

# RUMSON FUTBOL CLUB

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

### ARTICLE I - CODE OF ETHICS

This code of Ethics sets forth guidelines for the appropriate behavior for the individuals affiliated with the Association. Soccer belongs to the players. It provides many physical values, emotional satisfaction and even a spiritual uplifting to those that play. Managers who choose soccer as an avocation must understand this and put the welfare of the game and its players above their own personal rewards.

Any Soccer association, regardless of how honorable it is deemed, is only as good as its members and the conduct they exhibit. Soccer managers affiliated with this association must maintain trust and confidence placed in them by the players, their parents, and the public. Only managers who are willing to comply with the principles of the Rumson FC's "Code of Ethics" are welcome to be affiliated with this organization.

#### A. Responsibilities to Players

1. The Manager must constantly place the safety and welfare of his players above the value of winning. Winning should be the result of preparation and discipline with considerable emphasis placed on the highest societal ideals and character traits.
2. The laws of the Game were written to ensure a continuous flow of action. These laws have the safety of the players as their primary goal. Manager should always play within the laws and never seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsporting behavior. Managers have a responsibility not to tolerate this type of behavior from their players.
3. The appropriate medical personnel should handle the diagnosis and treatment of injuries. Managers should direct players to seek competent medical attention and follow the physician's orders thoroughly and promptly. If a head injury occurs and there is a possibility of a concussion the manager must pull the player and follow concussion procedures and protocols for NJYS. Under no circumstance should a manager authorize the use of drugs. Any use of drugs must be authorized and supervised by a physician.
4. Academic achievement shall take precedence. Demands on players should pertain only to achieving success on the field and should not interfere with academic progress.

#### B. Responsibilities to the Rumson FC

1. The function of the manager is to contribute to the intellectual growth of the player through participation in soccer.

2. The manager must behave in such a manner that the principals, integrity and dignity of the Association are not compromised.
3. Managers shall support the players, rules and regulations of the Association.

#### C. Rules of the Game

1. Managers must be thoroughly acquainted with the rules of soccer. Managers must adhere to the letter and spirit of the Laws. Managers shall not circumvent the Law To gain unfair advantage.
2. Managers are responsible for the actions of their players. They are responsible for ensuring that the players understand the letter and the spirit of the Laws.
3. Manager must not permit their players to perform with the intent of causing injury.

#### D. Officials

1. The game of soccer cannot be played without impartial, competent officials. Officials must have the support of managers, players, and the RFC. Public criticism of officials by managers demeans the game. Managers must refrain from criticizing officials to their players.
2. The USSF, NJYSA and the New Jersey State Referee Association (NJSRA) are professional organizations that have the welfare of soccer as their primary concern. Managers should support the organizations as well as the local referee assignors.
3. Officials should be treated with respect. A manager's attitude towards the official should be controlled and undemonstrative. Criticism of a referee should be made in writing to the appropriate governing body and not addressed to the referee before, during or after a game.

#### E. Public Relations

1. The soccer manager has a unique responsibility concerning the news media. In many cases soccer needs to be explained and public relations becomes a job of all managers. The manager must be careful not to make derogatory or misleading statements.
2. Managers have the responsibility to assist their players in conducting themselves appropriately when being interviewed by members of the news media.
3. Managers have the responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner that enhances the game of soccer and presents a positive image.

## **F. Other Responsibilities**

1. A manager's behavior must at all times, be above reproach.
2. Soccer is a player's game. Managers should be as inconspicuous as possible during the game. Managers should exhibit a friendly attitude toward the opposing manager, officials and players. Managers should not be involved in verbal dissent or physical contact with opposing managers or players.
3. Managers should use their influence to ensure that all spectators exhibit appropriate behavior.

## **Article II - TEAM MANAGERS**

### **A. ATTITUDE**

1. Managers, players, parents and spectators all represent the RFC. Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players, assistants, parents and spectators.
2. Managing youth soccer can be a difficult job. A manager's conduct can have a major influence on the players and their parents. The RFC Encourages managers to maintain their composure and teach players to win with class.
3. Managers should always encourage their players to play their best within the letter and spirit of the Laws of the Game.

B. Coach License. Team Managers and trainers must obtain an USYSA or NJYSA approved "State Certificate" license, complete SafeSport and Concussion training, and submit to a background check annually before they will be permitted to manage.

C. Team Manager/Assistant Manager Selection. All team Managers and Assistant Managers shall be subject to the approval of the Executive Board and at the Executive Board's discretion, appear before the Board for interview prior to approval. The executive Board shall consider various criteria in making its determination.

D. All Team Managers are expected to have a commitment to their teams. This commitment includes completing all required administration, schedule training sessions to be led by a trainer sanctioned by the Club, attend games, meetings, collect and distribute referee fees, collect and distribute tournament and additional training fees, be the liaison for all matters, with Travel Rep for player cards and state rosters, and other required tasks of the board. All members of the managing staff shall abide completely with all policies, rules, and/or regulations of any league, association, or tournament in which they participate in the name of Rumson FC.

## **Article III - FIELDS**

A. Games. All Managers are required to contact the Field Coordinator for field assignment prior to the use of any field for regularly scheduled or make-up games.

B. Practice. Prior to each season the Second Vice President shall develop a practice field schedule. The team designated to have a particular field on a particular day and time shall have a priority over any other team that may show up for practice at the same time.

C. Priority Utilization 1st Priority State Cup Tournament Games  
2nd Priority League Scheduled Games 3rd Priority Rescheduled  
League Games 4th Priority Practice Session

## **Article IV - GAMES**

### **A. Canceled Games**

1. The only persons authorized to cancel or change any scheduled game are the Field Coordinator, President, or First Vice President. Managers are not permitted to make any changes to the game schedule without the prior approval for the Field Coordinator, President, or First Vice President.
2. In accordance with affiliated league rules, Managers are responsible for notifying the Field Coordinator of any game cancellation by the visiting team prior to the date of the scheduled game.
3. Managers will be held responsible for payment of any and all fees incurred due to any failure to follow the above notification procedure.
4. Make Up Games. Team Managers shall coordinate rescheduling of any game with the Field Coordinator in accordance with the affiliated league rules.

## **Article V - MONEY MATTERS**

### **A. Fundraising - Participation in association sponsored fundraiser events is mandatory and all teams will be expected to actively participate.**

1. Registration Fees. All teams are required to pay the mandated registration fees.
2. Managers will be personally responsible for payment of referee's fees for games canceled without proper notification.
3. Individual Team Fundraisers. Any team that wishes to conduct an individual team fundraiser must submit the fundraiser in detail to the Executive Board for approval.
4. The executive Board will approve any fundraiser that does not conflict with any association sponsored event and is legal, ethical and would not damage or jeopardize the reputation of the RFC. The Executive Board will not approve any fundraiser that requires door-to door solicitation or jeopardize the safety and well-being of the players.

### **FUNDRAISING ASSISTANCE FOR TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN PREMIER TOURNAMENTS**

- i. The association encourages team participation in premier tournaments that would elevate and enhance the awareness and brand of Rumson FC (ie international tournaments, etc.)
- ii. In support of our team's participation in such tournaments, Rumson FC will support the participating team's fundraising efforts by matching up to 10% of the total proceeds raised by the participating team.
- iii. The executive Board has sole discretion to determine if a tournament qualifies as a "premier" event.

iv. The participating team must make the Executive Board aware of their intent to participate at least 3 months in advance of the tournament and must deposit their fundraising proceeds in the team's designated Rumson FC account.

v. Funds outside of the designated Rumson FC account will not be eligible for this match.

5. Team Funds. No team manager, assistant manager, parent or team representative of any team is authorized to maintain funds in the name of any Rumson FC Team. All funds collected, donated or given on behalf of any team must be deposited in the official Rumson FC designated account. Whenever possible, all funds should be collected directly by the Club's online payment platform.

6. All funds deposited in the designated Rumson FC account(s) on behalf of any team shall be earmarked for that particular team and not utilized for any other team or purposes. The Rumson FC, if requested by the individual team, shall provide an accounting of each individual team account on a monthly basis.

7. No manager/team manager, assistant manager, parent or team representative is authorized to incur or obligate the Association for payment of any debt without written authorization of the Executive Board.

## **Article VI - REFEREES**

Affiliation in various leagues requires that the Association satisfy certain referee requirements. Each team is responsible for assisting in fulfilling the requirements and supplying candidates for referees as needed. To the maximum extent possible, Managers and Assistant Managers are encouraged to attend a course, earn a referee badge and referee games.

## **ARTICLE VII - TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION**

### **A. State Cup**

1. The Rumson FC shall pay for registration and referee fees for all teams participating in the New Jersey State Cup Tournament.
2. Teams who qualify for the USYSA Regional or National Tournaments
3. Rumson FC will pay any registration or referee fees for any team involved in the USYSA Regional or National Tournaments.

### **B. Sanctioned Tournaments**

1. No Rumson FC team may enter or participate in any tournament not sanctioned by the USYSA or NJYSA.
2. Patches and Pins. Each registered Rumson FC team shall receive a supply of club patches or if appropriate, pins equal to 18 per game for participation in sanctioned tournaments.

## **ARTICLE VIII - PARTICIPATION IN THE OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

The Association encourages Managers and players to support the Olympic Development Program (ODP) and will pay the registration fee, including the uniform fee for any player presently on the roster of a Rumson FC team who is selected for the New Jersey State, Region 1 or National ODP team (s), providing that the player has been on the roster of a Rumson FC for at least four (4) consecutive seasons. Registration fees do not include travel or lodging expenses associated with the teams. However, the Executive Board will entertain any written requests for reasonable and necessary financial assistance to ensure participation by a qualified Rumson FC player who has been selected to any of the above listed ODP teams.

## **ARTICLE IX - TEAMS**

The Rumson FC shall hold open tryouts for teams in Divisions III through VI (in May or as approved by the Executive Board) to register players, establish teams and evaluate players to assure that they are placed on a team which is appropriate for the player's skill level. Tryouts for Division I and II teams will be held at the request of the Managers or as directed by the Executive Board. Team Managers will notify all players who tryout their status within two (2) weeks of the tryout date. Individual Tryouts may be held at the manager's discretion, players can be added during the season if approved by MOSA and or EDP.

The Executive Board will administer all tryouts. (Training partners will evaluate players and provide scores to Team Manager) All teams will be trained and managed on game day by Club sanctioned training partners.

- A. Age Groupings. All Rumson FC teams shall be composed of players of the same age groups, as determined in accordance with the USYSA and NJYSA rules. The following procedure shall be utilized for any player (see exceptions (4), (5) and (6) below) who wishes to play on Rumson FC team comprised of older players:
  - 1. Any Player seeking to play on an older age team shall make a written request to the Executive Board prior to the scheduled tryout dates. The Executive Board will review all supporting documentation including appraisal of the player by the Managers and evaluators of both age groups (see (2) below) and make the final determination. In making this decision, the Executive Board may make its own appraisal of the player's ability to play onto an older age team. The Board may review play-up requests between the annual scheduled tryouts in accordance with the play play-up procedure. Play up approval may be contingent upon stipulations or conditions, such as unavailability of players within the age group.
  - 2. The player will attend the tryout sessions for both the appropriate age and older age teams. The Managers and evaluators of both age groups shall evaluate and assess if the player is qualified to play on the older age team. The Board of Directors will select the evaluators for this purpose.

3. In order to be qualified to play on an older age team, the player must qualify to play on the "A" team of the older age group annually. Absent unusual circumstances, a player will not be permitted to play on any older "B" team.

4. This procedure does not apply to a player who had been previously permitted to play on an older age team. Once a player has been permitted to play on an older age team, he/she will be treated as a member of the older age team.

5. This procedure does not apply to a player who wishes to play on Division 1 (U17/U19) or Division 2 (U15/U16) teams. These players may try out for a team in their own age group or the team in an older age group following the normal tryout procedure. Play up approval may be contingent upon stipulations or conditions such as unavailability of players within the age group.

#### B. Team Demographics

1. It is the spirit of the Rules and Regulations of Rumson FC to ensure a place on a team roster for every qualified Rumson player.

2. A player will be considered a Rumson player if he or she resides in Rumson. All other players will be considered non-Rumson players.

3. There shall be no more than four (4) non-Rumson players or more than 30% non-Rumson players on any Division 3 (U13/U14) Division 4 (U11/U12) Division 5 (U9/U10) or Division 6 (U8K) team roster. If a shortage of Rumson players with a qualifying tryout score exist, the Executive Board can elect to add non- Rumson players to complete the team roster.

4. The team roster of any Division 1 (U17/U19) or Division 2 (U15/16) team must contain a majority of Rumson players.

5. Based on a written request , the Executive Board may grant an exemption and permit a player to qualify as a Rumson player with REC Approval.

6. A member of a Rumson FC team who qualifies as a Rumson player under the guidelines set forth above will remain a Rumson player notwithstanding any subsequent change in status. For example, a player who initially qualifies as a Rumson player under (2) above, who subsequently moves outside of Rumson, will continue to qualify as a Rumson player with REC approval.

#### C. Multiple Teams in the Same Age Group

1. In the event that a particular age group has sufficient players to field more than one (1) team, the Rumson FC will form multiple teams in accordance with an A/B system. The A/B system places the better players on the team designated as the "A" team, while the other players are placed on the "B" team. If a B team is to be formed, Rumson REC approval is required as field space needs to be considered.

2. Although the primary purpose of the "B" level team is to develop players to advance to the next appropriate level, no player who was a member of a lower designated team will be forced to move up to the next appropriate level if they do not so desire.

3. In the event that a team believes that a change in its designation (A/B) is appropriate, it will provide supporting documentation and request the Executive Board considers a change. No change of designation will be considered absent, showing that the lower designated team has advanced to a higher level of league play than the higher designated team. In making its decisions, the Executive Board will consider what is in the best interest of Rumson FC.

#### D. Registrations

1. Managers/Team Managers are responsible for ensuring that all players complete online registration as directed by the First Vice President in accordance with NJYSA policies and timelines. Parents must complete registration by the stated deadlines, including submitting pictures and proof of age, in order to be eligible to play.

2. Players who are transferred (either added or released) after the NJSYA District Commissioner validates rosters will be coordinated with the First Vice President. Team Managers are responsible to ensure that any player who transferred from another team to Rumson FC team has executed the appropriate "Player Release/Transfer" forms.

3. Team Managers are responsible for submitting a copy of their roster to the First Vice President or Secretary and assuring that the Association has the most current version, including add/drop forms.

4. Rumson FC Team Managers will follow the guidelines set forth in the NJYSA Handbook which defines poaching as "an action by team or club to induce or attempt to induce a rostered player of any other team to leave the player's present team and play for the team of club during the current season year. Poaching does not apply to inducing players to play for a team in the following seasonal year."

E. Termination. Team Managers are required to notify the Executive Board in writing sixty- (60) days prior to the start of any season of their team's possible termination. The Executive Board will make the final decision concerning a team's future.

F. Playing Time. All rostered players present should play a minimum of at least one-third of each match. Additional playing time above the minimum will be allocated at the discretion of the Team Trainer and will be earned by players based on (i) effort, (ii) attitude, (iii) impact, and (iv) skill.



Allocation of playing time may also be affected by the flow of the match and the lack of stoppage in play to substitute.

## **ARTICLE X - UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT**

### **A. Authorized Uniform**

1. The Executive Board shall designate the manufacturer/brand style and color of the official Rumson FC uniform including both the primary and alternate uniform.
2. No player may wear an unauthorized uniform while representing Rumson FC without the authorization of the Executive Board.
3. Uniform purchase shall be the responsibility of the individual teams.

### **B. Game Balls. Each team shall receive one (1) soccer ball supplied by the Rumson FC at the beginning of each season.**

## **ARTICLE XI - VIOLATION OF THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Any person referred to in Article X, Authority of the Constitution who violates any USSF, USYSA, NJYSA, Rumson FC or affiliated league rule or regulations shall be subject to disciplinary action, as outlined in Article II, Disciplinary Authority of the Bylaws of this Association.