



# **HAWKS FC SOCCER CONSTITUTION**

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Version 1.3 (Expanded and Aligned with LPSA Governance)

### **ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this program shall be Hawks FC Soccer, hereafter referred to as “Hawks FC.” Hawks FC Soccer operates as a program-level soccer organization dedicated to youth development and community representation under the broader La Pine Sports Academy structure.

### **ARTICLE II – AFFILIATION AND GOVERNANCE AUTHORITY**

Hawks FC Soccer operates under the authority, oversight, and governance of La Pine Sports Academy (LPSA), a nonprofit organization established to provide organized youth athletic opportunities within the La Pine community and surrounding areas.

Hawks FC Soccer shall be governed by this Constitution, all adopted Hawks FC policies and manuals, and all applicable rules, procedures, and directives of La Pine Sports Academy. Authority exercised by Hawks FC Soccer is delegated authority only, intended to allow effective program administration while maintaining alignment with Academy-wide governance.

All authority not expressly delegated to Hawks FC Soccer by LPSA shall remain with La Pine Sports Academy.

In the event of any actual or perceived conflict between Hawks FC Soccer governing documents and those of La Pine Sports Academy, the documents, bylaws, and policies of La Pine Sports Academy shall control without exception.

Hawks FC Soccer expressly recognizes the authority of the La Pine Sports Academy Judicial and Ethics Committee (JEC) to investigate, hear, adjudicate, and resolve escalated disciplinary, ethics, protest, grievance, and appeal matters in accordance with the LPSA Judicial and Ethics Committee Policies and Procedures Manual. Hawks FC Soccer shall cooperate fully with all JEC processes, investigations, interim measures, hearings, and enforcement actions. Decisions issued by LPSA and/or the JEC are final and binding upon Hawks FC Soccer and all participants.

### **ARTICLE III – PURPOSE AND MISSION**

The purpose of Hawks FC Soccer is to provide a structured, inclusive, and developmentally appropriate soccer program for youth athletes that emphasizes learning, growth, and character over short-term results.

Hawks FC Soccer serves as the primary youth feeder program for La Pine High School soccer. The program is designed to prepare players for successful participation at the middle school and high school levels through age-appropriate training, progressive skill development, and intentional character education.

Hawks FC Soccer emphasizes:

- Player safety and physical well-being
- Long-term athletic development principles
- Sportsmanship, teamwork, accountability, and respect
- Fair, balanced, and developmentally appropriate competition

- Positive representation of the Hawks program and the La Pine community

Competitive success, standings, or results shall never supersede athlete development, participant safety, or program integrity.

## **ARTICLE IV – DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this Constitution, the following definitions apply:

- **Program Leadership** refers to individuals designated, appointed, or approved by Hawks FC Soccer to oversee program operations, administration, and coordination.
- **Participant** refers to any registered player enrolled in Hawks FC Soccer.
- **Guardian** refers to a parent or legal guardian of a participant.
- **Placement Request** refers to any request for a specific team, coach, or grouping and is expressly non-binding.
- **Routine Discipline** refers to minor, team-level issues such as attendance concerns, isolated conduct issues, or coach-managed behavior expectations that do not involve safety concerns or repeated misconduct.
- **Escalated Discipline** refers to serious or repeated misconduct, safety-related issues, abuse, assault, threats, harassment, spectator behavior, or matters exceeding routine team management.
- **Best Interest of the Program** refers to decisions made to protect fairness, safety, development, consistency, and the overall integrity of Hawks FC Soccer.

## **ARTICLE IV-A – PROGRAM LEADERSHIP POSITIONS**

Hawks FC Soccer program leadership may include, but is not limited to, the following positions:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary

- Registrar
- Treasurer
- Compliance & Operations Officer
- Division Directors
- Field Director
- Apparel Director
- Concessions Director
- Events Director
- Sponsorship Director
- Equipment Director
- Member-at-Large

The specific duties, term lengths, qualifications, and selection processes for these positions are defined in the Hawks FC Board of Directors Charter and related Hawks FC policies, as approved by the La Pine Sports Academy Board. Program leadership positions exist to support operations, consistency, and accountability, not to create independent authority separate from LPSA.

## **ARTICLE V – ELIGIBILITY, REGISTRATION, AND PARTICIPATION**

Participation in Hawks FC Soccer is open to youth athletes who meet age, grade, residency, and eligibility requirements established annually by Hawks FC Soccer in coordination with La Pine Sports Academy.

All participants must complete registration through the official registration platform prior to participation. Late registration may be accepted at the discretion of program leadership and does not guarantee placement, team assignment, or roster availability.

All participants, guardians, coaches, volunteers, and spectators must comply with all Hawks FC Soccer policies, La Pine Sports Academy policies, and applicable codes of conduct as a condition of participation.

## **ARTICLE VI – TEAM FORMATION AND PLAYER PLACEMENT**

Hawks FC Soccer may conduct evaluations, skills assessments, observation events, or other structured methods to assist with team formation and player placement.

Participation in any evaluation, assessment, or observation process does not guarantee placement on a specific team, with a specific coach, or in a specific grouping.

Placement requests, including friend or coach requests, are considered requests only and are not guaranteed.

All team placement decisions are made at the sole discretion of Hawks FC Soccer program leadership in accordance with program philosophy and are final and non-appealable.

Evaluation data, observations, and placement considerations are confidential and used solely for team balancing and player development purposes.

For the Little Hawks Program (ages 3–6), Hawks FC Soccer utilizes a shared introductory model during the first week of the season, allowing players to rotate among coaches. At the conclusion of this period, coaches collaborate to form teams based on developmental needs, comfort level, social considerations, and overall program balance.

Balanced teams are the default model within each division. Hawks FC Soccer may, in future seasons, establish advanced or select-style opportunities for older age groups in alignment with La Pine Sports Academy and La Pine High School soccer goals, with any such structure clearly communicated to families in advance.

## **ARTICLE VI-A – PLAYING TIME AND DEVELOPMENT PHILOSOPHY**

Hawks FC Soccer prioritizes long-term player development over competitive outcomes.

In the Little Hawks Program and younger recreational divisions, coaches are expected to provide reasonably equitable playing time for players who attend practices, follow team rules, and demonstrate consistent effort.

In older divisions, coaches retain discretion regarding playing time based on effort, attitude, attendance, readiness, and developmental needs, while maintaining a development-first approach aligned with preparation for middle school and high school soccer.

## **ARTICLE VII – COACHES, TEAM OFFICIALS, AND VOLUNTEERS**

All head coaches, assistant coaches, team managers, and volunteers must be approved by Hawks FC Soccer prior to participation.

Hawks FC Soccer is responsible for the recruitment, approval, training, evaluation, and oversight of all coaches and team officials. Hawks FC Soccer reserves the right to suspend or remove any coach, team official, or volunteer whose conduct violates program policies, fails to meet training or curriculum requirements, violates applicable LPSA policies, or is deemed inconsistent with the best interest of the program.

### **Assistant Coach Limits**

Each team shall be limited to one head coach and no more than two assistant coaches unless an exception is approved in advance by Hawks FC Soccer program leadership. Assistant coach positions shall not be used to obtain registration discounts, preferential treatment, or other benefits.

## **ARTICLE VII-A – COACH STANDARDS, COMMUNICATION, AND CURRICULUM**

Hawks FC Soccer maintains a Coaches Manual outlining coaching standards, curriculum expectations, and communication guidelines. All coaches are required to follow the approved

Hawks FC Soccer curriculum for their assigned age group and adhere to age-appropriate training standards.

Hawks FC Soccer adopts a 24-hour rule or similar communication guideline for emotionally charged conversations with parents or guardians following games or events.

## **ARTICLE VIII – PRACTICES, GAMES, AND COMPETITION**

Practice schedules, game schedules, league participation, tournaments, and competition formats are determined by Hawks FC Soccer program leadership in coordination with La Pine Sports Academy and facility partners.

Participation in outside leagues, teams, or events that conflict with Hawks FC Soccer activities may require prior approval from program leadership.

## **ARTICLE IX – UNIFORMS AND APPEARANCE POLICY**

Hawks FC Soccer shall establish uniform standards for all programs and age groups, subject to approval by the La Pine Sports Academy Board. Uniform standards are intended to promote consistency, safety, and positive program representation.

## **ARTICLE X – FINANCES, FEES, AND EQUIPMENT**

Player registration fees, program fees, and uniform costs may be established annually to support program operations, equipment, facilities, and administrative costs.

All funds are managed in accordance with La Pine Sports Academy financial policies. Participants are responsible for issued uniforms and equipment. Refunds are governed by published Hawks FC Soccer and LPSA refund policies. No refunds shall be issued for removal due to disciplinary or behavioral violations.

## **ARTICLE XI – MEDIA, COMMUNICATIONS, AND CONSENT**

Registration in Hawks FC Soccer constitutes consent for program communications and the use of photographs or video taken at public Hawks FC Soccer or La Pine Sports Academy events for promotional or informational purposes.

All official program communication shall occur through approved platforms. Hawks FC Soccer follows La Pine Sports Academy media, communication, and social media standards.

## **ARTICLE XII – MEDICAL WAIVER AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK**

Soccer is a physical sport. Guardians acknowledge the inherent risks of participation and consent to emergency medical treatment if necessary.

## **ARTICLE XIII – DISCIPLINE AND ENFORCEMENT FRAMEWORK**

### **A. Routine Discipline at the Program Level**

Hawks FC Soccer program leadership may address routine discipline matters internally, including minor player behavior issues, attendance concerns, coach-managed team issues, and isolated conduct incidents that do not present safety concerns.

### **B. Documentation and Notification**

When disciplinary matters extend beyond routine correction, Hawks FC Soccer shall document the issue, actions taken, and communications provided to affected participants or guardians.

### **C. Escalation to La Pine Sports Academy**



All escalated discipline matters—including but not limited to repeated violations, serious misconduct, spectator behavior, threats, harassment, abuse, assault, or safety-related concerns—shall be referred to La Pine Sports Academy for handling and resolution.

#### **D. LPSA and Judicial & Ethics Committee Process**

Escalated matters may be investigated, reviewed, and adjudicated by the La Pine Sports Academy Judicial and Ethics Committee in accordance with its Policies and Procedures Manual. Hawks FC Soccer shall cooperate fully with all aspects of this process and shall enforce all resulting decisions.

Final decisions on escalated disciplinary matters rest with La Pine Sports Academy and/or the Judicial and Ethics Committee and are final and binding.

#### **ARTICLE XIV – FACILITIES USE AND RESPONSIBILITY**

Hawks FC Soccer acknowledges that La Pine Sports Academy holds primary authority for all facilities utilized by the program. Hawks FC Soccer is responsible for ensuring participant, coach, volunteer, and spectator compliance with facility rules and agreements.

#### **ARTICLE XV – AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended with approval from the La Pine Sports Academy Board.

#### **ARTICLE XVI – DISSOLUTION**

In the event Hawks FC Soccer dissolves or becomes defunct, all remaining assets shall revert to La Pine Sports Academy.

## **ARTICLE XVII – INCORPORATION OF LPSA POLICIES**

Hawks FC Soccer incorporates by reference all applicable La Pine Sports Academy governance documents and policies, including the LPSA Bylaws, Coaches Manual, Judicial and Ethics Committee Policies and Procedures Manual, and related standards. Where Hawks FC policies are silent, LPSA policies shall control.

## **CERTIFICATION**

This Constitution was adopted by Hawks FC Soccer and approved by La Pine Sports Academy.

La Pine Sports Academy

President: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Hawks FC Soccer

Program Lead / President: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_