

## ARTICLE XVI - APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Section 1** Any new club wishing to apply for membership in the association must follow the guidelines set forth below:

- a) **The Greater Akron Amateur Soccer Association is a community based league and as such only recognizes one club per community for membership in the league. For a current listing of community members refer to the league web site at [www.gaasa.org](http://www.gaasa.org). New communities are to follow the process listed below starting with item “b” as well as any application information listed on the league website.**
  1. **A second club within a community can only be admitted with the written approval of the established club which must be signed by the club President and Registrar. Once the letter has been reviewed by the GAASA BOD and approved all other aspects of application as outlined below are to be followed as well as any application information listed on the league website.**
- b) Submit a copy of its constitution and bylaws, and these documents must agree with the association Constitution in matters on non-discrimination, affiliation with U.S.S.F., and jurisdiction in all matters of league operations including disciplinary matters
- c) Submit a field map to a field for which the club has the primary use permit, and which is not currently used by another association member; if the club does not have a home field of its own, agrees to pay an association fee per season to use a field for which the association has a permit.
- d) All fields must be located within a thirty-mile radius of the intersection of Main and Market Streets in Akron
  - a. This thirty-mile radius does not apply to a Classic I youth team whose field lies outside of this radius and is either a current member or new member who has successfully completed their first season of play in which all their games are played away.
- e) Submit a roster of players and coaches for every team that the new club intends to enter in the league, and comply with all league and state association registration requirements
- f) Shall post an initial bond (\$350) as set forth by the Executive Board
- g) **All new members are considered to be on probation for one year. Continued membership will be dependent upon a review by the league Board of Directors.**

**Section 2** No team entered by a club may roster more than 40% of its players from another single association member club that played in the immediate past season.

**Section 3** Every team entered by a new club must be coached by a person who was not a coach at any level (head coach, assistant coach, manager) of a team fielded in the immediate past

season by another association member club.

**Section 4** Every new club must contact the Executive Board at least twenty-eight (28) days prior to registration for its initial season in the league. Prior to paying fees, each new club must show the Executive Board all completed paperwork and a tentative roster of players and coaches. At registration, each new club must present all required paperwork in good order, and rosters must not change significantly from those present at application, nor may rosters violate standards as set forth above. Each new club must pay all fees at registration, and during their first season of play, new clubs are not permitted to late register any players or coaches who would bring them into violation of any standards set forth above.

**Section 5** In the event a new club appears at registration without first contacting the Executive Board or obtaining prior approval, the association has the option to waive the standard of being contacted 30 days in advance, if it appears the club meets other standard criteria and is not in violation of standards as set forth above; or the Executive Board may require that the new club play as a team or teams within the structure and under the bond of an existing member club willing to accept them.

**Section 6** Each new applicant may be investigated as to its ability to meet these standards and the decision to admit the new member or reject the application rests solely with the Executive Board. Each application will be considered on its own merits and no appeal will be considered.