

Garden State Track & Field Association Bylaws

Name:

- The name of the organization shall be “Garden State Track & Field Association” (the “Organization”).

Objective:

- Create a track and field association offering competitive opportunities and is comprised of like-minded teams which promote a safe place for children to stay active, train to better themselves, develop discipline, integrity and respect, and most importantly... HAVE FUN WHILE DOING IT.

Organization:

- The organization will be comprised of Parks & Rec and private track clubs that have the same ideals and goals as the objectives above. The teams in the organization **MUST** have a representative at every meeting. That person will, if needed and authorized, have the responsibility to cast a vote for their respective team.
- The organization’s founding teams will be considered “tenured – full vote privileges” upon establishment of the organization.
- Teams wanting to join the Organization will make their request known to the Organization in writing.
- In order to participate, teams will require a majority vote by the existing tenured teams in the Organization.
- Joining teams will be eligible for tenure after competing/hosting for 3 years in the Organization.
- Teams may be removed from the Organization upon request from a participating team and majority vote by the existing tenured teams in the Organization.

Conduct:

- Head coaches, assistant coaches and volunteers shall conduct themselves appropriately. The leadership of the hosting facility has the authority to ask any coach, volunteer, parent or participant to leave the facility if their actions are not representative of the Organization’s objective.
- All coaches must display the word “coach” as well as their team name on a shirt, hat or other clearly visible manner.
- Any individual, regardless of role, whose conduct shows a pattern of inappropriateness or whose actions are deemed dangerous or harmful, may be barred from the Organization’s events by majority vote of the tenured teams in the Organization.

General Participant Rules:

- Participants **MUST** handle themselves in a respectful and mature manner at all times. Profane language fighting or inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated.
- Participants compete by year of birth; not current age or birth date.
- 5 thru 12 year olds are limited to 3 events. 13 thru 18 year olds are limited to 4 events. Events include individual, relays, and field events.
- Participants are not permitted to wear spikes in their shoes. Anyone who enters the staging area for any event (including field events) with spikes in their shoes will not be permitted to run or compete.
- Teams will stage their participants fastest first.
- All participants must wear a legible bib number for recording meet results. If one is not visible, their results may not be recorded or posted.

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- The hosting facility has the authority to set the order of events and reduce the number of events, with proper advance notice, if the facility time limitations are restrictive.

General Team Rules:

- All teams participating in a meet must provide designated representative(s) for their team. This representative must be present for the duration of the meet.
- All teams must provide volunteer assistance to the host team.

Safety:

- Athlete safety is assigned the highest priority throughout the entire program.
- Any athlete injured in such a manner that bleeding occurs must be removed from the meet and may not return until the wound is treated and bandaged.
- Any athlete with a suspected concussion must be removed from the meet and may not return until deemed safe by a medical professional.
- If an athlete falls to the ground and remains down, the race or field event may be stopped. This decision will be based upon the severity of the situation and the event.

Hosting Facilities:

- Hosting facilities may enforce their own rules specific to their facility to ensure the safety of those in attendance.
- The hosting facility must provide, or secure, the appropriate instruments to conduct all planned events.
- Facilities must be left in the manner in which it was found by all teams.

These Bylaws were voted on and adopted by the founding teams of the Organization on Sept 4, 2015.