



## **MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the Barcelona California SOCCER CLUB! This agreement explains in some detail our Club's philosophy and expectations to and from each member of the Club. Prior to your commitment to become a member of BARCA, please take the time to read the following pages carefully. We trust that your membership will prove to be an enjoyable and stimulating experience!

### **CLUB PHILOSOPHY**

We are a not-for-profit entity dedicated to the quality development of both the player and person. We strive to educate and train youth in teamwork and individual excellence. We aim to develop players and equip them with the skills necessary to advance in competitive soccer. We take considerable pride in providing an environment that is fun, safe and friendly, and that nurtures player confidence, positive self-esteem and good sportsmanship. Our aim is to provide a fertile environment for learning and improving the skills of players who have demonstrated the desire and potential to succeed in a more competitive setting.

We choose not to compromise development for the sake of immediate results. Success will be measured not purely based on wins and losses, but based on improved fundamentals, skills, tactical knowledge of the game, teamwork and the ability to play in more than one position. We believe that a focus on development without compromise, will lead to results that can be sustained over the long term.

A key to a successful experience is clear and consistent communication between the teams, coaches, players, parents and volunteers including the board of directors (collectively "Members"). This has never been more important than during this period of COVID-19 pandemic, which will require strict adherence to numerous required safety protocols.

In this regard, we request all Members be well informed about keys to good sportsmanship and safety applicable to competitive soccer. We reference COVID-19 Protocol, Concussion Protocol, the Absolute Code of Conduct and the Anti-Bullying Policy, all these documents can be downloaded from the Club website, they appear under the Documents tab. Please read these documents carefully.

### **THE CLUB AND THE TEAM**

Members of BARCELONA CALIFORNIA agree to put the Club ahead of the team. Club decisions will be made by a majority vote of the Executive Board of Directors ("Board"). Decisions of the Board will be final and not subject to appeal.

The Board will vote on matters that are important to the Club and respective teams, with emphasis being placed on satisfying the needs of the club ahead of the team. A simple majority will serve to ratify resolutions that come before the Board.

### **THE TEAM AND THE PLAYER**

Members of BARCELONA CALIFORNIA agree to put their team ahead of the individual player. If conflicts arise between the team and a player or parent, the team coach under the direction of the Director of Coaching will be responsible for resolving the conflict for the good of the team. These decisions will be made after gathering all relevant information and consultation with those involved. The coach's decision will be objective and will be based on their best evaluations of the facts. Once a decision has been made, it is final. Players and parents must agree to abide by the decision.

### **THE PLAYER COMMITMENT**

You are not under any pressure to join the Club. Instead, we hope that you and your parents will consider all your options and choose what will be best for you, taking into consideration your goals and aspirations as a person and as a soccer player. Once you commit to join BARCELONA CALIFORNIA, you agree to abide by the policies of the Club and your team. Your commitment is for the entire soccer season. The soccer season begins in April 1, 2024 and continues through March 31, 2025 unless extended due to commitments to State, Regional or National Cup competition. At the end of the soccer season your commitment to the Club is over, and you are free to leave the Club if you feel it is in your best interest. If your team qualifies for regional or national competition, we expect you to fulfill your commitment to the team through the end of that competition regardless of your status with the Club for the following season.

We expect our players and parents to be ethical and honest and to honor their commitments, both verbal and written. Therefore, you should make your decisions thoughtfully and carefully. Once your commitment is made, the Club expects your full participation and support for the entire soccer season. If you have committed to the Club, the Club will also be ethical and honest, honoring its commitment to you. No player will be cut from a team during a soccer season unless it is for disciplinary reasons or failure to fulfill the financial obligations. The team Coach will make decisions regarding temporary suspension from the Club after careful consulting with the parents. Decisions by the Director of Coaching are final.

The coaches will make decisions on player selections, game lineup, player positions, amount of playing time, tournament participation, etc. Players must be positive in fulfilling the role they are asked to perform for the team at any moment, even if that role has them not being in the starting lineup or playing a different position.

From the designated arrival time at all practices and games, players are expected to concentrate on soccer. Players must arrive on time with required equipment (shoes, proper practice or game uniform, soccer ball, shin guards, etc.) and be ready to practice or play. Practicing and playing requires undivided attention.

### **TRYOUTS / PLAYER EVALUATION AND SELECTION**

All players will be evaluated through annual tryouts, training, scrimmages, and games. Only the Director of Coaching and the team coach will confer in matters of player evaluation and selection. The Board of Directors and Team managers will be given a chance to review and comment on the team roster before it is final.

Club tryouts will be held annually and will be open to all players who meet age requirements for the teams in question. Each prospect will be given a fair opportunity to make the team. The Club reserves the right to

call off annual tryouts if the Director of Coaching deems tryouts unnecessary, or to call for tryouts at any time during the season within the rules and guidelines of the CYSA-South and Coast Soccer League.

Your understanding here is important, for just as players and parents have the freedom to select a soccer club without unfair pressure and with a full understanding of what is expected, the Director of Coaching needs the same freedom to work objectively. We will not always agree on issues as sensitive as player evaluation and selection. We hope you will respect our attempt to be objective in these matters.

### **TEAM ROSTERS**

If an age bracket results in enough players to have more than one team, the club will establish an “A” Team a “B” team and a “C” team. The “B” team will designated the Red team and the “C” the Blue team. The club will also enter these teams to compete in different brackets within Coast Soccer League.

There are new rules applicable to age brackets starting this year in competitive soccer.

- Age 5 to Age 7 play 4 a side,
- Age 8 to Age 9 play 7 a side
- Age 10 play 9 a side
- Age 11 and older play 11 a side

Furthermore, competitive rosters allow up to 14 registered players for Age 9 and below and 18 players from Age 10 to Age 14 and 22 players on the roster from Age 15 and above.

### **COMPETITION**

BARCELONA CALIFORNIA will compete in the Coast Soccer League (“CSL”) a competitive league and will play in selected tournaments throughout the year as determined by the Club and the respective teams. Practice sessions will be held at least twice weekly, at designated times and fields,

#### **League Play**

New teams formed at BARCELONA CALIFORNIA CLUB will be registered to play in CSL and usually start by competing in the Bronze division. Future advancement to higher divisions in subsequent seasons will depend on several factors including the league and league cup success of the team.

The CSL regular season runs from the first week in September to the first week in December. Teams play each opponent twice (12-14 games) and standings are kept on an official website — See [www.coastsoccer.com](http://www.coastsoccer.com) for information on CSL.

#### **League and Cup Tournaments**

By virtue of playing in CSL, each team is also eligible to play in the CSL League Cup Tournament. The Club encourages and will support teams that choose to compete in State and National Cup tournaments. Additionally, the Club will recommend selected tournaments for teams to compete in throughout the year.

### **THE FINANCIAL COMMITMENT**

There is a larger financial commitment associated with competitive soccer as compared to recreational soccer. This financial commitment covers league registration costs, uniform costs, field charges for practices and games, referee fees, permits and insurance, professional trainer fees and other club and team expenses. The Club and its members will strive to keep expenses to a minimum and will further strive to reduce player costs through sponsorships and other fundraising activities.

The basic fee will cover the cost of league play plus early bird registration fees for League and State Cup. The current year member fee for each player is outlined in the accompanying financial agreement and Promissory Note between the Club and Parents of the Player. Uniform costs are in addition to the basic fee.

### **TEAM FUND**

The Club recommends each team establish a team fund to cover incidental costs not covered by the dues. Costs not covered by the dues include referee fees, tournament fees and costs including accommodation, meals and travel expenses for the coach.

### **UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT POLICY:**

In order to promote Club and team unity, it is essential that all players be committed to wearing the designated uniform of the Club in its entirety. The uniform package is in addition to the cost of registration. This package will include the following per player:

- a. Two basic uniforms per player (home and away)
- b. An equipment bag or backpack
- c. A training shirt, shorts and socks
- d. A training suit (optional)

### **THE PARENTS**

Parental support and involvement in the Club are essential. If your child is selected and chooses to commit to BARCELONA CALIFORNIA, your commitment is also necessary. If players are to make a quality commitment to the Club and their team, parents must see to it that players attend all possible Club and team functions (practices, meetings, games, etc). There will be time conflicts that cannot be avoided, and other more important events occur. The Club requires your communication, planning and understanding so we can minimize conflicts. It is the Club's responsibility to present a periodic schedule to allow time for your planning. When parents or players have unavoidable conflicts, the Club expects timely communications to see if the Club or team can make any necessary adjustments. The Director of Coaching or Team Coach will make final decisions on scheduling and adjustments after careful consideration of your needs and those of the Club or team.

**SIDELINE COACHING:** We ask that there be no coaching by parents. No matter how good your intentions are, we insist there be no shouting instructions to your son/daughter or yelling (complaining) to officials during games. Your vocal support and positive encouragement are welcome after a good play. It is important that players are not distracted at practices or during games, and that players are given only one set of instructions by one voice during this time. Parents and players are required to sign a Code of Conduct agreement prior to the start of league play.

Parents, feel free to communicate and ask questions about your child. Please take the initiative to teach your child to speak up and communicate for themselves whenever possible.

### **THE COACHES**

Each team will be assigned one designated professional head coach and/or trainer. The coaches for BARCELONA CALIFORNIA are instructed to conduct themselves first as teachers and second as soccer coaches. Nothing positive will come of the Club's efforts if we produce world-class players who do not

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know how to conduct themselves as successful human beings. In this regard, you can expect BARCA coaches to conduct themselves as positive role models and display appropriate behavior. Our coaches recognize they are dealing in an important way with young people and cannot overlook the impact they have on player's lives.

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of the team on and off the field when the team is together and part of a Club event. We insist our players be polite, well behaved, and respectful. Players and parents can expect honesty, communication, consistency, and reliability from the Coach.

The Club and the coaches will strive to give players the necessary tools and will develop their skills to enable them to become as good as their ability, desire, commitment, and effort permits.

The Director of Coaching and Team Coaches are responsible to create an environment where you can play quality competitive soccer. The soccer we play will be taken seriously. We recognize there are things more important in life than soccer. In terms of priority, family and schoolwork come first. However, if the coaches see you are not willing to put your soccer above other recreational activities during the season, it may affect your playtime and/or your status with the Club. As a member of BARCELONA CALIFORNIA, we expect you to commit to the sport of soccer and your team as your first recreational activity and priority during the Club season.

The Team Coach will provide instruction in soccer of at least 3 hours per week, which commitment will increase up to 6 hours per team per week during the league season. During the latter part of the season instruction hours can go up further due to tournament play.

The coach is responsible for player selection, player positioning (line-up), player participation (playing time), team direction, team strategy, and team curriculum and schedule. Understand there may be times where you may not understand or agree with their decisions, but you have entrusted your coach as a soccer expert with these matters.

It is important for players and parents to understand that soccer is a player's game. Once a player reaches a certain level of skill, maturity, and experience, they become more important to the team's success than the Coach does.

### **THE MANAGER/ADMINISTRATOR**

Each team will be required to appoint a manager. Prior approval of the Club is required for any coach who also wants to be the team manager, which request will not be unreasonably withheld. The manager will handle all administrative matters relating to the team and will be the primary contact for the team. Duties include handling all player paperwork, registration cards, managing the team fund, printing match reports, scorekeeping duties, preparing and communicating game schedules and handling travel and other arrangements.

The manager must be wholly familiar with CYSA-South rules and regulations, CSL rules and regulations, tournament rules and regulations and the Club's stated philosophy.

### **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Directors have designated roles to serve the interests of the Club. Additionally, the Board will appoint a Player representative (non-board member) to handle matters as an arbitrator on behalf of the Club that for one reason or another have not been resolved to the satisfaction of the Coach, Manager or Member. The Player representative will report all incidents to the Board of Directors.

**SPONSORSHIP / FUNDRAISING**

Sponsorship monies are a good way to help fund players in financial need and to defray team expenses including the cost of tournaments, team camps and clinics held on a periodic basis. The Club will seek Club sponsorships for the Club at large and expects each team to contribute 30% of any team sponsorship monies to the Club coffers. All members of BARCELONA CALIFORNIA are required to participate in fundraising functions that are determined by the Board of Directors.

**TEAM WEBSITE**

A team website <http://www.BARCELONACA.COM> will be maintained to provide information to its members. The website will maintain basic information about the team as well as practice schedules and game schedules, upcoming tournaments and other relevant information. The team manager or designee will oversee this website.

**Sign and Return to Team Manager**

I have read this Player/Parent Agreement and I agree to abide by the policies of BARCELONA SOCCER CLUB. At the end of this season my commitment is complete and I am free to play for another team if I so choose. Likewise, the Club's commitment to me is complete at the end of this season.

PLAYER\_\_\_\_\_

DATE\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM MANAGER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM COACH \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECTOR OF COACHING \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Team (B or G) Age** \_\_\_\_\_