



AYSO Area 11-Q Guidelines

December 1, 2011



1 General

- 1.1 All Area 11-Q programs shall be conducted in accordance with the current AYSO National Rules and Regulations, AYSO National Policy Statements, the current FIFA Laws of the Game (AYSO Edition), the Section 11 Guidelines and the Area Q Guidelines as contained herein.
- 1.2 The Area 11-Q Guidelines are intended to compliment and/or cover situations not fully addressed by other prevailing rules, regulations or guidelines.
- 1.3 Any situation or subject not covered by the aforementioned rules, regulations or guidelines shall be decided upon by the area director.
- 1.4 Authorities and responsibilities of the area director as defined in the Area 11-Q Guidelines may be delegated to a third person at their discretion.
- 1.5 The Area 11-Q Guidelines apply to all teams participating in any Area 11-Q leagues or playoffs. These guidelines may be superseded or not in effect during the following situations:
 - 1.5.1 Tournaments (independent of a season or league) when separate tournament guidelines shall take precedence.
 - 1.5.2 Section or inter-area play guidelines shall take precedence when published.
 - 1.5.3 The published rules of play for each specific program shall take precedence over these guidelines. Rules of play will be published on the Area 11-Q web site (www.ayso11q.org).
- 1.6 Definitions
 - 1.6.1 Guest player: A registered AYSO regular season player from a different AYSO region who participated in the current or just concluded primary/regular (Fall) AYSO season.
 - 1.6.2 Outside player: Any player not currently registered in AYSO or not participating in the current or just-concluded primary/regular (Fall) AYSO season.
 - 1.6.3 Primary Program: In Area 11-Q the primary program is the Fall regular season which includes the Fall league and FLEX programs.
 - 1.6.4 Secondary Programs: Any program other than the primary program and any associated playoffs. This includes all-stars, area league playoffs, section playoffs and spring select.

2 Jurisdiction

- 2.1 The Area 11-Q Board of Directors shall consist of voting members and staff members.
- 2.2 Executive members shall include the area director and regional commissioners. At this writing Area 11-Q has seven (7) regions and therefore the regional commissioners will constitute the voting members of the board. The area director shall serve only as a tie breaker.
- 2.3 Area staff members include the assistant director, coach administrator, referee administrator, treasurer, secretary, program directors, and any other staff designated by the area director.
- 2.4 Area meetings will be held each month, barring any special circumstances. There should be

maximum participation in the Area 11-Q monthly meetings either by the regional commissioners or a designated region representative.

- 2.5 The majority of the executive members or their designee shall constitute a quorum; however, every effort will be made to include each regional commissioner in voting issues.
 - 2.5.1 If a region is not represented at the meeting and time is not a factor, an email call for vote will be issued. The regional commissioner then has forty-eight hours in which to reply or will lose their ability to cast a vote on the particular issue at hand.
 - 2.5.2 In emergency situations the area director shall email and call each regional commissioner or their designated representative to notify them of the issue and that they have twenty-four (24) hours in which to vote. If every effort was made to contact them and their designated representative, and no contact could be made, they lose the ability to vote as long as four votes are established.
- 2.6 Only one vote per region shall count and a simple majority shall carry any vote by the Area 11-Q Board of Directors, unless noted otherwise.
- 2.7 Regional Commissioners may designate a representative to cast a substitute vote in their absence.
- 2.8 The area director and area staff, with the cooperation of the regional commissioners, shall have jurisdiction over all inter-region games played within area 11-q.
- 2.9 The regional commissioners shall have jurisdiction over all regional games played in their region and shall be responsible for the coordination of their respective region.
- 2.10 Any information posted to the Area 11-Q website (www.ayso11q.org) will be considered an official communication for Area 11-Q administered programs. It is the responsibility of all AYSO members in Area 11-Q to monitor the website for all applicable information.

3 Participation

- 3.1 Eligibility
 - 3.1.1 Each region shall be responsible for the selection of coaches, balancing teams and for insuring eligibility of its players and coaches.
 - 3.1.2 All players must be registered with AYSO in the current year (August 1 – July 31) in order to participate in area leagues or playoffs.
 - 3.1.3 To be eligible for the fall season area playoffs or all-star season, players must have been registered by October 1st.
 - 3.1.4 Coaches shall be registered as an AYSO volunteer for the current membership year; be Safe Haven certified and have the appropriate coach certification. Refer to the guidelines of each specific program for coach certification requirements.
 - 3.1.5 Each region agrees to host at least one division in the playoffs for each program. The host region will be responsible for the fields, check-in and on-site supervision of the games.
- 3.2 Rosters
 - 3.2.1 The regional commissioner shall be responsible for submitting a certified team rosters for each team to the area director or designated representative no later than one (1) week prior to play. Rosters shall include the following information:
 - a The region, gender and age division identification.
 - b Coach's name, phone number(s) and email address.
 - c Assistant coach's name, phone number(s) and email address.

- d Player information: AYSO ID number, name, telephone number, birthday, and age.
 - e Uniform colors and team name (if available).
 - f Signature of the Regional Commissioner or Assistant Regional Commissioner certifying that the players and coaches are eligible and approved to participate in area play.
- 3.2.2 No team will be allowed to participate in any Area Q games without a properly completed team roster signed by the regional commissioner or their designee. The team must be in possession of the signed roster at each game.
- 3.2.3 Changes to the team roster will be permitted in accordance with AYSO National Rules and Regulations and the program guidelines.
- 3.2.4 In the event of a change in the roster, a copy of the revised roster shall be forwarded to the Area Director and Area Program Director prior to the next scheduled game.
- 3.2.5 Substitute coaches may be used without requiring a roster change. A substitute coach must be from the same region or be a member of the area coaching staff and have an ID card (when required).
- 3.3 Identification Cards (ID Cards)
- 3.3.1 ID cards are required for all players and coaches who are involved in inter-region play, except the Fall area league playoffs.
- 3.3.2 Unless specified by the program rules, the ID cards used must be those provided by AYSO National.
- 3.3.3 Player ID cards must include:
- a Current picture of the player
 - b AYSO ID number
 - c Player name
 - d Player birth date
 - e Region
 - f Season
 - g Signature of the regional commissioner or their designee (stamped or automated signatures are acceptable)
- 3.3.4 Coach ID cards must include:
- a Current picture of the coach
 - b AYSO ID number
 - c Coach name
 - d Region
 - e Season
 - f Signature of the regional commissioner or their designee (stamped or automated signatures are acceptable)
- 3.3.5 Information on the ID cards may be printed or hand written.
- 3.3.6 All AYSO ID Cards must be laminated.
- 3.4 AYSO Registration and Medical Release Forms
- 3.4.1 An AYSO Registration Form must be completed for each player and must bear an original

signature.

3.4.2 Player Registration Forms must be in possession of the coach or their designee at all AYSO sponsored events (games, practices, scrimmages, party, ...).

3.4.3 No player may participate in an AYSO sponsored event without a properly completed and signed AYSO Registration Form.

3.4.4 As these forms contain personal information, referees may not examine these forms prior to a game.

3.5 Finances

3.5.1 A budget will be provided and approved by the Area Board prior to each program.

3.5.2 Each region agrees to pay AYSO Area 11-Q a fee to cover the area administrative costs, fields, medals, pins, referee coins, and any other costs incurred. This fee is to be included in the budget and finalized prior to the season.

4 Fields

4.1 Each region shall provide field allocations for each program. Field allocations shall be based on the number of teams and number of games played per day. A one and a half (1½) hour time slot for each U9 - U14 team and a two (2) hour time slot for each U16 or U19 team shall be provided for league games. The following shall be included in the field allocations:

4.1.1 Field name including designation (Field 1, A, North, East, ...)

4.1.2 Field address and map link (if not included on the current area web site)

4.1.3 GPS address if different from physical address.

4.1.4 Saturday availability (start time and end time, specifying dawn to dusk is ok)

4.1.5 Sunday availability (start time and end time, specifying dawn to dusk is ok)

4.1.6 If the field has lights (if not in your control, include time lights automatically turn off)

4.1.7 Weeknight availability (start time and end time)

4.1.8 Block out dates or times

4.1.9 Include any fees that will be passed on to Area Q

4.1.10 Special instructions

4.2 Each region commissioner shall be responsible for the playing fields used in their respective region and ensure the utmost player safety.

4.3 Each region shall supply the goals, the nets, corner flags and the field markings for their respective field(s).

4.4 Field set-up and take-down shall be the responsibility of the hosting region, even if the host region does not have a team playing in the game.

4.5 The home and visiting coach are each responsible for cleaning up their general area after each game.

4.6 For the safety of our players, dogs and pets are not permitted at any games, except for properly identified service animals.

4.7 Field closures will be reported promptly by each region. Each field must have a their information posted on the Area 11-Q web site or have posted a link or phone number to that region's mud line information.

5 Teams

5.1 Teams

- 5.1.1 The minimum number of players required to constitute a team to begin or continue a game are as follows:
- a 11v11 at 7 players
 - b 9v9 or 8v8 at 6 players
 - c 7v7 at 5 players
- 5.1.2 If at any time during the game, the number of players on the field permanently drops below the minimum requirement the referee shall terminate the game (players temporarily off for equipment or injury shall not be considered). The game shall be reported as terminated by the referee in their report.
- 5.1.3 The number of players per side will be determined by the program guidelines. The following are the standard Area 11-Q and will be used unless specifically overridden by program guidelines approved by the Area 11-Q board of directors.
- a U13 and older: 11v11
 - b U11 and U12: 9v9
 - c U9 and U10: 7v7
- 5.1.4 The number of players per side will be determined by the program guidelines. The following are the standard Area 11-Q and will be used unless specifically overridden by program guidelines approved by the Area 11-Q board of directors.
- a U16 and older: 18 players (22 players maximum with approval by AD)
 - b U13 and U14: 15 players
 - c U11 and U12: 12 players
 - d U9 and U10: 10 players
- 5.1.5 At the request of the regional commissioner and the approval of the area director, the maximum number of players may be increased, but no more than would allow each team member to play at least half of each game.
- 5.1.6 Guest players and outside players are not permitted to participate in any Area matches, unless noted otherwise herein or specified in the program or tournament guidelines. The area director can approve special situations to allow the use of guest or outside players.

5.2 Uniforms

- 5.2.1 All uniforms shall be in accordance with AYSO National Rules and Regulations.
- 5.2.2 Players must wear the uniform jersey number shown on the team's official roster and/or game card. Players may not exchange jerseys.
- 5.2.3 Shin guards are mandatory. Socks must completely cover shin guards.
- 5.2.4 Goalkeepers may wear long pants, long sleeve shirt, elbow pads, knee pads, and a soft brim cap as approved by the referee. No other player shall wear knee or elbow pads.
- 5.2.5 Compression or sliding shorts may be worn provided they meet the requirements of the laws of the game (they may not extend below the knee and must be of the same color as the dominating color of the team uniform shorts or black).
- 5.2.6 When the colors of two teams are similar as judged by the referee, the home team shall

change jerseys or wear bibs.

5.2.7 No jewelry of any kind may be worn except medical bracelets, which shall be tapped down.

5.2.8 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 in the judgment of the referee so as to eliminate the possibility of its use causing injury to other players on the field of play.

5.2.9 Players may wear additional clothing to cover the body if required for medical or religious reasons.

6 Check-In

6.1 Coaches shall be prepared to present their team to the game official a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes prior to their scheduled game time.

6.1.1 Players shall be in full uniform with shin guards and ready for play.

6.1.2 The coach shall be prepared to present the following to the referee:

a A completed game (line-up) card including the name of each player on the team roster. It is helpful if the players are listed by uniform number in numerical order.

b Player ID Cards (all programs except the Fall area league playoffs)

c Coach ID Cards (all programs except the Fall area league playoffs)

6.1.3 Players not present at the team check-in shall report to the referee or assistant referee to be checked-in prior to being substituted into the match.

6.1.4 In the event the team is not prepared at the time mentioned above, a grace period shall be applied according to these rules and the program guidelines.

6.2 Player and coach ID cards shall be returned to the coaches immediately after checkin.

6.3 The referee will conduct a pre-game inspection prior to the start of each game.

6.4 The referee may not inspect the player registration and medical release forms.

6.5 The referee may not require the team to present an official team roster.

6.6 Refer to the program guidelines and posted instructions for additional check-in procedures.

7 Game Officials: Referees and Assistants

7.1 Regional referee administrators shall work closely with and under the direction and guidance of the area referee administrator.

7.2 Regional referee administrators shall determine the level at which each referee may officiate inter-regional and inter-area games.

7.3 It is the responsibility of the regional referee administrator to ensure that qualified referees are provided for all games.

7.4 Referees shall be at least two years older than the players in the respective game.

7.5 Game officials shall at all times uphold the Laws of the Game; the AYSO National, Section 11, Area 11-Q and program guidelines.

7.6 All referees shall be registered as an AYSO volunteer for the current membership year; be Safe Haven certified and at least Basic Referee certified or above.

7.7 All games shall be officiated using the Diagonal System of Control. The Dual Referee System shall not be used.

- 7.8 Referees may elect to use club linesmen when an insufficient number of certified assistant referees are available. Club linesmen responsibilities may be limited by the Referee.
- 7.9 The referee must inform the assistant referees and/or club linesmen which duties they are to assume in the current match, such as determining the direction of a throw-in, a goal kick, corner kick, throw-in; offside infractions and goals; fouls, or misconduct not seen by the referee; and instructions with regard to calls within the penalty area.
- 7.10 Whether using certified assistant referees or club linesmen, the referee is the final authority.
- 7.11 Discipline shall be up to the referee at each game. The referee shall have the power and authority to caution and send off players and warn and expel coaches (as well as spectators, in the case of outside interference) from the playing area, or terminate the match if necessary, if their conduct violates the Laws of the Game, these guidelines or otherwise interferes with the course of play.
- 7.12 No appeal of disciplinary action taken by a referee will be allowed. The area director or any other official may not reverse a send off or caution to a player or the warning or expelling of a coach or spectator issued by a referee (even if requested by the issuing referee). Appeals may be made against the suspension or other sanctions that are issued by the league and under the authority of the area director.
- 7.13 Referees shall not retain any player or coach ID cards from players or coaches who have been sent-off.
- 7.14 In the event that a certified referee is not present at a game, an AYSO certified referee may be appointed by mutual agreement of both teams, providing said referee meets all other requirements.

8 Positive Coaching

- 8.1 Coaches are expected to be positive and set the best possible example for the participants.
- 8.2 Coaches' language and attitude shall be positive, instructional and encouraging (PIE) consistent with the prevailing AYSO philosophy of Positive Coaching.
 - 8.2.1 Coaching shall be of a technical or tactical nature consistent with the game of soccer (giving directions to one's team on points of strategy and position, etc.)
 - 8.2.2 In accordance with AYSO National guidelines, excessive coaching from the sidelines shall not be permitted.
- 8.3 A maximum of two coaches shall be allowed to instruct the team during the game. Coaches are restricted to an area of ten yards on either side of the Center Line and shall stand back at least one yard from the Touchline.
- 8.4 Coaches are responsible for their conduct and the conduct of their players and spectators. Only positive, instructional and encouraging coaching is permitted. Negative comments towards their own players, opposing players or the referees will not be tolerated.
- 8.5 Coaches are required to prevent and discourage unruly behavior, threats, and/or assault of any kind toward players, spectators or officials, before, during and after the conclusion of any game.
- 8.6 The coach may enter the field of play only with the consent of the referee.

9 Game Conduct

- 9.1 The highest standards of conduct and good sportsmanship must be maintained at all times by players, coaches, referees, spectators and all other participants. Offensive, insulting or abusive language is forbidden.
- 9.2 The use of alcohol, tobacco products, or illegal drugs in the vicinity of the playing field during

practices or games is strictly forbidden.

- 9.3 Home teams and visiting teams shall remain on separate sides of the field of play. The home team selects the side of the field that they will occupy. The teams may occupy the same side of the field only through agreement of both coaches and the referee.
- 9.4 Spectators at games must remain behind the spectator control line (three yards from the sideline) and may not sit behind the goal line unless in bleachers.
- 9.5 Spectators are expected at all times to act positively around players and to demonstrate respect for opponents, officials, and all other volunteers. Under no circumstances should they attempt to coach or address remarks derogatory to players, coaches or the referees.
- 9.6 Noise-making devices, including but not limited to air horns, cow bells, drums, megaphones, etc. shall not be allowed.
- 9.7 At the end of the game, the players on each team shall line up and shake hands with the players of the opposing team and thank the referee and assistant referees.

10 Game Schedules

- 10.1 Each team participating in Area play agrees to appear for all their scheduled games. All games shall be played at the time and field as scheduled.
- 10.2 Only games that have been approved and sanctioned by Area Q will be counted in the league standings and playoffs.
- 10.3 Only the referee in charge of the game, the hosting regional commissioner, the area director or area program director shall have the authority to cancel a scheduled game.
- 10.4 In the event a game is postponed due to a field closure the area scheduler shall make every effort to post the rescheduled game date, time and location within three (3) days.
 - 10.4.1 Every effort will be made to reschedule the game within eight (8) days of the scheduled game whenever possible.
 - 10.4.2 If the game cannot be rescheduled in a timely manner the game will be reported as “not played.”
- 10.5 Should a team not be able to attend a scheduled game it is the responsibility of that team’s regional commissioner or their designee to notify the area director and program director along with the regional commissioner of the other team in writing no less than forty-eight (48) prior to the scheduled game time.
 - 10.5.1 If the game cannot be rescheduled, the game will be recorded as a forfeit to the team that was not able to attend the scheduled game, subject to review by the area director.

11 Games

- 11.1 The Referee may allow a grace period of no more than five (5) minutes from the scheduled game time before signaling the termination of any game.
- 11.2 When games previously in progress are running later than five (5) minutes from the scheduled game time, no grace period shall be allowed.
- 11.3 The Home Team shall supply three game balls to the satisfaction of the referee. Acceptance of a game ball shall be at the discretion of the referee.
- 11.4 Area league games shall be full length games per the AYSO published version of the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 11.5 The duration of Area 11-Q playoff games will be published within the program guidelines and/or

the scheduling message board.

- 11.6 During play, only players are allowed on the field, except as allowed by the referee.
- 11.7 Substitution of players in all U10 - U14 games shall be in accordance with the AYSO National Rules and Regulations.
- 11.8 If a game is not completed through the regulation game time due to inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances (not to include forfeits), the final resolution of that game shall be as follows:
 - 11.8.1 If the game was suspended prior to the beginning of the second half, the game may be rescheduled and replayed in its' entirety. If the game is not rescheduled for any reason, the game shall stand as a "not played" game, irrespective of the score at the time of game suspension.
 - 11.8.2 If the game was suspended in the second half, the score will stand as reported by the referee.
- 11.9 A tie is an acceptable result for all league games and playoff pool games, unless otherwise noted.

12 Scoring and Reporting of Games

- 12.1 This section shall apply to all competition managed by Area 11-Q.
- 12.2 The winning coach is responsible for reporting the game score within forty-eight (48) hours of the match. The home team is responsible to report any ties. Either coach may report the final score.
- 12.3 Any scores not reported within 24 hours of the final game of the season may result in the game being recorded as "not played."
- 12.4 Standings shall be based on the following scoring system:
 - 12.4.1 Three (3) points for each win.
 - 12.4.2 One (1) point for each tie.
 - 12.4.3 Zero (0) points for each loss.
- 12.5 A forfeit shall be scored as follows:
 - 12.5.1 In the event the game was not played: 1-0 in favor of the team that did not forfeit.
 - 12.5.2 In the case of a game that has been started and one team forfeited, the score will be reported with zero (0) goals for the forfeiting team and the greater of one (1) or the number of goals the non-forfeiting team has scored.
 - 12.5.3 In the case where both teams forfeited simultaneously (either before kickoff or during the same stoppage in a match), the game will not be rescheduled. Both teams shall receive zero (0) points in the standings.
- 12.6 Any games not played for any reason shall be recorded as "not played" and neither team shall receive any points.
- 12.7 Standings shall be decided through a summation of the points received.
- 12.8 Tie break procedures
 - 12.8.1 In the event more than two teams are tied: When one or more teams are eliminated at a level and two or more teams are still tied, the remaining teams restart the tie-break procedure.
 - 12.8.2 Tie break criteria
 - a Head to head competition
 - b Most points earned in common games

- c Most wins in common games
- d Highest goal differential in common games (maximum of +/- 3 goals per game)
- e Most goals scored in common games (maximum of 3 goals per game)
- f Fewest ejections (summation of player send -offs and coach/spectator expelled)
- g Most wins in all games
- h Highest goal differential in all games (maximum of +/- 3 goals per game)
- i Most goals scored in all games (maximum of 3 goals per game)
- j Fewest goals allowed in all games (maximum of 3 goals per game)
- k Coin flip or other random process to be determined by the program or area director. The head coach, assistant, manager, team parent or regional commissioner of each team must be present unless the head coach gives consent otherwise. Except for the regional commissioner, the team representative must be listed on the team roster.

12.8.3 The area director or program director has the authority to make the final decision with regard to tie breakers.

12.9 Teams deemed by majority vote of the area board to have gained an advantage in the standings due to a forfeit by that team, shall be excluded from receiving medals or advancing in the playoffs.

13 Playoff Games

13.1 Game duration shall be as listed below unless specified otherwise in the program rules.

13.1.1 U10: Two 25 minute halves

13.1.2 U12 and older: Two 30 minute halves

13.2 Scoring and tie break for pool play games shall be as listed in the section "Scoring and Reporting of Games".

13.3 Playoff pool games may end in a tie, unless noted otherwise.

13.4 In elimination or medal round games, ties will be decided with two full five (5) minute extra time periods to determine a winner. Sudden victory or "golden goal" will not be played.

13.4.1 Teams playing short in regulation time as a result of a send-off(s) shall continue to do so in overtime.

13.4.2 The teams shall change ends of the field after the completion of the first overtime period. The second overtime period begins immediately after the end of the first extra time period.

13.5 Should a tie remain after the completion of extra time, the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

13.6 As deemed by the referee, area director or program director, if there is not sufficient time for the overtime periods (due to darkness or delaying the start of the next game) the game will be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark.

13.7 In case of field closures an alternate schedule will be provided if possible. If the medal games cannot be completed the final area standings will be determined by the final league standings.

14 Misconduct: Sendoffs and Cautions in Area or Section Competitions

14.1 It is the responsibility of the referee to make a preliminary verbal report by phone of all send-offs (red cards) to their regional referee administrator immediately following the game in which the send-off(s) took place. In turn, the regional referee administrator or their designee shall immediately report by phone the send-offs to the area referee administrator.

- 14.2 It is the responsibility of the referee to file a written misconduct report on all cautions and send-offs to their regional referee administrator within twenty-four (24) hours after the conclusion of the game in which the offense(s) occurred. The regional referee administrator shall forward each such report to the area referee administrator as soon as possible.
- 14.2.1 Please check the current instructions for the format of the written report. This may be sent via email or a web based form may be provided.
- 14.3 Automatic penalties for player send off or coach or spectator expulsion shall be applied unless notified otherwise. These penalties exist whether or not officially notified of such suspension and do apply to a second game played in the same day.
- 14.3.1 The penalty for a player, coach or spectator sent-off (player red card) from the field shall be a one-game suspension for the next official game to be played.
- 14.3.2 The penalty for a player, coach or spectator sent-off (player red card) for Violent Conduct or Serious Foul Play from the field shall be a minimum two-game suspension for the next two consecutive official games to be played.
- 14.4 A player serving a suspension may attend the team's next scheduled game as a spectator as long as they are not in uniform.
- 14.5 Any coach and/or spectator sent-off from the field must immediately leave the area so as not to be within sight or sound of the field as deemed by the Referee. In the event an individual refuses to leave the field the Referee shall suspend the game.
- 14.6 Suspensions will be reported to the RC and RRA of the region hosting the game where the suspension is to be served. The RRA is to inform the referee of the suspension. Prior to the game, the referee is to confirm the suspension with the coach and confirm whether the suspended coach, spectator or player is in attendance. The referee is to note this in their game report. At the end of the game the referee is to ask the coach if the suspended coach, spectator or player was in attendance during the game and note this on their game card.
- 14.6.1 Should a suspended player participate in a game that game shall be recorded as a forfeit. The player shall also be suspended for an additional game.
- 14.6.2 Should a suspended coach or spectator attend a game that game shall be recorded as a forfeit. The coach or spectator shall also be suspended for an additional game.
- 14.7 Suspensions and other sanctions shall carry over to the next area or section game or season.
- 14.8 Depending on the circumstances surrounding a particular incident, stronger penalties may be imposed as deemed appropriate by the area director or review board.
- 14.9 If required, the review board will be selected by the area director, comprised of three members from Area 11-Q regional commissioners and/or area staff who were not directly involved with the alleged incident. The area director shall declare one of the members to be the chair of the review board who is responsible for conducting meetings and reporting the board's findings. All activities shall be consistent with AYSO National's published due process procedures.

15 Forfeits

- 15.1 A team will be declared to forfeit a match if they did not show up for a scheduled game or is in violation of an administrative rule.
- 15.2 A team shall be in forfeit of a game if found in violation of any of the following:
- 15.2.1 Failure to show up for a scheduled game, referred to as a "no-show."
- 15.2.2 Failure to provide official player ID cards (all programs except the Fall area league

playoffs).

- 15.2.3 Failure to provide at least one coach ID card (all programs except the Fall area league playoffs).
- 15.2.4 Inability to field the minimum number of players before or during a game.
- 15.2.5 Failure to be on the field of play and ready to play at game time and after the grace period.
- 15.2.6 Failure or refusal to continue the game.
- 15.2.7 Misconduct that causes the termination of the game.
- 15.2.8 Use of an ineligible or suspended player.
- 15.2.9 A coach or spectator attends a game in which they have received a suspension.
- 15.3 It is possible for both teams to have forfeited the game.
- 15.4 See the section “Scoring and Reporting of Games” to determine how a forfeit is scored.
- 15.5 Failure to show up to a scheduled area or section playoff game (no-show) will result in the coach of the team being suspended from any further area or section programs or games. The area director will review the matter and decide on any penalties and sanctions.
- 15.6 Failure to prove the eligibility of one or more players on a team will result in the expulsion of said player(s), a forfeiture of all games previously played and the coach shall be suspended for a minimum of two-games.
- 15.7 Falsification of a player on a team will result in the expulsion of said player, a forfeiture of all games previously played and the coach shall be suspended for the balance of the season and playoffs.
- 15.8 Depending on the circumstances surrounding a particular incident the area director has the right to impose additional penalties or sanctions as well as reduce those stated as deemed appropriate.

16 Protests

- 16.1 Referee judgment calls during a match are final and not subject to protest.
- 16.2 If a coach has any questions or comments with regard to an officials handling of the game, laws of the game, rules and regulations, guidelines or policies they are to contact their division coordinator, coach administration or regional commissioner who will decide if follow up with the area staff is required.

17 Injuries

- 17.1 If a coach is summoned by the referee to attend to an injured player that player must leave the field. The player may be substituted with a replacement player at that time or if the injured player is not substituted, he/she may re-enter the field with the permission of the referee after play has restarted. Goalkeepers may be treated on the field of play and are not required to leave the field before play resumes.
- 17.2 Any injury to a participant in area play resulting in an accident report must be reported to the area director and area safety director in addition to your regional staff.

18 Area Programs

- 18.1 In order for a region to be eligible for post-season playoff competition, the region must be in compliance with current AYSO requirements. This shall include player fee payment, player registrations entered in eAYSO or sent to AYSO National.
- 18.2 Teams must comply with all rules and regulations herein and meet eligibility requirements.

- 18.3 Medals will be given in each division based on the results of the area playoffs or final league standings if a playoff is not scheduled.
- 18.4 In order to be eligible to participate in a secondary program (including Fall league playoffs) each player must have been registered in AYSO and participated as players in a minimum of one half of their scheduled games for which they were eligible during the primary season, absent special circumstances as defined in AYSO National Policy Statement 2.2.

19 Fall U16 & U19 Program

- 19.1 The U16 & U19 programs are experimental programs with the purpose of providing these players with the opportunity to continue playing AYSO soccer.
- 19.2 The regional commissioner must declare how many U16 & U19 teams will participate in area play in each division no later than August 1.
- 19.3 Regional commissioners are to submit their final list of teams, including coach contact information and field allocations by the posted date.
- 19.4 If a mandatory meeting is held prior to the first game, the coach or a designated representative from each team shall be in attendance.
- 19.5 As a minimum each coach must be Safe Haven certified, registered for the current season and hold coach training as required by AYSO National to be eligible to be a coach in the U16 and U19 programs.
- 19.6 League starts the 1st Saturday following Labor Day.
- 19.7 League play will be based on the number of participating teams in each division. Where possible teams will be scheduled to play each other in a round-robin format.
- 19.8 The playoffs for each division will be held following the last week of league play. Flights will be determined based on participation and the final league standings.
- 19.9 The area champions for each division may be eligible to participate in the Section 11 league playoffs. Additional teams may be invited based on the Section 11 allocations.
- 19.10 Free substitution is part of the experimental program and shall be used in all U16 & U19 games.
- 19.10.1 Substitutions may be made at any stoppage of play, with the permission of the referee.
- 19.10.2 A substitute may not enter the field until (a) permission to enter has been given by the Referee, and (b) the player he/she is replacing has left the field.
- 19.10.3 Players may leave from any point on the field with the referee's permission; substitutes may enter only at the half line.
- 19.10.4 Coaches are responsible for insuring that each player on their team roster plays a minimum of one-half of every game the player is present for.
- a Failure to adhere to and comply with this requirement will result in the coach receiving a one-game suspension.
- b Additional violations will result in additional sanctions.

20 Fall Area League Playoffs for U9 - U14

- 20.1 Each region is invited to send two (2) regular season teams from each division to the Area Q league playoffs.
- 20.2 Regional commissioners must declare the number of teams in each division that will be participating no later than November 1st.

- 20.3 Regional commissioners are to submit their team rosters, including coach contact information and field allocations no later than November 15th.
- 20.4 If a mandatory meeting is to be held prior to the first game, the coach or a designated representative from each team shall be in attendance.
- 20.5 All coaches shall be Safe Haven certified, be registered for the current season and have the age appropriate coach certification per AYSO National.
- 20.6 In order to be eligible to participate in the area league playoffs each player must have played in at least half of the total number of league games played by their primary season team to which he/she was assigned during the regular fall season, except due to illness or injury. Only those players on the team as of October 1st are eligible to participate on that team.
- 20.7 Should a division have an odd number of teams a blind draw shall be conducted amongst those regions offering to provide an additional team to allow an extra team. No region shall be permitted to participate in a second draw until all the other regions wishing to add a team have been afforded the option to do so.
- 20.8 The first round of playoffs will be pool play. Each team will be scheduled to play a minimum of three (3) games. The playoffs will typically begin the second week of December.
- 20.9 The top four (4) teams from the 1st round will play in the semi-final and Medal rounds.
- 20.10 The Area Q league champions for each division may be eligible to participate in the Section 11 league playoffs, typically held on the second weekend of February in the following calendar year. Additional teams may be invited based on the Section 11 allocations.

21 All-Star Program

- 21.1 Regional Commissioners must declare the number of teams in each division that will be participating no later than December 1st.
- 21.2 Regional Commissioners are to submit their team rosters, including coach contact information and field allocations no later than December 15th.
- 21.3 If a mandatory meeting is held prior to the first game, the coach or a designated representative from each team shall be in attendance.
- 21.4 All coaches must be Safe Haven certified, registered for the current season and have a Basic Referee certification to be eligible to participate.
- 21.5 All coaches U10 coaches shall have as a minimum a U12 Coach certification; U12 and U14 coaches an Intermediate Coach certification.
- 21.6 To be eligible for all-Star competition a player must have played in at least half of the total number of fall league games played by the team to which he/she was assigned during the regular primary 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 in residence which causes a change of region. Change of residence eligibility requires written approval by the previous regional commissioner.
- 21.7 All-Star Players must compete in the age division in which they participated during the regular primary fall season. No exceptions.
- 21.8 AYSO FLEX, guest or outside players are not eligible to participate in the all-Star program.
- 21.9 A gold division will be provided for each age and gender.
- 21.10 A silver division will be created based on team participation. Silver teams from the same region

shall be balanced. If there are not enough teams for a division, we will look to form a division with our neighboring areas.

21.11 All-star league play begins the 1st or 2nd Saturday of January.

21.12 Gold and silver league play will be based on the number of participating teams in each division, followed by the playoffs. Teams will be scheduled to play each team in their flight in a round-robin format.

21.13 The playoffs for the gold divisions will be held following the last week of league play. Teams will be seeded based on the final league standings.

21.14 The Area 11-Q gold all-star champions for each division may be eligible to participate in the Section 11 all-star league playoffs, typically held on the third weekend of February. Additional teams may be invited based on the Section 11 allocations.

21.15 The playoffs for the silver division will be held following the last week of league play. Each team will play a minimum of two (2) games. Flights will be determined based on the final league standings, participation and field allocations.

22 Spring Select Program U9 - U19

22.1 The Area 11-Q spring select program is a competitive program in divisions U9 and higher with many of the players from FLEX and all-star teams. Regions are expected to field teams that will be competitive.

22.2 Regional commissioners must declare the number of teams in each division that will be participating no later than February 1st.

22.3 Regional commissioners are to submit their team rosters, including coach contact information and field allocations no later than February 15th.

22.4 If a mandatory meeting is held prior to the first game, the coach or a designated representative from each team shall be in attendance.

22.5 All coaches shall be Safe Haven certified and have a basic referee certification to be eligible to participate.

22.6 Minimum coach certification

22.6.1 U9 and U10 coaches must have a minimum of an AYSO U12 Coach certification.

22.6.2 U12 and U14 coaches must have a minimum of an AYSO Intermediate Coach certification.

22.6.3 U16 and U19 coaches must have a minimum of an AYSO Advanced Coach certification.

22.7 To be eligible for spring select competition without being considered a guest or outside player, each player must have played in at least half of the total number of fall 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 or injury.

22.8 Guest player limits

22.8.1 A maximum of two (2) guest players from a different region are permitted on a U10 spring select roster.

22.8.2 A maximum of three (3) guest players from a different region are permitted on a U12 or U14 spring select roster.

22.8.3 There is no limit to the number of guest players permitted on a U16 or U19 spring select roster.

22.8.4 A signed letter of approval to participate from the player's regional commissioner (home

region) must accompany the team roster.

22.9 Outside player limits

22.9.1 A maximum of two (2) outside players are permitted on a U9 & U10 Spring Select roster.

22.9.2 A maximum of three (3) outside players are permitted on a U12 & U14 Spring Select roster.

22.9.3 There is no limit to the number of outside players permitted on a U16 or U19 Spring Select roster

22.9.4 Prior to any participation in AYSO activities, outside players must have the approval of the regional commissioner or assistant regional commissioner and must be registered with the AYSO National.

22.10 Spring league play begins in March.

22.11 Team rosters are due on or before March 15th.

22.12 League play will be based on the number of participating teams in each division.

23 Section 11 Playoffs

23.1 The number of teams in each division that are eligible for Section 11 playoffs will be sent to the regional commissioners once known.

23.2 In the event an invited team does not elect to participate in the Section 11 Playoffs, the option to participate shall be offered to the next team based on the final Area 11-Q playoffs or league standings should there be no playoffs.

23.3 It is understood that a participation fee as defined by Section 11 will apply and that the fee will be paid by the stated deadline by each participating region.

24 Dispute Resolution and Due Process

24.1 Dispute resolution, discipline hearing procedures and due process shall abide by AYSO Policy Statement; ARTICLE SEVEN - Dispute Resolution and those recommended in Article 9 of the AYSO Standard Regional Guidelines.

24.2 It is the policy of the area to resolve all disputes involving persons involved in the area in an amicable way, if possible. Compromise should be emphasized whenever possible, and personality conflicts should be avoided. If disciplinary action is found to be necessary, it is the area's policy to take only the minimum action necessary. All means available should be taken to avoid legal action.

24.3 Disputes involving region activities should first be addressed and resolved by the regional commissioner and regional staff, whenever possible.

24.4 Disputes involving area activities should first be addressed and resolved by the appropriate area board member in charge of the activity whenever possible.

24.5 Unresolved disputes involving region or area activities should be addressed and resolved by the area director. The area director may elect to present the dispute to a review board or area board for resolution, if necessary.

25 Changes to the Guidelines

25.1 Approval of Guidelines: These guidelines shall become effective after being approved by the area director and the existing executive members of the area board, and the section director, and then submitted to the AYSO National.

25.2 Change in Guidelines: Once adopted, these guidelines may only be amended by the executive members of the area board with a 2/3 vote, with the approval of the area director and the section

director, and then submitted to the AYSO National.

26 References

AYSO National Rules & Regulations

http://www.ayso.org/resources/governing_documents/rules_regulations.aspx

AYSO National Policies

http://www.ayso.org/resources/governing_documents/policies.aspx

AYSO National Bylaws and Guidelines

http://www.ayso.org/resources/governing_documents/bylaws_guidelines.aspx

AYSO National's collection of links on their page "Soccer Governing Rules"

http://www.aysohelp.org/resources/referee_res/soccer_governing_rules.aspx

Section 11 Guidelines

<http://www.aysosection11.com/index.php/guidelines.html>