



AYSO Region 46
Saugus, CA

Region 46 Policies and Procedures

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Introduction

These policies and procedures were reviewed and approved by the General Board on June 11, 2007.

Scope

These policies and procedures are used in the daily management of the region in conjunction with the AYSO Region 46 Regional Guidelines by providing additional detail on how the Region will operate

The policies and procedures must be approved by a simple majority of the Executive Board and ratified by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

In the event of any conflict with the Regional Guidelines, the Regional guidelines shall prevail. Where such conflict is due to differences of interpretation, the judgment of a simple majority of the Executive Board shall be final. In the event of a conflict with any rules or guidelines from National, Section, or Area levels that are formally published and approved and in general practice across the AYSO community, the Executive Board will either meet or communicate via e-mail to resolve the difference and such decision will then be ratified by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting or via e-mail.

In case of any emergency or time critical situation, the decision may be made by phone polling.

Safety

Safety of the players is the number one concern for Region 46. To provide the safest possible program within the consideration of a youth contact sport environment, Region 46 has adopted the following policies and procedures related to Safety.

Child Volunteer Protection Advocate (CVPA)/Safe Haven

It is the policy of Region 46 that all coaches, referees and certain other volunteers (including all executive board members) who deal directly with children shall be certified under the AYSO safe haven process and complete an AYSO volunteer form on an annual basis. Region 46 has a Director of CVPA on the Board of Directors who can be contacted for more information.

Safety Director

Region 46 has a safety director on the Board of Directors; this is the person to contact regarding any safety concerns, soccer-related injuries, or question regarding the AYSO soccer accident insurance program.

The safety director will be responsible for assuring that the appropriate safety supplies are well stocked at all game venues scheduled by the region.

Soccer Accident Insurance and AYSO

AYSO provides Soccer Accident Insurance as part of its program for properly conducted and approved events. For detailed information, visit the AYSO National web site (www.soccer.org), our local web site (www.ayso46.org), or contact the Safety Director.

Insurance reimbursement requests must be filed within 90 days of the injury or accident.

Safety Policies

Player Injuries

Soccer is a contact sport and occasionally injuries do occur. The vast majority of these injuries are very minor and the player fully recovers after a couple moments of rest. If the injury is such that in the opinion of the referee the game needs to be stopped, the referee may halt the game. The game shall be restarted with a drop ball. If the game is halted when the ball is in the possession of the keeper, the referee shall drop the ball so that the keeper can pick it up unchallenged to resume play.

In some cases, the referee shall signal for the coach to attend to the child. This is a judgment of the referee and shall be based in part upon the age of the player. Coaches may not enter the field until so signaled by the referee. Parents must not enter the field unless called for by the coach and referee.

Injuries Resulting in Bleeding

Players with bleeding injuries are to be removed from play immediately.

Once the bleeding stops and all traces of blood are removed from the skin, the player may return to play if the wound is covered and there is no evidence of bleeding through the covering.

If the injured player's uniform contains any traces of the blood from the injury, the affected parts of the uniform must be changed or disinfected with Isopropyl Alcohol (rubbing alcohol) or hydrogen Peroxide. Rubbing alcohol and/or Hydrogen Peroxide may be found in the First Aid Kit located at the playing field.

Those attending a bleeding player should use disposable gloves provided in the first aid kit on the field. This is for the protection of both the player and the attendant.

Injuries resulting in serious injury

Do not move the player if there is doubt about severe injury where the player cannot move a limb unless it is clearly safe to do so.

Call for emergency medical assistance immediately in case of unconsciousness or immobility stemming from any back or neck injury.

In the case of a suspected broken bone, immobilize the fractured area or call for medical assistance. If a bone has penetrated the skin, do not move the player but call for emergency medical assistance.

Incident Reports

Every injury requiring a doctor's evaluation – soccer related or not – must be reported to the coach.

When a player requires medical attention from an injury during practice or a game, it is the coach's responsibility to complete an Incident Report Form. The form can be obtained online at both the AYSO National site (www.soccer.org) and our local site (www.AYSO46.org). The form is also available in the field communication box, the First Aid Kit, or from the Safety Director.

Incident reports should be filed with the Safety Director as quickly as possible.

Pre-Existing conditions

HIV Positive Conditions, Cancer and Shunts

Players who are known to have HIV positive conditions, cancer or shunts will not be excluded from play in Region 46.

A parent or other primary caregiver must be present at all practices and games and must provide any emergency care to the player. The player can not play or practice if a parent or primary caregiver is not present.

Shunts must be adequately covered and padded.

Other conditions

Please advise the coach of any other pre-existing medical conditions (especially any if medical supplies or prescriptions are required). The coach will work with the Safety Director, if necessary, to resolve any concerns with discretion. An office physician's authorization to play may be requested.

Medical Release

A player, who consulted a medical professional for an injury, may not resume play in a practice or game until the coach receives a Participation Release Form signed by the parent and forwards it to the Safety Director. This holds true whether the injury is soccer related or not. This rule is a strict adherence with AYSO National guidelines - no release, no participation.

Emergency Treatment Authorization

In the event that a medical emergency or serious injury occurs, the player registration form contains a medical release that allows the coach or assistant coach to take a child/player for medical treatment should the parent or guardian not be present. It is **required** that the coach and assistant coach keep copies of the registration form, with an **original** parent or guardian signature, with them at all team

events such as practices, games, tournaments, team parties, and the like. If a registration form with the medical release and original signature is not present, the player will not be allowed to play.

Any player(s) from other regions who join in an event sponsored or co-sponsored by Region 46 must also present a copy of a medical release with an original parent or guardian signature before being allowed to participate.

Player Safety

Soccer Shoes and Shin guards

Soccer shoes and shinguards made by any established soccer equipment manufacturer are acceptable. Other shoes and shin guards are acceptable if, in the opinion of the referee, they are not dangerous to the player wearing them or to another player and the shin guards afford the player a reasonable degree of protection. A piece of cardboard, rolled up newspaper or similar makeshift items does not constitute proper shin guards. The referee must inspect all cleats to ensure there are no sharp edges; this is especially important for aluminum and nylon cleats.

Shin guards must be completely covered by the player's stockings. Players are not allowed to wear their shin guards over their stockings and then roll the stockings down over the shin guards. The shin guards must be worn completely under the stockings.

Casts and Splints

AYSO National Rules and Regulations paragraphs VI.H. states:

"Players shall not be allowed to practice or participate in any game with any type of cast or splint.

Removal of any type of cast or splint at the field or surrounding area in order to participate shall disqualify the player from practice or in any game."

Coaches and referees must not allow players to participate in practices or games if the player was observed to have removed a cast or splint.

The following is extracted from a letter to coaches, parents and players in AYSO Region 126. The Referee Administrator, Steven R. Homel, who is a medical doctor and a practicing pediatrician, wrote the letter.

Casts and Splints: removable or fixed, hard or soft.

Anything worn to protect an injured part or facilitate its healing is a red flag indicating that the injured area either requires support to maintain proper alignment and/or protection for proper, complete and expeditious healing. Removable casts are designed to facilitate person hygiene and

dressing; they are not designed to be removed so that a player may engage in contact sports. Doing so could aggravate an injury and prolong healing time.

Knee Braces

AYSO policy statement 2.9 titled "Knee Braces" reads as follows:

 AYSO will not prohibit the use of knee braces by players in AYSO events and programs, provided that the knee brace is adequately covered and padded so as to eliminate the possibility of its use causing injury to other players on the field of play.

The difference between casts or splints and knee braces is that a cast or splint is used for the treatment of a temporary injury to provide for healing. The use of a knee brace is different in that it is used to provide support and/or flexibility. Knee braces are designed to allow for flexibility of movement, while conversely a cast or splint is designed to restrict mobility.

Medical Alert Bracelets

Children may participate in games and practices while wearing medical alert bracelets. The bracelet must be covered with a cloth wristband or something equivalent, which does not involve taping the bracelet directly to the child's skin, as this can be very painful when it is removed.

We must recognize that if the bracelet is removed and lost or hidden in any way, the child might be put in danger, particularly if the parents are not present to ensure that the medical condition is known. We must also recognize that it is unlikely that a medical alert bracelet, when properly covered, will pose a danger to the other children who are participating.

Eyewear

Players who require prescription glasses are allowed to wear them during practices and games. It is recommended that retaining straps be worn. Rubber bands may also be used for this purpose. Prescription goggles, such as the type used by racquetball players, are also permitted, subject to the approval of the referee prior to the start of the match. Spectacle guards made of plastic or other hard material are not permitted.

Hearing Aids

Players who normally must wear hearing aids are allowed to wear them during a game.

Mouth guards

AYSO does not prohibit the use of mouth guards. Parents are encouraged to consult their child's dentist or orthodontist to determine what, if any, mouth guard is appropriate for their child. Children should not be prevented from participating in practice or games because they are using or not using an athletic mouth guard.

Jewelry, Earrings and Studs

Jewelry, including earrings, of any kind, worn in any visible body piercing, must be removed before the player is allowed to participate in a practice or game. The same is true of any stud that is used in a body piercing when the jewelry is not being worn.

Players wearing beads braided into the hair must wear a hair net covering the beads in order to prevent them from flying into the face or eyes of another player.

Coaches and referees are role models and should abide by the same rules as the players in regard to wearing jewelry and studs during practices or games.

Additional clothing

At the referee's discretion, additional clothing may be worn when and where appropriate. Additional clothing which is only for adornment or which may pose a hazard is not allowed. The referee has the final decision in this regard.

During cold or inclement weather, at a referee's discretion and in consideration of the age group, warmer clothes may be worn under the uniform. It is desirable that the color of any undergarment matches the predominant color of the jersey or shorts, as applicable.

Sleeveless Jerseys

Although Law 4 International Board Decision 1 states that jerseys must have sleeves, it is still the position of both USSF and AYSO that no individual or team should be kept from playing because their jerseys do not have sleeves. Since this is not a safety issue, the only action referees should take is to indicate on the game report that a team has, or players have, sleeveless jerseys. Region 46 will not purchase sleeveless jerseys.

Players are not prohibited from rolling or tying up jersey sleeves, provided it is done in a safe manner.

Hats or Caps

Players may be allowed to wear soft hats or caps without brims if the weather is inclement. They must not constitute a danger to the player or to other players and must be approved by the referee.

Goalkeepers may wear a brimmed hat or cap. In addition to the above requirements, the brim must also be made of a soft material and must be approved by the referee. Baseball-style caps with hard brims are not acceptable.

Gloves

Goalkeepers are traditionally allowed to wear gloves. Other players may also wear gloves if, in the opinion of the referee, the weather is cold enough to warrant it.

Players' Drinking Water

Players are permitted to drink water during a stoppage in the play, but only at the touchline. It is not permitted to throw water containers onto the field.

Financial and Purchasing

Financial Accounts

The Treasurer shall establish an account for handling the Regional finances. This account shall be at a sound local financial institution. The account shall have one checking account for general region business. Any reserves or accruals for major regional projects may also be held in one or more savings accounts. It is the policy of the region to not invest in any financial instrument where there is risk of capital loss.

The authorized signatories for any regional general account are the treasurer, RC, ARC. There may not be more than one authorized signatory from any related family members. The treasurer may not be related to any other executive board member.

The region shall maintain a separate account for any tournament or tournament team activity. The region general funds may only be used for the general operating costs associated with the general fall or spring programs. General region funds may not be used for All Stars, Soccerfest, Tournaments, Tournament Teams, or any other use not directly related to the general fall or spring seasons.

All region accounts shall be reviewed at the monthly general board meeting. All region accounts shall be audited on an annual basis by someone other than the signatories (and their related family members) for the account; the written audit report shall be presented to the Executive Board for review. Then the report shall be given to the Secretary to present for review and approval at the next monthly scheduled board meeting. The Secretary shall file the Audit reports in the Regional records for a period of not less than 7 years.

Budget

The fiscal year for AYSO region 46 begins August 1. At the beginning of the fiscal year the treasurer shall prepare a written budget for the coming year. At the end of the fiscal year the treasurer shall prepare a written actual versus plan report for the preceding fiscal year. The budget shall be reviewed and approved by the Executive board and ratified by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

The budget shall include an RC reserve to cover emergency, unplanned expenses such as repairs for the Region 46 truck, storm damage to storage facilities, and the like. The RC or ARC may authorize up to \$2000 in an emergency situation, with the requirement to report the emergency by phone to the executive board within 96 hours and to the general board at the next monthly scheduled board meeting.

Additional out of budget expenses must be approved by the Executive board. Out of budget items totaling more than \$500 must also be approved by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

Major Expense Items

Field and facility rental

The RC in consultation with the Director of Fields will identify persons to serve as the point of contact with various field sites to negotiate the use of fields for region sponsored events. Any expenses for rentals will be reviewed and approved by the Executive board and approved by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

Additional out of budget expenses must be approved by the Executive board. Out of budget items totaling more than \$500 must also be approved by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

Field Equipment

During the budget planning cycle the Director of Fields shall prepare a forecast of field equipment and supplies (goals, nets, paint, stakes, etc) needed for the year. The Director of Fields and Director of Purchasing may order the approved budget items throughout the year.

Referee Supplies

During the budget planning cycle the Referee Administrator shall prepare a forecast of referee supplies (uniforms, flags, forms, card wallets, etc) needed for the year. The Referee Administrator and Director of Purchasing may order the approved budget items throughout the year.

Coaching Supplies

During the budget planning cycle the Coach Administrator shall prepare a forecast of coaching supplies (coaches' handbooks, training materials, etc) needed for the year. The Coach Administrator and Director of Purchasing may order the approved budget items throughout the year.

Player Uniforms

Player uniforms represent a major expense for the Region. As such, the selection of uniforms must be authorized by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting. The Director of Purchasing shall select several samples of uniforms that fall within the forecasted budget to present to the general board. The quantities of teams and uniforms per teams shall be set by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting. The AYSO uniform may not bear the player name or team name.

Balls

The region supplies 2 game balls to the head coach of every team each year. The selection of game balls must be authorized by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly

scheduled board meeting. The Director of Purchasing shall select several samples of balls that fall within the forecasted budget to present to the general board.

Asset Management

Financial assets are defined as any single piece of equipment whose purchase price (including taxes, shipping, and installation) exceeds \$500, for example goals, computers, projectors, etc. All asset items shall be recorded at the time of purchase and the responsible board member identified. The list of assets will be verified by an annual audit coinciding with the budget preparation cycle. The disposal of any asset item must be authorized by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

Purchasing Controls

Any major expense item must be approved by the general board as defined above. Any purchase requisition above \$300 requires advance general board approval by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

The Director of Purchasing shall report all purchases placed and associated dollar amounts at the monthly schedule general board meetings.

Expense Reimbursement

There are occasions where buying of supplies through Purchasing is not feasible (photocopying charges, feeding volunteers, etc.). In these instances, a board member may make a purchase and submit an expense report for reimbursement. All expense reports shall be reviewed by the Treasurer and the RC or ARC.

Reimbursements for lunch expenses shall be limited to volunteers who spend more than ½ day in service. It is recommended that lunch reimbursements not exceed \$10 per person.

Dinner reimbursements are limited to volunteers who spend more than 10 hours of service in a day. It is recommended that dinner reimbursements not exceed \$18 for food and \$12 for refreshments.

Referees may be provided a field lunch served from the region snack bar during the regular season (NTE \$5). Water and Gatorade (or equivalent) will be provided at the field venues for volunteer support.

Reimbursement for attending out of the region meetings such as NAGM, Section Meetings, and Referee and Coaching programs shall be contingent upon prior approval of attendance by an executive board member.

All planned expenses should be cleared by review at the general board meeting whenever possible.

Sponsorships

Sponsors help to keep our registration fees to a minimum. Sponsor contributions also help to purchase equipment such as goals and nets, field paint, etc.

Team Sponsorship

There are three different types of team sponsorships. Each may be done directly through the team coach, or can be done through the Region and the sponsor will be assigned to a team. A team may recruit more than one sponsor, but may choose only one for them (unless using option 2 below). Extra sponsors will revert to the Region and will be assigned to another team.

- 1) A \$300 sponsorship includes a team plaque for the sponsor, their name on the team banner, their name in the Sidelineer newsletter, and T-shirts with the sponsor's name and team name for each child, coaches, and sponsor.
- 2) Two \$200 sponsors must agree to share advertising space on the T-shirt and banner. The banner and T-shirts for children, coaches and sponsor will have two sponsor names; each sponsor will receive a team plaque and their name in the Sidelineer.
- 3) For a \$150 sponsorship, the sponsor will receive a small team plaque, their name on the banner and in the Sidelineer.

Family Sponsorship

Families may become a sponsor with a \$25 (or more) donation to the Region, usually at the time of registration, but can be at any time.

For more sponsorship information please contact the Director of Sponsorship.

Tournament Event Accounts

There shall be a separate checking account to handle all financial matters related to Tournaments that the Region is involved in supporting. These accounts may be at another region for shared events, or at Area or Section for tournaments sponsored at the Area or Section level which the region participates in. There shall be no mixing of general region accounts and Tournament accounts. Periodically, as determined by approval of the executive board and by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting, surplus funds beyond an operating reserve may be transferred from the Tournament Account to the general fund.

Tournament Teams Accounts

The region shall maintain a separate tournament account to hold all proceeds from tournaments and to provide a clearing account for tournament teams. The funds in this account may be used to support other programs that the region engages in that are not open to all players such as All Stars, Soccerfest, Tournaments, Tournament Teams, or any other use not directly related to the general fall or spring seasons.

The region does not supply funds to any Tournament teams; tournament teams are entirely self-supporting.

The region will pay out of the Tournament account the entry fees (not referee deposit) for any team attending the National Games.

In order to provide that appropriate financial oversight for tournament teams, the region requires that TT manage their finances through the Tournament account. All proceeds for tournament teams (player assessments, sponsorships, fundraisers, tournament refunds, etc.) are to be deposited to the tournament account. All disbursements (tournament entry fees and referee deposits, uniform expenses, team party expenses, etc.) are to be made from the tournament account and must have receipts or proper justification. This policy is intended to prevent any misappropriation of funds and to protect the tournament team leadership from unfounded charges of impropriety.

As the tournament account accumulates cash from the various fundraising events, the region shall determine the best use of funds to support the growth and quality of the soccer program in our community.

Staffing

The key ingredient to any successful program is the quality of the people involved. This is especially true for a volunteer organization such as ours. The following policies are put in place to make sure we can deliver the best program possible.

Board Members

The region will establish at the beginning of the fiscal year a nominating committee to review candidates for board positions. The nominating committee will review potential candidates and volunteers to assure that there is a good fit between position and candidate. Recommendations will be reviewed first at the Executive Board and then final approval will be made by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

The nominating committee will be made up of a minimum 3 member panel consisting of at least one executive board member and one general board member.

Any board member who is planning to retire from their position is requested to give a minimum of 6 months notice.

People may volunteer for Board positions by contacting the nominating committee.

Coaches

Coaches may volunteer by calling the coaching staff or by filling out a volunteer form at the time of registration.

The Coaching Administrator will select the Coaches and present candidates to the Executive Board for approval.

The Executive Board will make final approval of Coaches.

Coaches must be Safe Haven Certified and complete a Volunteer Form.

Coaches should attend the age appropriate AYSO certified coaching course.

Referees

Referees may volunteer by calling the referee staff or by filling out a volunteer form at the time of registration.

Referees must be Safe Haven Certified, complete a Volunteer Form, and should attend age specific training.

Division Representatives

The Director of Division Representatives for both the Upper divisions (U-10 through U 19) and the non-competitive divisions (U-5 through U 8) shall prepare a listing of proposed candidates to present to the Executive Board for review and approval.

Candidates for the fall season are due by the second week in June.

Candidates for the spring season are due by the second week in February.

Support Personnel

Support staff needs to complete a volunteer form.

Coordinator of Field Monitors

The Coordinator of Field Monitors is responsible for the selection, training, and scheduling of field monitors. Field Monitors are to be nominated by coaches; each team is to provide parent/guardian volunteers to monitor fields in support of the on duty board members.

Field monitor duties shall be limited to observation of events and answering questions to the best of their ability. The field monitors are to notify a board member in the case where any intervention may be necessary such as dealing with a too vocal parent or in resolving any dispute that has the potential to get out of hand.

The Home team will provide a Field Monitor for one hour before their scheduled game and the Away team for one hour following their scheduled game.

Communication

All publicly published information that relates the AYSO Region 46 must have approval of the RC or ARC prior to distribution or posting for public viewing. This includes fliers, handbooks, web site material, Sideline articles, etc.

Board Meetings

Board meetings are scheduled each year for the following year. Board meetings are generally held the second Monday of each month. See the Regional Calendar for details.

From time to time, a meeting may need to be rescheduled; board members will be notified by phone or email of any rescheduled meeting. Rarely, an additional board meeting may be needed to review critical information. Board members will be notified by phone or email of any additional meetings.

Communication Boxes

The Division representatives shall maintain communication boxes for the physical distribution of information to their coaches. The communication box is also used to collect any documentation from the coaches.

The division representatives shall check the communication box weekly during active parts of the season to assure that communication and materials are being delivered and retrieved from their assigned coaches on a weekly basis. This may require frequent phone reminders.

Sideline

The Region publishes a newsletter to cover relevant information for all families regarding the Region and its activities. The Sideline is distributed to coaches through the Division Rep/Communication box channel. The coach (who may “subcontract” this to the team parent) is responsible to assure Sideline articles are delivered to all families.

The Sideline is also published on the web site.

Website

The web site is an integral part of the Region 46 communication program. The web site architecture, design, and materials shall be reviewed on a periodic basis by the RC and ARC. Time critical information, such as rain out information, is routinely published on the web site.

The web site shall also have a suggestion box to foster feedback from all members of Region 46. All suggestions shall be reviewed by the Executive Board on a monthly basis at the monthly scheduled meetings.

Problem Resolution

Any issues or problems should be resolved by dispassionate and mutually constructive negotiation. The proper chain of events in elevating issues that cannot be resolved is to go through the following levels of negotiation starting with 1) The coach in question; or then 2) the appropriate Division Representative; or

then 3) the appropriate Director of Division Representatives; or then 4) the appropriate Board Member; or then 5) the appropriate Executive Board Member; or then 6) the RC & ARC council. If issues still cannot be resolved then the issues shall be referred to the issue resolution process defined in the Region 46 Guidelines.

Review Boards, as mentioned in these Policies and Procedures, shall consist of the Executive Board, except the members of the Executive Board who have a conflict of interest (e.g. dealing with relatives, or where a case could result in a material impact to their child's team or competing team) who shall excuse themselves. If conflicts of interest result in fewer than 4 people, additional members of the general board may be invited to participate.

The RC or ARC may elect to skip steps in the chain established above or immediately refer a dispute to the issue resolution process defined in the Region 46 Guidelines based upon their judgment of the situation or in case of a conflict of interest.

Fields and Equipment

Securing Fields

The RC shall work with designated people to schedule field time for games and practices as possible.

Field Equipment

Goals

All goals will be securely stored and locked when not in use.

The Director of Fields and Equipment (or designee) will unlock the goals at the start of each game day.

The Director of Fields and Equipment (or designee) will lock the goals at the end of each game day.

The goals and related equipment (nets, ties, etc.) will be inspected by the Director of Fields and Equipment on a monthly basis during the regular and spring season and at reasonable intervals thereafter.

Goals must be secured with goal stakes.

Associated Goal Equipment Bags

Equipment bags for each field will contain the following:

- (1) Four (4) corner flags
- (2) Two (2) nets
- (3) Fourteen (14) goal stakes
- (4) Hammer

Equipment Set Up and Take Down

Equipment setup is the responsibility of the Coaches of both the home and visiting teams playing the first game of the day.

Both teams playing the 1st game of the day will be responsible for lining (chalking or painting) the playing area.

Equipment take down is the responsibility of the Coaches of both the home and visiting teams playing the last game of the day.

Unless otherwise instructed, the teams playing the last game of the day must drop off the field equipment bag as directed by the field staff.

In the event any field equipment items are missing, the Director of Fields and Equipment shall be notified immediately to ensure prompt replacement for the following week's games.

Region Truck

AYSO Region 46 has secured a truck and trailer to manage the transportation of region equipment from storage facilities to the point of usage. Operation of the Region Truck is limited to personnel who are insured to operate the vehicle.

The only people authorized to be insured and operate the vehicle are:

- The Regional Commissioner
- The Assistant Regional Commissioner
- The Director of Fields
- Other designated board members or staff listed on the insurance policy

Storage bins and structures

The Director of fields shall periodically evaluate the storage bins and structures for safe and secure operation. Any problems are to be reported to the RC or ARC immediately.

The decision to rent storage facilities shall be made by the executive board and ratified by the general board.

General Team Organization

Registration

The Region shall schedule numerous opportunities for players to register and this information shall be disseminated to the public through means of the web site, fliers to the schools in the area, and other public notices.

General

Region 46 attempts to place all players subject only to limitations of field space and support volunteer staff.

In order to register, players must have proof of age (copy of birth certificate, if not already verified in Region 46 records), complete the player registration form, complete a player evaluation conducted by the coaching staff for purposes of establishing a player rating to use in team balancing if the player did

not play in the prior fall season, and pay the registration fee. The registration fee shall be set by the Executive board as part of the budget review process and shall be approved by a majority vote of the general board members in attendance at any monthly scheduled board meeting.

At all registrations, forms shall be available for parents to volunteer.

Fall Season

There shall be a minimum of 4 registrations.

Spring Season

There shall be a minimum of 3 registrations.

Late Registration

Late registration is on a space available basis and in keeping with maintenance of balanced teams.

Drops/Adds

If a player elects to drop off a team, the coach must immediately notify the Division Representative. Once the original registration form from the dropping player has officially been submitted to the Division Representative and the Division Representative has verified with the player's family that he is dropping, a replacement player (if any) from the waiting list will be assigned by the Registrar.

If there is no waiting list, the next player to register may be assigned to the team provided he does not imbalance the team. A player closest in rating to the player that dropped should be added to the team.

A written request must be made in order to receive a refund for a player who drops from the program. Refunds are pro-rated if we are notified after July 25. Requests can be made through the web site as well.

Fall refunds are available according to the following schedule:

Before July 10	Full refund
July 26 through August 30	Full refund less \$50 processing fee
After September 1	No refund

Spring refund requests must be made at least 14 days prior to the first game of Spring Season.

Registration fees or refunds will not be carried over to the next season.

Coaching Assignments

Coaches will be assigned teams based upon their volunteer preferences, coaching credentials, openings, and past performance. Coaching assignments are made by July for the fall season and by February for the spring season.

Team selections

Competitive Division

Any Division with 14 teams or more will utilize pool play.

Teams will receive three (3) points for a win, one (1) for a tie and no points for a loss. In U10 and U12, teams will receive one-half (1/2) point for supplying a uniformed certified assistant referee.

There will be a minimum of 10 games played; some of these games may be practice games depending on the numbers of teams in the pool/division as needed to maintain equitable schedules to determine standings.

Total points will determine a team's standing within its Division.

Non-Competitive Division

The season will be a straight season consisting of a minimum of ten (10) games depending on the calendar and field availability.

No scores or standings will be recorded. Sportsmanship will be awarded.

VIP

The season will run concurrent with the rest of the region. No scores will be recorded; however, the highlights of VIP games are to be reported.

Team Designations

Team names must be cleared through the Division Representative. Inappropriate names will not be allowed. Teams must get name clearance prior to making a banner or any other use of the name.

The team number will be used in lieu of the team name until the Division Representative approves the team name.

The first designation will be the division number (i.e. "U-12, as in Under 12 division). The second designation will represent the first letter of the gender of the division (i.e. "G", as in girls). For example, the team designated as U12G05 is Under 12 Girls team #05 and U10B10 is Under 10 Boys team #10.

The team number will be the official designation for all teams on game schedules.

The team name will be used on all correspondence within the division only. Outside the division, the team number will be used.

Practices

Teams may begin practices on August 1. Coaches will determine the practice schedule and may reserve practice space through the Region as provided in the pre-season coaches' meeting.

Team practices cannot exceed 1½ hours per day or 3 hours per week. One practice per week is ok for U-6 and U-8 divisions.

During pre-season or for weeks when there are no games, a scrimmage of not more than the age appropriate game time may be included in addition to the normal practice time.

Coaches should examine the practice field for safety hazards prior to practicing.

Game safety considerations, including shoes and shin guards, are required for all practices and scrimmages.

Player registration forms (originals or photocopies) with the parent's original signature must be in the possession of the Coach at all team practices.

Coaches must have another parent present (one of the adults must be the same gender as the children) and must remain after practice to ensure that all children are safely picked up.

Trainers

AYSO is an all-volunteer organization. As such, and in order to maintain our tax status as a charitable organization, no team may engage any trainer or other service where there are fees for such services.

Scrimmages

At the coach's discretion, additional scrimmages may be arranged with other AYSO Region 46 teams. The coaches' involved are responsible for organizing such scrimmages and shall arrange for fields, equipment, and referees.

Parent pick up and emergency contact

If parents are more than 10 minutes late to pick up their children from games or practices, then the coach may contact the emergency contact. If the emergency contact does not respond, then the coach may contact the Sheriff's Department of Social Services for care of the child.

Team Balancing and Player Evaluations

Player Evaluations

Player evaluations must be completed by coaches prior to the end of the season. Specific dates will be identified during the season.

Coaches must attend the team balancing meeting scheduled towards the end of the season. If a coach cannot attend, then they must make arrangements for someone from the team to represent them. Only one representative from each team shall be allowed to attend the meeting.

Games

Scheduling

Game Schedules

Game schedules will be completed and made available by mid August.

The home team will be the first team listed on the schedule.

The home team will occupy the north or west side of the field and the visiting team will occupy the south or east side of the field.

Starting Time

Games will start at the time posted on the game schedule. No exceptions will be made to this policy.

Any request to delay the start of a game will be denied.

Teams should allow at least one hour prior to the start of the 1st game of the day to set up goals.

Ending Time

All games will end no later than five (5) minutes before the start of the next scheduled game. If the start of a game is delayed, each half will be shortened by an equal amount to allow the game to end on time.

The length of a game may be shortened by the Referee or any member of the Executive Board for reasons including, but not limited to:

A delay in the start of a game

Abusive behavior by coaches, players or spectators

Dangerous field conditions

Inclement weather

Scheduling limitations

Field Monitors

Board members and their trained designees will be assigned shifts as Field Monitors.

At least one (1) Field Monitor should be present at all times during any games which are the responsibility of Region 46 which includes regular and spring season games, playoff games, All-Star games and Tournament games.

Duties of the Field Monitor will include monitoring the conduct of players, spectators and volunteers. Inappropriate conduct will be brought to the attention of a Board Member who will intervene as necessary to restore proper conduct.

Playing Time

Players in Divisions U-5 through U-12 and VIP must play $\frac{3}{4}$ ** of the game unless they arrive late, are injured, or are ill.

**** NOTE:** Due to the roster size in U6 and U8: If all players are in attendance at a game, they cannot each play three quarters (3/4). The same player may not sit out half (1/2) of the game until ALL players have each sat for half (1/2) of a game. If not all players are in attendance at a game, then all players must play three quarters (3/4) of that game.

Players in Divisions U-14 through U-19 must play ½ of the game unless they arrive late, are injured, or are ill.

No player in Divisions U-5 through U-14, or VIP, may sit out two consecutive quarters of the game unless they arrive late, are injured or are ill.

Players who arrive during the first quarter must play a minimum of two quarters.
Players who arrive during the second or third quarters must play a minimum of one quarter.

In Divisions U-10 and U-12, no player may be the goalkeeper for more than three quarters and the goalkeeper must play at least one quarter as a field player during each game.

The Executive Board must approve any exceptions.

Game cancellation

Whenever there are conditions that threaten safe play, such as rain, the RC or designee shall review playing conditions and make a determination as to whether to continue with any scheduled games that have not started.

If games are to be cancelled or postponed, the RC shall immediately and directly contact the Director of Division Representatives (U-10 to U-19) and the Director of Division Representatives (U-5 to U-8), the Registrar and the Webmaster. The Directors of Division Representatives shall in turn notify all of their Division Representative who in turn shall notify all of their assigned coaches. The coaches are responsible to notify all of their families. The Registrar shall immediately post a recording explaining the situation on the Region Message line (296-AYSO). The webmaster shall immediately post a notification on the website.

If anyone in the message chain is missing, then the person calling the missing person is responsible to assure the message gets through to all people in the next lower level.

If a coach does not hear from their Division Representative, it must be assumed that games will be played. The Division Representatives may be called if there is a question. Coaches should not assume games have been canceled in the event of light rain, as games will be forfeited if the decision has been made to play the games that day.

Once games have started, the sole responsibility for deciding to suspend the match is the referee of that match.

Any suspended games may be made up at a later date and time, if the games have any impact on playoffs. Suspended games, if replayed, will be played in their entirety; the scoring of the game at the point it was suspended has no impact on rescheduling.

FIFA/Laws of the Game

All games shall be played in accordance with the FIFA laws of the game, AYSO Edition. The game formats are described in a separate section of this Policies and Procedures.

Game Cards

The coach must submit a completed game card to the Referee prior to the game.

All players on the team roster must be listed on the game card in numerical order, even if they are not present.

The reason a player is not participating in a game must be indicated on the game card (i.e. injury, illness, absent, etc.).

The captains of each team must be identified on the game card.

The referee will assure that the game cards are filled out correctly and legibly, and shall make sure the names of the assistant referees who have done the game are legibly written on the cards. In U10 and U12, in order to receive the 1/2 point, each team must provide a uniformed certified assistant referee.

At the conclusion of all matches, the referees will record the results of the match (teams involved; halftime and final score; field location and time; players present, substitutions, goals scored; any cautions or send offs and reason; parent or coach disciplinary action needed; and sportsmanship ratings) on the game cards and obtain a signature of the coach to verify.

No scores will be posted on game cards for non-competitive Divisions (U-5, U-6, U-8 or VIP).

The game cards are to be deposited by the referee into the designated Game Card field box located at the site referee area.

The Director of Fields will collect the Game Card field boxes from each site at the close of each day.

Game cards for each season will be retained until the beginning of the next year's season.

Statistics

Every Sunday, the Director of Statistics will collect all game cards from the previous week's games. The cards will be audited for completeness; errors and missing cards will be identified to the appropriate referee scheduler for feedback or reconstruction of the missing cards.

The Director of Statistics will publish a report tallying the final scores for all competitive division games and sportsmanship scores for all teams (typically by Wednesday) and forward that information electronically to the webmaster for posting on the web site (typically by Friday).

If coaches dispute the posted results, please contact the Division Representative who will forward that on to the Director of Statistics.

The Director of Statistics will archive the game cards through the completion of the league and all star playoffs in case we need to refer to the cards to verify minimum play time or any other information.

Sportsmanship

The Region 46 Sportsmanship program recognizes the ideals of AYSO and the value to developing children of learning superior sportsmanship. Good sportsmanship doesn't just happen, it needs to be taught, encouraged and demonstrated. We expect all of our coaches, referees, parents and players to abide by the principles of good sportsmanship and have developed the following AYSO Codes of Conduct to set the appropriate expectations. We have also designed a Sportsmanship program to reward and encourage good sportsmanship behavior in players, coaches, and spectators.

The Region 46 family wants all of its members to have a fun season. Good sportsmanship is one of the ways we can all assure ourselves of meeting this goal. Please review the Codes of Conduct with the members of your family. If you have any questions about the Region 46 Sportsmanship Program contact the Director of Sportsmanship.

Region 46 supports the AYSO Kids' Zone program.

Conduct Policy

General Requirements

The use of fields is a privilege, not a guarantee. We depend upon the gracious support of the schools for our program. We also are pleased to have use of Central Park and Heritage Park through the gracious support of the city. We need the cooperation of our entire AYSO community to continue the good relationships that make this possible. Therefore all people are expected to follow all school and city property rules and to respond respectfully when asked to do so by AYSO personnel.

Parking shall be in designated parking locations only. The Region reserves the right to tow away or immobilize vehicles parked in fire lines, or that block access roads, or are in inappropriate locations. Repeat offenders may be removed from further participation in AYSO.

Foul language and/or abusive behavior from coaches, players and spectators will not be tolerated and people who violate this requirement will be asked to remove themselves from the field of play. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit for the offending team. This situation will be addressed accordingly by the Center Referee, Field Monitor on duty, or Executive Board Member.

Use of tobacco products is prohibited on all school grounds.

No pets are permitted on school grounds.

Bicycles, skates, and skateboards are not permitted on school grounds.

Noisemakers of any kind (i.e. whistles, horns, etc.) are prohibited during games.

All fields and associated facilities and surrounding structures are to be treated with appropriate care and consideration. Teams shall leave the fields clean and clear of debris. All trash must be placed in provided receptacles.

Vandalism of any kind will not be tolerated and will be immediately reported to authorities. Violators will be suspended from AYSO participation until final resolution is reached through the problem resolution process.

Serious or repeated violations of any of the conduct policies or AYSO rules and regulations may cause the individual to go through the problem resolution process and may result in the suspension of the individual or their child from further participation in AYSO for a period of time, perhaps permanently.

The possession and use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on all fields. Any individual possessing alcoholic beverages will be asked to remove the alcoholic beverage(s) from the premises. This individual may return to the field upon willingly removing the alcoholic beverage(s). Upon returning to the field, this individual must exhibit behavior conducive to a youth sports environment. If the individual exhibits abusive behavior and/or is resistant to removing the beverage(s), that individual may not return to the field. Following the game, his/her child (if playing) will be escorted to the parent's car by a neutral party to the incident such as the field monitor, team parent, or assistant coach. It is not within the authority of Region 46 to determine if an individual is under the influence of alcohol; however, Region 46 will make every effort to ensure that an atmosphere is maintained that is appropriate for youth sports participants. The safety of the children will be the priority of Region 46 when handling situations such as this.

Illicit substances or weapons of any nature will not be tolerated. Law enforcement agencies will be immediately notified when an individual is found possessing illicit substances or weapons. Violators will be suspended from AYSO participation until final resolution is reached through the problem resolution process.

Spectator Requirements

Spectators are to remain three feet back from the sidelines and may not travel down by the goals. They must remain between the penalty areas.

Spectators must not attempt to coach and are prohibited from addressing players and referees in a derogatory manner.

Spectators shall not yell at the referee in order to dispute judgment nor question the referee's honesty.

Coach's Requirements

Only two (2) coaches will be allowed to coach a team during a game.

With the exception of VIP, U-5, and U-6 all coaches must remain on their team's designated side of the field during play. No coaching will be allowed to take place on the opponent's side of the field unless the sole purpose is to coach a deaf or developmentally mainstreamed child.

Coaches are limited to a traveling distance of ten yards on either side of the center line of the playing field. This area will be referred to as the "coaches' area".

If a coach is ejected from a game, that coach will sit out the remainder of the game and the following game.

Player's Requirements

Players who are substituted out for the quarter must remain three feet back from the sidelines within the boundaries of the coaches' area.

If a player receives two yellow cards during a game, the referee will show a yellow immediately followed by a red card.

If a player receives a red card during a game, that player will sit out the remainder of the game and the following game.

If a player in U-14, U-16, or U-19 receives yellow cards in two separate games at any time during the season, that player may be subject to review before the Region 46 Review Board.

Any player who throws a punch or intentionally strikes another player before, during, or after a game will be automatically subject to further action by the Review Board Committee and may be ejected for the remainder of the regular season and all post season play.

Any child or coach who receives a red card for violent behavior must appear before the Review Board Committee prior to participating in further scheduled games and may be ejected for the remainder of the regular season and all post season play.

Any player who receives two red cards in a season or any coach who has been sent away more than once may be subject to further action by a Review Board. Players who are involved in ungentlemanly conduct before or after a game will be immediately suspended until their case is reviewed.

No appeal of any form of disciplinary action rendered by a referee shall be allowed.

Conduct in Cases of Excessive Goal Differentials

If a team has a five (5) goal lead on their opponent, the coach of the leading team must make changes to the lineup to soften their attack, play down, and reduce the chance of scoring additional goals.

The changes made by the coach should be of a nature that is subtly noticeable by the referees and the opposing coach.

The changes made by the coach should not include a competitive let down by their team that is obvious to the opposing team and humiliating maneuvers such as "keep away" tactics must be avoided. This includes refraining from loud instructions yelled out across the field; please call the players over to the sidelines and ask them to spread the word. Other ideas are to restrict scoring to headers, weaker foot shots, and changing up positions and substitutions to minimize advantage (play your strongest players the minimum amount of time and in keeper and defensive positions).

Failure to make adjustments where there is an excessive scoring differential shall result in loss of Sportsmanship points. If adjustments are in good faith, then additional scoring shall not necessarily be cause for Sportsmanship point deductions.

Taunting or humiliating behavior shall automatically result in minimum Sportsmanship points and may result in the coach appearing before a board of inquiry to determine if other sanctions (including removal of the coach) are necessary.

AYSO Conduct Policy Communication program

In order to make sure everyone is aware of our Sportsmanship program and Conduct Policy all people in the program will be given a copy of these policies in the parent handbook. Our purpose in doing this is to assure that all individuals who will be participating in the games as players, spectators, coaches, etc. are informed of our conduct rules to make the games enjoyable for everyone - especially the children.

We request that all Region 46 volunteers read and understand this policy because everyone will be expected to adhere to it. The only mechanism we have in knowing that we have reached everyone is by receiving the signature page back from all of you. Thank you for your cooperation!

We ask the following to sign the signature page:

- 1) Coaches,
- 2) Assistant Coaches,
- 3) Referees,
- 4) One parent or guardian of each player (all divisions),
- 5) All remaining Region 46 volunteers, and
- 6) All U-14, U-16 & U-19 players.

After the signature page is completed, coaches will collect the forms and turn them in to the designated Division Representative when they pick up their team uniforms. Referees will submit theirs to the Referee Administrator, and all other volunteers will submit theirs to the Region 46 board member responsible for the area they are working. For parents with multiple children in the program, please sign one for each child you have playing.

Coach's Code

Coaches shall enthusiastically support and practice the Good Sportsmanship, Everyone Plays and Positive Coaching philosophies of AYSO. Ensure that your players' soccer experience is one of fun and enjoyment (winning is only part of it).

Be reasonable in your demands on the young players' time, energy, enthusiasm and their performance on the soccer field.

Impress on your players that they must abide by the Laws of the Game at all times.

Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, and for the judgment of referees and opposing coaches.

Keep informed about sound principles of coaching, growth and development principles relating to children.

Enlist the support of your team's parents in your efforts to instill proper attitudes and values in the players.

Check equipment and facilities that you use. They should meet safety standards and be appropriate for the age and ability of your players.

Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured child is ready to play again.

Referee's Code

Always remember the game is for the players. Player safety and fair play come first.

Study and learn the Laws of the Game. Understand the "spirit" of the Laws. Help other referees do the same.

Encourage & enforce the AYSO philosophies of Everyone Plays, Positive Coaching & Good Sportsmanship.

Respect other referees and their decisions, and do not publicly criticize another official.

Wear the proper uniform and keep it in good condition.

Maintain good physical condition so you can keep up with the action.

Stay calm when confronted with emotional reactions from players, coaches and parents.

Honor accepted game assignments. In an emergency, find a replacement.

Support good sportsmanship with a kind word to players, coaches and parents of both teams when deserved.

Always be fair and impartial, avoiding conflicts of interest. Always maintain fair and impartial enforcement of the laws without regard to the score.

Parents' Code

Do not force an unwilling child to participate in sports.

Remember children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment, not yours.

Teach your child always to play by the Laws of the Game.

Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than a victory.

Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Your child will then be a winner, even in defeat.

Do not ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or for losing a game.

Set a good example. Children learn best by example.

Applaud good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team.

Do not publicly question referee judgment and never their honesty.

Recognize the value and importance of volunteer coaches, referees and officials and give them their due respect. Without them, there would be no AYSO soccer.

Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sporting activities.

Player's Code

Play for the fun of it, not just to please your parents or coach.

Play by the Laws of the Game

Never argue with or complain about the referee calls or decisions.

Control your temper and most of all resist the temptation to retaliate when you feel you have been wronged.

Concentrate on playing soccer and on affecting the outcome of the game with your best effort. Work equally hard for your team as for yourself.

Be a good sport by cheering all good plays, whether it is your team's or your opponent's.

Treat all players as you would like to be treated.

Remember, the goals of the game are to have fun, improve skills and feel good. Don't be a showoff or ball hog.

Cooperate with your coaches, teammates, opponents and the referees.

Rewarding Good Sportsmanship

Region 46 is proud of our history of emphasizing good sportsmanship. We have developed the following programs designed to recognize and reward “good sports”.

Sportsmanship Points

Every team shall strive for good sportsmanship. In order to encourage exemplary behavior, each team will be scored by the assigned referee team on Sportsmanship in the following manner:

Conduct of players:

- Poor (0 Points)
- Below average (1 Points)
- Average (2 Points)
- Above average (3 Points)

Conduct of Parents

- Poor (0 Points)
- Below average (1 Points)
- Average (2 Points)
- Above average (3 Points)

Conduct of Coaches

- Poor (0 Points)
- Below average (1 Points)
- Average (2 Points)
- Above average (3 Points)

At the end of each game, the referee in consultation with the assistant referees shall award sportsmanship points to each team as outlined above in the space provided on the back of the game card.

Sportsmanship program only applies to the fall season.

Good Sportsmanship Awards:

The Director of Sportsmanship shall schedule a Sportsmanship awards ceremony at the conclusion of the fall season (but not later than 3 weeks after the last regularly scheduled game).

At the end of the season, the total points for all teams shall be calculated.

Sportsmanship Award Patch (Team):

One team in each division U-6 through U-14 (both boys and girls) that attains the highest total rating will be recognized for their outstanding achievement with a Sportsmanship Award Patch for each player. This patch may be worn on the left sleeve of the player's uniform the following season so that these "good sports" are easily recognizable. U16 and U19 teams participate in Area play; therefore, the Team sportsmanship program does not apply.

Good Sportsmanship Plaque (Coach):

Region 46 recognizes that good sportsmanship is taught. Our children learn by example. The coach of each team awarded the Sportsmanship Award Patch will be rewarded with a plaque.

Sportsmanship Trophies (Individual):

Toward the end of the season, each coach will be asked to submit the name of the player on his or her team who has demonstrated the best sportsmanship throughout the season. Players selected as these “good sports” personify the AYSO Player’s Code of Conduct. One player from each team will receive a personalized individual Sportsmanship Trophy at a special ceremony at the end of the season.

Post Season Play

League Playoffs

Regional Playoff Format

Region 46 will have a playoff format to determine which teams advance to Area 10 S league playoffs.

Straight Season

Divisions with four (4) teams or less

1. The team in first place at the end of the regular season will be the division winner.
2. There will be no playoff.

Divisions with five (5) teams

1. There will be a playoff between the first and second place teams.
2. The winner of the playoff game will be the division winner.

Divisions with six (6) to twelve (12) teams

1. There will be a four (4) team playoff consisting of the first, second, third and fourth place teams.
2. The first place team will play the fourth place team and the second place team will play the third place team.
3. The two winners of these games will play each other to determine the division winner.

Divisions with 13 or more teams

1. Teams will be divided into 2 or more pools.
2. There will be an eight (8) team playoff.
 - a. With 2 pools, the top four (4) teams from each pool will make the playoffs:

Game #1 - 1st place team from pool "A" and 4th place team from pool "B"

Game #2 - 2nd place team from pool "A" and 3rd place team from pool "B"

Game #3 - 1st place team from pool "B" and 4th place team from pool "A"

Game #4 - 2nd place team from pool "B" and 3rd place team from pool "A"

The winners of games 1 & 4 and 2 & 3 will play in the Semi-Finals. The winners of these two games will play in the Finals.

- b. With 3 pools, the top two (2) teams from each pool, plus two (2) wild card teams (the next two teams with the highest point totals) make the playoffs:

Game #1 - 1st place team with the highest point total and 2nd wild card team

Game #2 - 1st place team with the 2nd highest point total and 1st wild card team

Game #3 - 1st place team with the 3rd highest point total and 2nd place team with the lowest point total

Game #4 - 2nd place team with highest point total and 2nd place team with the 2nd highest point total

The winners of games 1 & 4 and 2 & 3 will play in the Semi-Finals. The winners of these two games will play in the Finals.

- c. With 4 pools, the top two (2) teams from each pool will make the playoffs.

Game #1 - 1st place team with highest point total and 2nd place team with the 4th highest point total

Game #2 - 1st place team with the 2nd highest point total and 2nd place team with the 3rd highest point total

Game #3 - 1st place team with the 3rd highest point total and 2nd place team with the 2nd highest point total

Game #4 - 1st place team with the 4th highest point total and 2nd place team with the highest point total

The winners of games 1 & 4 and 2 & 3 will play in the Semi-Finals. The winner of these two games will play in the Finals.

3. Additional games may be necessary to determine 3rd and 4th place, depending on the number of teams we are sending to Area playoffs.

Pool Play

A minimum of four (4) teams, including at least one (1) team from each pool, will make the playoffs. The total number of teams will depend on the number of pools and schedule availability. Determination of teams will be based on standing in the division. If necessary, the determination of wild card teams (maximum of one (1) wild card team per pool) will be based on the highest point accumulation (not goals scored), then tiebreakers.

If the number of teams within an age division is not equal, causing teams in one or more pools to have one less league game, those teams will be given an average (total points divided by league games

played). This will be added to their final standings, and used to determine pool standings and play-off seeding.

Tiebreakers

Ties in Standings

If two (2) or more teams in playoff contention have an identical point accumulation at the end of the regular season the following situations will be examined (in sequential order) to determine which breaks the tie:

1. Highest point accumulation (not goals) from head to head competition.
2. Fewest goals allowed.
3. The winner of a 20-minute game consisting of two (2) 10-minute halves following normal game procedures.
4. A shoot out with those players remaining on the field at the end of the 20-minute game following the Post Season Policy in A.4.b.2.

Ties in Playoff Games

In the event of a tie at the end of regulation play of a playoff game, the following procedures will be followed:

1. Two (2) 5-minute overtime periods will be played.
 - a. At the end of regulation, both teams will leave the field for a five (5) minute rest period.
 - b. A coin toss will determine which team kicks off in the first overtime period.
 - c. Free substitutions will be allowed during both overtime periods until there are two (2) minutes left in the final overtime period, and then no substitutions will be allowed.
 - d. The teams will change goals at the end of the first overtime period and play will resume immediately with no rest period.
 - e. The team that did not kick off in first period will kick off in the second period.
 - f. If a tie still exists at the end of the second overtime period, a shoot out will decide the game.
2. Shoot out
 - a. A shoot out will consist of a series of kicks from the penalty mark.
 - b. A coin toss will be held prior to the start of the shoot out. The winner of the coin toss has the choice to kick first or second.
 - c. Only the players remaining on the field at the end of the second overtime period are eligible to participate in the shoot out.
 - d. Five (5) players from each team will be chosen from the eligible players.
 - e. Players from each team will alternate taking kicks.
 - f. If, before both teams have taken five (5) kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five (5) kicks, no more kicks are taken.
 - g. If a tie still exists after the initial five players that were on the field at the end of the game or overtime period have kicked, the remaining eligible players on each team will begin alternating kicks until one team is ahead by one goal after each team has had an equal number of kicks.
 - h. The team ahead by one goal will be the winner.

League Playoff Rules and Regulations

Area S and Section 10 Rules and Regulations will govern playoff competition beyond the Region level. Historically Area S and Section 10 have required all coaches to be Safe Haven certified **and** age specific certified in order for their team to participate in their playoffs.

All Stars

Regional All-Star Teams

1. All-Star teams are for U10, U12 and U14.
2. All National, Section, Area and Region policies shall be adhered to.
3. Selection of All-Star Coaches:
 - a. Nominations
 1. Coaches wishing to be considered as a candidate must complete the self-nomination form and return it to the designated Board Member.
 2. All candidates will be reviewed for eligibility and must be approved by the Executive Board to be eligible for balloting.
 3. Priority is given to those having coached in the division within AYSO Region 46 in the regular fall season.
 4. If no coach is eligible, the Regional Commissioner may approve one.
 - b. Minimum Training
 1. Coaches must be Safe Haven Certified and have a completed volunteer form on file.
 2. Coaches must have completed the age appropriate coaching course.
 - c. Balloting
 1. Candidates may submit a short (two to three sentence) written statement of qualifications.
 2. Coaches in the division and the designated Division Representative will vote in a private ballot.
 3. Each voting participant will list their top three choices in order:
 - 1st choice will count for 3 points
 - 2nd choice will count for 2 points
 - 3rd choice will count for 1 point
 - d. Announcement of Results
 1. The designated Board member will count the ballots and have the results verified by the Division Representative or a neutral party.
 2. The coach receiving the highest number of points is the All-Star coach.
 3. If a second All-Star team is to be formed, the coach receiving the second highest number of points in the All-Star ballot will be the second All-Star coach.
 4. If there is not another approved coach on the All-Star ballot, or the remaining coaches have already committed to coach a tournament team, the designated Board member shall select additional coaches with the review and approval of the Executive Board. This may be done by telephone, if necessary, due to time constraints.
 5. If a coach receives enough votes to be elected as All-Star coach, and has been elected to or approved as a Tournament Team coach, the coach must select one position. If the coach is an uncontested candidate for both positions, the coach may fill both positions.

4. Discipline/Removal of an All-Star Coach

- a. If, in the opinion of the designated Board member and the Regional Commissioner, a review is required, a coach can be brought before the Region 46 Review Board for possible disciplinary action, including removal as an All-Star coach.

5. Discipline/Removal of an All-Star Player

- a. Before possible removal from an All-Star team, a coach must have written records documenting the reason for the action and have the approval of the designated Board member and the Regional Commissioner.

6. Selection of All-Star Players

- a. If Area S elects to run All-Stars for U16 and U19 players, teams may not be selected prior to October 15th.
- b. U10, U12 and U14 players may not be selected prior to November 15th.
- c. The player selection meetings shall be scheduled and conducted by the designated Board member.
- d. Player evaluations for the regular AYSO season must be completed by the regular season coaches prior to All-Star selections.
- e. In order for players to be eligible they must have participated in at least half of the regular season games. Missing games due to written doctor's instructions or sickness does not count against the player (See Region 46 Safety Policy).
- f. Players are nominated by their regular season coaches for inclusion on the All-Star ballot. No changes to the ballot will be allowed once submitted.
- g. The nominating coach should make sure the nominated player meets the eligibility requirements and that the player and parents understand the All-Star season and the time commitment involved prior to making the formal nomination.
- h. Missing or incomplete nomination forms may be adjusted by the designated Board member in conjunction with the Division Representative.
- i. Coaches will be given an opportunity to discuss the nominees prior to balloting.
- j. Players are selected by a private ballot of the coaches in the division, the Division Representative and the coaching staff representative. Players will be selected on the basis of skill.
- k. If a coach cannot attend the All-Star selection meeting, they may send the assistant coach or some other representative for the team. Only one representative from each team will be allowed to attend. If the coach cannot send a representative, the coach must make prior arrangements with the designated Division Representative.
- l. In Divisions where two (2) or more All-Star teams are to be selected, the first All-Star team will be formed prior to forming the second. Additional teams will be formed, in order, as necessary. In Divisions with two (2) or more pools, an equal number of players will be elected from each pool.
- m. The remaining player(s) will be the sole selection of the coach as needed to complete the team roster. Coaches are encouraged to make their picks from the nominated players, but can pick from all eligible players. In the event a player that was selected to the All-Star team at the selection meeting cannot play, the coach should pick a replacement from the remaining nominated players, and then contact the Director of Post Season Play with

- their potential replacement. Any roster changes must be approved by the Region Commissioner prior to the replacement player being contacted.
- n. For U16 and U19, 18 players will be selected to the roster. If two (2) All-Star teams are to be formed in a single division, then only 16 players will be selected for each team.
 - o. For U14, 14 players will be selected to the roster.
 - p. For U12, 12 players will be selected to the roster.
 - q. For U10, 9 players will be selected to the roster.
 - r. In the event a wild card team is awarded after the selection process has been completed, the designated Board member will work with the coaches and the Division Representative to form a team within time constraints that may preclude following the procedure set forth above.
 - s. Players involved in high school soccer may not play in any AYSO competition during the high school season.
 - t. A player is expected to complete his/her league team commitment to be eligible to participate in All Star and/or Tournament play. Failure to comply is subject to review by the Executive Board.
7. Area S and Section 10 Rules and Regulations will govern All-Star competition.

Soccerfest

Soccerfest is a tournament sponsored by Area S and is co-hosted by Region 46 to give enthusiastic players (a player who loves the game, is a great sport and makes a real effort) and their families a fun day with the excitement of a post season tournament.

Selection of Coaches

Soccerfest coaches are selected from coaches who volunteer by the Director of Soccerfest, based upon the following criteria:

Have a desire to coach this level.

Be Safe Haven Certified and have a completed Volunteer Form on file.

Possess exemplary positive coaching skills

Selection of Players

The regular season coach submits their nomination of Soccerfest player(s) at a time to be determined by the Director of Soccerfest.

Players nominated for All-Stars are not eligible for Soccerfest nomination by the regular season coach.

The number of Region 46 Soccerfest players per division is determined by Area S.

Regional Tournament Teams

1. Tournament Teams are for U10 and older Divisions.
2. All National, Section, Area and Region policies shall be adhered to.
3. Selection of Tournament Coaches:
 - a. Nominations
 1. Coaches wishing to be considered as a candidate must complete the self-nomination form and return it to the designated Board Member.

2. All candidates will be reviewed for eligibility and must be approved by the Executive Board to be eligible for balloting.
 3. Priority is given to those having coached in the division within AYSO Region 46 in the regular fall season.
 4. If no coach is eligible, the Regional Commissioner may approve one.
 - b. Minimum Training
 1. Coaches must be Safe Haven Certified and have a completed volunteer form on file.
 2. Coaches shall have completed the age appropriate coaching certification course.
 - c. Rosters of Tournament Teams are limited to the following number of players:

U16/U19	18 players
U14	15 players
U12 (9 v 9)	12 players
U10 (7 v 7)	10 players
 - d. Rosters of Tournament Teams are due November 15 for U16 and U19 and December 15 for U10, U12 and U14. Failure to deliver a roster to the Regional Commissioner by this date may result in a coach losing authorization to form a team.
 - e. U14, U16 and U19 Tournament Teams may be formed by all coaches deemed eligible by the Executive Board.
 - f. Balloting U10 and U12 Tournament Coaches
 1. The number of Tournament Teams in U10 and U12 will be determined by the number of regular season teams in a division using the following formula:

1-10 regular season teams	2 Tournament Teams
11+ regular season teams	3 Tournament Teams
 2. Candidates may submit a short (two to three sentence) written statement of qualifications.
 3. Coaches in the division, the coaching staff representative for the division and the Division Representative will vote in a private ballot.
 4. Each voting participant will list their top three choices in order:

1 st choice will count for 3 points
2 nd choice will count for 2 points
3 rd choice will count for 1 point
 5. The designated Board member will count the ballots and have the results verified by the Division Representative or a neutral party. The designated Board member will notify the Tournament coach candidates of the results of the balloting at the player evaluation/All-Star selection meeting.
 6. The coaches receiving the highest number of points will be the Tournament Team Coaches.
 - g. If a coach receives enough votes to be elected as All-Star coach, and as been elected to or approved as a Tournament Team Coach, the coach must select one position. If the coach is an uncontested candidate for both positions, the coach may fill both positions.
4. Discipline/Removal of a Tournament Coach
- a. If, in the opinion of the designated Board member and the Regional Commissioner, a review is required, a coach can be brought before the Region 46 Review Board for possible disciplinary action, including removal as a Tournament Coach

5. Discipline/Removal of a Tournament Player

- a. Before possible removal from a Tournament Team, a coach must have written records documenting the reason for the action and have the approval of the designated Board member and the Regional Commissioner

6. Selection of Tournament Players

- a. The Tournament Coach has the sole discretion in the selection of Tournament Players.
- b. Tournament Players may not be recruited until after the All-Star selection meeting for that Division. Coaches violating this policy can be brought before the Region 46 Review Board for possible disciplinary action including losing the right to coach a tournament team.
- c. Players may not play for a Tournament Team in a different division than the one they played in during the regular AYSO season without Executive Board review.
- d. A player may be borrowed from another Tournament Team for a maximum of two (2) tournaments, with parental approval and the primary coach's notification, but the priority must always be to the player's primary team for all tournaments and practices.
- e. A player must have participated in at least half of the regular season games that they were eligible to play in. Missing games due to written doctor's instructions or sickness does not count against the player (see the Region 46 Safety Policy).
- f. Recruiting tournament players from regions other than Region 46 will only be allowed with approval from Region 46 Regional Commissioner and only after the pool of qualified Region 46 players has been exhausted.

7. Tournament Team Requirements

- a. All players shall play at least half a game.
- b. Tournament teams must have adult chaperones at all times. Players may not have their own hotel/motel rooms.
- c. Coaches must respect a player's commitment to league teams in post season playoffs, followed by the commitment to All-Star team playoffs. This applies to both practices and games.
- d. Players involved in high school soccer may not play in any AYSO competition during the high school season.
- e. Tournament coaches, parents and players are de facto ambassadors for Region 46 and AYSO and must always exhibit exemplary behavior and full support of the AYSO Principles and Codes of Conduct, and will be required to re-sign the Region Conduct Policy.

AYSO National Games

If region 46 receives an invitation to the AYSO National Games, the following procedure will be used in selecting the tournament coach that participates in the Games. This process will occur immediately after the Tournament Coach Selection Process at the All Star/Player Evaluation meeting. If the age/gender division that received the invitation only has one tournament team coach at the time of this meeting then that coach will represent Region 46 at the Games.

1. Each approved tournament coach in the invited age/gender division will be asked if he/she would like to represent Region 46 at the National Games.
2. If only one coach would like the honor then that coach will receive the invitation. If more than one coach would like to take their team to the games, then the following voting procedures will be used:
 - A. Each coach in the invited age/gender division that is in attendance of the All Star/Player Evaluation meeting will be allowed to vote for one interested tournament team coach.
 - B. The Division Rep and Board Member proctors for the invited age/gender division will count the votes. If there is a simple majority winner then that coach will be awarded the invitation to the National Games.
 - C. If more than 2 coaches have expressed interest in taking a team to the National Games and there is a tie then a second vote will be taken for only the coaches tied to win the invitation.
 - D. If a tie exists that cannot be broken amongst the coaches in attendance then the Region 46 Executive Board (less any member who may have a conflict of interest) will hold a vote as soon as possible to break the tie and award the coach the invitation. **No tournament team coach in the invited age/gender division may contact any player for recruitment on their team until this Executive Board vote is complete.**
3. Once the coach has been selected, he/she will be allowed to form their team before the other Tournament Coaches in this particular age/gender division. The coach will be given 10 days to form their team and then the rest of the approved tournament coaches will follow the process described in the above section for Selection of Tournament Players.
4. If Region 46 receives a late invitation to the National Games to fill a vacated spot, the Region 46 Executive Board (less any member who may have a conflict of interest) will select the coach to represent the region at the games if more than one coach is interested in the late invitation.

U-5 Short Sided Game

The Field

Dimensions: Maximum 30 x 15 yards

Halfway line the width of the field, marked equidistant between the goal lines (optional)

Goals: Maximum 6 foot x 4 foot, or portable PUG goals, as available.

The Region shall provide fields as close to this ideal as practical, given space availability.

The Ball

Size three (3)

Duration of Game

20 minutes (played in two halves of 10 minutes each with a short break at quarter to make substitutions and get a drink) with a half time break of 5 minutes.

Number of Players

Maximum number of players on the field at any time: three (3) - no goalkeeper

Maximum number of players on the team: four (4)

Separate girls and boys teams will be formed

Playing Time

A minimum of 3 quarters is required for each player. It is recommended no one play 4 quarters until everyone has played 3 quarters.

Organization

Each child will have a parent (or other adult) working with them on the field.

A "master coach" will lead each session. The master coach will introduce and demonstrate each game/activity.

Session Schedule

10 minutes - Group warm-up and activities

5 minutes - Water break

20 minutes - Training activities and games

10 minutes – Team organizing and water break
 Assigning players to teams
 Assigning field locations

20 minutes - 3v3 game

During the game, one parent from each team is selected to act as the game supervisor for the week.

Changes from regular FIFA Play

The Start of Play

No change from regular play except that opponents must be five (5) yards from the center mark while kick-off is in progress.

Offside

No offside is called.

Fouls & Misconduct

If play must be stopped for any reason, begin with a free kick. Award the free kick to whichever team deserves it.

Free Kicks

All kicks are direct free kicks. The opposing team should be at least 5 yards from the ball.

Throw In

Whether the throw in is properly taken or not, let it go. Proper technique will be taught later.

Other Information

Region standings are not recorded

Game scores are not kept.

Parents and players from both teams exchange handshakes before and/or after each game.

U-6 Short Sided Games

The Field

Dimensions: Maximum 30 yards long by 15 yards wide (30 yards x 15 yards)

Markings: Distinctive lines recommended.

Halfway line the width of the field, marked equidistant between the goal lines

Center circle with a six yard radius in the center of the field

Corner arcs with a one yard radius at each corner of the field

Goal area in front of each goal will be for reference only.

Goals: Maximum 4 feet high by 6 feet wide (4 ft x 6 ft)

The Region shall provide fields as close to this ideal as practical given space availability.

The Ball

Size three (3)

Duration of Game

Six 7-minute periods (3 per half with a 1 minute substitution break) with a halftime break of five to ten minutes.

Number of Players

Maximum number of players on the field at any time: three (3); no goalkeeper

Maximum number of players on roster: seven (5)

If a team has 2 or fewer players, then players from the other team may be borrowed to even the sides

Separate girls and boys divisions will be formed

Playing Time

All players must play 2/3 of the game unless all rostered players are in attendance, they arrive late, are injured, or are ill.

No player may sit out two consecutive substitution periods of the game unless they arrive late, are injured or are ill.

Players who arrive during the first or second period must play a minimum of three periods. Players who arrive during the third period must play a minimum of two periods. Players arriving in the fourth or fifth period must play at least one period.

Substitutions: Between periods and at halftime. Each half will be divided into 3 substitution periods.

The Executive Board must approve any exceptions.

Referee

Each team is to provide a referee who should be either a non-competitive registered referee or a trained youth referee.

Referees should emphasize fun, fairness, safety, and learning.

Referee decisions are final on points of fact connected with the game and should not be questioned by the coaches.

At this level referees should briefly explain any infringements to the player(s) and help players with instructions.

All referees must be registered AYSO volunteers.

Referees will work cooperatively with the coaches and eliminate the need for cautions and send-offs. Do not show yellow or red cards.

Changes from regular FIFA Play

The Start of Play:

No change from regular play except that opponents must be six (6) yards from the center mark while kick-off is in progress.

Offside

There should be no offside called

Fouls & Misconduct

No changes from regular play except that the restart shall be indirect free kick for all fouls, with the opponents six (6) yards away.

Free Kicks

All kicks are direct free kicks. Free kicks awarded the attacking team inside the defending team's goal area should be taken from the nearest point on the goal area line in front of the goal.

Penalty Kicks

No penalty kicks

Throw-In

A second throw-in should be allowed if the player commits a foul on the initial attempt. The referee should explain the proper method before allowing the player to re-throw.

Goal Kick

May be taken from any point inside the goal area and opponents must be six (6) yards away from ball.

Corner Kick

No change from regular play, except that opponents must be eight (8) yards from the ball

Other information

Region standings are not recorded

Game scores are not recorded

Parents, coaches, and players from both teams exchange handshakes before and/or after each game

U-8 Short Sided Games

The Field

Dimensions: Maximum 50 yards long by 25 yards wide (50 yards x 25 yards)

Markings: Distinctive lines recommended.

Halfway line the width of the field, marked equidistant between the goal lines

Center circle with a six yard radius in the center of the field

Corner arcs with a one yard radius at each corner of the field

Goal area in front of each goal measuring six yards by 12 yards (6 yards x 12 yards)

Goals: Maximum 6 feet high by 6 yards wide (6 ft x 6 yards)

The Region shall provide fields as close to this ideal as practical given space availability.

The Ball

Size three (3)

Duration of Game

Six 7-minute periods (3 per half with a 1 minute substitution break) with a halftime break of five to ten minutes.

Number of Players

Maximum number of players on the field at any time: five (5) – no goalkeeper.

Maximum number of players on roster: seven (7)

Separate girls and boys divisions will be formed

If a team has 4 or fewer players, then players from the other team may be borrowed to even the sides

Playing Time

All players must play 2/3 of the game unless all rostered players are in attendance, they arrive late, are injured, or are ill.

No player may sit out two consecutive substitution periods of the game unless they arrive late, are injured or are ill.

Players who arrive during the first or second period must play a minimum of three periods. Players who arrive during the third period must play a minimum of two periods. Players arriving in the fourth or fifth period must play at least one period.

Substitutions: Between periods and at halftime. Each half will be divided into 3 substitution periods.

The Executive Board must approve any exceptions.

Referee

Each team is to provide a referee, who should be either a non-competitive registered referee or a trained youth referee.

Referees should emphasize fun, fairness, safety, and learning.

Referee decisions are final on points of fact connected with the game and must not be questioned by coaches.

At this level referees should briefly explain any infringements to the player(s) and help players with instructions.

All referees must be registered AYSO volunteers.

Referees will work cooperatively with the coaches and eliminate the need for cautions and send-offs. Do not show yellow or red cards.

Changes from regular FIFA Play:

The Start of Play

No change from regular play except that opponents must be six (6) yards from the center mark while kick-off is in progress.

Offside

There should be no offside called

Fouls & Misconduct

No change from regular play except that the restart shall be direct free kick for all fouls, with the opponents six (6) yards away.

Free Kicks

All kicks are direct free kicks. Free kicks awarded the attacking team inside the defending team's goal area should be taken from the nearest point on the goal area line in front of the goal.

Penalty Kicks

No penalty kicks

Throw-In

A second throw-in should be allowed if the player commits a foul on the initial attempt. The referee should explain the proper method before allowing the player to re-throw.

Goal Kick

May be taken from any point inside the goal area and opponents must be six (6) yards away from ball.

Corner Kick

No change from regular play, except that opponents must be eight (8) yards from the ball

Other information

Region standings are not recorded

Game scores are not recorded

Parents, coaches, and players from both teams exchange handshakes before and/or after each game

U-10 Short Sided Game

The Field

Dimensions: Maximum 80 yards long by 40 yards wide (80 yards x 40 yards)

Markings: Distinctive lines recommended.

Halfway line the width of the field, marked equidistant between the goal lines

Center circle with an eight (8) yard radius in the center of the field

Corner arcs with a one (1) yard radius at each corner of the field

Goal area in front of each goal measuring six (6) yards by 15 yards (6 yards x 15 yards)

Penalty area in front of each goal measuring 14 yards by 30 yards (14 yards x 30 yards)

Penalty mark 10 yards from the goal line

Penalty arc extending in an eight (8) yard radius from the penalty mark

Goals: Maximum 7 feet high by 7 yards wide (7 ft x 7yards)

The Region shall provide fields as close to this ideal as practical given space availability.

The Ball

Size four (4)

Duration of Game

Two equal halves of twenty-five minutes each with halftime break of five to ten minutes.

Number of Players

Maximum number of players on the field at any time: seven (7); one of whom is a goalkeeper

Maximum number of players on roster not to exceed nine (9)

Minimum number of players on the field shall be 5; fewer than 5 will result in a forfeit. In a forfeited game, players should be borrowed to even the sides.

Separate girls and boys divisions will be formed

Playing Time

All players must play 3/4 of the game unless they arrive late, are injured, or are ill.

No player may sit out two consecutive substitution periods of the game unless they arrive late, are injured or are ill.

Players who arrive during the first quarter must play a minimum of two quarters.

Players who arrive during the second or third quarters must play a minimum of one quarter.

No player may be the goalkeeper for more than three quarters and the goalkeeper must play at least one quarter as a field player during each game.

Substitutions shall be at a stoppage in play approximately mid-way in each half and at halftime or for injuries.

The Executive Board must approve any exceptions.

Referee

The referee could be either a registered referee or a trained youth referee.

Each team will provide a uniformed certified assistant referee for their sideline.

Referees should emphasize fun, fairness, safety, and learning.

Referee decisions are final on points of fact connected with the game.

At this level referees should briefly explain any infringements to the player(s) and help players with instructions.

All referees must be registered AYSO volunteers.

Referee decisions are final and must not be questioned by coaches.

Referees will work cooperatively with the coaches and eliminate the need for cautions and send-offs. Do not show yellow or red cards except in unusual circumstances.

Changes from regular FIFA Play:

The Start of Play

No change from regular play except that opponents must be eight (8) yards from the center mark while kick-off is in progress.

Free Kicks

No change from regular play except that opponents must retreat eight (8) yards from the ball during opponents' free kicks

Penalty Kicks

No change from regular play except that opponents must be outside the penalty area and eight (8) yards from the ball before a kick is allowed

Goal Kick

May be taken from any point inside the goal area and opponents must be eight (8) yards away from ball.

Corner Kick

No change from regular play except that opponents must be eight (8) yards from the ball.

Other Information

Region standings are recorded and game scores are posted.

Parents, coaches, and players from both teams exchange handshakes after each game

U-12 Short Sided Games

The Field

Dimensions: Maximum 100 yards long by 50 yards wide
(100 yards x 50 yards)

Markings: Distinctive lines not more than five (5) inches wide

Halfway line the width of the field, marked equidistant between the goal lines

Center circle with a 10 yard radius in the center of the field

Corner arcs with a one (1) yard radius at each corner of the field

Goal area: Six (6) yards from each goalpost and six (6) yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal line

Penalty area in front of each goal measuring 18 yards by 36 yards (18 yards x 36 yards)

Goals: Maximum 8 feet high by 8 yards wide (8 ft x 8yards)

The Region shall provide fields as close to this ideal as practical given space availability.

The Ball

Size four (4)

Duration of Game

Two equal halves of twenty-five minutes each with halftime break of five to ten minutes.

Number of Players

Maximum number of players on the field at any time: nine (9); one of whom will be a goalkeeper

Maximum number of players on roster not to exceed 11

Minimum number of players on the field shall be 6; fewer than 6 will result in a forfeit. In a forfeited game, players should be borrowed to even the sides.

Separate girls and boys divisions will be formed.

Playing Time

All players must play 3/4 of the game unless they arrive late, are injured, or are ill.

No player may sit out two consecutive substitution periods of the game unless they arrive late, are injured or are ill.

Players who arrive during the first quarter must play a minimum of two quarters.

Players who arrive during the second or third quarters must play a minimum of one quarter.

No player may be the goalkeeper for more than three quarters and the goalkeeper must play at least one quarter as a field player during each game.

Substitutions shall be at a stoppage in play approximately mid-way in each half and at halftime or for injuries.

The Executive Board must approve any exceptions.

Referees

The referee could be either a registered referee or a trained youth referee.

Each team will provide a uniformed certified assistant referee for their sideline.

Referees should emphasize fun, fairness, safety, and learning.

Referee decisions are final on points of fact connected with the game.

At this level referees should briefly explain any infringements to the player(s) and help players with instructions.

All referees must be registered AYSO volunteers.

Referee decisions are final and must not be questioned by coaches.

Referees will work cooperatively with the coaches and eliminate the need for cautions and send-offs.

Other Information

No change from regular FIFA play.

Region standings are recorded and game scores are posted.

Parents, coaches, and players from both teams exchange handshakes after each game

U-14 Games

The Field

Full size fields as specified in FIFA are recommended. The Region shall provide fields as close to this ideal as practical given space availability.

The Ball

Size five (5)

Duration of Game

Two equal halves of 30 minutes each for U14
There will be a minimum halftime break of five minutes.

Number of Players

Maximum number of players on the field at any time: eleven (11); one of whom will be a goalkeeper
Maximum number of players on roster shall not exceed 14.
Minimum number of players on the field shall be 7; fewer than 7 will result in a forfeit. In a forfeited game, players should be borrowed to even the sides.
Separate girls and boys divisions will be formed

Playing Time

All players must play ½ of the game unless they arrive late, are injured, or are ill.

No player may sit out two consecutive substitution periods of the game unless they arrive late, are injured or are ill.

Players who arrive during the first quarter must play a minimum of two quarters.
Players who arrive during the second or third quarters must play a minimum of one quarter.

A player may be the goalkeeper for the entire game.

Substitutions shall be at a stoppage in play approximately mid-way in each half and at halftime or for injuries.

The Executive Board must approve any exceptions.

Referees

The referee and assistant referees shall be trained and registered referees.
Referees should emphasize fun, fairness, safety, and learning.
Referee decisions are final on points of fact connected with the game.
The referee will work cooperatively with the coaches to eliminate the need for cautions and send-offs.

Other Information

No change from FIFA rules for regular play.

Region standings and game scores are recorded and posted for U14.

Coaches and players from both teams exchange handshakes after each game

U-16 & U-19 Games

Rules are determined by the Area level since the teams play against other Area Teams. The following information is *for reference only*.

The Field

Full size fields as specified in FIFA are recommended. The Region shall provide fields as close to this ideal as practical given space availability.

The Ball

Size five (5)

Duration of Game

Two equal halves of 40 minutes each for U-16; 45 minutes each for U-19.
There will be a minimum halftime break of five minutes.

Number of Players

Maximum number of players on the field at any time: eleven (11); one of whom will be a goalkeeper
Maximum number of players on roster shall not exceed 18 (except when the Executive Board of Directors deems it necessary to increase the roster size for U19, then it shall not exceed 22 players).
Minimum number of players on the field shall be 7; fewer than 7 will result in a forfeit. In a forfeited game, players should be borrowed to even the sides.
Separate girls and boys divisions will be formed

Playing Time

All players must play ½ of the game unless they arrive late, are injured, or are ill.

Players who arrive after the game has started until the final 20 minutes must play a minimum of one half of the remaining time.

A player may be the goalkeeper for the entire game.

Substitutions: free substitution for U16 & U19.

The Executive Board must approve any exceptions.

Referees

The referee and assistant referees shall be trained and registered referees.
Referees should emphasize fun, fairness, safety, and learning.
Referee decisions are final on points of fact connected with the game.
The referee will work cooperatively with the coaches to minimize the need for cautions and send-offs.

Other Information

No change from FIFA rules for regular play.

Area S will post information for U16 & U19.

Coaches and players from both teams exchange handshakes after each game

Appendix B - Spring Season Formats

Spring Season game formats are distributed to the coaches each Spring.