

**BYLAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF OUTER BANKS STORM, INC.
Current as of June 15, 2023**

Article 1 NAME

1. The name shall be the **Outer Banks Storm, Inc. (“OBX Storm” or “the Club”)**. OBX Storm is a non-profit corporation formed under the laws of North Carolina (Chapter 55A of NC General Statutes), IRS Rules 501 (c)(3), and shall comply with the Bylaws of North Carolina Youth Soccer Association (NCYSA).

Article 2 OFFICES AND INCORPORATION

1. The registered office of the corporation and a copy of the Bylaws shall be filed with the North Carolina Secretary of State.
2. Outer Banks Storm, Inc. shall be incorporated under the laws of North Carolina.
3. The offices of incorporation shall be in the County of Dare, State of North Carolina.

Article 3 MISSION

Our mission is to foster the physical, mental, and emotional growth of amateur youth in the Outer Banks, regardless of race, gender, religion, color, ethnic heritage, or ability, through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition by establishing programs and activities that focus on soccer among amateur youth. We strive to remove barriers so that every child has the opportunity to play, and to foster the development of self-esteem, self-worth, and soccer skills in our players. We promote the value of playing and participating in soccer as a lifetime sport while teaching the values of sportsmanship and teamwork.

Article 4 PURPOSE

1. Promote the value of playing and participating in soccer as a lifetime sport, which will further improve the Outer Banks community.
2. To offer soccer to all age groups, genders, and competency levels so that it becomes a featured sport in child and adult wellness and health programs. Teach the values of sportsmanship and teamwork to instill a sense of esprit de corps in all participants and spectators.
3. Provide opportunities for soccer teams from the area to compete against teams from other areas of the county, state, regional, national and international competitions.
4. Recognize that the purpose of soccer is to promote physical, emotional, mental, moral, and social well-being of the individual participants.
5. Organize, budget, schedule and administer the Club’s programs in such a way as to get state recognition from accrediting organizations.
6. Assure that press and media coverage is current, consistent, accurate, and pervasive about soccer as a game in the Outer Banks area.
7. Provide for the swift and fair resolution of conflicts and disputes involving members of the Club.
8. Encourage and develop technical information on physical training, equipment, coaching, performance, and safety, as these pertain to amateur soccer.

Article 5 **PARENT ORGANIZATION**

1. The Club shall be a member of North Carolina Youth Soccer Association (NCYSA).
2. The Club shall abide by the Bylaws, Rules and regulations of FIFA, USSF, USYS and NCYSA. Where there are differences between USSF, USYS, the USYS rules will govern.

Article 6 **CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. The NCYSA Code of Conduct will govern the conduct of spectators, players, officials and volunteers and will be enforced at all times. Any infraction by any team or individual that violates this Code of Conduct or violates these Bylaws will be investigated and resolved in accordance with NCYSA Discipline and Appeals Policies applicable at the time of the infraction. Any incident not subject to NCYSA Discipline and Appeals procedures may be dealt with by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Articles 7 **MEMBERSHIP**

1. Membership shall consist of individual players, parents/guardians, coaches, referees, administrators, and officials who are affiliated with the Club; duly elected or appointed Directors of the Club.
2. Voting Rights: Each member of the Club shall have one vote each at the AGM with regards to the election of Board members and proposed amendments.
3. All members shall also be members of North Carolina Youth Soccer Association.
4. The Club may not discriminate against any individual based upon race, religion, sex, national origin or political affiliation.

Article 8 **MEETINGS**

1. All General Membership and Board of Director Meetings shall be in the County of Dare, North Carolina.
2. There shall be an annual General Membership Meeting between May 15 and June 15 of each calendar year, and the election of officers shall take place at this meeting. There shall be notice given on the Club website, social media pages, and via email noting the date, time, and place of the Annual General Membership Meeting, not less than thirty (30) days before the meeting.
3. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting. A quorum must be present to conduct Club Business.
4. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings.
5. A team can request a special meeting for the benefit of their membership, with the Board of Directors and one shall be scheduled.
6. All Meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order, Current Edition.

Article 9 MANAGEMENT AND AUTHORITY

1. The governing authority for the Club shall be vested in the Board of Directors.
2. A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting. A majority of the vote shall prevail on all matters with the exception of an amendment or revision to the Bylaws.
3. In the event of a tie vote, the President of the Board can vote to break the tie.
4. No voting member of the board of Directors shall be allowed to use the Club to better their private business. If they do so they shall be removed from office and may be ordered to make restitution of any funds made from their action, by the Board of Directors. If a conflict arises, a Board Member must so state, and then refrain from voting, but not from consultation.
5. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to accept, suspend, expel, or otherwise determine membership in the Club; establish, manage, and approve the annual budget and supplemental budget items; propose and approve amendments to operating guidelines, Bylaws, and Articles of Incorporation; establish fees; fill vacancies of Board positions; remove Directors due to detrimental action or neglect of accepted duties and responsibilities; sanction all tournaments within Dare County; provide for timely resolution of conflicts, disputes, and controversies among members; and enforce the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and other operating guidelines of the Club.

Article 10 NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

1. Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (“AGM”) of the Club each year. Members may submit their names or may be submitted by another member to the Board of Directors or other contact designated in the Notice of AGM.

Article 11 OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

1. The Board of Directors of the Club shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Coaching, Marketing & Communications Director, Fundraising Director, Recreation Director, and Registrar.
2. The following Board positions are elected and serve two (2) year terms: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Director, and Recreation Director.
President, Secretary, & Fundraising Director are elected in **odd** calendar years.
Vice President, Treasurer, & Recreation Director are elected in **even** calendar years.
3. The following Board positions serve as contracted positions and are at the discretion of the Board: Director of Coaching, Marketing & Communications Director, and Registrar.
4. The Officers will take office immediately following the election at the AGM, or no later than July 1.
5. No Officer may hold more than one office on the Board of Directors and no spouses shall simultaneously serve on the Board of Directors.
6. A current list of Officers shall be listed on the Club website.
7. Any Officer that misses three (3) meetings in a row shall be replaced by another general member, which will be appointed by the Board of Directors, unless unusual circumstances arise. Removal will be at the discretion of the majority of the Board.

8. The new officer shall fill out the remaining term of the elected Officer only but can run for any position the next term that is open.

Article 12 DUTIES OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT, whose duties shall be,

- Preside at all Board Meetings and Annual General Meeting.
- Serve as the representative of the Club at functions and community events and as the voting delegate of the Club to NCYSA, USSF, and USYSA. This duty may be delegated subject only to the approval of the Board of Directors.
- Appoint, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, all standing, special, or select committees and chairs as the needs of the Club may dictate.
- Sign orders on the treasury.
- Transfer all records of Office to their successor.
- Perform other duties as needed.

VICE-PRESIDENT, whose duties shall be,

- Serve as the Chairperson when the President is absent.
- Serve as Assistant to the President.
- Assure the mailing to NCYSA the Membership Application with membership fee by the date set by NCYSA.
- Oversight of the Club's Registrar and internal operations.
 - Along with two other board members, internally audit the financial records and accounts maintained by the Club at the conclusion of each fiscal year.
- Sign orders on the treasury.
- Transfer all records of office to a successor.
- Perform other duties as requested by the President.

SECRETARY, whose duties shall be:

- Keep accurate minutes, including a roll of individuals in attendance, of all Board of Directors Meetings and Annual General Meetings.
- Provide an agenda and proper notice to all members and publish all minutes of meetings as set forth in the Club's Bylaws.
- Conduct necessary correspondence.
- Sign orders on the treasury.
- Transfer all records of office to a successor.
- Perform other duties as requested by the President.

TREASURER, whose duties shall be:

- Maintain an accurate record of all income and disbursements.
- Prepare and present a Treasurer's report at the AGM and for each Board meeting.
- Submit a budget to the Club at the Annual General Meeting every year.

- Secure a yearly audit of the books.
- Arrange for signature cards at a local financial institution and maintain the checking account balance.
- Provide properly authorized disbursements of budgeted funds and sign orders on the treasury.
- Transfer all records of office and funds to a successor.
- Perform other duties as requested by the President.

DIRECTOR OF COACHING

- Administer and oversee all matters of the Club regarding the recruitment and development of coaches.
- Assist in the development of the budget for the next fiscal year.
- Investigate any violations by a league member of the Bylaws of the Association or Rules and Bylaws of NCYSA, USYSA, or USSF and submit a written report to the Board of directors.
- Perform other duties as requested by the Board of Directors.

RECREATION DIRECTOR

- Administer and oversee all matters of the Club regarding recreating soccer.
- Be responsible for the Rules and other operating guidelines pertaining to recreation soccer and provide for the publication of these to all members of the Club.
- Assist in the development of the budget for the next fiscal year.
- Perform other duties as requested by the Board of Directors.

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

- Oversee all public relations activities for the Club.
- As directed by the Board of Directors, release information pertaining to the Club to any and all appropriate media.
- In coordination with the Director of Coaching and the Registrar, publicize registration, tryout, and any other information pertaining to the Club.
- Submit a plan to the Board of Directors for the marketing of the Club and its programs.
- Maintain the Club's website and social media accounts in accordance with the vision and direction of the Club and its Board of Directors.
- Assist in the development of the budget for the next fiscal year.
- Perform other duties as requested by the Board of Directors.

DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING

- Administer and oversee all matters of the Club regarding fundraising.
- Coordinate the development of events and grants for the purpose of fundraising for the Club as a whole.
- Submit an annual fundraising goal and plan to the Board of Directors.
- Maintain, update, and disseminate a Fundraising Guide annually.
- Assist in the development of the budget for the next fiscal year.
- Perform other duties as requested by the Board of Directors.

REGISTRAR

- Responsible for player registration, including fees and paperwork in accordance with the

- official rules of the Parent Organization and league policies.
- Monitor the collection of all fees, including registration and sponsorship fees, and make bank deposits as necessary.
 - Prepare all team rosters with the direction of the Director of Coaching.
 - Assist with questions regarding payments and Club policies.
 - Provide properly authorized disbursements of budgeted funds and sign orders on the treasury.
 - Perform other duties as requested by the Board of Directors.

Article 13 COMMITTEES AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

The Club may establish any committees that the Board deems necessary, or appoint any officer not specified to be elected in the Bylaws. They shall function as follows:

- All Committees and appointed officers shall report to the Board of Directors. The Committee Chairperson shall present oral or written reports at Board Meeting or Annual General Meeting as requested by the President.
- All committees and appointed officers shall have a job description that details their authority, duties, and obligations.
- Committees and Appointed Officers may be given authority to act without further consultation with the Board on specific matters. These powers and limitations shall be included in their mandate or job description.
- Recommendations made by the Committees and Appointed Officers shall be submitted to the Board of Directors for consideration. Any recommendations that require action before the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting shall be submitted to the President, who will contact the Board Members and call a special Board Meeting if necessary.

Article 14 REMOVAL AND SUSPENSION OF COACH, PLAYERS, REFEREES, PARENTS AND SPECTATORS FOR MISCONDUCT

- Any incident of poor sportsmanship on the part of anyone may be cause for suspension from any Club activities, at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- Anyone who violates rules or any Bylaws of the Club, NCYSA, USYSA, USSF, or FIFA, will be subject to disciplinary actions per NCYSA D&A process.
- The Director of Coaching will investigate any such incidents as listed above and recommend to the Board removal or suspension from Club activities and the level of sanctions imposed. The Board's decision in these cases will be final, and a written notice will be sent to the sanctioned party by certified mail.

Article 15 COACHES

- The Board of Directors must approve all Coaches and Assistant Coaches.
- Every Coach shall be a positive role model to every youth in the Club and other teams from other associations.
- Each coach's duties include making all decisions on game and practice matters, having

input on financial matters affecting his team, ensuring all players are given the opportunity to perform during a game in accordance with the minimum playing time as mandated by NCYSA and/or tournament rules.

- Coaches are encouraged to pursue coaching courses and receive official coaching licenses. Subject to the availability of funds, the Club will provide reimbursement for these courses and certifications.
- Should conflicts or discipline problems arise, the Director of Coaching will work with the coach to formulate solutions. If necessary, the Board of Directors may convene a parents' meeting to ascertain and inform them on the scope of any problem areas, and with the coach and Director of Coaching, formulate possible solutions.
- Review and Dismissal of Coaches
 - A majority of the players/parents of a team may request the Board of Directors review a coach and their dismissal.
 - When there is reasonable cause to question if a coach should be corrected or dismissed, the Director of Coaching will speak with the coach about the adverse information and resolve the issue if possible.
 - If the issue cannot be resolved, the Board of Directors shall perform additional information gathering, as determined by the circumstances. The Board of Directors will consider the information available and make recommendations. Witnesses may be called by, or presented to, the Board of Directors for consideration.
 - All parties will be notified of the decision by the Board of Directors.
- If a player is unruly or a problem for a coach and he/she will not respond to the coach's request to behave, the coach can keep the player from practicing or playing in a game. Coaches taking such actions must inform the Board of Directors and the player's parents before taking the action, or when not possible, then within 24 hours of taking this action.

Article 16 TEAM

- All teams shall be part of the Club and shall abide by the Clubs Bylaws and the Codes of Conduct of the Club.
- If all the current recreation teams are full any late sign-up players shall be placed on a waiting list and if an opening comes open on a team the player will be placed on a first come basis or if there are lots of these players new teams can be formed. Waitlisted players have the option, at the Coach's discretion, to register as Associate players with their birth year team.

Article 17 PLAYING AND PRACTICE RULES

- All Club games shall be played at FIFA or modified FIFA rules.
- All Field and goals shall be the proper size and fields shall be properly marked, per NCYSA recreation Field Chart.
- After the season starts all scheduled games will be played by member teams and shall be under the jurisdiction of the Club. The Director of Coaching must approve any

tournaments, festivals, and postseason cups.

Article 18 PLAYERS

- Players must be able to verify their age and the Club shall have on record proof of age (copy of birth certificate or equal).
- Only the club's Registrar may add players to a team's roster and the roster must be submitted to and approved by NCYSA State Office before the player can play.
- Youth Academy (as defined by NCYSA) players cannot play on a recreation team.
- Challenge players can play on a designed recreation team.
- Classic players cannot play on any recreation team.
- Players must have USYSA player passes with their pictures, if their team is participating in any Cup or Tournament, per NCYSA rules.

Article 19 RECREATION TEAMS

- Coaches, team managers, players and parents do not select the players or determine whether the players play or not, or on what team they play.
- Every youth that signs-up must be placed on a team unless the teams are full or the player signed-up late, at which point the wait listed player can join as an Associate player, at the Coach and Director of Coaching's discretion.
- All players must be accepted regardless of playing ability.
- Teams are established based on geographic area, NCYSA's age chart, and rules for Recreation, subject to consideration by the Director of Coaching.
- Everyone must be given the opportunity to play soccer. (USSF Rule)

Article 20 BUDGET

- Income – the Club receives income primarily from registration fees. The Club may receive income from the sale of excess equipment, OBX Storm merchandise, special projects, sponsorships, donations, and other methods as approved by the Board of Directors.
 No refund will be provided after registering a player. Requests for exceptions will be reviewed by the Board of Directors. If any refund is approved, an administrative fee of no less than \$25 will be deducted from the registration fee.
- Expenses – expenses relating to projected equipment needs should be presented to the Board of Directors prior to the start of the season. All expenditures incurred, paid, or reimbursed in the name of OBX Storm requires approval in advance by one board member and the Treasurer. All checks written from the Club require the signature of two authorized OBX Storm board members.

Article 20 AMENDMENTS

- No Article or provision of these Bylaws may be deleted or amended without approval of two-thirds (2/3) of those members present at the AGM.

- Amendments may be proposed by any Director or general member of the Club.
- Proposed amendments must be made in writing and presented to the Club Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the AGM at which they are to be acted upon.