

GCSL MEMBERSHIP STANDARDS FOR NEW APPLICANTS

The following GCSL standards and principles are to be applied when considering requests for admission to the GCSL program by new potential Clubs / groups. The following outlines the requirements that have been demonstrated by current Clubs in GCSL and shown to be needed to successfully operate their program for its members in GCSL.

1. Clubs / groups seeking membership in GCSL must agree to assume full financial responsibility for their Club / group and for all teams entered by the Club / group into the Greater Cincinnati Soccer League, Inc. and its divisions (TPL, CPL, DL).
2. Each potential Club / group must have the necessary management ability to ensure that the Club / group and its coaches can and will support all GCSL requirements as outlined in "Shared Responsibility".
3. As outlined in 1 above, potential Clubs / groups must have the organizational strength necessary to support the GCSL "Shared Responsibility". Generally speaking, Clubs / groups that have been able to enter at least 6 teams in both the Fall and Spring seasons have been found to be able to meet its obligations as outlined in "Shared Responsibility" standard. However, the stated number of teams can be adjusted up or down depending upon the Club /group seeking membership.
4. All potential Clubs / groups and their teams must agree to work with all other Clubs / teams to support the "THE SPIRIT OF GCSL".

5. As part of "Shared Responsibility", potential member Clubs / groups shall furnish appropriate support for league competition(s).
 - a) Adequate playing fields for half of the Member club's teams to be able to have home games each week. (Said fields to be of adequate and recommended sizes, equipped with markings, nets and flags, and in acceptable condition for play).
 - b) Each potential Club /group must have a USSF certified Referee Assignor for their home games.
 - c) Each potential Club / group must be able to provide sufficient number of trained referees and linesmen to cover their team's games on their home fields.
 - d) Potential Clubs / groups must be able to encourage their coaches and members to participate in appropriate US Youth Soccer and Ohio South training, such as coaching and referee clinics.
 - e) Potential Clubs / groups must be able to provide individuals to serve as members of the Operations Committee and other functions / committees as deemed necessary by the Governing Body.
 - f) Clubs / groups are to ensure for each season that approximately 50% of all their teams' total games in a season are played on their home fields.
6. If potential new Clubs / groups utilize fields provided by a third party with other GCSL member Clubs who have provided financial support to the third party (such as goals and nets), the potential Club / group will have to share in these costs - in the future and to reimburse reasonably for past costs. Any such reimbursement for past expenses can only be from a short previous and reasonable time period.
7. Potential members are to follow the recruiting rules outlined in the GCSL Constitution and other policies, rules and regulations as well as the established tryout dates and as outlined in the "Spirit of GCSL".

8. Potential member Clubs / groups, teams and their members are to support the rights of all other member Clubs, teams and members. This support of other Clubs and teams must be by all teams in that Club / group even if some teams within that Club / group do not participate directly in GCSL play.
9. The strength of the CUSL is based on the strength of all its' Clubs through "Shared Responsibility". Any action that reduces the strength of anyone more of its member Clubs would be detrimental to GCSL and its member Clubs. For this reason, any group who requests consideration for membership cannot have acted in any manner that would be considered detrimental to GCSL and/or its member clubs.
10. All GCSL Members are to have a Boards Directors who duly elected by individual(s) representing their teams. This is a requirement of the US Amateur Sports act, US Soccer, US Youth Soccer and Ohio South. Team representative cannot be employees or independent contractors. Non-paid coaches or parents representing the teams are common representatives.

Greater Cincinnati Soccer League, Inc will only consider Clubs / groups for Membership if they are in basic compliance with the above Membership Standards to fully support these them and GCSL and its standards.

GCSL RECOMENDATIONS

Based on reviews and successful operation of current GCSL Club the following are recommendation the potential members of GCSL can review as a basis of their own success. Potential members may want to review / follow these conditions based on the successful results of GCSL Member Clubs.

1. All GCSL member Clubs have a written and approved constitution. Most also have Bylaws. Most (if not all) GCSL member

Club are incorporated under the Laws of the State of Ohio (non-profit or LLC).

3. All GCSL Members have a Boards Directors who duly elected by individual(s) representing their teams. Team representative are not normally employees or independent contractors.
4. Each GCSL Club's Directors have equal voting rights.
5. GCSL Board of Directors serve for a specific term of Office and may be re-elected.
7. GCSL Clubs have a President. This individual is elected by Board of Directors. The President has a fixed term of Office and may be re-elected. Normally the President is not a paid employee. Presidents are normally an elected member of the Board of Directors.
8. Normally paid employees GCSL Clubs (like an Executive Director) can serve on the Board of Directors in a non-voting position. They are to be appointed by the Clubs Board of Directors and serve for a fixed term. They may be re-appointed.