



AYSO SECTION 1 RULES & REGULATIONS 2022-2023



All play within Section 1 will be conducted in accordance with the current IFAB Laws of the Game, AYSO National Rules and Regulations and these Section 1 Rules and Regulations. Participation in Section 1 play is by invitation. The privilege of participating in Section Playoffs is not automatic, but by invitation. The Area Directors will advance teams which demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship and character to Section play. The Section Director will advance teams which demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship and character to Western States Championships when scheduled.

I. PLAYER REGISTRATION / PLACEMENT / TRANSFER TEAM FORMATION

- A. No registration, placement, or transfer of players shall be accepted after dates shown on the Section 1 Calendar.
- B. Teams shall not be formed after dates shown on the Section calendar.
- C. A complete listing of teams by division, indicating the players and birth dates thereon, shall be submitted to the respective Area Director, upon their request, or as directed by the Section Director.
- D. The effective date of age determination shall be calendar year or the registrant's age as of December 31 in the same year as the end of AYSO competition and end of Membership Year.

II. COMPETITION

- A. League champions shall be determined by a system devised by the Region Board prior to the start of the season.
- B. The program for Division 16U and 19U play permits free player substitution at the discretion of the Regional Commissioner with the prior approval of the Area Director. This departure from traditional player substitution procedures shall not apply to Area, Section or AYSO Western States Championships, absent prior notification to the contrary from the Section Director. To the extent that a region wishes to use "free substitution," it must use some form of independent monitoring system (other than the coach) to ensure that every participant plays at least half of every game. It shall be the joint responsibility of the regional commissioner and the Area Director to monitor the application of this free substitution to ensure strict adherence and compliance with playing time as defined in National Rules & Regulations Article 1.C.1. Failure to adequately monitor for compliance may be grounds for revocation of the free substitution option.
- C. In order for a team to be eligible for league playoff competition, the team must play a minimum of six AYSO regional or inter-regional games.
- D. In order to be eligible for league playoff competition a player must have played in at least half of the total number of league games played by that playoff team to

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which he/she was assigned during the regular season, except in the situation where the player is assigned in time to meet this requirement but is unable to play because of illness, injury, or a change of residence which causes a change of regions.

- E. Any player or coach who received a red card for fighting during the previous year's Section playoffs will be ineligible to participate in the current year's Section playoffs.
- F. Any player determined to have participated on two league teams concurrently shall not be permitted to participate in any post-season playoff games, league or All-Star.
- G. League champions may compete in a playoff to determine Area champions. Area champions may compete in a playoff to determine Section champions.
- H. Each charter region may enter teams, as approved by Area Director, from Divisions 10U through 19U in the Area championships. Teams in Divisions 8U and 6U are not eligible for playoffs.
- I. Section 1 will be responsible to provide only a Championship Playoff for Area league champions. Section 1 league champions may compete in a playoff, when available, to determine Western States Champions.
- J. All playoff competition shall be conducted under these Rules & Regulations. The format of each Section playoff competition shall be determined by vote of the Area Directors after receiving the input of the Section Staff. The designated playoff chairman shall publish, at least 60 days prior to the commencement of the playoffs, administrative procedures necessary, but not in conflict with these Rules & Regulations.
- K. All playoff games shall be played as scheduled. The referee, the Section Director or the Tournament Director(s) for Section games shall have the authority to cancel or terminate such games.

III. ALL-STAR COMPETITION

- A. The All-Star program is intended to provide an opportunity for those players who have demonstrated outstanding soccer ability and who have displayed an attitude of fair play, enthusiasm, and cooperative team spirit to participate on a team composed of players who have similar qualifications. The Section may provide a Championship Playoff for Area All-Star teams. Section 1 All-Star champions may compete in a playoff, when available to determine State Champions.
- B. All-Star teams shall be formed no sooner than November 15 for Divisions 14U, 12U and 10U. A final team roster shall be given to the Area Director on or before a date established by the Area Director. This date shall be prior to the team's first scheduled game.
- C. Each Area shall determine its own competitive format.
- D. All-Star players must compete in the division in which they participated during the regular season.

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- E. To be eligible for All-Star competition a player must have played in at least half of the total number of league games played by the team to which he/she was assigned during the regular season, except in the situation where the player is assigned in time to meet this requirement but is unable to play because of illness, injury, or a change of residence which causes a change of region. All-Star players may not participate on an EXTRA team.
- F. Where not in conflict with Section V, paragraphs A-D above, the provisions of Sections I-IV of these Rules & Regulations shall apply.

IV. EXTRA COMPETITION

- A. The purpose of this program is to provide AYSO players who desire participation in a more competitive soccer experience a program that will satisfy their needs and will help develop their skills at a level they seek and at a cost that is consistent with other AYSO soccer programs. The Section may provide a Championship Playoff for Area EXTRA teams. Section 1 EXTRA champions may compete in a playoff, when available to determine State Champions.
- B. Each Playing Circuit/Area shall determine the EXTRA teams that are eligible to participate in Section Championship Playoffs based on Circuit Guidelines and slots available.
- C. Each Playing Circuit/Area shall determine its own competitive format.
- D. EXTRA players may not participate on an All-Star team
- E. Where not in conflict with paragraphs A-B above, or the AYSO EXTRA Program Guidelines, the provisions of Sections I-V of these Rules & Regulations shall apply.
- F. Program Organization
 - i. The Section 1 EXTRA Program will operate "Side-by-side".
 - ii. Section 1 EXTRA will be divided into two or more Playing Circuits made up of one or more Areas within the Section. The Area Directors that make up each Playing Circuit have the responsibility of managing the Circuit program.
 - iii. Each Playing Circuit should have, at minimum, the following Staff members
 - 1. Director: Responsible for making sure that all of those participating in the Playing Circuit abide by the EXTRA Program Guidelines for the Playing Circuit, the Section Rules and Regulations and the AYSO EXTRA Rules and Regulations
 - 2. Referee Administrator
 - 3. Coach Administrator
 - 4. Disciplinary Review Panel Coordinator
 - 5. Other Staff may be added as deemed necessary, such as:
 - a. Treasurer

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- b. Game Scheduler
- c. Statistician
- d. Referee Scheduler
- e. Divisional Coordinator
- f. Team Registrar

G. Region Eligibility and Responsibilities

- i. Each region wishing to participate in the EXTRA program must complete and submit the EXTRA program application to the Area, Playing Circuit, and Section each year.
- ii. Each Region is to submit “Regional EXTRA Operating Procedures” to the Region’s Area Director and Section Director and/or Section 1 EXTRA Program Director for approval
- iii. Each Region must be current in its accounts with the National Office.

H. Coach Eligibility

- i. In order to satisfy the commitment required by the EXTRA program, coaches should be fully dedicated to coaching an AYSO EXTRA team. Coaches participating in EXTRA should be of excellent character. At a minimum, EXTRA coaches (head and assistant) must:
 - 1. Have completed and passed “AYSO’s Safe Haven”,
 - 2. Have completed and passed the Center for Disease Control Concussion Training,
 - 3. Have completed and passed the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Training,
 - 4. Have completed and passed SafeSport Training,
 - 5. Have completed LiveScan,
 - 6. At minimum be a trained and certified Regional Referee

I. Team Format and Size

- i. Game formats will be small-sided games for younger divisions as follows:
 - 1. 9U & 10U – 7v7 with maximum roster of 10 players
 - 2. 11U & 12U – 9v9 with maximum roster size of 12 players
 - 3. 13U & 14U – 11v11 with maximum roster size of 15 players
 - 4. 15U and above – 11v11 with maximum roster size of 16 players
- ii. The 15U and above programs will conclude in time to comply with California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) rules.

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J. Team information, Rosters, and ID Cards

- i. The team information sheet and roster are to be forwarded by the Region to the Playing Circuit Director no later than 2 weeks prior to the start of competition.
 1. No team without a properly completed AYSO team roster, approved by the Regional Commissioner and verified by the Area Director, will be permitted to participate in the EXTRA program.
- ii. Team Information sheet to contain the following information for coach and assistant coach:
 1. Mailing address
 2. Cell phone and home numbers
 3. Email address
- iii. Roster Revisions
 1. Revisions to a roster may occur when a player voluntary drops from a team and is verified by the region. Players cannot be drafted from another AYSO team whose season is still in progress. The additional player must be approved by the Regional Commissioner and the Area Director.
 2. Revised rosters must be submitted to the appropriate authority prior to the new team member participating in a game.
- iv. Practice/Training
 1. Teams are not permitted to begin practice or engage in any training activity until all participating teams have been chosen within their Region and approved by the Regional Commissioner, but no sooner than August 1 of the new membership year.
 2. Only players on the official roster are permitted to participate in team training.

K. Referee Eligibility

- i. Referees participating in the EXTRA Program should be of excellent character.
- ii. At a minimum, referees shall:
 1. Have completed and passed "AYSO's Safe Haven",
 2. Have completed and passed the Center for Disease Control Concussion Training,
 3. Have completed and passed the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Training,
 4. Have completed and passed SafeSport Training,
 5. Have completed LiveScan,

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- iii. All referees participating shall obtain ID cards from their Regional Commissioner or Regional Referee Administrator that will bear their name, recent photo, AYSO ID# current certification level and the signature of the Regional Commissioner or Regional Referee Administrator.

V. OFFICIATING

- A. Referees and/or assistant referees for regional competition shall be assigned by respective commissioner or their appointed designee.
- B. Referees and/or assistant referees for exhibition and Section Playoffs and Western States Championship games shall be assigned by the Section Director or designated representative.
- C. In all Section championship playoffs, all officials must, wherever possible, be chosen from regions not in the contest being played.
- D. Any Area failing to identify officials to cover their allocated matches later than 48 hours prior to the opening day of the competition shall be ineligible for wildcard positions for that competition for a period of one (1) year.
- E. All volunteers must be registered in the current membership year to be eligible to officiate.
- F. In all Section championship playoffs, all officials must be certified as Intermediate Referees or higher.
- G. All officials must be identified no later than 48 hours prior to the opening day of the competition or be subject to the sanction of Section V, D.
- H. All officials must be in proper uniform and display the highest badge earned to be eligible for match assignments.

VI. DURATION OF SEASON

- A. The official playing season of Section 1 shall be from August through the end of playoffs. Dates of season(s) other than the above shall be approved by the respective Area Director and by the Section Director.

VII. HEADING THE BALL

- A. Heading for players in 14U is limited to a maximum of thirty (30) minutes per week with no more than 15-20 headers, per player. There is no restriction on heading in matches. An indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team if a 12U or below player, deliberately touches the ball with his/her head during a game.
 - i. The indirect free kick is to be taken from the place where the player touched the ball with his/her head.
 - ii. An indirect free kick awarded to the attacking team inside the opposing team's goal area, must be taken on the goal area line at the point nearest to where the player touched the ball with his/her head.

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- B. Neither cautions nor send-offs shall be issued for persistent infringement or denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity related to the heading infractions.
- C. There is no restriction on heading in 14U or 13U EXTRA and older divisions.

VIII. INCIDENT & MISCONDUCT REPORTING

- A. The Tournament Director of all Nationally sanctioned tournaments held in Section 1 must submit written Misconduct Reports (form available on Section 1 website <https://ayso1ref.com/misconduct-report>) for all incidents of serious foul play or violent conduct to Area and Section Staff within 72 hours.

IX. INJURIES

- A. Each site will have all insurance forms & incident reports as well as any emergency phone numbers. A first aid kit should be available as well.

X. AMENDMENTS

- A. These Rules & Regulations may be amended by a majority of the executive members of the Section voting in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting, or at a special meeting called for that purpose by the Section Director or by any ten (10) executive members. A majority of the executive members, present either in person or by proxy shall be necessary to constitute a quorum at the Annual or Special Meeting.
- B. Prior written notice of a special meeting of the executive members called under the provisions of this Section specifying the time, date, location, and purpose of the special meeting shall be furnished to each executive member electronically or by deposit in the United States mail service postmarked no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the special meeting.

Revised July 2022