



**AREA 10-S**  
**2013 U16 and U19 SEASON GUIDELINES**

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

All participants (coaches, players, and spectators) in Area 10S are expected to follow these Guidelines with a positive and sportsmanlike spirit, for the benefit of all of the people who participate and play soccer in our respective programs.

**1. Conduct**

The No. 1 priority in AYSO athletic competition is fulfilling the AYSO Mission and Vision statements.

**VISION STATEMENT:** To provide world class youth soccer programs that enrich children's lives. The **AYSO MISSION** is to develop and deliver quality youth soccer programs which promote a fun, family environment based on our philosophies: **Everyone Plays, Open Registration, Balanced Teams, Positive Coaching, Good Sportsmanship, and Player Development.**

Taunting, baiting, ridiculing motions and body language, chasing down, pointing, hollering, chesting-up, trash talking used to incite or intimidate or otherwise getting "in the face" of an opponent, referee, official, spectator, or other designated officials during play, after play or in the general vicinity of the fields is not acceptable conduct. It will be subject to disciplinary action by the referee, area director, area staff, regional commissioner, or regional staff. Further disciplinary actions may be taken by the appropriate regional commissioner and/or the area director or section director.

Each regional commissioner shall be responsible for the conduct of their coaches, who in turn shall be responsible for the conduct of their players and spectators, all of whom shall display the most positive aspects of good sportsmanship in keeping with the AYSO philosophy. All of our young people deserve the best examples of sportsmanship and goodwill toward all players and participants and respect should be exhibited at all times to the referees and AYSO officials.

***Coaches and parents are the foremost role models in the teaching of good sportsmanship to your athletes, and must play a leadership role in demonstrating appropriate conduct.***

## **2. Coordination**

The area director or designee shall coordinate inter-regional play. All decisions concerning fields, schedules, re-play or re-scheduling of games due to emergencies, etc., shall be made by the area director or designee and shall be final.

## **3. Eligibility**

Only eligible and registered players may play. Each regional commissioner is responsible for ensuring the eligibility of the players from their own region. Teams playing non-eligible players shall be subject to discipline within the discretion of the area director.

## **4. Player Registration Forms**

- A. Coaches must have in their possession at all times a valid Player Registration form, with original parent/guardian signature, for each player on the team.
- B. Upon request, the coach will present the Player Registration form of all players shown on the game card to the area official in charge of field use or to the referee on the field. There is no formal team check in. **NO FORM OR FORMS, NO PLAY, NO EXCEPTION!**

## **5. Roster Changes and Additions**

No roster changes or additions may be made after October 1, 2013. Regional Commissioners must report all roster changes before October 1, 2013 to the area director or designee. Failure to do so may result in player ineligibility. Coaches are responsible for reporting all injuries and player drops to their region as they occur. Failure to report player drops wherein wait-listed players cannot be added prior to the October 1, 2013 deadline or an unfair substitution advantage has been created may, at the discretion of the regional commissioner and area director, disqualify a team from area playoffs or section competition. To be eligible for post season play, a player shall have played in at least ½ of all matches from the start of the season.

## **6. Home Team / Uniform Conflicts**

The home team for spectator placement and supplying 3 game balls is the team listed first on the schedule. Home team spectators will occupy the north or west side of the field. The home team is responsible for changing jersey color in the event of a color conflict or when the center referee determines it is necessary. Teams are responsible for supplying pennies for color change.

## **7. Field Responsibility**

- A. Park host region will have the responsibility of striping each field for use.
- B. **It is the responsibility of all teams to set up goals, nets and corner flags when they have the first match of the day.** It is the responsibility of the coach to secure adult (non-player) assistance in supervising the set up of goals. Players are not permitted to put up goals without the direct supervision and participation of an able adult. The field shall be set up 45 minutes prior to match time. *For any delay, time may be deducted from the match. It is not the field*

*monitor or referee's responsibility to set goals properly. Persistent disregard for ignoring field set up responsibilities will result in disqualification from secondary play (Area 10S Playoffs, Section Playoffs).*

- C. **It is the responsibility of all teams to take down goals, nets and corner flags when they have the last match of the day.** The same condition for adult supervision and participation in the take down of goals as described in 7.A above applies.
- D. It is the responsibility of all teams: coaches, players, and spectators to clean up any trash on their side of the field at the end of the match, or any other time the referee or field monitor makes the request for the safety of the players.

## **8. Matches**

- A. It is expected that each team will play all of its scheduled matches. Failure to do so without a valid and verifiable reason that is communicated in a timely manner may result in disciplinary action against the coach or team within the discretion of the area director or designee.
- B. Matches commence at check-in.
- C. U-19 games will consist of two 40-minute halves.  
U-16 games will consist of two 35-minute halves. The area director or designee may shorten any match at his/her discretion.
- D. U16 and U19 matches shall operate with free substitutions.
- E. Section 10 U16/U19 playoffs will operate without free substitutions. Details regarding the specific substitution policy will be made available when they are received.
- F. Point Scoring
  - 6 points for a win
  - 3 points for a tie
  - 1 point for a shutout (0-0 score = 4 points)
  - 1 point for each goal scored (max of 3)
- G. All yellow and red cards accumulated during the season will reset to “zero” during the semi-final playoffs. The card count during “quarter final” or “tournament style” playoffs may or may not be reset as to determined by area director and regional commissioner’s.

## **9. Number of Players, Grace Periods and Rescheduling**

- A. A minimum of seven eligible players shall constitute a team. A scheduled match shall not commence, nor be continued if one or both teams cannot field a team.

- B. A grace period of up to ten minutes may be granted by the area director or designee, to allow additional time for a team to field at least seven players. If, after the grace period has expired, a team still has an insufficient number of players, the area director or designee may suspend or shorten the match if one or both teams are not ready to play. All matches (and scrimmage games resulting from forfeits) must end prior to the scheduled start of the next match.
- C. Matches canceled due to weather or other natural causes may not be feasible to reschedule. All questions regarding rescheduling, including decisions on forfeits will be within the discretion of the area director, whose decision will be final.

## 10. Uniforms

Every player shall wear a matching team uniform that consists of matching jersey, shorts and socks as provided by their region. Metal braces, studs, earrings and any other hard or metal jewelry or other objects including string friendship necklaces and bracelets are not allowed. Bandannas are not allowed. The goalkeeper may not wear hard brimmed hats. No hair adornments shall be worn. No player shall have painted decorations on their face or arms.

Commercially manufactured shin guards of the appropriate size (recommended height should cover a minimum of three quarters of the shin) are **MANDATORY**. Shin guards must be worn *under the sock*. The sock shall not be folded down over the shin guard as to give the appearance that the shin guard is covered by the sock. A player shall wear the same colored sock on both feet.

Bicycle shorts are permitted; however, they must be of the same solid color. They do not have to match the color of the team's uniform shorts. All shirts must be tucked into the shorts at check-in and during the match. Shorts must be worn at an appropriate height so that underwear is covered up.

## 11. Game Cards

It is the responsibility of each coach to present a properly completed game card to the official at check-in. Game cards **MUST** be filled out in **number order** with EVERY player on the team listed. Game cards **MUST** be LEGIBLE. Illnesses, injuries, or other absences **MUST** also be noted on the game card. A coach who has two consecutive games where absent players are not indicated on the game card may be penalized one point in their game standing for each deficient game card submitted thereafter. Game cards printed by the coach must be of CARD STOCK thickness. No paper game cards will be accepted.

## 12. Substitution

- A. Except for injury / illness, tardiness and game misconduct issues, all players must play at least one-half of all games. For all U16 matches and U19 matches, free substitutions are permitted. They shall be permitted at the following stoppages of play: (1) Any stoppage of play as long as the assistant referee has been notified prior to a stoppage in play. **Each team is responsible for their own time keeping of substitutions.** Teams may be observed by area staff for one-half game requirements.

- i. Coaches may not permit a player that has been identified as ill or injured on the game card prior to the game, to participate in the game. The penalty for the use of an injured or ill player or player that has not been properly identified as being eligible prior to entering the field of play may include suspension of the coach and/or forfeiture of the match at the discretion of the area director.
- B. Goalkeeper changes are permitted before the taking of a penalty kick only with a player already on the field and with the referee's permission. Players who become injured may be substituted for, or the team may elect to play short. The injured player shall be allowed to re-enter the field with the referee's permission and signal.
- C. Substitutes must wait for the referee's signal before entering the field of play and must enter at the halfway line. The player leaving the field must do so before the substitute entering the field of play will be allowed to enter the field and must leave at the halfway line. At no time may a coach, assistant coach, player, substitute, or parent enter the field without first obtaining the referee's permission.
- D. If a team coach, assistant coach, parent, or team representative enters the field of play to attend to an injured player either by his or her own request or the request of the referee, that player must leave the field of play immediately or when safe to do so, and may not return until his or her team's next substitution opportunity. The same team may choose to play short or substitute the injured player with the referee's permission. This rule does not apply to goalkeepers.
- E. Suspected concussion injury. Any player with suspected brain injury shall be removed from play and may not return until examined and released by a physician. This may be observed and reported by the referee crew, coach, parents, players, area director, area staff and / or regional staff. The coach must report the injury to their region and complete an incident report.

### **13. Disciplinary Action**

The provisions of Paragraph 13, Disciplinary Action, are intended to cover the regular Area S league season and all post-season tournament games.

- A. Violent conduct, use of offensive, derogatory, insulting or abusive language or action, serious foul play, and/or disruptive conduct toward opponents, referees or officials can result in immediate send off, and secondary disciplinary action. It is the responsibility of each coach to counsel their players and spectators regarding positive and sportsmanlike conduct at all times.

Coaches must take swift action during the course of the match if one of their players begins to show signs of disruptive or unsporting behavior towards an opponent or an official. This action

should include warning and/or removing the player from the field of play until the coach is satisfied that the player is capable of resuming participation in the match.

The grabbing or striking of an opposing or own teams player's genitals will be considered violent conduct.

If the player's conduct does not warrant re-entry into the match, the coach shall inform the assistant referee who shall note it on the game card and report it to the area director, or designee, at the end of the match (if the player did not play in half of the match).

***Players, spectators and coaches who are asked to leave the match shall leave the field and the area around the field immediately. The referee shall, with discretion, suspend the match until this is complied with, or shall terminate the match, if necessary. Players under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.***

- B. Coaches, spectators or designee who are sent off from a match for violent conduct **shall** be suspended from participation in **ALL** subsequent matches for the remainder of the season, including playoffs and post season play.
- C. Players who are sent off from a match for violent conduct and/or serious foul play **shall**, upon the area director's evaluation, receive additional game suspensions or full suspension from participation in **ALL** subsequent matches for the remainder of the season including playoffs and all post season play. (See Area Review Board process under item 13.I)
- D. Players, coaches or spectators who are sent off prior to, during or after a match for any other reason will be suspended from all participation in the remainder of the match and from the entire **NEXT** match, including playoffs. The area director may choose to extend the suspension beyond the next match. Additionally, a region may choose to extend the suspension beyond the next match and is encouraged to closely monitor the behavior.

It is the responsibility of the area director or designee to notify the regional commissioner of player and coaching suspensions. The RCA and RRA of the host region will be notified of any suspensions to be carried out in matches scheduled in their parks. Upon area notification, it is the host region's responsibility to advise the referee of the suspension. However, full responsibility to ensure that game suspensions are carried out rests with the team's regional commissioner or their designee.

It is the responsibility of the regional commissioner to ensure that the coach and/or player are aware of the suspension prior to the team's next match. This includes all playoff matches and suspensions issued during league competition.

- E. Any player, coach spectator who seeks out another player, spectator, referee or official for the purpose of taunting, fighting or threatens the well-being of a player, spectator, referee or official either before, during or after a match either on or in the vicinity of the playing fields or parking areas, including adjacent streets, home, by email, text message, social network posting, will be suspended from all further play during the season, including playoffs and post season tournaments.***

Coaches shall keep their teams assembled for a brief time after each contest to ensure that the team leaves the fields for the day peacefully and responsibly. Any player removing their jersey prior to leaving the parking area, including adjacent streets, will be presumed to be seeking out another for the purpose of fighting.

- F. Players accumulating a total of two red cards or “send-offs” may be ineligible for any further participation for the remainder of the season, including playoffs and post season play. Players accumulating a total of TWO yellow cards for Dissent only shall be suspended for the next game. Players accumulating THREE yellow cards for the other six cautionable offenses shall be suspended for the next game. Multiple yellow cards in the area of dissent and persistent infringement will be reviewed with particular concern.
- G. Any player who receives an accumulation of two red cards resulting from multiple yellow cards issuance’s during league play will be reviewed by the player’s home region to determine eligibility for further participation.
- H. An accumulation of three red cards resulting from multiple yellow card issuances may result in immediate disqualification for the remainder of the season including playoffs and post season tournament play.
- I. Any coach who is sent off the field for reasons other than violent conduct, may appear before the Area Review Board consisting of impartial regional commissioners (those without teams in the match under review) and area staff per area directors request (5 persons minimum). Said Review Board shall determine the recommended disciplinary action, and give said recommendation to the area director for final approval.

Any player that is suspended under conditions in item C, may request a review of the disciplinary action to the area director. Such requests must be in writing and may be submitted via fax, mail or email. The area director may convene an Area Review Board whether in person or via telephone of the impartial regional commissioners (those without teams in the match under review). Said Review Board shall determine the recommended disciplinary action, and give said recommendation to the area director for final approval.

The Review Board shall have the authority to recommend suspensions and/or ejection from the program. The area referee administrator or designee, will govern over any law interpretations

that may be needed. The area director or designee will be the deciding vote in instances where there is a split decision by the panel. In cases where extreme delicacy or confidentiality is needed, the area director will determine whether a Review Board will be convened.

- J. Any player receiving a caution (yellow card) **does not** have to be substituted for but may be if the coach feels it necessary. See F and G for the consequences of accumulating yellow cards.
- K. If any player or coach who has been suspended under these guidelines is found to have participated in a match from which he or she was suspended under these guidelines, that team may (under review) forfeit all remaining matches of the season, including playoffs. Any offending coach may be banned from further Area S participation for the balance of the season at the discretion of the area director. The coach in violation may be listed within the AYSO database and banned from further participation.
- L. Any team (which definition shall include players, coaches and their spectators) causing the termination of two matches for disciplinary reasons will be suspended for the remainder of the season, including playoffs and post season tournaments.

#### **14. Referee Game Misconduct Reports and Other Disciplinary Reports**

- A. It is the responsibility of the host region (the regional commissioner or designee) to immediately report to the area director any disciplinary action, infraction or any other incident requiring a written report arising out of Saturday's games before 9:00 pm the evening of the match or incident. A copy of the misconduct report or written statement should be emailed to [area10sdirector@gmail.com](mailto:area10sdirector@gmail.com).
- B. Referees shall submit a written report (Referee Game Misconduct Report) in the event of: (1) All red and yellow cards; (2) Any conduct by coaches or spectators that interfere with the control of the match; (3) Abuse of the free substitution and AYSO minimum play rules which may come to the attention of the referee; and (4) Any other action which the referee or host region determine merits a report.
- C. Referee Game Misconduct Reports must be filed with the area referee administrator with a copy to the area director or designee by 9:00 pm the evening of the match. (The reports may be transmitted via facsimile with the hard copy delivered the following day for Sunday play.) **The referee team is responsible for the completion of the Referee Game Misconduct Report as soon as possible and prior to leaving the field for the day.** The regional commissioner or their designee is responsible for transmitting to the ARA and the AD the Referee Game Misconduct Report resulting from Saturday matches.



#### **15. Match Results / Game Cards**

It is the responsibility of the host region (the regional commissioner or designee) to report Saturday match results to the area coach administrator, and bring all game cards from Saturday's matches to the Sunday field sites.

#### **16. Season Standings and Tie Breaking Rule**

Regional season standings will be determine which team will represent the region in area league playoffs, subject to the final decision of the area director. Ties in the standings will be broken by the area tie breaking rules. In divisions where distribution of bye games occur in an unequal manner, record keeping of win/loss records of the area statistician are the official records and will be used in determining tie breaking issues.

Tie breaking rule in order; 1. Head to Head, 2. Goals Allowed, 3. Goals Scored, 4. Shut out Victories (not including forfeits), 5. FIFA Shots from the Mark to determine a winner. In the event of a three way tie the area director and regional commissioners shall determine the tie break method.

#### **17. Protests**

While constructive input is always welcomed, **APPEALS AND PROTESTS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

Any questions should go to your regional coach administrator, or regional commissioner.