North Sound Youth Lacrosse Bylaws
Adopted October 6, 2025

ARTICLE I: Name
The name of this organization shall be North Sound Youth Lacrosse, may be abbreviated as NSYL, and may be hereinafter referred to as “League” or “the League”.

ARTICLE II: Purpose
The League’s purpose is to provide an organizational structure supporting the operation, development, and growth of high school-feeding youth lacrosse programs, while honoring the game of Lacrosse through the demonstration and promotion of good sportsmanship.

ARTICLE III: Membership

1. **Eligibility.** Membership in the League is open to any amateur, community based youth lacrosse organization if it meets the following conditions.
    a. The organization must agree to promote the game of lacrosse among youth in a safe and sportsmanlike environment.
    b. The organization must be not-for-profit.
    c. The organization must have open registration. Registration must allow for participation regardless of sex, race, creed, color or religion.
    d. No player may be paid for his or her participation in the organization whether the same be money or other valuable consideration.
    e. The organization must pay on a current basis all League dues and fees.
    f. The organization must maintain an appropriate liability insurance policy.
    g. The organization must select a representative of the organization to be a member of the League Board of Directors as defined in Article IV.
    h. The organization must abide by and follow all League Bylaws and Rules and Regulations as adopted by the Board of Directors.
    i. The organization must draw its players from a defined geographical region that is consistent with the league’s boundaries and play-for rules found within the Rules and Regulations.
2. **Joining**
    a. Application for new membership must be made in writing to the Board of Directors. Applications may be submitted before or at any properly scheduled meeting of the Board, but may not be considered for the upcoming season if received after the September board meeting. Membership applications may include (if available):
        i. Registration numbers by age group for the last three years, or an action plan for how the organization intends to draw sufficient players to field teams.
        ii. An agreement or contract demonstrating the organization has a home field for hosting games.
        iii. A copy of the organization’s bylaws and other governing documents.
    b. The League may accept or reject any such application with or without cause, by majority vote of the members. New members shall be considered provisional members (not having a vote, and not being eligible to serve on the Executive Board) in their first year, after which a simple majority vote shall affirm their status as a full member organization. The members may admit new organizations as full members without a provisional year with a two-thirds majority vote.
3. **Exits**
    a. **Voluntary Withdrawal.** An organization may permanently withdraw from the League at any point, by informing the Board in writing of such withdrawal.

b. **Expulsion.** In extreme circumstances, an organization may be expelled by vote of all but two members, e.g. if there are 11 members, at least 9 must vote to expel in order for the motion to be carried.
c. **Fees and Dues.** If an organization withdraws or is expelled on or after February 1st, they remain responsible for any dues and/or fees associated with their membership in the League as if they were members for the entire season.

ARTICLE IV: Governance

1. **Executive Committee**
    a. The League shall have the following Officers, elected by the Board of Directors, who are responsible for conducting the day-to-day operations of the League in accordance with directives given by the Board of Directors, as enumerated below:
        i. The **President** shall serve a two-year term, be elected in odd-numbered years, and have the following responsibilities:
            1. Chair all meetings of the Board.
            2. Nominate all officers and committee members not required to be elected, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the Board.
            3. Submit an annual report to the Board of Directors at the annual meeting.
            4. Hold Board members and other volunteers accountable for the work they commit to.
            5. Represent the League to other leagues or broader associations.
            6. Schedule and announce all meetings of the League in collaboration with the Secretary/Treasurer.
            7. Share responsibility with the Treasurer to maintain visibility into the financial health and transactions of the league.
        ii. The **Vice President** shall serve a two-year term, be elected in even-numbered years, and have the following responsibilities:
            1. Serve as the acting President in any meeting where the President is not present.
            2. Host the pre-season coaches' meeting.
            3. Serve as the primary contact point for coaches at the league level.
            4. Coordinate league all-star selection and recognitions.
        iii. The **Secretary** shall serve a one-year term and have the following responsibilities:
            1. Schedule and announce all meetings of the League in collaboration with the President.
            2. Record and distribute minutes from League meetings.
            3. Serve as Acting President if both the President and Vice President are not present.
        iv. The **Treasurer** shall serve a one-year term and have the following responsibilities:
            1. Ensure all applicable state and federal filings are completed correctly and on time.
            2. Maintain the League's financial records.
            3. Oversee the activities of the bookkeeper or accountant if one is retained by the League.
            4. Provide a comprehensive financial report to the Board on a quarterly basis, and whenever requested by the Board.
            5. Present an annual budget to the Board for discussion and approval.
            6. Ensure that clubs are promptly and accurately invoiced for all dues, fees, and/or fines they are responsible for.

v. The **Member-at-large** shall serve at one-year term and have the following responsibilities:
    1. Represent the views of the full membership in the Executive Committee.

b. A member organization may have no more than one affiliated person occupy an Executive Committee position.

c. The Executive Committee shall:
    i. Execute the policies set by the Board of Directors
    ii. Execute the day-to-day operation of the League.
    iii. Enact any policy, procedure, or practice that does not conflict with these bylaws,
    iv. Adjudicate violations of the Rules and Regulations and determine penalties for any such violations.
    v. Refer to the Board of Directors any matter that, in their judgment, is best addressed by the Board.
    vi. Report to the Board of Directors all decisions made and actions taken, at intervals requested by the Board, but no less than monthly..

2. **Board of Directors.** The league shall be governed by a board of directors ("the Board") which has supreme authority over the affairs, property, and operation of the League, including (but not limited to) amending the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and other League policies, creating and appointing members to committees, and hiring contractors to facilitate the effective operation of the League.
    a. **Official Representatives.** Each member organization shall name two Official Representatives, shall name one of them as their Primary Representative (the other being their Second Representative), and shall notify the League in writing whenever their Official Representatives change.
    b. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to review and, if necessary, overrule any decision made by the Executive Committee, by a majority vote of the full membership.
        i. If a motion to overturn a decision by the Executive Committee is not carried twice, the decision shall be confirmed and not subject to further motions to overturn.

ARTICLE V: Meetings

1. **Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting shall occur in September, and shall include at least a) election of the Executive Committee, b) the President's annual report, and c) a comprehensive financial review presented by the outgoing Secretary/Treasurer. The date, time, and location of the annual meeting shall be communicated to member organizations and posted on the league website no less than 14 days prior to the meeting.
2. **Regular Meetings.** The Board shall meet at least quarterly, and may meet more frequently as determined by the Board or Executive Committee. The date, time, and location of regular meetings shall be communicated to member organizations and posted on the league website no less than 7 days prior to each meeting.
3. **Special Meetings.** Special meetings shall be called by the President when they deem it in the best interests of the League, or when requested by at least 3 members of the Executive Committee, or when requested by at least one-third of the full membership. Except in extenuating circumstances, special meetings shall be convened no less than 7 days after notification of the Special Meeting has been communicated to the Board.
4. **Quorum.** In order to conduct business, a quorum of two-thirds of the vote-eligible membership must be in attendance in a properly convened meeting.
5. **Attendance.**
    a. All meetings of the Board are open to public observation.

b. At least one of the Official Representatives from each member organization shall be present at each meeting of the Board.
    i. Failure to do so may result in consequences including, but not limited to fines, loss of voting privileges, and expulsion, according to the Rules & Regulations.

6. **Procedures.**
    a. Unless otherwise indicated herein, the most recently published version of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of meetings, including the need to be recognized by the chair in order to speak, which the chair should not unreasonably deny.
    b. Unless otherwise specified, all motions shall be decided by simple majority (50% + 1) of votes cast. Abstentions do not count as cast votes.
    c. Motions to approve minutes or adjourn may, at the discretion of the chair, be conducted as a request to proceed without objection. Any member objecting shall state the nature of the objection, after which consideration of the motion shall proceed, with approval requiring a vote.
    d. **Voting.**
        i. Voting may be performed by voice vote, roll call, or using digital tools, at the discretion of the chair. However, upon the chair's announcement of the result of any vote, any member may call for the vote to be conducted by roll call, at which point, a roll call vote shall be required in order to carry the motion.
        ii. Each member organization shall have one vote, cast by their Primary Representative, if present. If an organization's Primary Representative is not present, their Second Representative may cast the organization's vote.
    e. **Executive Session.** The Board, the Executive Committee, or any other committee shall convene in executive session as needed to discuss sensitive matters including but not limited to personnel issues, legal matters, contract negotiations, sensitive financial matters, or disciplinary hearings.
        i. Prior to convening in an executive session, the chair shall publicly announce the purpose of the session, and such purpose shall be noted in the minutes.
        ii. Attendance in executive sessions shall be limited to voting members of the Board or Committee, and individuals specifically invited by the chair or Board/Committee for the purpose of providing relevant information or assistance.
        iii. Discussions within executive sessions shall be kept confidential by all attendees.
        iv. Any vote taken in an executive session shall be reported in the next open meeting and therein recorded in the minutes.

ARTICLE VI: Elections, Vacancies, and Removal of Officers

1. **Nominations**.
    a. Nominations shall be opened not less than four weeks before any election.
    b. Notice of the election and nomination period shall be posted publicly on the league website and communicated to the Board.
    c. The nomination period shall remain open until voting commences.
    d. Any person may be nominated for any office by any member of the Board, with the endorsement of at least one member organization's governing body
    e. Nominations shall be made either in writing to the board during the open period or by voice at the meeting where the election will take place, and shall not require a second.
    f. Nominees must confirm their acceptance of the nomination prior to the election commencing, either in writing to the board, or by voice at the meeting where the election will take place, in order to appear on the ballot.

g. The board may exempt an election from the nomination timeline requirements in subsections a and b of this section by a two-thirds majority vote.

2. **Elections.**
    a. A general election shall be conducted at the annual meeting, where Officers shall be elected by a majority vote.
    b. To fill a vacancy outside of a general election, an emergency election shall be conducted at the first Board meeting after the nomination period requirements have been satisfied, and the officer(s) shall be elected by a majority vote. An officer elected in such a manner shall serve the remainder of the original term.
    c. Elections shall be by secret ballot unless the Board unanimously authorizes a voice vote.
    d. If in any election, no candidate receives a majority of votes:
        i. The candidate receiving the least number of votes shall be eliminated
            1. If more than one candidate has the lowest number of votes, a round of voting shall be conducted among only the lowest vote-getters, after which the lowest vote getter shall be eliminated.
        ii. Another round of voting shall be conducted with the remaining candidates.
        iii. I. and ii. shall be repeated until one candidate receives a majority of votes.
3. **Removal.**
    a. An Officer may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of the full membership.

ARTICLE VII: Fiscal Responsibility

No Officer, Director, or Member may incur any expense or debt on behalf of the League without the prior approval of the Board.

ARTICLE VIII: Remuneration

No member of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee shall receive any compensation for their service in such a capacity. However, this does not prohibit them from being reimbursed for expenses, authorized by the board in advance, that they incur in the performance of their duties. If a member of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee is hired as an employee or contractor, they shall not be permitted to vote in any matter relating to their retention or compensation.

ARTICLE IX: Disclaimer of Liability

The Officers and Board of Directors shall not be personally liable for the debts, liabilities, or other obligations of the League.

ARTICLE X: Financial Considerations

1. For accounting purposes, the League's fiscal year shall run from July 1st to June 30th.
2. Each member organization shall be required to pay dues according to a fee schedule adopted by the Board by no later than March 1st.
3. Each member organization shall be required to pay fees, including but not limited to those for the hiring of officials and registering for tournaments and jamborees, according to a fee schedule adopted by the Board, within 30 days of being invoiced.

ARTICLE XI: Conflict of Interest

1. All Board members and Executive Committee members shall be mindful of actual and perceived conflicts of interest.

2. All Board members and Executive Committee shall place the interests of the League, and the respective member organizations above any competing Lacrosse interests they may have. They shall not use their position within the League to advance their personal or professional Lacrosse interests.
3. Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to:
    a. Having any affiliation with an organization that competes with the League.
    b. Having any affiliation with an organization that sells goods or services to the League.

ARTICLE XII: Amendments

Amendments to these Bylaws shall be made by the Board of Directors and require a two-thirds majority vote of the full membership to be adopted.