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**Benefits of Affiliation with the U.S. Adult Soccer Association and U.S. Soccer**

Affiliation with the United States Adult Soccer Association and U.S. Soccer through your local State Association brings with it the following important services and benefits:

* Immediate, no-hassle access to insurance policies crafted exclusively for adult amateur soccer leagues, teams, coaches, managers and players. This insurance includes:
	+ A personal accident insurance policy that covers registered players participating in games against other affiliated teams. The default maximum of the accident insurance policy is $5,000. This is included with all annual player registrations. In addition, leagues can choose to purchase a higher limit of either $10,000 or $25,000 for a small additional annual premium.
	+ Liability insurance with limits from $2,000,000 to $4,000,000 depending on the incident. The liability insurance covers registered players, coaches, managers, staff members, team workers, referees, officials and scorekeepers.
	+ Included at no charge for leagues that are not-for-profit is directors and officers liability insurance and employment practices liability insurance with a limit of $5,000,000.
* No additional player registration fee for participation in the annual USASA Soccer Fest, Hank Steinbrecher Cup and the USASA National Amateur Cup.
* Player and team registration software and processes for online or paper-based player registration.
* Occasional complimentary and discounted tickets to local Major League Soccer games.
* Priority, early access to the purchase of tickets for US National team games.
* Potential access to online league scheduling software from Affinity or LeagueApps.
* State level appeals authority for disputed league decisions.
* You become part of the larger legitimate soccer community in the United States.
* Potential grants for league marketing and expansion efforts.
* Training on topics related to league management and related legal issues and requirements.
* Information about your league on the State Association website.
* State level adjudication of player assaults on referees.
* Your league games will count for referee advancement purposes, making your league more attractive to ambitious referees.
* Through your State Association you have influence over how referees are managed and trained in your area.

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| **Services Provided a State Association** | Affiliated League | UnaffiliatedLeague |
| Liability insurance for the league and which covers players, coaches, league officials, referees and field owners. | **Yes** | **\*\*** |
| Directors and officers insurance for the officers of the league. | **Yes** | **??** |
| Insurance company provides legal representation to defend liability claims against players, coaches, league officials, referees and field owners. | **Yes** | **??** |
| State level verification of insurance coverage. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Personal accident insurance for players. | **Yes** | **??** |
| State level appeal authority for players, coaches and teams. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Requirement that the league use licensed referees who are trained to USSF standards. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Requirement that referee assigners be trained and licensed by the USSF. | **Yes** | **No** |
| League may obtain USSF certified referee training courses from the State level. | **Yes** | **No** |
| The league’s referees have access to USSF continuing education provided by the State level. | **Yes** | **??** |
| State level disciplinary process for players who assault a referee. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Requirement to follow USSF due process hearing procedures for all disciplinary actions. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Requirement to comply with Safe Sport Act. | **Yes**  | **??** |
| Requirement to recognize the disciplinary actions of the State Association and other leagues. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Requirement to have a risk management program. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Requirement to have a policy prohibiting sexual and physical abuse. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Requirement to have an equal opportunity policy. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to annual USASA Region 4 league management and best practices workshops. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to an extensive USSF program of training and licensing for coaches. | **Yes** | **??** |
| Requirement that the discipline of a referee who misbehaves occur at the State level. | **Yes** | **No** |
| League gets a seat on the State Association Board of Directors. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Requirement that league follow the IFAB Laws of the Game. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to State level training on the concussion protocol. | **Yes** | **No** |
| **Services Provided a State Association** | Affiliated League | UnaffiliatedLeague |
| Access to best practices policy templates from the USASA. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Representation via the State Association on the National Councils of USASA and USSF. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to grants from the US Soccer Foundation. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to grants from your USASA Region. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to the annual US Soccer Fest without paying an additional membership fees. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to the annual USSF Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup Competition. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to the annual USASA National Amateur Cup Competition. | **Yes** | **No** |
| Access to the annual USASA Hank Steinbrecher Cup Competition. | **Yes** | **No** |

 \*\*Most unaffiliated leagues do not bother to purchase liability coverage for players, coaches and team managers. They buy coverage only for the owners of fields.

**For more information, contact Jen Sunderland at jsunderland@usasa.com**