

Proposed Updates to the NCYSA Bylaws

A simpler, member-focused framework built around service, choice, and autonomy

Here's the big picture: these proposed changes would refocus NCYSA on serving its members, give organizations more freedom to choose the affiliations and programs that work for them, and clearly define where NCYSA's role ends and each member organization's independence begins.

1. Service: Put Members First

What changes? NCYSA's main job would be serving members—not broadly regulating youth soccer.

What services would NCYSA focus on? Registration and administration, risk management, access to insurance, coaching and player development, leagues and tournaments, referee support, technology, data management, and organizational education.

How would NCYSA's authority work? Disciplinary authority would be limited to what is needed to run NCYSA services and programs. Registration would be treated as an administrative service—not as broad authority over players or clubs.

What could NCYSA require? Each service or program could have reasonable eligibility, safety, and participation requirements. Good Standing would mainly depend on financial, administrative, membership, safety, and service obligations.

How would services be supported? NCYSA could set the dues, fees, and assessments needed to fund them, while the Board would retain flexibility to develop new programs as member needs change.

Bottom line: NCYSA's first responsibility would be delivering useful services and real value to its members.

2. Choice: Give Members More Options

Would a national affiliation still be required? No. NCYSA would no longer be required to affiliate with the US Youth Soccer Association (USYSA), and no other national affiliation would automatically take its place.

What choices would members have? Members could choose their own outside affiliations, leagues, competitions, and programs. Using one NCYSA service would not mean having to use every NCYSA service.

What would be removed from the bylaws? USYSA-specific rules, appeals, geographic-authority provisions, Chair representation requirements, and references to USYSA championship and league programs.

Could NCYSA still work with other organizations? Yes. NCYSA could partner with national, regional, state, or independent organizations when doing so benefits members—without requiring members to join those organizations.

Why does this matter? It would keep the bylaws flexible as the national youth soccer landscape continues to change.

Bottom line: NCYSA would provide services and access; members would choose the affiliations and programs that best fit their needs.

3. Autonomy: Make Everyone's Role Clear

What would the NCYSA Board govern? NCYSA and the services it offers—not all youth soccer in North Carolina. The bylaws would move away from claims of exclusive statewide authority.

What would remain under each club's control? Member clubs would be recognized as independent organizations responsible for their own governance, finances, operations, programs, competition, affiliations, and strategy.

When could membership be suspended or ended? Only for clear reasons, such as nonpayment, a material bylaw or policy violation, a safety failure, a contract breach, or a violation of rules for an NCYSA program the member voluntarily chose to join.

What protections would members have? Notice, a hearing, and appropriate due-process protections. Disputes would stay focused on NCYSA membership, services, contracts, and programs.

What boundaries would be clear? North Carolina would remain NCYSA's primary service area, while the Board could approve services outside the state. Members would keep their voting, election, meeting, and bylaw-amendment rights.

Bottom line: NCYSA would manage its organization and services, while member organizations would continue to manage themselves.
