

Far West Regional League Committee Charter

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US Youth Soccer Region IV Regional Council

Far West Regional League Committee Charter

In order to provide an improved administrative structure for the Far West Regional League, (FWRL), to assist the FWRL in its mission of ensuring the best possible competitive play between the highest level teams in Region IV, to increase the opportunities for league expansion and to aid in the development of US Youth Soccer players, the Region IV Regional Council hereby creates and charters, as a standing committee of Region IV, the Far West Regional League Committee, and grants to it those powers and responsibilities herein described.

1. GENERAL ORGANIZATION

1.1. Authority of the Region IV Regional Council

The Region IV Regional Council, (Council), makes the following findings as to its authority to create the FWRL Committee:

1.1.1 Creation of Regional Council

The Council was created under the Bylaws of the United States Youth Soccer Association, Inc. at bylaw 323, § 1(a).

1.1.2 State Presidents as Council Members

By practice and custom, the representative of each state on the Region IV Regional Council is the President of each State Association in Region IV or his/her designee.

1.1.3 Authority of Council to Administer Leagues

The Council was granted authority by the US Youth Soccer Bylaws to “administer any league established by the Regional Council.” Bylaw 323, §3(5).

1.1.4 Authority of Council to Administer Programs

The Council was also granted authority to “administer other programs instituted by US Youth Soccer or the Regional Council.” Bylaw 323, §4.

1.1.5 Creation of Committees by the Regional Council

The Council may create those committees and commissions necessary to assist it in meeting its duties to administer its various leagues and programs.

1.1.6 Creation of FWRL Committee

The creation of the Far West Regional League Committee, (the Committee), and a delegation to it of some of the Council’s duties and authority is a reasonable and necessary means for the Council to carry out its administrative responsibilities.

1.2. Committee Name

The name of the governing authority of the Far West Regional League will be the *Far West Regional League Committee* and may also be referred to as the “FWRL Committee,” or the “Committee.”

1.3. Members of the FWRL Committee

1.3.1 Committee Members as Trustees

Members of the FWRL Committee will be referred to as “FWRL Trustees” or “Trustees.”

1.3.2 FWRL Committee

The FWRL Committee shall consist of seven (7) Trustees.

1.3.3 Regional Director as Chairperson

The Region IV Regional Director will serve as a Committee Trustee and as the Committee’s Chairperson. The Regional Director may appoint one of the Deputy Regional Directors to temporarily serve as Committee Chairperson in the absence of the Regional Director. During the time of that temporary service, the Deputy Regional Director may exercise all the rights and responsibilities herein assigned by this Charter to the Committee Chairperson or the Regional Director.

1.3.4 League Commissioner

The position of FWRL League Commissioner shall be appointed by the Region IV Director subject to approval by the Regional Council for a term not to exceed two (2) years. The FWRL League Commissioner may be appointed to successive terms. The FWRL Commissioner shall be an **at-will** employee of US Youth Soccer.

1.3.5 At-large Trustees and FWRL Committee Chair

The FWRL Committee shall be chaired by the Region IV Director. The Region IV Director, subject to approval by the Regional Council, shall appoint as volunteers to the Committee six (6) at-large Trustees for terms of two years who shall serve during the terms at the pleasure of the Region IV Director. At-large Trustees may be appointed to successive terms. The Region IV Director shall specify only when making the initial appointments to the FWRL Committee which three of the at-large Trustees shall serve an initial term of one year and which three shall serve an initial term of two years.

1.3.6 At-large Trustee Qualifications

All trustees have a fiduciary duty to serve the interest of Region IV as a whole. At-large Trustees shall have the following qualifications:

- (a) At least five (5) years experience:
 - a. administering or managing a youth soccer program within a Region IV state association; or
 - b. serving on a youth soccer board of a Region IV state association or an affiliate of a Region IV state association; or
 - c. as a state association Director of Coaching.
- (b) No person is eligible to serve as an at-large Trustee if:
 - a. the person is a coach or team official of any team participating in the FWRL; or
 - b. the person is paid compensation for soccer-related services by any entity, person, or group other than a state association;the person is president or a director of a state association.

1.3.7 Directors of Coaching

Three (3) At-large Trustees will be State Directors of Coaching.

1.3.8 Other At-large Trustees

Three (3) at-large Trustees shall be appointed who are not currently or formerly were State Association Directors of Coaching.

2. POWERS & DUTIES OF THE FWRL COMMITTEE

2.1 General Powers and Duties

In addition to the duties, powers, and responsibilities contained in this charter, the FWRL Committee will, subject to review and approval of the Regional Council, have the authority to plan, develop, manage, conduct, and administer the Far West Regional League on behalf of the Region IV state associations.

2.2 League Rules and Procedures

The FWRL Committee shall promulgate, subject to review and approval by the Regional Council, league rules, policies, and procedures. All league rules, policies, and procedures must be in writing and provided to all coaches and Region IV state associations, and must be published on the Region IV web site.

2.3. League Structure

The FWRL will consist of at least two (2) divisions, with the most competitive FWRL teams in a Premier Division and other teams in one or more divisions less competitive than the Premier Division. Consistent with this requirement, the Committee will have authority to structure the FWRL, to divide it into various divisions, to assign teams to those divisions and to provide for the promotion and relegation of teams, to designate the FWRL seasons and team schedules, and to establish and enforce team participation eligibility rules.

2.4. Creation of Volunteer Administrative Positions

The Committee is authorized to create and define various volunteer administrative positions, including age group coordinators, to appoint volunteers to fill those positions and to supervise the work of those volunteers.

2.5 Creation of Sub Committees

The FWRL Committee, with the approval of the Region IV Council, may create sub committees.

2.6 Establishing Paid Staff Positions

The Region IV Director, with the approval of the Region IV Council and the United States Youth Soccer Association, may create paid FWRL paid staff positions as employees of US Youth Soccer. The wages or any other form of payment and all expenses for such positions shall be paid only out of funds generated by the FWRL.

2.7 Financial Matters

The FWRL is subject to all accounting, auditing, and financial control rules and policies of US Youth Soccer and Region IV, and shall submit a budget pursuant to such policies.

2.8 Disputes, Discipline & Appeals

The rules and procedures of the FWRL shall include provisions for the imposition of discipline, determination of protests, the holding of hearings, and for appeals.

3. OPERATION OF THE COMMITTEE

3.1. Commission Chairperson

The Chairperson of the Committee will preside at Committee meetings, sign all documents on behalf of the Committee, represent the Committee, will supervise the work of the League Commissioner, if one exists. In the absence of a League Commissioner, the Chairperson will assume general executive authority over the work of the Committee and the League and will supervise the work of all league volunteers and employees. As chairperson will not have a committee vote unless there is a tie.

3.2. Committee Trustees

Committee Trustees will have those duties assigned by the FWRL Committee Chairperson or the Committee itself.

3.3. League Commissioner

3.3.1 General Responsibilities

The League Commissioner will be the chief executive officer of the FWRL.

3.3.2 Chain of Command

All league volunteers, committees, employees and others accountable to the FWRL Committee will report to the League Commissioner. The Commissioner will report to the Chairperson of the FWRL Committee. Individual Trustees are to work through the Committee and its Chairperson in the assignment of tasks to the League Commissioner, other employees, committees or volunteers.

3.3.3 League Commissioner Job Description & Compensation

The Region IV Director shall, subject to the approval of the Region IV Council, create a job description for the FWRL League Commissioner as an **at-will** employee of US Youth Soccer with a two-year term and determine the compensation for the position.

3.3.4 Hiring Procedure

The Regional Director, in cooperation with the Council, will solicit applications for the position of League Commissioner, will review those applications, will conduct interviews of suitable candidates, will make an offer of employment to the successful applicant and will negotiate the compensation package to be paid.

3.4. Committee Meetings

3.4.1 Voting by Trustees

Each Trustee will have one vote on the Committee with the exception of the committee chairperson.

3.4.2 Formal Meetings

The FWRL Committee may meet in formal session in person or by conference call on five (5) days notice. A written agenda, with copies to the state association FWRL representative must be provided to the Trustees at least three (3) days before the meeting. Written minutes of all FWRL Committee meetings shall be kept and copies timely distributed to all members of the FWRL Committee and Region IV Regional Council.

3.4.3 Informal Decisions

The Committee may work by telephone, email or in some other manner to reach a consensus on some matter of policy that must be resolved quickly. The decision by consensus will be placed on the agenda for the next formal meeting for ratification at that time. The Chairperson or his/her designee may also poll individual Trustees on an issue where time is of the essence and the decision is final, provided each Trustee was given a chance to vote on the issue.

4. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FWRL COMMITTEE AND THE COUNCIL

4.1 Ownership

The FWRL is operated by Region IV on behalf of and as a trustee of the State Associations.

4.2. Control

The FWRL Committee is under the control of the Region IV Council.
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4.3 Committee to Keep Regional Council Informed

The FWRL Committee shall provide the Region IV Regional Council, on a timely basis and no less that quarterly, information regarding all aspects of the FWRL and respond to all requests for information from the Regional Council.

4.4 Long Term Development

In establishing this Charter creating the Committee and giving it greater independence, it is the intent of the Council that the Committee focus much of its efforts on long term planning. It is vital to future growth of the league that plans and dates for future seasons are established well in advance. The Council's goal is that the FWRL earn a reputation as a well run, well organized league that provides a quality experience for its participants and which continues to grow across the region. The Council expects the Committee to focus on this goal and will make it a reality.

5. OTHER PROVISIONS

5.1. Amendment of Charter

This Charter may be amended, modified or revoked at any time by majority vote of the Region IV Regional Council.

5.2. Effective Date

This Charter will become effective the day after it is approved by majority vote of the Council.

6. TRANSITION OF LEAGUE GOVERNANCE

6.1. Initial Steps Upon Ratification of Charter

1. The Regional Director will present to the Council his/her nominees to serve as Trustees on the FWRL Committee.
2. The Council, meeting by conference call or in some other manner will meet to confirm the nominations.
3. Since the Council has already decided to hire a League Commissioner, the Regional Director will take steps to begin selection process.
4. Committee will appoint whatever technical committees it believes it will need to do its work.
5. New governing system & the new Trustees will be announced to the public.
6. Committee will review current operations and will set a date when it will assume formal control over the league and will develop timeline to achieve that goal.
7. Date to hire League Commissioner will be decided.
8. Committee will completely review league rules and policies.
9. Committee will begin its long term planning, setting dates and deadlines for future seasons.
10. Procedures will be established to transition the financial and accounting aspects of the league to the new system.

6.2 Assumption of Control by Committee

The FWRL Committee will assume formal control of the FWRL on a date to be set by the Region IV Regional Council following the approval by the Region Council of the membership of the FWRL Committee.