



# American River Youth Soccer League Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules

## Constitution

### C:01 Name.

This organization shall be known as the American River Youth Soccer League, also referred to as "**ARYSL**".

### C:02 Constituency.

The ARYSL shall consist of all youth soccer teams properly registered with the California Youth Soccer Association (CYSA) and located within the league territory designated in Section C:05. A youth soccer team shall be designated as an "affiliated team" when its members are properly registered in any age bracket of CYSA.

### C:03 Purposes.

The purposes of this league shall be to:

C:03:01 Provide, regardless of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin and/or ability, a program of organized "recreational" soccer for all children in the ARYSL territory.

C:03:02 Provide, regardless of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, the opportunity for interested, more skillful children to play soccer at the "competitive" level.

C:03:03 Generally promote the sport of soccer in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area by keeping the league membership informed of soccer "happenings".

C:04 Goal. "Children, having fun, playing soccer" is the most important goal of this league. Fulfillment of this goal is to be brought about by setting an atmosphere of friendly competition on which learning and playing soccer are held foremost. Anything which detracts from this atmosphere shall be discouraged. These Bylaws and Rules are not meant to provide technical points that will allow adult participants in the ARYSL program to "win" games by protest. The Bylaws and Rules are the instruments with which benevolent and cooperative adults can build and maintain a soccer environment in which children may play.



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### C:05 Territory and Boundaries.

C:05:01 The ARYSL territory is the northeastern portion of Sacramento County that includes: (a) that portion of the Folsom Cordova Unified School District east of Hazel Avenue, (b) that portion of the San Juan Unified School District east of the River City Youth Soccer League, (c) that portion of the Grant Union High School District east of the west edge of McClellan Air Force Base, and (d) that portion of the Roseville Joint Union High School District south of the Sacramento-Placer County line.

C:05:02 The specific boundaries of the ARYSL are set by District VI and are bounded on the North by Placer Youth Soccer League, on the West by Capital Valley Youth Soccer League, on the South by River City Youth Soccer League, and on the East by El Dorado Youth Soccer League.

### C:06 Affiliation

This league shall be an affiliated branch of and comply with the authority of the California Youth Soccer Association (CYSA); and, through CYSA, the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA), and the United States Soccer Federation (USSF). This league shall also be affiliated with U.S. Club Soccer.

### C:07 Government

C:07:01 This league shall be governed by its Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules and Policies, except when these are superseded by CYSA.

C:07:02 The governing authority of this league, whose powers shall be delegated by the Bylaws, shall be vested with the "Board of Directors" of the ARYSL.

C:07:03 The Governing Board, hereafter to be known as the "Board of Directors" or the "ARYSL Board of Managers" or "ARYSL Board", shall be composed of the Managers of all affiliated Clubs (or a Club's Representative designated in writing by the Club Manager), plus Executive Board Officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Referee Coordinator, Metro Coordinator(s) (the number of which shall equal the number of Metro League representatives ARYSL is entitled to and who may also be referred to as "Metro Representatives") and a Coaching Coordinator.

C:07:04 The Board of Directors shall, through written "Policies", interpret, clarify, and/or detail the meanings of the constitution, bylaws procedures, standing rules, and regulations of CYSA and ARYSL.

C:07:05 The term of office of the Board of Directors shall be from the date of election at the Annual General Meeting until the election of new league officers at the next following Annual General Meeting. The immediate past Board of Directors, however, shall be responsible for the completion of any league-sponsored playing activities that were started during its term of office.

### C:08 Clubs

Youth soccer clubs are administrative and are geographical subdivisions of the ARYSL, whose key objective is to bring children and adult leaders together on youth soccer teams to carry out the purposes and goal of this league. Clubs shall be required to provide proper facilities and equipment for scheduled play of club teams. Clubs shall also be required to provide officials (referees and linesmen) in accordance with league policies.

C:08:01 The Board of Directors may create or permit the creation of youth soccer clubs, hereafter also referred to as "affiliated clubs" or "clubs". No club may exist without recognition by the ARYSL Board.

C:08:02 The ARYSL Board shall have the authority to modify club boundaries during the period between January 1 and March 31 of any seasonal year when the purposes and goal of this league will be better served by such boundary changes. Two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors eligible to vote must cast an affirmative ballot to exercise this authority.

C:08:03 A "normal" youth soccer club's territory shall be one or more contiguous public elementary school attendance areas. The ARYSL Board may permit the establishment of "special clubs" which draw players from among a designated group of children with some common tie, such as: Church and/or Church School attendance, private school attendance, high school freshmen, etc.

C:08:04 A "normal" club shall have affiliated teams in at least two CYSA age brackets.



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C:08:05 ARYSL shall reserve the right and responsibility for developing and providing a Competitive program for its membership according to the purpose described in paragraph C:03:02. ARYSL shall vest its competitive program in the American River Futbol Club (ARFC) to conduct a Division I competitive program for the ARYSL according to the purpose described in paragraph C:03:02.

ARYSL shall provide for the oversight of the Competitive program through the Competitive Oversight Committee (COC). The COC shall be chaired by the President of ARYSL or a Board-approved appointee. The COC will be comprised of a representative from each ARYSL member club and the Director of Coaching of the ARFC. The Director of Coaching of the ARFC shall provide the ARYSL Board of Directors with monthly reports regarding the ARYSL competitive program.

### C:09 Membership

C:09:01 Membership in the American River Youth Soccer League shall be by affiliated teams with affiliated clubs.

C:09:02 All members shall abide by the constitution, bylaws, rules, and policies of this league and all applicable rules and regulations of the associations with which the ARYSL is affiliated.

C:09:03 The Board of Directors annually will recommend to the membership the rules, policies, and fees required for affiliated teams and clubs for ratification at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

### C:10 Annual General Meeting

C:10:01 In January, the President shall call for an Annual General Meeting of the membership. All agenda item for said AGM must be received by the Board of Directors no later than 11/30 of the year preceding the upcoming AGM. Notification to members through their coaches and an agenda are to be sent out fifteen (15) days in advance of the meeting.

C:10:01(a) Anyone who desires to run for any position on the Board of Directors must announce in writing to the board, their intention to run and the position they seek, no later than the November Board Meeting in the year preceding the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

C:10:02 The order of business at the AGM shall be as follows:

- (A) Call to order
- (B) Roll Call of Board of Directors
- (C) Credentials report
- (D) Minutes of previous AGM
- (E) Reports
  - 1. President
  - 2. District Commissioner
  - 3. Treasurer
  - 4. ARFC Director
  - 5. League Coaching Coordinator
  - 6. Referee Coordinator
- (F) Unfinished business
- (G) Proposals for change of the constitution, bylaws, rules and policies
- (H) New business
- (I) Good of the game
- (J) Election of officers
- (K) Adjournment



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C:10:03 Voting at the AGM shall be in accordance with the following:

- (A) A representative for each affiliated team shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- (B) Voting by proxy shall not be allowed.
- (C) Tie votes shall result in the defeat of matters considered by the membership at the AGM. (This does not include voting on the Board of Directors).
- (D) In the event of any tie vote for the election of new officers, a revote shall be taken immediately. A revote shall continue at the AGM until the tie is broken.



## League Bylaws

### B:01 Affiliations

B:01:01 Youth soccer teams outside the territorial limits of this league and outside the territorial limits of other contiguous affiliated league may be given permission to affiliate with this league on a year-to-year basis. Such teams shall be assigned to an affiliated club by the Board of Directors and shall not change affiliation during the seasonal year.

B:01:02 Youth soccer teams within the territorial limits of this league may be given permission to affiliate with other affiliated leagues by the Board of Directors, on a year-to-year basis, when the best interests of youth soccer in the Sacramento Metropolitan Area are served by such outside affiliation.

B:01:03 Any non-member teams of organizations, within the territorial jurisdiction of CYSA, shall be designated as an "Unaffiliated Organization". Any affiliated team of clubs of the ARYSL playing games or "doing business" with an "Unaffiliated Organization" shall face disciplinary action and/or suspension by the ARYSL Board and/or the CYSA Board of Directors.

### B:02 Board of Directors

B:02:01 The league membership at the AGM shall elect from its ranks officers as follows:

- (A) President - The President shall conduct all meetings of the Board of Managers, and shall cast a vote only in the case of a tie. The President shall appoint the Standing Committees and their Chairperson and the League Area Coordinator at the beginning of their term of office.
- (B) Vice President - The Vice President shall assume the powers of the President in his/her absence. The Vice President shall chair the Protest, Appeals, and Disciplinary Committee, hereafter known as the P.A.D. Committee. The Vice President shall appoint the representatives of the P.A.D. committee.
- (C) Secretary - The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all meetings, handle all correspondence, give notice of meetings, and maintain the files of the League. The Secretary shall be responsible for obtaining and maintaining a bulk mailing permit.
- (D) Treasurer - The Treasurer shall give a receipt for all monies which shall be deposited in a recognized bank in the name of the League. All accounts shall be paid by check and shall bear two (2) signatures: the Treasurer's and/or the President, Vice Presidents, or Secretary. The receipt book and vouchers shall be produced when required by the Board of Directors, properly balanced according to the bank book or statement, whichever is up-to-date.
- (E) Referee Coordinator - The Referee Coordinator will coordinate all referee classes and all referee programs.
- (F) Coaching Coordinator - The Coaching Coordinator will coordinate all coaching classes and coaching programs such as coaching classes sponsored by the CYSA.
- (G) Metro Representatives – The Metro representatives will attend the Metro meetings and report the status of those meetings to the ARYSL.

B:02:02 The Executive Board shall consist of the current President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Referee Coordinator, Coach Coordinator, the Metro Coordinators.

B:02:03 The Board of Directors shall be responsible and have sole authority for the following:

- (A) Enforcing and interpreting the constitution, bylaws, and rules.
- (B) Approving the seeding, scheduling and operation of all league-sponsored youth soccer games.
- (C) Making temporary rules or regulations for specific cases or occasions not provided for in the constitution, bylaws, or rules, but which are deemed necessary by the Board of Directors to carry out the objectives of the League.
- (D) Approving applications of affiliated teams and clubs.



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- (E) Designating affiliated teams as "too strong" for play within the regular league schedule, with the intent that such teams shall play at the District or inter-league level.
- (F) Publishing P.A.D. Committee findings and enforcing recommended actions.
- (G) Approving the formation and operation of all special games, including league tournament and cup games.
- (H) Establishing and publishing a league calendar with at least the dates of divisional play.
- (I) Oversight of the Competitive Program.

B:02:04 Authority to hire independent contractors: The Board of Directors, at their discretion, may hire an independent contractor to act as League Registrar, Webmaster, or any other position, which shall arise in the course of League business when the responsible areas are not currently defined within the constitution.

### B:03 Standing Committees and Coordinators

B:03:01 The following Standing Committees and Area Coordinators shall be appointed by the President of the League and confirmed as needed:

- (A) Coaching Coordinator
- (B) Referee Coordinator
- (C) League Competitive Coordinator

B:03:02 The Vice President shall chair the Protest, Appeals, and Disciplinary (P.A.D.) Committee for the CYSA seasonal year (September 1 through August 31). Each affiliated club will, prior to the first game of the seasonal year, nominate one (1) experienced coach or referee to serve on the P.A.D. Committee. The P.A.D. Committee Chairman will appoint from the list of nominees a permanent committee of three (3) members and four (4) alternates. A working quorum of the P.A.D. committee shall consist of three (3) Clubs involved in a committee matter may not serve on the working quorum for that matter. The committee shall meet weekly, prior to Friday, during the "formal" playing season. The Vice President shall prepare a report of findings for each meeting to be mailed with league standings and/or minutes.

### B:04 Membership

B:04:01 Any applicant for club membership in this league shall submit yearly, to the league secretary, a properly completed Club Affiliation Form. Previously established clubs shall submit such forms by June 1 each year. Any applicant for club membership in this league must meet the following conditions:

- (A) The Club membership must have elected (or selected) at least three (3) officers to serve as Manager, Registrar, and Treasurer. Each club may select additional officers according to its needs. Any vacancies must be filled promptly.
- (B) The club shall have adopted its own set of bylaws.
- (C) The club shall have established a club bank account in the name of the club.
- (D) Each club applying for annual affiliation with the League shall provide a complete set of financial statements, as required by the ARYSL Board of Directors, including copies of income tax filings for the most recent year for all separately incorporated affiliated clubs.

B:04:02 Affiliated clubs shall be responsible for registering teams, each year, by submitting to the League Registrar:

- (A) A properly completed CYSA Team Registration Form for each player, prepared in accordance with the current registration instructions and procedures.
- (B) A properly completed ARYSL Player Registration Card for each player, plus proof of prior registration, or, if initial registration, proof of place and date of birth.
- (C) Full payment of all team and player dues and fees.



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B:04:03 Annual dues for affiliated clubs, if established by the Board of Directors, shall be payable as of June 1 each year and will be delinquent as of September 1. All dues and fees for teams and players shall be payable at the time of registration. Teams are not eligible for play until all club, team and player dues and fees are paid.

B:04:04 All payments of dues and fees shall be made by "Club" checks, drafts, or money orders and shall be made payable to the "American River Youth Soccer League" or "ARYSL", or as otherwise specified by the ARYSL Board.

### B:05 Meetings

B:05:01 Regular meetings of the Board of Directors will be held monthly on an established day of the week following the CYSA and District VI Board meetings. Each new Board of Directors shall establish the day of their regular meeting within 30 days after the AGM. The regular meetings shall have an agenda, determined by the President.

B:05:02 The Board of Directors shall meet at other times whenever the President deems it necessary, or if instructed to do so by four (4) or more members of the Board of Directors.

B:05:03 At all meetings of the Board of Directors, more than one-half (50%) of the Board of Directors constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

B:05:04 Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed at all meetings of this league unless otherwise provided in this document or agreed to by the meeting participants.

### B:06 Protests, Appeals, and Disciplinary Actions

B:06:01: The "California Youth Soccer Association Protests, Appeals & Discipline Rules & Procedures Manual" also known as the "CYSA Protest, Appeals & Disciplinary Procedures Manual" and any revisions thereto are adopted by the ARYSL and incorporated herein as though fully set forth. Said manual may be found at [www.cysanorth.org](http://www.cysanorth.org).

B:06:02: The hierarchy of protests and appeals is:

- (A) League P.A.D. Committee
- (B) ARYSL Board of Directors
- (C) District VI Board, and then
- (D) CYSA, USYSA, and USSF in accordance with their bylaws.

B:07 Referees' Actions and Complaints: Referees shall file with the Chairperson of P.A.D. Committee the "REFEREE SEND - OFF REPORT" for all ejections (red cards), or a brief written report for any other matter that might require disciplinary action. Such reports must be filed or mailed within twenty four (24) hours of the action or incident of complaint. The report must identify offending persons sufficiently for the P.A.D. Committee to maintain a record of an individual's transgressions. Note: Referees' reports of matters not requiring disciplinary action (field conditions, fields not set up on time, etc.) should be sent to the responsible club, with a copy to the league President.

### B:08 Forfeiting of Games

B:08:01 All teams should be aware that the following situations exist in which forfeiting a game is probable. Unless a team can show very strong mitigating circumstances, a protest based on the following violations shall result in forfeit of the game protested. Protests must be submitted in accordance with Section B:06:

- (A) Not playing each player at least half of each game that the player is available and permitted to play. Coaches must inform both the opposing coach and the referee(s) if any uniformed player present is



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- to play less than half of the game.
- (B) Playing a player who is not registered on the team.
  - (C) Playing a player who is over age, i.e., above the CYSA age bracket for the division in which the team is registered.
  - (D) Not showing up for a game or showing up more than 15 minutes after the scheduled game time. (If at least seven (7) players and a coach are at the field within fifteen (15) minutes, another five (5) minutes is allowed for the late team to get organized and start to play). Note: It is the intent of the ARYSL that all games should be played as scheduled.

Because of inclement weather or hazardous field conditions, a game may be postponed only upon the decision of the referee or with concurrence of both coaches. Otherwise, if a coach has a reasonable cause for missing a scheduled game, the opposing coach should be accommodating. If a game must be rescheduled, both the Divisional Convener and the club responsible for the scheduled game field shall be informed as far in advance as possible - but not less than thirty-six (36) hours before scheduled time (usually Thursday evening).

B:08:02 Referees may not declare a game to be a forfeit. Referees shall record all pertinent data on the game report form. Under Section B:09:01 (D), the form shall be given to the coach of the team that was ready to play for submission to the Divisional Convener with a request for declaration of forfeit.

B:08:03 A game that has been played to its conclusion may not be won by forfeit. If a team that has lost (or tied) a game is awarded a favorable protest decision for a major technical or rules violation, the following action will be taken:

- (A) The game will be replayed and the violating team must correct their rules or technical transgression.
- (B) The adult (coach, manager, or referee) responsible for the major technical (or rules) violation shall be placed on probation for four (4) games (including the rematch with the protest winning team).
- (C) If the violating team commits the same or like violation while the adult responsible is on probation, that adult shall be suspended from league activity for at least the remainder of the current season.

### B:09 Seasonal Year and Seasons

B:09:01 The seasonal year shall be from September 1 to August 31. Insurance coverage shall be for the same period of time.

B:09:02 There shall be only one "formal" playing season for each gender and age brackets of U-6 through U-14 that begins in September and ends before Christmas, including any "recreational" tournament play. Intra-league championship play-offs may extend into March but not beyond.

B:09:03 The formal playing season for each gender in the age brackets of U-16 and U-19 may be shifted as determined necessary by the District Board of Directors to accommodate high school soccer team tryouts and seasons.

B:09:04 The ARYSL Board may permit or establish "informal" playing seasons during any time period between January 15 and August 31 of a seasonal year, provided that "first priority" for fields is given to intra-league championship play-offs, inter-league tournament play, inter-District tournaments, and CYSA "Cup" tournaments.

### B:10 Individual Player Recognition Awards

No individual player recognition awards are to be made by any person, group, team, or club. Public announcements or awards of individual soccer prowess (such as "most valuable player", "best play-maker", "top scorer", "best dribbler", etc.) are specifically prohibited. The ARYSL Board of Directors shall take appropriate disciplinary action against any person, group team, or club that violates that prohibition. Note: This does not prohibit presentation of individual mementos to all players in a team or club that differ only by the individual player's name and team affiliation.



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B:11 Sponsor Recognition of a team or club sponsor on the playing uniform is limited to a patch or emblem on the back left shoulder of the left sleeve that is not larger than three (3) inches in any dimension.

### B:12 Girls Soccer

All-girls team may be established within the ARYSL. Such teams shall be seeded and scheduled only for play with other all-girls teams. (Mixed boys and girls teams shall be seeded and scheduled with all-boys teams).

### B:13 Financial Responsibility

This league shall neither assume nor be liable for the debts or financial responsibilities either implied or incurred, of any of its member teams or clubs or of any representative thereof. Any Club that does not pay a debt owed to the League within 30 days of billing will be put in bad standing.

### B:14 Liability Insurance

All officers of this league and officials of affiliated teams and clubs shall be covered against personal liability claims by the California Youth Soccer Association for performing acts and duties directly related to the work of the league.

### B:15 Dissolving of Division or League

B:15:01 Should this league be dissolved, all assets remaining after payment of all debts shall be turned over to the District VI Board of the California Youth Soccer Association for the express purpose of the betterment of youth soccer in District VI.

B:15:02 Should this league divide into smaller leagues, the dollar assets remaining after payment of all debts shall be divided roughly in proportion to the number of players registered in each of the smaller leagues during the prior formal playing season. The determination of the exact division of dollar assets and the disposal of other assets shall be the responsibility of the ARYSL Board.

### B:16 Minimum Player Age

The Minimum age for any player's eligibility is four (4) years of age. The player must obtain the age of four on or before 7/31 immediately preceding the start of the seasonal year.



## League Standing Rules

### S:01 Home Club Responsibilities

S:01:01 - The home club shall collect all game cards for games played on club field(s) and forward them to the P.A.D. Chairman of the League.

S:01:02 - The home club shall provide the proper field equipment (corner flags, goalposts, nets, and game ball) maintain field conditions, and properly line and/or chalk field.

S:01:03 - The home club shall see that all games are started on time and all game schedules are met.

S:01:04 - The home club shall be responsible for seeing that referees have been scheduled for all games played on their fields. If no referee shows and the coaches cannot mutually select a referee(s) from the people present at the field, then both coaches shall referee the game. Coaches do not have the right to object to the assigned referee.

S:01:05 - In the event of similar jersey color between teams, the home team must change its colors. White T-shirts are adequate. In the upper age groups, numbers are strongly recommended.

S:01:06 - Whenever possible teams shall be on opposite sides of the field with the home team having choice. There shall be a "line" two yards from the touchline. All players and spectators shall remain behind this "line".

### S:02 Coaches Responsibilities

S:02:01 - Coaches are responsible for teaching SPORTSMANSHIP and BASIC SOCCER SKILLS. Coaches are urged to communicate a sense of decency, goodwill, patience, and fair play to their "public", because the coaches' behavior usually sets the pattern for their behavior. The coaches are also responsible for the behavior of their associates, players, parents, team spectators, and insuring the safety of the referee. If a coach fails to communicate this responsibility and the failure results in the referee giving a red card to the coach, the game will be terminated and referred to the P.A.D. Committee for a possible forfeit.

S:02:02 - The following are items derived from rules and traditions that coaches should be aware have become standing rules of this league:

- (A) By Wednesday evening of each week, the home team coach (listed first on the schedule) must phone the visiting coach to discuss the Saturday game location and time, the uniform jersey colors, and other items of mutual interest. If uniform jersey colors are similar, the home team must change its colors; white T-shirts are usually adequate.
- (B) By Friday evening, the home team coach shall fill out his/her section of the game card, to include the "team" side of the game card, including the division name, age group, and sex.
- (C) The home coach shall provide the game card prior to game start to the visiting coach to complete his/her section, and the visiting coach must then give the completed game card to the referee. At the signal from the referee before game time, the coach will see that his/her team lines up for inspection with their player passes.
- (D) At the end of the game, both coaches should gather their players and lead the players in a line to shake or touch hands with the opposing team.



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### S:03 Referee Responsibilities

S:03:01 - Referees shall be responsible for all circumstances on and surrounding the field of play, from the conference with coaches until they leave the field. The referee is the sole authority, whose authority is absolute.

- (A) The Referee has the authority to caution (yellow card) or eject (red card) players and persons officially connected with a team (coaches).
- (B) The Referee has the responsibility to fill out the game card completely and file the 24-hour ejection report along with the player pass in the case of an ejection.
- (C) Spectators whose behavior is detrimental to the good of the game shall be warned by the Referee through the responsible COACH. If spectator control is not maintained, the Referee shall stop the game and submit a written report to the P.A.D. Committee.

S:03:02 - Referees must start the play of the game at the scheduled time. If the preceding game is running late, the referee must conduct pre-game procedures off the field (if possible) and be ready to start playing when the field is vacated, and no pre-game warm-up shall be permitted on the field.

S:03:03 - It is expected that the referee will know and apply the seventeen (17) laws of soccer according to FIFA, plus the special rules set forth by ARYSL. To this end, each club shall issue to its referees copies of the ARYSL Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules. Official time will be kept by the referee as prescribed by FIFA Law V.

### S:04 Game Requirements and Restrictions

S:04:01 - All players, coaches, and assistant coaches must have a valid ARYSL player or coach pass and present it to the Referee(s) before the start of the game. The Referee shall retain the pass card of any ejected (red card) player or coach, and it shall be forwarded to the P.A.D. Committee Chairperson within 24 hours.

#### S:4:02 Coach Qualifications

For Recreational (Div. 4): It is recommended that coaches have, at a minimum, an F license.

For Metro (Div 3): It is recommended that assistant coaches have, at a minimum, an F license.

Head coaches shall have, at a minimum, an E license UNLESS the Club determines, in its discretion, that the coach has both (1) the equivalent soccer training, and (2) the requisite experience to coach youth players.

Examples of "equivalent soccer training" are: played soccer at the college or professional level, coaches or has coached high school soccer, has an equivalent license through the National Association of Soccer Coaches, another state or foreign country.

Examples of "the requisite experience to coach youth players" include: coached or assistant coached youth soccer for at least two (2) playing seasons or has completed a coaching course designed to instruct on coaching the youth player such as the Positive Coaching Alliance or the National Association of Soccer Coaches or a similar course.

For Competitive (Div. 1): It is recommended that assistant coaches have, at a minimum, an E license.



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Head coaches shall have, at a minimum, an E/D license UNLESS the League determines, in its discretion, that the coach has both (1) the equivalent soccer training, and (2) the requisite experience to coach youth players.

Examples of "equivalent soccer training" are: played soccer at the college or professional level, coaches or has coached high school soccer, has an equivalent license through the National Association of Soccer Coaches, another state or foreign country.

Examples of "the requisite experience to coach youth players" include: coached or assistant coached youth soccer for at least two (2) playing seasons or has completed a coaching course designed to instruct on coaching the youth player such as the Positive Coaching Alliance or the National Association of Soccer Coaches or a similar course.

S:04:02 - All players must play at least one-half (1/2) of every regular and tournament game of the ARYSL unless the coach decides that a player may not play in a game for disciplinary reasons. Reasons include unexcused absences from practices and/or player behavior at practices and games. Such action shall not extend beyond one game. Three such actions shall be cause for dropping a player from a squad. Failure to allow a player to play one-half of a game will result in a forfeit, providing protest procedure is followed. Any player present who is not expected to play at least one-half of the game due to disciplinary or health reasons must be so named and identified to the opposing coach and referee prior to the start of the game.

S:04:03 - Players wearing casts, air splints or other hard stiff medical devices shall not be permitted to play - no matter how well padded.

S:04:04 - Players' equipment must be in proper order (shoes with thread steel cleats or with sharp edges are not permitted). No player may wear watches, jewelry, hairstyles, hair ornaments, or other hard or stiff items that may cause injury to themselves or other players. Braids (1 or 2) are hazardous to other players as are (pierced ear) earrings; neither is permitted.

S:04:05 - All teams shall be represented and/or coached by a person at least twenty-one (21) years of age.

S:04:06 - A team must have a minimum of seven (7) players for a scheduled game, except a Bantam (U-8) team must have a minimum of five (5) players.

S:04:07 - This rule applies to U-6 and U-8 age groups only: For convenience of substituting, games may be played with "mid-halves": a one-minute break in the action when coaches may not enter the field and players may not leave the field unless replaced by a substitute. Referees must be informed before a game begins if mid-half breaks are to be used.

Mid-half breaks will be used only with the consent of both team's coaches. Play will restart with a kickoff by the team that kicked off at the beginning of the half. The Referee shall stop the game for mid-half breaks at his/her discretion at a neutral position of the field.

S:04:08 - Shin guards are required by ALL players effective 8/1/88 as approved by FIFA and CYSA-N.

The use of "Spandex" type pants under team shorts is permitted as long as they are the same color as the game shorts and will not extend past the knee. Sliding pants or girdles are not permitted.

S:04:09 - Unlimited substitutions may be made during stoppage of the game. Substitutions may be made at the following times only:

(A) Prior to throw-in that is in your favor.



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- (B) Prior to a goal kick by either team.
- (C) After a goal by either team.
- (D) After an injury, by either team, when referee stops the play.
- (E) At halftime.
- (F) When a player is cautioned, the coach may substitute for the cautioned player only.

No substitute may enter the field of play until the referee has signaled approval.

S:04:10 - Coaching from the sidelines (giving directions to one's own team on points of strategy and position) is permitted PROVIDED;

- (A) No mechanical devices are used.
- (B) The tone of voice is informative.
- (C) No coach or substitute is to be anywhere but at the bench during play.
- (D) No coach, substitute, or player may make derogatory remarks or gestures to the referee(s).
- (E) No profane or obscene language is to be used.
- (F) The coach shall remain within five (5) yards of the bench. The bench shall be designated by the coach prior to the start of the game.

S:04:11 - All spectators and substitutes shall remain two (2) yards away from the touchline of the field. No person, except photographers, may stand by the Goal Line.

### S:05 P.A.D. Procedures

S:05:01 - All protests must be signed by your club manager or his/her appointee.

### S:06 Under 6, Under 8, and Under 10 Restrictions

S:06:01 - Under 6 teams shall play with a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of seven (7) players on the field, one of which shall be designed as goalkeeper. An Under 6 squad may not contain more than a total of thirteen (13) registered players.

S:06:02 - Under 8 teams shall play with a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of seven (7) players on the field, one of which shall be designed as goalkeeper. An Under 8 squad may not contain more than a total of thirteen (13) registered players.

S:06:03 - Under 10 teams shall play with a minimum of six (6) and a maximum of eight (8) players on the field, one of which shall be designed as goalkeeper. An Under 10 squad may not contain more than a total of fourteen (14) registered players.

S:06:04:01 - Free Kicks, Fouls, and Misconduct: For U-6 and U-8 all Free Kicks shall be awarded as INDIRECT Free Kicks, with opponent six (6) yards away. A goal may be scored from an Indirect Free Kick ONLY after it has been touched by a second player of either team (goalkeeper included). Direct Free Kicks shall NOT be awarded in any game.

Slide Tackling: For U-6, U-8 and U-10 slide tackling is strictly PROHIBITED and will be considered DANGEROUS PLAY, an Indirect Free Kick offense. A player who continues to Slide tackle after being first warned (by awarding an Indirect Free Kick to the opposition) will be cautioned (with a Yellow Card) and finally ejected (with a Red Card) by the Referee.



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Offside: U-6 and U-8: The offside rule will NOT be enforced, with the exception of the case where a player or players have been "coached" to take advantage of no offside calls, such as positioning an offensive player with the opponent's goalkeeper.

Penalty Kicks: U-6 and U-8: There will be NO Penalty Kicks given. An Indirect Free Kick will be awarded to the offense for ALL rule infractions by the defense in the Penalty Area, including penal fouls such as Hand Ball, Pushing, etc.

Throw-ins: U-6 and U-8: One re-throw is permitted. The Referee shall explain the throw-in violation to the player prior to the second throw-in. If a violation occurs on the re-throw, the other team will be awarded possession of the ball.

Section S:06:05 - Field Dimensions: Bantam fields shall be forty (40) yards wide and sixty (60) yards long. Goal size: Bantam goals shall be six (6) feet high and eighteen (18) feet wide. (Certain established fields with existing sixteen (16) feet wide bantam goals may retain that dimension until replaced).

S:07 Number of Players, Game Length and Ball Specifications

<u>Division</u>	<u>Length of Game</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>	<u>Number of Players on field</u>	
			<u>Min.</u>	<u>Max.</u>
U-19	2-45 minute halves	#5	7	11
U-16	2-40 minute halves	#5	7	11
U-14	2-35 minute halves	#5	7	11
U-12	2-30 minute halves	#4	7	11
U-10	2-25 minute halves	#4	6	8
U-8	2-20 minute halves	#3	5	7
U-6	2-15 minute halves	#3	5	7

S:08 Stacked Teams

S:08:01 - When a team is formed to place better skilled players together on a team, it must be declared a stacked team before seeding. Stacked teams are any of the following:

- (A) A team where better players are placed on the same squad based on tryouts.
- (B) A team where better players are placed on the same squad based on observation of abilities during soccer games.
- (C) A team where better players or athletes are placed on the same squad based on any person's opinion of athletic or playing ability.
- (D) A "recreational" team, which over the years has filled vacancies with stronger athletes or players.
- (E) Most "A" or "1st" teams, where clubs use such designations. Note: The terms Stacked,



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Metro, Premier, and Class III teams all have the same meaning.

### S:9 Participation Awards

At the conclusion of the regular recreational season, participation awards shall be given to all recreational players. No divisional winner and runner-up awards shall be given.

### S:10 Field Use

Each club shall, by June 1 of each year, submit to the President and League registrar, a list of current playing and practice fields and fields proposed for development in the ensuing year. In the event of conflicting plans between clubs, the President shall convene a meeting of the club managers involved to attempt to resolve the conflict. Irreconcilable differences shall be resolved by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the President.

### S 11 Under-6 and Under-8 Age Group Rule Exceptions

The following are exceptions to the normal Under-8 Age Group Rules approved by a majority vote of the ARYSL Board Members:

**Free Kicks, Fouls and Misconduct:** All Free Kicks shall be awarded as INDIRECT Free Kicks. A goal may be scored from an Indirect Free Kick ONLY after it has been touched by a second player of either team (goalkeeper included). Direct Free Kicks shall NOT be awarded in any Under-8 Age Group game.

**Slide Tackling:** Slide Tackling in ANY Under-8 Age Group game is strictly PROHIBITED and will be considered DANGEROUS PLAY, an Indirect Free Kick offense. A player who continues to Slide Tackle after first being warned (by awarding an Indirect Free Kick to the opposition) will be cautioned (with a Yellow Card) and finally ejected (with a Red Card) by the Referee.

**Offside:** The offside rule will NOT be enforced for Under-8 Age Group games, with the exception of the case where a player or players have been “coached” to take advantage of no offside calls, such as positioning an offensive player with the opponent’s goalkeeper.

**Penalty Kicks:** There will be NO Penalty Kicks given in Under-8 Age Group games. An Indirect Free Kick will be awarded to the offense for ALL rule infractions by the defense in the Penalty Area, including Hand Ball, Pushing, etc.

**Throw-Ins:** One re-throw will be permitted. The Referee shall explain the throw-in violation to the player prior to the second throw-in. If a violation occurs on the re-throw, the other team will be awarded possession of the ball.

**General:** The Referee is strongly encouraged to explain rule and sportsmanship violations to the player, coaches, and spectators during a game in an attempt to teach proper play and sportsmanship.

### S 12 Under-10 Age Group Rule Exceptions

**Slide Tackling:** Slide Tackling in ANY Under-10 Age Group game is strictly PROHIBITED and will be considered DANGEROUS PLAY, an Indirect Free Kick offense. A player who continues to Slide Tackle after first being warned (by awarding an Indirect Free Kick to the opposition) will be cautioned (with a Yellow Card) and finally ejected (with a Red Card) by the Referee.