



AYSO 11-Q Guidelines

Revised January 3, 2022

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 11-Q Guidelines, as contained herein.
- 1.2. The Area 11-Q Guidelines are intended to complement 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 league 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 These Guidelines may be superseded or not in effect during the following situations: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 Program Guidelines for each specific program shall take precedence over these Guidelines. Program Guidelines will be published on the Area 11-Q website. (www.ayso11q.org)

1.6. Definitions

- 1.6.1. Guest Player: A Registered AYSO core season player from a different AYSO Region who participated in the current or just concluded primary/core (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/core (Fall) AYSO season.
- 1.6.3. Primary Program: In Area 11-Q the primary program is the Fall core season which includes the Fall League and Fall 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 at the "Q"
- 1.6.5. Program Guidelines: A Set of guidelines specific to an Area 11-Q program for that year's season. Program Guidelines provide a specific set of rules and may include any or all of the following: deviations from these Area 11-Q Guidelines, the format of play, play dates for games, playoff

structure, medals/trophies to be awarded, and other information as determined by the program director or the Area Director.

- 1.6.6. Substitute Coach: An AYSO coach who steps in to coach a team they are not normally assigned. Typically used when both the coach and assistant coach are unavailable.

2. Jurisdiction

- 2.1. AYSO Area 11-Q includes six (7) Regions: 57 Corona Del Mar, 96 Tustin, 97 Newport Beach, 120 Costa Mesa, 213 Irvine, 1355 Orange, 1398 Yorba Linda/Placentia
- 2.2. The Area 11-Q Board of Directors shall consist of voting members and staff members.
- 2.3. The voting members shall include the Regional Commissioners and the Area Director. The Area Director's vote is only cast when required as a tie breaker.
- 2.4. Regional Commissioners may designate a representative to cast a vote in their absence.
- 2.5. Area Staff members include the Assistant Area Director (AAD), Coach Administrator (ACA), Referee Administrator (ARA), Treasurer, Secretary, Program Directors, and any other staff designated by the Area Director.
- 2.6. Area meetings will normally be held each month, barring any special circumstance as determined by the Area Director. There should be maximum participation in the Area 11-Q monthly meetings either by the Regional Commissioners or designated Region representative.
- 2.7. A majority of the Regional Commissioners or their designee shall constitute a quorum; however, every effort will be made to include each Regional Commissioner in voting issues.
 - 2.7.1. 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 (48) hours in which to reply or will lose their ability to cast a vote on the particular issue at hand.
 - 2.7.2. 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 the Regional Commissioner or their designated representative, and no contact could be made, then the Region's vote will not count as long as four votes are established.
- 2.8. Only one (1) vote per Region shall count and a simple majority shall carry any vote by the Area 11-Q Board of Directors, unless noted otherwise.
- 2.9. 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.
- 2.10. 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.

- 2.11. 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 ensuring eligibility of its players and coaches.
- 3.1.2. All Players must be registered with AYSO in the current Membership Year (August 1 - July 31) in order to participate in Area League or Playoffs.
- 3.1.3. 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 for each specific program for coach certification requirements. Coaches are required to have completed the online CDC Concussion training and have that certification in their eAYSO record.
- 3.1.4. Each Region agrees to host at least one (1) 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 roster for each team to the Area Director or designated representative no later than one (1) week prior to play. Rosters generated using eAYSO are mandated. Rosters should include the following information:
- a. The Region Number, Gender and Age Division.
 - 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, Phone Number, DOB and Age.
 - e. Uniform Colors and Team Name.
 - f. Regional Commissioner or designated representative signature, certifying that the players and coaches are eligible and approved to participate in Area play.
 - g. The current Membership Year must be identified.
- 3.2.2. No team will be allowed to participate in any Area 11-Q games without a properly completed team roster signed by the Regional Commissioner or their designee. The team must have the signed roster in their possession at each game.
- 3.2.3. Changes to the team roster will be permitted in accordance with the 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. If any new players are listed on the roster, the

roster must be approved by the Area Director prior to those new players playing in the game.

- 3.2.5. Substitute coaches may be used without requiring a roster change. A substitute coach may either be from the same Region and hold a coach ID card from that Region, or be a member of the Area coaching staff. A substitute coach may not be used to continue a game where two (2) coaches from the team have been expelled by the referee.
- 3.2.6. Referees may not examine or require to be produced the team roster prior to a game. This document contains Sensitive Personal Information that referees are not authorized to view.

3.3. Identification Cards (ID Cards)

- 3.3.1. ID cards are required for all player and coaches who are involved in Inter-Region play, except for Fall Area League Playoffs.
- 3.3.2. Unless specified otherwise by the Program Guidelines, the ID cards used must be those provided by AYSO National.
- 3.3.3. Player and Coach ID cards must include the following:
 - a. Current Picture of the Player/Coach
 - b. AYSO ID Number
 - c. Player/Coach Name
 - d. Player DOB (*not necessary for coaches)
 - e. Region Number
 - f. Membership Year
 - g. Signature of the Regional Commissioner or their designee (stamped or automated signature are acceptable)
- 3.3.4. Information on the ID cards may be printed, or handwritten.
- 3.3.5. All AYSO ID cards must be laminated.

3.4. AYSO Registration and Medical Release Forms

- 3.4.1. An AYSO Player Registration Form must be completed for each player and must bear an original signature or e-AYSO electronic signature.
- 3.4.2. Player Registration Forms must be in possession of the coach or their designee at all AYSO events (games, practices, scrimmages, party, ...).
- 3.4.3. No Player may participate in an AYSO event without a properly completed and signed AYSO Registration Form.
- 3.4.4. Referees may not examine or require to be produced the AYSO Player Registration Forms prior to a game. These documents contain Sensitive Personal Information that referees are not authorized to view.

3.5. Finances

- 3.5.1. An annual budget will be submitted by the Area Director and approved by the Area 11-Q Board of Directors, prior to each Membership Year.
- 3.5.2. Each Region agrees to pay approved Area 11-Q fees. This fee is to be included in the annual budget and finalized prior to the Membership Year.
- 3.5.3. Each Region agrees to pay approve Area 11-Q program fees based on their participation in each Area program. These fees shall be determined prior to each program.

- 3.5.4. The Area Treasurer is responsible for submitting invoices to each Region for Area fees and Area Program fees.

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 (1 ½) 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:
- a. Field Name including designation (Field 1, A, North, East, ...)
 - b. Field Address and map link (if not included on the current Area website)
 - c. GPS Address if different from physical address.
 - d. Saturday availability (start/end time, specifying dawn to dusk is okay)
 - e. Sunday availability (start/end time, specifying dawn to dusk is okay)
 - f. If the field has lights (if not in your control, include light schedule)
 - g. Weeknight availability (start/end time)
 - h. Block out dates or times
 - i. Include any fees that will be passed on to Area 11-Q
 - j. Special Instructions
- 4.2. Each Regional Commissioner shall be responsible for the playing fields used in their respective Region and ensure that utmost player safety.
- 4.3. Each Region shall supply the goals, the nets, corner flags and field markings for their respective field(s).
- 4.4. Field setup and takedown 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 coaches 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 their information posted on the Area 11-Q website or have posted a link or phone number to that Region's mudline 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 - 7 players
 - b. 9v9 - 6 players
 - c. 7v7 - 5 players
- 5.1.2. If at any time during the game, the number 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 fielded 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 the 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 allowed on the team roster 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 and/or approved by the Area 11-Q Board of Directors. In no event shall the roster size be so large that each player would not be able to play half of each game.
 - a. U16 and older: 18 players (22 max with Area Director approval)
 - 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 our 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 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 (2) 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 taped close to the skin.
- 5.2.8. AYSO will not prohibit the use of knee braces by players in AYSO events and program, provided that the knee brace is adequately covered and

padding in the judgement 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 to play.
 - 6.1.2. The coach shall be prepared to present the following to the referee:
 - a. A completed game (lineup) card including the first and last name and jersey number 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 check-in prior to being substituted into the match.
 - 6.1.4. In the event the team is not prepared at the time of 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 check-in.
- 6.3. The referee will conduct a pre-game inspection prior to the start of each game.
- 6.4. Referees may not examine or require to be produced the AYSO Player Registration Forms and team roster prior to a game. These documents contain Sensitive Personal Information that referees are not authorized to view.
- 6.5. Refer to the Program Guidelines and posted instructions for additional check-in procedures.

7. Game Official: 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 from their Region 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 (2) 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 the 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 the expelled coaches (as well as the 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 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 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 who have been sent-off or coaches that were expelled.
- 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 direction 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 (2) coaches shall be allowed to instruct the team during the game. Coaches are restricted to an area of ten (10) yards on either side of the Centerline and shall stand back at least one (1) yard from the Touchline.
- 8.4. Coaches are responsible for their conduct and 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, simulated 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 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.

9.5. Noise-making devices, including but not limited to air horns, cow bells, drums, megaphones, etc. shall not be allowed.

9.6. 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 referee.

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 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 the team's Regional Commissioner or their designee to notify the Area Director and Area Program Director along with the Regional Commissioner of the other

team in writing no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled game time.

- 10.6. Games that are played after being rescheduled by coaches will be recorded as a forfeit for both teams. Both teams shall receive zero (0) points in the standings and the game will count as played.

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 (3) 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 the 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 U9-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.

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 twenty-four (24) hours of the game 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:
 - a. Three (3) points for each Win.
 - b. One (1) point for each Tie.
 - c. Zero (0) points for each Loss.
 - d. For score adjustments related to send off, referee to Section 14 Misconducts.
- 12.5. A forfeit shall be scored as follows:
 - 12.5.1. In the event the game was not played: 1-0 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 and the game will count as a game played.
- 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 (2) teams are tied: When one (1) or more teams are eliminated at a level and two (2) or more teams are still tied, the remaining teams restart the tie-break procedure.
 - 12.8.2. Tie break criteria:
 - 12.8.3. The Area Director or Program Director has the authority to make the final decision with regard to tie breakers.
 - a. Head-to-Head competition.
 - b. Highest Goal Differential (max of 3 goals/game averaged over games played)
 - c. Least Goals Scored Against (max of 3 goals/game averaged over games played)
 - d. Goals Scored For (maximum of 3 goals/game averaged over games played)
 - e. Coin flip or 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.
- 12.9. 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 listed below unless specified otherwise in the program rules.
 - 13.1.1. U9/U10: Two 25 minute halves.
 - 13.1.2. U11 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 (2) 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 the kicks from the penalty mark.
- 13.7. In case the field closes 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 Competition**
- 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-off(s) 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 (2) 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 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 (3) 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.

15.1.1. If a team does not show up for a tournament pool play game, the game shall be recorded as forfeit by the team not showing up for the game and all other pool play games involving the team shall also be recorded as forfeits.

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 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 judgement call during a match are final and not subject to protest.
- 16.2. If a coach has any questions or comments with regard to an official's handling of the game, Laws of the Game, rules and regulations, guidelines or policies they are to contact their division coordinator, coach administrator 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, 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 the coach being summoned by the referee to attend to an injured player resulting in a player leaving the field of play, the referee must file an injury report with their game report at the conclusion of that said game.
- 17.3. Any injury to a participant in Area play resulting in an accident report must be reported to the Area 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 registration entered in eAYSO or sent to AYSO National.
- 18.2. Teams must comply with all rules and regulation 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 standing if a playoff is not scheduled. The number and type of awards shall be defined on a season by season basis and should be defined prior to the season in that season's Program Guidelines.
- 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 a player in a minimum of one half of the circumstances as defined in AYSO National Policy Statement 2.2.

18.5. In the event that rain, smoke or other unforeseen events cause a large amount of cancellation of games, the Area Director has the authority to significantly alter the season's plan to see it to completion. This may include any actions deemed necessary such as revising the season and playoff structure up to and including canceling games or playoffs and using season standings or other alternate means to determine final standings and teams advancing to Section 11 tournaments.

18.6. Playing time for all Area Programs (League play, Area playoffs, All-stars, Spring select, etc.) will require that **No player plays the full game until all players play three-fourths.**

19. Inter-Region Core Programs

19.1. During any season, Regions may combine their core programs with other Regions to form a league. When this occurs, Area 11-Q retains authority over the league, but may allow the Regions to administer the program. The Regions must inform and get approval from the Area Director to form the league and approval on how the league will be administered and operated. Typical models for league administration are:

19.1.1. Area 11-Q administers the league.

19.1.2. Two or more Regions jointly administer the league and the Regional Commissioners or their designated representatives agree to a set of rules prior to start of the season.

19.1.3. One Region accepts the administration duties and all teams play under that Region's rules. (This is common when one Region has a complete division and another Region has only one or two teams and choose to join the other Region's league)

19.2. If the league is administered by one or more Regions and problems in the administration of the league occur, Area 11-Q retains authority and has the option at any time to assume the administrative duties of the league. If the league has multiple divisions, Area 11-Q may choose to assume the administration of one or more specific divisions, or the entire league.

19.3. When a Region enters more than one team to an Inter-Region league, the teams must be balanced under the Balanced Teams philosophy of AYSO.

19.4. Player and coach ID cards shall not be required for core program U14 and younger leagues.

19.5. Regions are permitted to conduct playoffs with only their own teams at the conclusion of the Inter-Regional league.

- 19.6. When Inter-Region play is used in seasons where Regional teams are selected to advance to Area competition, the Region is free to use whatever means they choose to determine the teams advancing. The Region cannot be forced to use the Inter-Region league's results in the decision process.
- 19.7. Regions agree to respect the schedule of the Inter-Region league and not cancel games due to Regional concerns such as independent playoffs. The published Inter-Region schedule takes precedence and all teams are obligated to appear for their allotted games. The Regions can agree to reschedule games if required.
- 19.8. Should a dispute occur, the Regions are encouraged to work out issues cooperatively. If this, for any reason, does not produce a solution accepted by the Regional Commissioners involved, then the dispute would be submitted to the Area and begin the Area 11-Q Dispute Resolution and Due Process procedures.

20. Fall and Spring U16 and U19 Programs

- 20.1. The U16 and U19 programs are experimental programs with the purpose of providing these players with the opportunity to continue playing AYSO soccer.
- 20.2. The Regional Commissioner must declare how many U16 and U19 teams will participate in Area play in each division no later than August 1, or February 1.
- 20.3. Regional Commissioners are to submit their final list of teams, including coach contact information and field allocations by the posted date.
- 20.4. There is no limit to the number of guest players or outside players permitted on a U16 and U19 Fall or Spring roster.
- 20.5. If a mandatory coaches' meeting is held prior to the first game, the coach or a designated representative from each team shall be in attendance.
- 20.6. As a minimum each coach must be Safe Haven certified, registered for the current Membership Year and hold coach training as required by AYSO National to be eligible to be a coach in the U16 and U19 programs. Coaches are required to have completed the online CDC Concussion training and have the certification identified in their eAYSO record.
- 20.7. Minimum coach training required:
 - 20.7.1. U16 and U19 coaches must have a minimum of AYSO Advanced coach training.
 - 20.7.2. Basic Referee certification.
- 20.8. Fall League starts the 1st Saturday following Labor Day. Spring League starts the 1st Saturday in March, unless noted otherwise.
- 20.9. 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.
- 20.10. 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.
- 20.11. 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.
- 20.12. Managed substitution is part of the experimental program and shall be used in all U16 and U19 games.
 - 20.12.1. Substitutions may be made at any stoppage of play, with permission of

the referee.

20.12.2. 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.

20.12.3. Players may leave from any point on the field with referee's permission; substitutes may enter only at the half line.

20.12.4. Coaches are responsible for ensuring that no player on their team roster plays the entire game unless every player has played at least three quarters of that game.

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.

21. Fall Area League Playoffs for U10-U14

21.1. Each Region is invited to send one (1) core season team from each division to the Area 11-Q League playoffs.

21.2. Regional Commissioners must declare the number of teams that will be participating no later than October 1st.

21.3. Regional Commissioners are to submit their team rosters, including coach contact information and field allocations no later than November 15th.

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

21.5. All coaches shall be Safe Haven certified, be registered for the current Membership Year and have completed the age appropriate coach training per AYSO National. Coaches are required to have completed the online CDC Concussion training and have the certification identified in their eAYSO record.

21.6. 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.

21.7. An even number of teams is recommended. Should a division have an odd number of teams a blind draw shall be conducted amongst those Regions offering to provide an additional 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. This will be determined at the October Area Staff meeting.

21.8. Program Guidelines for the current year will be specify the format of play. If at all possible, the first round of playoffs will be pool play with each team scheduled to play a minimum of three (3) games. These playoffs will typically begin the second week of December. Elimination rounds leading to a championship game will follow if possible.

21.9. The Area 11-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.

22. All Star League Program

- 22.1. Each Region is invited to send one (1) true All Star team from each division to the Area 11-Q All Star League Program.
- 22.2. Regional Commissioners must declare the number of All Star teams that will be participating no later than November 1st.
- 22.3. Regional Commissioners are to submit their team rosters, including coach contact information and field allocations no later than December 15th.
- 22.4. If a mandatory coaches' meeting is to be held prior to the first game, the coach or a designated representative from each team shall be in attendance.
- 22.5. All coaches must be Safe Haven certified, registered for the current Membership Year and have a Basic Referee certification to be eligible to participate. Coaches are required to have completed the online CDC Concussion training and have the certification identified in their eAYSO record.
- 22.6. Minimum coach training required: All U9 and U10 coaches shall have as a minimum U12 Coach certification; U12 and U14 coaches must have Intermediate Coach certification.
 - 22.6.1. U8, U9, and U10 coaches must have a minimum of AYSO U10 coach training.
 - 22.6.2. U12 coaches must have a minimum of AYSO U12 coach training.
 - 22.6.3. U14 coaches must have a minimum of AYSO Intermediate coach training.
- 22.7. 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.
- 22.8. To be eligible for the All Star season, players must have been registered by October 1st.
- 22.9. All Star players must compete in the age division in which they participated during the regular primary fall season. No exceptions.
- 22.10. AYSO EXTRA, guest or outside players are not eligible to participate in the All Star program.
- 22.11. There will be one flight offered for each division. Each Region will submit only 1 team per age/gender.
- 22.12. All Star league play begins in January.
- 22.13. All Star League play will be based on the number of participating teams in each division. Team will be scheduled to play each team in their flight in a round-robin format.
- 22.14. The Area 11-Q 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.

23. Spring at the "Q" Program U8- U14

- 23.1. The Area 11-Q Spring at the "Q" Program is a competitive program in the divisions U8 and older with many of the players from EXTRA and All Star teams. Regions are expected to field teams that will be competitive.

- 23.2. Regional Commissioners must declare the number of teams in each division that will be participating no later than February 1st.
- 23.3. Regional Commissioners are to submit their team rosters, including coach contact information and field allocations no later than February 15th.
- 23.4. A mandatory coaches' meeting is to be held prior to the first game, the coach or a designated representative from each team shall be in attendance.
- 23.5. All coaches must be Safe Haven certified, registered for the current Membership Year and have a Basic Referee certification to be eligible to participate. Coaches are required to have completed the online CDC Concussion training and have the certification identified in their eAYSO record.
- 23.6. Minimum coach training required:
 - 23.6.1. U8, U9, and U10 coaches must have a minimum of AYSO U10 coach training.
 - 23.6.2. U12 coaches must have a minimum of AYSO U12 coach training.
 - 23.6.3. U14 coaches must have a minimum of AYSO Intermediate coach training.
- 23.7. To be eligible for Spring at the "Q" competition without being considered a guest or outside player, each player must have played in at least half of the total number of all 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.
- 23.8. Guest player limits:
 - 23.8.1. A maximum of two (2) guest players from a different Region are permitted on a U10 Spring at the "Q" roster.
 - 23.8.2. A maximum of three (3) guest players from a different Region are permitted on a U12 Spring at the "Q" roster.
 - 23.8.3. A signed letter of approval to participate from the player's Regional Commissioner (home Region) must accompany the team roster.
- 23.9. Outside player limits:
 - 23.9.1. A maximum of two (2) outside players are permitted on a U10 Spring at the "Q" roster.
 - 23.9.2. A maximum of three (30 outside players are permitted on a U12 Spring at the "Q" roster.
 - 23.9.3. There is no limit to the number of guest player permitted on a U16 or U19 spring roster.
 - 23.9.4. Prior to any participation in AYSO activities, outside players must have the approval of the Regional Commissioner or Asst Regional Commissioner and must be registered with AYSO National.
- 23.10. The beginning and end of the Spring at the "Q" season will be defined by the Spring at the "Q" Program Guidelines. Typically, the Spring at the "Q" season begins in March and concludes in May.
- 23.11. Team rosters are due on or before March 15th.
- 23.12. League play will be based on the number of participating teams in each division.

24. Section 11 Playoffs

- 24.1. The number of teams in each division that are eligible for Section 11 playoffs will

be sent to the Regional Commissioner once known.

24.2. 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. If the next team is not available or cannot be contacted the Area Director will continue to work down the list of teams based on final placement until a team is found that is able to participate.

24.3. 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 for each participating Region.

25. Dispute Resolution and Due Process

25.1. 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.

25.2. 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.

25.3. Disputes involving Region activities should first be addressed and resolved by the Regional Commissioner and Regional Staff, whenever possible.

25.4. Disputes involving Area activities should first be addressed and resolved by the appropriate Area Board member in charge of the activity whenever possible.

25.5. 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.

26. Changes to Guidelines

26.1. Approval of Guidelines: These guidelines shall become effective after being approved by the Area Director and existing voting members of the Area 11-Q Board of Directors, and the Section Director, and then submitted to AYSO National.

26.2. Changes in Guidelines: Once adopted, these guidelines may only be amended by the voting members of the Area 11-Q Board of Directors with a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote, with the approval of the Area Director and the Section Director, and then submitted to AYSO National.

26.3.

27. References

AYSO National Rules and Regulations

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

AYSO National Policy

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>