

Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association  
Proposed Amendment to Constitution – 2016 AGM

CURRENT

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**2. PURPOSE**

2.01...Charitable Purpose; No Discrimination.

Mass Youth Soccer is organized to develop, promote, and administer the game of soccer, among youth (boys and girls under nineteen years of age) within Massachusetts for the benefit and development of all youth as young men and women as the higher and greater purpose of youth soccer and not just as players.

Each Mass Youth Soccer member Organization and League shall offer a soccer program, without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin.

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Each Mass Youth Soccer member Organization and League shall offer a soccer program, without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or national origin.

For the purposes of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a player may register with the gender team with which the player identifies, and confirmation sufficient for guaranteeing access shall be satisfied by documentation or evidence that shows the stated gender is sincerely held, and part of a person's core identity. Documentation satisfying the herein stated standard includes, but is not limited to, government-issued documentation or documentation prepared by a health care provider, counselor, or other qualified professional not related to the player.

## RATIONALE

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Inclusiveness all about treating and accepting people from different backgrounds with equality. Within youth sports it is a process that involves providing opportunities for all children with learning, social and athletic opportunities. Its aim is to eliminate exclusion that is a consequence of negative attitudes and a lack of response to diversity in race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or national origin. Massachusetts Youth Soccer should expand its Constitution 2.01 Charitable Purpose; No Discrimination statement on inclusiveness to include sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression to demonstrate our broader sense of acceptance and understanding.

The following proposal, unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors, will be put to the membership:

Adopt a change in the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association Constitution, 2.0 Charitable Purpose; No Discrimination as submitted via the proposed version.

A "Yes" vote cast by 2/3 of the members present and voting at the AGM is needed for this proposal to pass.