

# AYSO AREA F 2009/2010 LOWER DIVISION PLAYOFF RULES AND REGULATIONS

## 1-GENERAL

As used in these Tournament Rules and Regulations, the "Area Director" (herein referred to as AD) or in his absence, a designated representative, are synonymous.

**ALL TEAMS MUST PLAY ALL THEIR SCHEDULED GAMES.**

These rules do not supersede AYSO Rules and Regulations, but are intended to cover those situations not addressed by AYSO Rules and Regulations, which shall prevail in case of conflict.

The following rules are designed to achieve the highest degree of sportsmanship in keeping with the AYSO philosophy, and to give all players, coaches and spectators the opportunity to participate in a wholesome environment.

## 2- JURISDICTION

The AD or his representative shall have sole jurisdiction over the Playoff games, subject to the provisions of these rules and in any disciplinary decisions made pursuant to these rules and in the enforcement recommendations made by the Review Board established under the provision of paragraph 14.5 of these rules. All disputes will be resolved immediately or as soon as possible thereafter by the AD.

## 3 - ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

The Regional Commissioner will advance teams, which meet the highest level of sportsmanship and character, to Area IF Playoff.

3.1 Coaches are responsible for insuring the eligibility of their players. All team rosters will/may be verified through AYSO National computerized registration file for eligibility requirements specified under Paragraphs 3.2 through 3.4 below.

3.2 Ages of Players - Must be of indicated age or younger as of July 31, 2009.

1. Under 10-9 years of age or younger
2. Under 12-11 years of age or younger
3. Under 14-13 years of age or younger

3.3 Players must be registered in an AYSO Program as of October 31, 2009.

3.4 All players must have played in at least one-half of the games with their respective team during the AYSO Fall 2009 season. The ONLY exception is if an injury or illness prevented them from playing the minimum number of games.

3.5 Failure to provide proof of eligibility when requested or falsify eligibility of players will result in the team's expulsion from the Playoffs and forfeiture of all games played and all remaining scheduled games. 8 points will be awarded to the winning team of forfeited games.

3.6 Coaches must carry AYSO registration (release) forms at all times. If a coach cannot provide the forms prior to the start of a game, that game will be forfeited.

## 4 - COACHES

Coaches participating in the lower division playoffs must have previously completed a Safe Haven Coach course.

## 5-CONDUCT

The RC shall be held responsible for the conduct of his/her coaches who in turn shall be responsible for the conduct of his players and spectators. **PERSISTENT INTERFERENCE WITH THE GAME FROM THE SIDELINES MAY BE CAUSE FOR TERMINATION OF THE GAME AND/OR THE SUSPENSION OF SPECTATORS FROM FUTURE GAMES.**

## 6- FIELD OF PLAY RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1 The region hosting play is responsible for preparing the fields for play.

6.2 Both teams scheduled to play the first game of the day are responsible for pickup and set-up of the equipment (goals, flags and nets) from the designated location... Both teams scheduled to play the last game of the day are responsible for takedown of the fields, **cleanup and pickup of the entire playing area**, and returning the field equipment to the designated locations. Each team is responsible for bringing their own trash bags, picking up their own trash and depositing their trash in dumpsters located at the site or taking it home. Failure to put away goal posts, nets, and flags and clean up playing area will result in suspension from future play to the offending team, coaches and players.

6.3 No dogs are allowed near the playing fields.

6.4 Per state laws, **SMOKING IS NOT ALLOWED ON ANY SCHOOL GROUNDS.** Area F has adopted a **NO SMOKING** policy for all participants including spectators in the vicinity of all playing fields.

6.5 No artificial noise makers are allowed in the playing area.

## 7 - TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 A minimum of five players for U10 and seven players for U12, and 14 shall constitute a team.

7.2 The Home Team shall change jerseys or wear pennies when there is a color conflict to uniforms. The Home Team is the first team listed on the schedule. The hosting region will make pennies available.

7.3 Teams shall remain on designated sides of the field for the entire duration of the game. The Home Team will take the North or West side of the field depending on the field layout.

7.4 Each team is allowed only two (2) coaches and they shall remain on their own side of the field, no further than 10 yards on either side of the halfway line. Coaches and substitute players must stay one (1) yard from the Touchline.

7.5 Only coaches and players are allowed on the field of play. Spectators are to remain between the Penalty areas and at least three (3) yards from the Touchline.

7.6 Properly completed game cards shall be presented to the referee prior to the start of the game. Game cards are to be filled out completely listing all players present or absent in **NUMERICAL ORDER**, and including an explanation for those absent players.

7.7 Each coach is responsible for reporting the results of the game to his REGION COORDINATOR. The Region Coordinator is responsible for verbally reporting the results of all their Region's Playoff games to the Playoff Coordinator no later than 9:00 P.M. of the day of the game (the result/score, caller's name and telephone number should be left on the answering machine). The referee is responsible for turning in all game cards to an Area F staff member or his designee following each game. (The Playoff results will be posted on the Area IF Website as they are received by the Webmaster at [webmaster@aysoarea-1f.org](mailto:webmaster@aysoarea-1f.org).)

## **8 - REFEREE/REFEREE REPORTS**

8.1 All games shall be officiated using the Diagonal System.

8.2 All referees shall be of the highest caliber available. They are to be of appropriate age and ability, a minimum age of 16 years and be at least 3 years a senior to the participating teams.

8.3 The host regions will assign referees for pool play. The AREA REFEREE ADMINISTRATOR shall assign neutral referees for the Semi-Finals and Final games.

8.4 Referees shall submit a detailed report within 24 hours to the AD or his designee on all red card (send offs) offenses and any abusive conduct on the part of the players, coaches or spectators. A copy of the report shall also be submitted to the Area Referee Administrator within 24 hours for review and evaluation, the results of which shall be reported to the AD.

8.5 Area IF requires that yellow and red cards be shown to all offending participants and spectators

## **9 - GAMES**

9.1 Duration of games - All games will be two (2) halves as listed below:

1. U14 - 35-minute halves
2. U12 - 30-minute halves
3. U10 - 25-minute halves

9.2 Pool games may end in ties. Quarter Final, Semi-Final, and Final games must have a winner. If at the end of regulated time the score is tied there will be two COMPLETED overtime periods as follows: U14 - two 9-minute periods; U12 - two 7-minute periods; and U10 - two 5-minute periods. If in the event teams are tied following the complete overtime periods, the winner will be determined by kicks from the mark, in accordance with FIFA LAWS of the games.

9.3 Games shall be played as scheduled. THERE IS NO GRACE PERIOD. Failure of a team to be ready to play at game time shall constitute forfeiture, giving the opponent team 8 points.

9.4 In the event games are postponed due to weather conditions or any other unforeseen circumstances, the games will be played on the following scheduled day or as posted on the Area IF Website.

9.5 Failure to play a game as scheduled or refusing to continue to play a game that has already begun when so directed by the referee, shall be subject to disciplinary action including exclusion of participation in postseason or remaining Playoff games.

9.6 Only the referee or the AD or his designee may cancel a scheduled game.

9.7 Purposely starting a game with less than 11 players in the presence of substitutes to allow a particular late player entrance into the game upon their arrival is not in keeping with AYSO soccer philosophy AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED. THE GAME WILL START WHEN THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS ARE PRESENT.

9.8 After the games schedule is handed out at the coaches meeting, it becomes final; no changes will be made except in case of field availability or conditions.

9.9 ALL COMPLETED GAMES ARE FINAL

The outcome of games terminated by the referee due to control problems or the refusal of a team to continue to play when so directed by the referee, will be determined by a hearing of a Review Board convened by the AD. (See paragraph 14.5 for an explanation of the Review Board.)

## **10-EQUIPMENT**

Player's equipment shall conform to AYSO Rules and Regulations and Regional Rules, and the following:

10.1 Shin guards are required to be worn at all practices and games. They shall be covered entirely by socks, shall be commercially manufactured, and shall be of such a size to afford adequate protection to the player.

10.2 Bicycle shorts are allowed if they are the same color as the uniform shorts.

10.3 Uniform jerseys shall have sleeves (no tank tops allowed!).

10.4 A player may wear headgear for added protection or as a reflection of their religious practice, and of a type approved by AYSO NSTC.

10.5 A player may wear no jewelry of any kind.

10.6 Players with casts or splints are not allowed to practice or participate in any game. Players may wear hard knee braces if they meet the requirements specified in Paragraph 10.8.

10.7 Players must continue to wear their uniforms, including jerseys, until they leave the parking area. A player who removes his/her jersey when celebrating a goal will be cautioned for unsporting behavior.

10.8 All player uniforms, including the goalkeeper, must have a traditional AYSO logo

10.9 Players may wear hard knee braces if they meet the following requirements:

1. Provide a signed letter from their doctor to the AD, which states that the player is required to wear a knee brace while playing soccer.
2. Provide a signed letter from their parents to the AD, which states that they are aware of their child's injury, that their child doctor's orders is required to wear a brace while playing soccer, and under these circumstances, give their permission for their child to play soccer.
3. Prior to the start of each game, players wearing braces must receive an approval from the AD or his designee that the brace and it's fasteners are adequately covered and padded. Approval will be noted on the game card.

4. The referee shall be responsible for ensuring that the brace continues to be safe during the game. If the brace should become unsafe by accident or due to the player's action, the player shall be removed from the game and substituted and not allowed to reenter the game.

10.10 All uniforms shall be in compliance with AYSO National Rules and Regulations. All players must have the same jersey, shorts and socks, with the exemption of the goalkeepers. Jerseys shall bear the AYSO logo on the left chest area with numbers on the front (optional) and the back. No other markings allowed except for a manufacturer's logo.

10.11 All players must wear a jersey with a different number and may not exchange it with another player. Goalkeeper jerseys and uniforms replaced because of bloodstains are exempted. (See Paragraph 13) Jerseys shall remain in place while players are on the playing field.

## **11 - TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

11.1 The Tournament uses a standard tournament format. Modifications may have been made due to the number of teams in each division. SEE THE APPROPRIATE SCHEDULE FOR DETAILED INFORMATION.

11.2 The Tournament starts with a "round robin" format to determine seeding in single elimination games i.e....QTR, SEMI-FINALS

11.3 For all Pool play, points will be awarded as follows:

- 6 points for a win
- 3 point for a tie + points for goals with a maximum of 6 points
- 1 point for goals scored, maximum of 3
- 1 point for a shutout - no shut out points for a 0-0 tie
- 10 points maximum possible for each game
- 8 points for forfeiture
- 1 point for each send-off (red card)

11.4 All games will count fully in determining the winner of each pool. If there is a tie in points at the end of the pool play, the winner will be determined by using the following tiebreakers in the order in which they are listed:

- HEAD-TO-HEAD
- TEAM WITH THE LOWEST GOALS ALLOWED
- GOAL DIFFERENTIAL UP TO 3 POINTS PER GAME
- TWO YELLOW CARDS DURING THE POOL PLAY -1
- SPORTSMANSHIP POINTS, TOTAL FROM THE POOL PLAY GAMES

## **12 - SUBSTITUTION**

In all games, the Quarterly substitution shall be invoked with 3/4 participation for all age groups except for U-14 teams having more than 14 players.

## **13 - INJURIES/BLEEDING**

Coaches shall report immediately to their respective Region RC and his Safety Director of any injury that occurs during a game involving any AYSO participant. Any player who is bleeding must be immediately removed from the game and is not allowed to reenter the game until the bleeding has stopped and the wound is completely covered. Any part of the uniform that contains blood must be replaced before the player will be allowed to reenter the game. Substitutions for the bleeding player shall be handled in the same manner as any other injury would be handled.

## 14 - DISCIPLINARY ACTION

All participants (players, coaches and spectators) are subject to FIFA rules as modified by AYSO Rules, Regulations and Policies, Section One Rules and these Area F Rules regarding the disciplinary actions set forth below.

14.1 Should a player, coach or spectator have game suspensions remaining at the end of the regular season, that player, coach or spectator will be suspended from any played playoff games, post season games and/or tournament games until the game suspensions have been completed.

14.2 After a player, coach or spectator is sent from the field, the referee MAY SUSPEND the game until that person has COMPLETELY left the area (out of sight and sound). The suspended player, coach or spectator is NOT ALLOWED to return to the field after the game is finished, nor is that person allowed to be present at the team's next played game or games depending on the length of their suspension (don't come to the field - stay at home!). Suspended players not accompanied by a parent will remain with their team, but separated from teammates, remain completely quiet and not participate in any post game activities (celebrations, handshakes, etc.). The enforcement of these requirements will be the responsibility of the coach.

14.3 Should a suspended player, coach or spectator violated the "out of sight and sound" requirement during or after the game for which they were suspended, or during any part of the time they were suspended, a minimum of **one additional game of "out of sight and sound" shall be added to the discipline requirement.** In addition, at the discretion of the referee or AD, should the player, coach or spectator continue to violate the "out of sight and sound" requirement, the game may be suspended and after a reasonable time, terminated.

14.4 AYSO and Area F disapprove of any form of abusive language, which is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances including on the basis of race, religion, gender or national origin. Players, coaches or spectators who resort to this behavior will be sent from the field (receive a red card). This applies from the time the person arrives until the person leaves the playing campus, which includes the parking area.

14.5 Persons sent off for conduct contrary to AYSO philosophy occurring before, during or after a game may be expelled from further AYSO participation. **ANY PERSON WHO ASSAULTS OR THREATENS (EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, PHYSICALLY OR VERBALLY) AN OFFICIAL (REFEREE OR ADMINISTRATOR) WILL BE IMMEDIATELY EXPELLED FROM FURTHER AYSO PARTICIPATION FOR A MINIMUM OF THE REST OF THE SEASON AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO PERMANENT EXPULSION FROM FURTHER AYSO PARTICIPATION** pending a hearing of a Review Board convened by the AD. The review board shall be made up of three or more neutral area administrators appointed by the AD. The date of the hearing will be set by the AD after considering the availability of the hearing board members, the game referee(s) and other witnesses. While all evidence will be reviewed, the referee(s)' report and event information will be the primary evidence used by the review board in making its final recommendation to the AD who will make the final decision on disciplinary action.

**14 6 ANY PERSON WHO ENGAGES IN OR ATTEMPTS TO ENGAGE IN VIOLENT CONDUCT WILL BE IMMEDIATELY SUSPENDED FROM THIS PROGRAM pending a hearing of a Review Board convened by the AD to determine future AYSO participation.**

## 15 - RULES/RULINGS

15.1 NO PROTESTS ARE ALLOWED. All decisions in judgment made by the referee are final.

15.2 Rulings shall be the responsibility of the AD or his designee and shall be final. These rules do not supersede AYSO rules and Regulations, but are intended to cover those situations not addressed by AYSO Rules and Regulations, which shall prevail in case of conflict.

## 16 - AYSO AREA F 2009/2010 LEAGUE PLAYOFF TOURNAMENT STAFF

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## SPORTSMANSHIP EVALUATION CRITERIA

CRITERIA Points	0 or 1	2	3	4	5
Description	Very Poor	Below Normal	Normal	Good	Excellent
Most Important	<p>Exercise lack of sportsmanship, poor attitude and no discipline</p> <p>Frequent negative comments, displays poor attitude</p> <p>No graciousness at all in winning or losing</p>	<p>Some lack of sportsmanship, some negative attitude</p> <p>Occasional negative comments and display of poor attitude.</p> <p>Little graciousness in winning or losing. Flaunts win or blames loss on referee.</p>	<p>Shows good attitude, team work and fair play throughout most of the game</p> <p>Some positive and negative comments/</p> <p>Accepts winning and losing.</p>	<p>Mostly positive attitude, teamwork and fair play throughout game.</p> <p>Mostly positive comments and encouragement.</p> <p>Applauds good play.</p> <p>Mostly accepts winning or losing graciously.</p>	<p>Shows exemplary attitude, teamwork and fair play throughout entire game.</p> <p>All comments expressed are positive, instructive and encouraging.</p> <p>Always accepts winning or losing graciously.</p>
Important	<p>Frequent dissent</p> <p>Persistent fouling</p> <p>Extreme lopsided scoring.</p>	<p>Some dissent towards refs.</p> <p>Frequent fouls and displays of poor sportsmanship.</p> <p>No attempt to prevent lopsided score.</p>	<p>Little dissent towards refs. Knows and abides by rules.</p> <p>Some fouling during normal play.</p> <p>Some attempt to prevent lopsided score.</p>	<p>Very little dissent with mostly gracious acceptance of ref's decision.</p> <p>Encourages fair play.</p> <p>Tries to avoid running up score.</p>	<p>No dissent, gracious acceptance of ref's decision.</p> <p>Actively encourages safe, fun and fair soccer of teammates.</p> <p>Actively and successfully avoids running up score or embarrassing opponents.</p>
Added Consideration	<p>Ejections for violent or extreme dangerous play, coupled with other factors in this category that reflects a pattern of team balance.</p>	<p>Ejection for offenses such as persistent infringement or handball to prevent a goal and are coupled with other factors in this category.</p>	<p>Caution only resulting from offenses such as delay of game or other non-violent infractions.</p>	<p>No ejections. No more than a single caution and then for a non-violent foul.</p>	<p>No cautions or ejections.</p>