

**Southern Alameda County Youth Soccer League
Rules & Regulations**

Article 1 – Authorities and Responsibilities

Section 1 – The rules of play for all competitions sanctioned by this League shall be the “Laws of the Game” as published by FIFA with modifications made by CYSA-North and this League and as amended each year.

Section 2 – The rules contained herein shall govern members of this League in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are consistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of this League and of CYSA-N.

Section 3 – Team officials, substitutes or players who fail to comply with the above may be ejected from the game or sidelines. The SACYSL Board of Directors reserves the right to implement further disciplinary action.

Section 4 – If a spectator(s) fail to respond to a team official’s request to desist from improper behavior, the referee is empowered to caution or eject the spectator(s) or to terminate the match and any disciplinary action will be decided by the SACYSL Board of Directors.

Section 5 – It is the coach and/or team official’s responsibility to maintain control of players and spectators at team functions and games.

Article 2 - Insurance

Section 1 – All injuries to be claimed against the CYSA medical insurance shall be reported to the League representative with a copy of the incident report within 24 hours of the injury if claim is to be valid. The coach shall be responsible for completion of the proper forms, which shall be forwarded promptly to CYSA district commissioner for processing.

Article 3 – Registration and Boundaries

Section 1 – All registration sign-ups must be completed prior to cut off date as published by the Board of Directors. A copy of a birth certificate, a current wallet size photograph, and a check for the registration fees must accompany all applications. Absolutely no incomplete applications will be accepted. All applications received after the cut off date will be processed in the order received and placed on teams, as space is available.

Section 2 – Boundaries are open to all Alameda County residents.

Article 4 – Team Assignment: Division 4

Section 1 – No team shall be formed until there is a firm commitment by a coach, who is acceptable in accordance with the policies of the League. Should a coach resign and

no acceptable replacement is available, that team shall be disbanded and players placed into a pool for reassignment.

Section 2 – Division 4 teams may not be organized for team meetings or practices until registrar distributes draft rosters. Coaches will not contact players until draft rosters are distributed at the pre-season coaches meeting.

Section 3 – Participation awards will be given to all SACYSL players.

Section 4 – Division 4 Under 6 through Under 14 Teams

1. All Division 4 players shall play in their age group as determined by age on July 31 of the current year. Birth dates shall be established by a birth certificate, notification of birth registration or a valid passport.
2. Division 4 team assignments will be made by the League's teaming committee. This committee shall be chaired by the registrar of the League.
3. The League will assign players to Division 4 teams emphasizing balanced teams in each age group. In forming Division 4 teams all the following criteria will be used:
 - a) Brothers or sisters in the same age group shall be placed on the same team, unless otherwise requested by the parent.
 - b) Requests from parents not to have a particular coach will be considered. Requests for a particular coach will not be considered.
 - c) Teams formed based on school child will attend in the fall of upcoming school year.

Section 5 – Division 4 Under 16 through Under 19 Teams

1. All Division 4 players shall play in their age group as determined by age on July 31 of the current year. Birth dates shall be established by a birth certificate, notification of birth registration or a valid passport.
2. Division 4 team assignments will be made by the League's teaming committee. This committee shall be chaired by the registrar of the League.
3. The League will assign players to Division 4 teams emphasizing balanced teams in each age group. In forming Division 4 teams all the following criteria will be used:
 - a) Brothers or sisters in the same age group shall be placed on the same team, unless otherwise requested by the parent.
 - b) Requests from parents not to have a particular coach will be considered. Requests for a particular coach will not be considered.
 - c) Teams formed based on school child will attend in the fall of upcoming school year.
4. A coach may request in writing a maximum of six players from the previous year's roster. These players can include his/her own children, but not required. The Board of Directors reserves the right to modify the roster.

Section 6 – No player shall be allowed to play in a higher age group than that which he/she should except for the child of the rostered head coach or rostered assistant coach and except for the movement of Under 16s to Under 19s as approved by the SACYSL Board of Directors.

Section 7 – No player shall be allowed to move down an age group except for documented medical reasons and approval by the SACYSL Board of Directors.

Section 8 – No Division 4 team may have more than 18 players on its roster.

Section 9 - The SACYSL Board of Directors reserves the right to make roster changes as necessary for the good of the game.

Section 10 – Division 4 teams shall not start practice prior to issuance of field permits.

Article 5 – Division 1 and Division 3 Teams:

Section 1 – Coaches

1. Applicants for the position of Division 1 or Division 3 team coaches shall submit a written application to the competitive coaching director.
2. The competitive coaching director shall form a committee to recruit, interview and submit Division 1 and Division 3 coaches for approval by the SACYSL Board of Directors.

Section 2 – Player Selection

1. All players shall be eligible for tryouts.
2. No player shall be assigned to a Division 1 or Division 3 team without the prior approval and consent of the player’s parents and acknowledgement of the special commitments and obligations involved.
3. A team roster shall contain no more than 18 players.
4. Division 1 and Division 3 teams must have try-outs completed and a minimum of 11 players turned in by the deadline set forth by the district registrar. All players selected must have completed registration prior to roster deadline.
5. No Division 1 or Division 3 teams shall start practice prior to issuance of field permits.
6. Exceptions to the above criteria will be at the discretion of the SACYSL Board of Directors.

Article 6 – Coaches Selection Procedure

Section 1 – An application must be submitted to the League for all coaching assignments. No coach shall be allowed to be head coach of more than one team. All teams must have two roistered coaches.

Section 2 – Division 1 and Division 3 Criteria

1. Division 1 coaches must currently hold or complete the curriculum prior to August 1 of the current year, a CYSA “E” Coaching License for Under 10, 12 and 14 and a CYSA “E/D” for Under 16 and 19.
2. All Division 1 and Division 3 coaches must complete the curriculum for a CYSA “F” Coaching License. If coach currently holds an “F” License, then he/she must complete curriculum for “E” License.
3. Coach must be a registered referee and insure that his/her team fulfills the minimum obligation of 10 game assignments.
4. Must complete a written application.
5. Must participate in a verbal interview with a selection committee.
6. Must have a minimum of one year experience as a coach at the age group or one lower for which the applicant is applying.

7. A history of red/yellow cards or periods of probation/suspension may be the basis for disqualification depending on severity or frequency.
8. Exceptions to the above criteria will be at the discretion of the committee.
9. All candidates put forth by the committee are subject to approval by the SACYSL Board of Directors.
10. The Coaching Committee reserves the right to make exceptions to these qualifications in their recommendations to the SACYSL Board of Directors as deemed necessary.

Section 3 – Division 4 Criteria

1. Coach must hold or obtain an “F” License prior to the fall season or have commensurate, verifiable experience.
2. Coach and/or team representative shall attend the SACYSL Coaches Meetings.
3. Must hold a minimum of two practices per week.
4. The Coaching Committee reserves the right to make exceptions to Division 4 qualifications as deemed necessary in their recommendations to the SACYSL Board of Directors.
5. Coach must be a registered referee and insure that his/her team fulfills the minimum obligation of 10 game assignments.
6. The SACYSL Board of Directors shall have final approval of all prospective coaches.

Article 7 – Rules of Play

Section 1 – The rules of play shall be “The Laws of the Game” as published by FIFA. All competition sanctioned by this League shall abide by the “Laws of the Game” and the modifications as published by CYSA and the League.

Section 2 – All games shall be played under the Rules and Regulations of CYSA as amended each year.

Section 3 – Coaching from the sidelines, i.e. giving directions to one’s own team on point strategy and position, is permitted provided:

1. Club allows coaching teams from opposing sides based on field constraints.
2. No coach, player, substitute or spectator is to make any derogatory remarks or gestures to the referee, other players or spectators.
3. No coach, player, substitute or spectator is to use profanity.
4. No coach, player, substitute or spectator is to incite, in any manner, disruptive behavior of any kind.

Section 6 – Where color of uniforms is similar, the home team shall change to a color which is distinct from that of the visiting team.

Section 7 – It will be the responsibility of the home coach to provide the game ball and referees and to see that their spectators and players behave in a respectful manner.

Section 8 – Players may only be substituted during a stoppage of the game. A substitute may not enter the field of play until he/she has been given a signal to do so by the referee.

The number of substitutions shall be unlimited. Substitutions may be made at the following times:

1. Prior to a throw-in, in your favor
2. Prior to a goal kick, by either team
3. After a goal, by either team.
4. Following an injury, the injured player or players can be substituted.
5. When a player is cautioned, the coach may substitute for the cautioned player only

Section 9 – In Division 3 and Division 4 League games, every player must play at least one half of every game, unless injured or while being disciplined.

Section 10 – Players must wear shin guards at all practices and games. During games all shin guards must be covered. Referees, coaches and league officials are charged with assuring compliance of this rule.

Section 11 – Prohibition of Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco and Illegal Drugs

1. The use or consumption of any alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs before, during or after the playing of a match by any player, coach, or other team official or spectator is expressly prohibited.
2. Any spectator, player, coach or other team official who violates this prohibition shall be subject to disciplinary action by the league.
3. Spectators shall not possess or consume alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs during the match. If a spectator continues to violate this rule, the referee must not let the match continue.
4. The use of tobacco will not be allowed within 25 yards of any CYSA North, CYSA North District IV affiliated activity involving youth players.
5. Any player, coach or other team official who violates this prohibition shall be subject to disciplinary action by the District.

Article 8 – Game Times and Ball Specifications

Division	Game Length	Overtime	Ball Size
Under 19	2 – 45 minute halves	2 – 45 minutes halves	#5
Under 16	2 – 40 minute halves	2 – 40 minute halves	#5
Under 14	2 – 35 minute halves	2 – 35 minute halves	#5
Under 12	2 – 30 minute halves	2 – 30 minute halves	#4
Under 10	2 – 25 minute halves	2 – 25 minute halves	#4
Under 8	2 – 25 minute halves	2 – 25 minute halves	#3
Under 6	2 – 15 minute halves	2 – 15 minute halves	#3

Article 9 – Player Passes and Game Cards

Section 1 – The referee shall verify the identity of all players with his/her player pass. Any player who does not have a valid player pass shall not play in the game. Exception to this is U6, U8 and U10.

Section 2 – A valid player pass shall be an approved, completed USYSA player pass. The player's photo shall be affixed to the card and stamped by the league or district registrar. All passes shall be laminated.

Section 3 – If a player participates in a game without a valid player pass or without being on the official roster, or when not properly registered or otherwise ineligible to play, his/her team may forfeit the game and other disciplinary action may be taken by the league.

Section 4 – The coach of the home team shall provide the properly filled out game card to the visiting team prior to the start of the game. The visiting team shall fill out their portion of the card and give it to the referee prior to the start of play.

Section 5 – Rostered coach shall sign the game card at the end of the game.

Section 6 – It is the responsibility of the winning team to forward the game card to the match secretary postmarked the next business day.

Section 7 – In the case where a game ends in a tie, it will be the responsibility of the home coach to forward the game card to the match secretary within seven days from the date the game was played.

Section 8 – If the match secretary does not receive the game card, postmarked within the allotted period of time, he/she will record the game as a tie.

Article 10 – Ejection

Section 1 – If a player is ejected for misconduct, the referee shall mail or deliver the game card and player pass, along with a written report, within 48 hours to the League director of refereeing.

Section 2 – The Disciplinary Committee shall render a decision within 72 hours of receipt of the referee's report and shall convey the decision by telephone to the player's coach. A copy of the decision, along with all pertinent findings, shall be filed with the League secretary. The Disciplinary Committee shall act in a disciplinary capacity for any red cards, and shall render their decision from the referee's report.

Section 3 – The player involved shall not participate in league games until so notified by the Disciplinary Committee and the player pass has been returned.

Section 4 – Three cautions (yellow cards) during any given season results in a one game suspension.

Section 5 – Any adverse decision may be appealed as per Article 12.

Article 11 – Disciplinary Authority

Section 1 – A Disciplinary Committee shall be established by the Board of Directors of this league and shall be chaired by the vice president and vice chaired by the director of referring and will include at least one other person.

Section 2 – The Disciplinary Committee shall receive reports of ejections and cautions and complaints from coaches, parents or referees. They shall investigate matters as

necessary, including requiring members of this league to submit written statements or to appear at hearings.

- Section 3 – The Disciplinary Committee shall decide on any sanctions or penalties to be assessed against members of the league, member teams, players, parents, coaches or other team officials. These sanctions and penalties may be, but are not limited to:
1. Suspension of any player, coach, team assistant, parent, spectator or any team official from participating in this League’s activities or games for a specified period of time.
 2. Abandonment of game.
 3. Declaring a team not to be in good standing and requesting they be ineligible to play.

Article 12 – Protest and Appeals Procedure

Section 1 – All protests and appeals shall be heard by the Protest and Appeals Committee (PAC), composed of three members appointed by the SACYSL Board of Directors with the league president as an ex-officio member. The committee chairperson will be designated by the SACYSL Board of Directors.

Section 2 – All protests shall be in writing, addressed to the chairperson, accompanied by a fee of \$35. Protests shall be delivered to the PAC no later than 48 hours following the issue/occurrence in question.

Section 3 – Only violations of the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and misapplication of the “Laws of the Game” shall be proper subjects to consider for protest. The physical condition of the field and it’s acceptance for play, the actual occurrences related to the conduct of the game and those rights granted the referee by the “Laws of the Game” as published by FIFA and modified by CYSA and this League shall not be challenged.

Section 4 – The decision of the PAC shall be conveyed in writing to the party initiating the protest/appeal and a copy of the decision, along with all pertinent information and findings, shall be filed with the League secretary.

Section 5 – Any discipline decision rendered on a coach by PAC may be appealed to the SACYSL Board of Directors. Such appeal shall be delivered within 48 hours of receipt of the Committee’s decision. No additional fee will be required at this time. The League secretary, with concurrence of the president, shall set a date for the hearing within 72 hours of the date of the decision in question.

Section 6 – At the hearing by the SACYSL Board of Directors, the match secretary and/or director of refereeing shall present the findings of the committee (PAC) to the Board of Directors. The parties involved shall have the opportunity to present their case. The decision of the SACYSL Board of Directors shall be conveyed verbally and in writing within 72 hours.

Article 13 – Scheduling Authority

Section 1 – The League match secretary shall schedule and/or approve schedules for all league games, with the possible exception of inter-league play.

Section 2 – All games must be played according to the official schedule issued by the match secretary/secretaries.

Section 3 – Games will not be postponed, except for the following reasons:

1. Rain out
 - a) The league shall have the authority when playability is in question.
 - b) If field conditions change after the start of the day's play, the referee, in the absence of the designated League representative, shall be sole judge as to the playability of the field. In the event of cancellation or postponement the home team will notify the match secretary.
2. The referee determines that the field is unsafe to play upon at game time.

Section 4 – Postponed games must be rescheduled by mutual agreement of both coaches and the match secretary. There is no guarantee that any postponed game will be rescheduled.

Section 5 – In the event that neither of the teams reschedule a postponed game for legitimate reasons as stated above and both teams fail to replay as scheduled by the match secretary, no points will be awarded.

Article 14 – Standings

Section 1 – Standings in a division shall be determined by points based on three points for a win, one point for a tie and zero points for a loss. Standings will be posted on MySoccerLeague.com and confirmed by the match secretary. A one point deduction will be assessed by the match secretary for failing to turn in game cards.

Article 15 – Tournaments

Section 1 – All tournament fees can be paid with personal check or credit card at the individual's own risk.

Section 2 – Any team applying to a tournament outside of CYSA-North or out of state MUST have PRIOR SACYSL Board of Directors' approval and must obtain proper paperwork from District to avoid disciplinary action.

Section 3 – All no-show fees must be paid for by the coach/team.

Article 16 – Sponsors

Section 1 – All donations made by sponsors/parents shall be made directly to SACYSL, and not to individuals/teams. Any legitimate bills or obligations incurred by the team and submitted to the league treasurer shall be promptly paid upon presentation of proper documentation.

Section 2 – The full sponsorship fee shall be \$250. Partial sponsorships are acceptable; however, funds will only be maintained for awards to full sponsors. Plaques will be presented to full sponsors only. Recognition by teams of partial sponsors is recommended and encouraged.

Section 3 - No sponsor can be advertised on the team uniform or team banner.

Article 17 – Team Fundraising and Donations

Section 1 – All proceeds from team fundraising and donations shall go directly to SACYSL, and shall be promptly deposited in the League account by the League treasurer.

Section 2 – All teams that raise funds shall keep complete, accurate and timely records which match those records of the League treasurer at season end, no later than March 31 of each year.

Section 3 – All monies not expensed by a Division 4 team by June 1 of each year shall revert to the League’s general fund. Division 1 and Division 3 teams may carry over balance to the following year.

Article 18 – Uniforms

Section 1 – Division 1 and Division 3 colors shall be red and white, but are subject to change at SACYSL Board of Directors’ discretion.

Section 2 – Division 4 colors/uniforms will be distributed by the SACYSL Board of Directors.

Section 3 – All Divisions playing team uniforms can not be modified. No sponsors or any form of advertising are allowed on any part of uniform, unless approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 4 – All SACYSL teams, regardless of division, will wear SACYSL issued uniforms during play at any CYSA tournament, jamboree or league play.

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