### FUNDAMENTAL SOCCER DECLARATION

#### DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

In the dynamic world of youth soccer, where dreams take shape on the field, we envision a future that goes beyond the traditional. Creating an environment where every player's passion for the game is ignited and sustained for a lifetime.

WE believe these things are true:

More Than Just a Game, it's a Lifelong Quest for Equality: Soccer is not just a game; it's a lifetime journey where every player, from cradle to grave, is equal on the field. This principle ensures that every individual, regardless of age or skill level, has the right to enjoy and benefit from the beautiful game.

Community Engagement Events: Encourage regular community events and initiatives that bring together players, families, and soccer enthusiasts, fostering a sense of community and shared passion for the game.

Co-ed teams: Embracing mixed-gender teams to cultivate a dynamic where boys and girls learn from each other, fostering well-rounded development.

Having fun is OK: Recognizing a player's love for the game is the foundation for long-term success.

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Certified Coaches: Acquire knowledge in player development, both physical and mental, creating a playing environment where hard work becomes enjoyable!

Certified Referees: Follow the Laws of the Game, adjusting as needed for different age groups to ensure a fair and educational soccer experience for all.

Access to Playing Areas: Many communities lack safe spaces within walking distance for kids to play soccer; we must expand access.

Affordability is Key: The cost of participation has become a financial barrier; we strive to reduce this burden for individuals and families.

Everyone should be included: Administrators, Coaches, Referees, Players, Parents, Sponsors, etc., should all contribute to how things are done to benefit everyone.

Positive Environment: Enforcing Parents' Codes of Conduct has contributed to a more enjoyable environment, reducing negative behavior on the sidelines.

The old ways aren't working: 75% quit soccer between the ages of 10-14.

This isn't acceptable, and we need to do things differently.

Embracing Collaboration: Sharing successful and unsuccessful ideas is crucial for making drastic improvements.

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WE, the Youth Soccer Community, "Proudly Declare our Independence," boldly embracing a new approach that revolves around joy and long-term player success.

Together, We Stand United to transform our Youth Soccer Community into a FUNtastic environment where every player not only thrives but also contributes, where every idea holds weight, and where the 75% dropout rate becomes a relic of the past.

#### Founders Signatures,

Karl Dewazien:

Bill Howe:

Denise Plumb:

Jeannette Dewazien:

Marc Pinnell:

Mike Smiley:

Ric Granryd:

Wes Crockett:

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