an up-to-date patch when working.
6. Officials (Recreation) must be in proper uniform which includes an approved shirt (black or summer color) with patch, black shorts, black socks, (worn to knee) and black cleats or turf shoes.
7. Officials (Recreation) must be properly equipped with a whistle, stopwatch, flags, a game card, booking cards, and a coin.
8. Officials (Recreation) must abide by FIFA and Association rules (where applicable) and must always act in the best interest of the players.

6.5 Other Responsibilities

1. A coach's, manager's, or trainer's behavior must bring credit to him/herself, the Association, and the game of soccer.
2. Coaches, managers, and trainers have a responsibility to be as inconspicuous as possible during a game. The attitude of coaches, managers, and trainers towards the officials should be controlled and undemonstrative.
3. It shall be considered unethical for a coach, manager, or trainer or to have a verbal dissent during a game with any coach, player or official.
4. Every Association coach, manager, and trainer is required, each seasonal year, to complete in its entirety, any and all necessary forms and return it to the President, First VP-Rec, or Director(s). Any coach, trainer, or manager failing to comply with this requirement will not be allowed to coach until the forms are properly submitted.

7. MONEY MATTERS

7.1 Fundraising

Participation by Recreation and Travel players in Association sponsored fundraising events/activities is mandatory. All teams and coaches will be expected to take part in such events. Each fundraising activity will be presented to the Association members prior to the start of the season. Coaches and assistants will then provide the fundraising information to the parents of the team. The Board reserves the right to "Grandfather" Travel teams from fundraising activities when they only participate for half a travel season.

7.2 Individual Travel Team Fundraisers

Any Travel Team desiring to conduct an individual team fundraiser must submit the details of such an activity to the President and Fundraiser Director for consideration and approval. The Board shall not withhold approval, providing that the fundraiser does not conflict with any Association sponsored event. The Travel Team's proposed fundraiser must be legal, ethical, and one that does not tend to jeopardize or damage the good name of the Old Bridge Soccer Club.

If a Travel Team decides to conduct its own fundraiser, and the Board has approved that fundraiser, that Travel Team will provide the Treasurer a detailed financial report of said activity. Failure to provide such a report will preclude that Travel Team from conducting additional fundraising activities in the future.

7.3 Registration Fees

Registration fees and Association fundraisers are the only means the Association has for paying for league participation, State Cup, Recreation and Travel Team Tournaments, clinics, camps, equipment, and other programs it chooses to sponsor.

7.4 Referee Fees

Upon receipt of all registration fees, work-bond checks, and properly completed on-line registration, each Travel Team coach will receive from the Treasurer a check to be utilized for payment of referee's fees for all home Travel games in an amount equal to the total number of home games multiplied by the particular fee for that division. It is the coach's responsibility to provide cash payment of referees at each home game and to pay the full fee per game regardless of the number of referees officiating. It is the responsibility of the First VP-Rec, in conjunction with the Treasurer, to ensure that all recreation referees are paid in full when they have completed gameday officiating.

7.5 Work-Bonds

The Association is an all-volunteer organization. After registration and prior to uniform distribution, a \$150 work bond will be collected in the form of a check. It is the responsibility of the parent to fulfill their work bond commitment. It is the responsibility of the Board members to give all parents that want to volunteer the opportunity to do so. The Board will keep records of hours and dates worked by the parents and submit those records to the Treasurer and Work-Bond Director of the Association. It is the responsibility of the Board to advise parents of the work bond procedures. Upon completion of the work bond commitment the Work-Bond Director of the Association will return the work bond check. If the parent fails to fulfill their commitment to the Association, then the Treasurer will cash their work bond check. The Board reserves the right to review the work bond procedures on an annual basis.

8. ASSOCIATION FIELDS

8.1 Higgins Road and Ticetown Road Complex

The association has oversight of both the Higgins Road and Ticetown Road complexes, and their associated buildings and facilities. The Board shall maintain a positive working relationship with both the Township of Old Bridge and the Old Bridge Parks and Recreation Department.

8.2 Field Use

At no time will permits be offered to any organization, other than the middle school soccer teams of Jonas Salk and Carl Sandburg, to play any organized sports or events at these fields.

The Just4Kixs program will be the only other organization granted the ability to utilize the fields.

8.2.1 Township Fields

Other township fields, such as Geick Park, Lombardi Field, Philips Park, etc., may be used by the Association, but only with proper permits.

8.2.2 Public School Permits

Permits are also required for all practices, both outdoors and indoors, that are held at Old Bridge public schools.

8.3 Other Leagues

Due to insurance requirements and other mitigating factors, there will be no adult leagues associated with OBSC.

8.3 Vendors and Sponsors

All OBSC vendors are selected at the discretion of the Board. Any vendor or sponsor wishing to setup a table/booth, and/or sell goods, must obtain permission in writing prior to setting up at the fields. All requests shall run through the Director of Publicity and Fundraising.

8.4 Safety: Goals and Goal Nets

Properly anchored and secured goals with goal nets must be used for all games during league play. Also, all fields of play must be lined properly and corner flags in place. This is the responsibility of the Director of Field Maintenance.

8.5 Change of Date of a Scheduled Game

The President is responsible for scheduling the use of all Association fields and must approve all field changes.

The Executive Board of the Old Bridge Soccer Club, Inc., shall always, accept the responsibility of interpreting the By-Laws and Rules & Regulations, and shall make any and all decisions not covered within these By-Laws and Rules & Regulations in accordance with the best interest of this Association and its players.