

AYSO AREA 2N
WINTER SELECT LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS (2015-2016)

ORGANIZATION

These Rules and Regulations are applicable to the Intra-Area U9, U10, U12, U14 Winter Select League (“League”) play and are based on AYSO adapted FIFA Laws, as well as Area 2N regulatory decisions.

1. The League Director(s) shall manage the League and is empowered to implement and enforce these Rules and Regulations.
2. The League Director(s) will be responsible for:
 - a. Scheduling.
 - b. Ensuring compliance with these Rules and Regulations, with the AD’s and RCs’ assistance.
 - c. Managing the League consistent with these Rules and Regulations.
3. The League Director(s) have the authority to discipline players, coaches, and referees for infractions to the Rules and Regulations, or the AYSO Philosophies.
4. Regional Commissioners and/or Regional Winter League Coordinator will be responsible for:
 - a. Ensuring the eligibility of players in their Regions. The player selection procedures are designed to be impartial, fair and are considerate of the players and their families. The Regions will use, but not limited to, their ratings and impartial, qualified evaluators, for team selection (e.g., Regional Winter League Coordinators, Regional Coach Administrators, and/or Regional Commissioner). Team coaches may act in an advisory capacity, but evaluators will be totally impartial. The eAYSO ratings for registered fall players will be used as the basis for player eligibility in Area 2N.
 - b. Coordinating regional teams, coaches, referees and equipment.
 - c. Securing fields.
 - d. Securing team registration fees.
5. The League Board is comprised of the Area Director, Area Referee Administrator, Area Coach Administrator, and Area Winter League Director(s).

COACHES

1. Coaches will comply with these Rules and Regulations, be a current Registered AYSO Volunteer, be AYSO Certified for the appropriate age group they will be coaching, and be Safe Haven 2012 Certified. Coaches are strongly encouraged to have current CDC concussion awareness training. Coaches are first selected by their Regional Coach Administrators and Winter League Coordinators; they must be approved by their Regional Commissioner, and then accepted by the League Board. Coach ID’s shall be provided by the Regions, and prominently displayed by all coaches. ID’s may be supported on lanyards, in clear badge holders, and must be easily visible for referees and league officials, displaying the Coach Name, Team Division, AYSO Coach Training Level (highest level appropriate), Home Region, and W.L. Season Year. Coaches may proudly incorporate their AYSO certification badges in this ID, and are encouraged to do so. Photo ID’s are required.
2. Only positive, instructive and encouraging coaching is allowed. Each team shall have only one Head Coach. Coaches must remain in the technical area during play, within ten (10) yards of the halfway line, and only 2 coaches per team allowed within the Technical Area at any one time. The home team’s coaches (listed first on schedule), will be on the left side of the half-way line (facing the field), and the visitors coaches are on the right side. Coaches are responsible for teams respecting the opponent’s technical area.

3. Coaches are to keep players, substitutes, parents and spectators at least two (2) yards back from the touchline. No one is permitted behind the goal areas during play. Coaches are responsible for the actions of their players, parents and spectators.
4. The Referees are authorized to dismiss a coach from a match. A dismissed coach must leave the facility of play, or if not possible to leave the facility of play, shall not interact with the match in any way. A dismissed coach shall be suspended for a minimum of at least one week at the discretion of the League Director.
5. A coach who fails to comply with the League Rules as defined herein may be suspended. Depending on the severity or frequency of the infraction, or such others factors which the Board may consider, the League Board may expel the coach from the League. Disciplined coaches may not practice with, attend matches with, participate with, or in any way have contact with the team until the suspension/expulsion is lifted. A Head Coach is responsible for ensuring only WL Qualified Coaches assist on the Team and that only two Coaches are in the Team's Technical Area at any one time.
6. Disciplined coaches must be re-approved by the League Board before being allowed to participate.
7. If a coach is found to be in violation of a suspension or expulsion, the team will forfeit all matches played throughout the season.

REFEREES

1. All League matches are conducted by AYSO certified referees using the diagonal system of control (DSC). In the event that two assistant referees are not available, club linesmen will be used; two-man referees systems will not be used. Club linesmen derive their duties from the referee and may only indicate when the ball has left the field of play. A certified referee acting as a club linesman may be granted more duties at the discretion of the referee. Referees will have at a minimum a Regional AYSO certification. Referees are subject to the approval and acceptance of the League Board.
2. The Referees are expected to arrive at their assigned matches a minimum of twenty (20) minutes before the scheduled kickoff to facilitate team check in.
3. The Referee assignments will be determined by the Area Referee Administrator.
4. Referees may request the Coach acknowledge that he or she possesses Medical Release forms for all players on the team. Medical forms with "wet" parent signature and/or an electronic signature are acceptable.
5. Referees may not allow any player to play unless dressed in the proper uniform. A player wearing a non-region issued uniform, including jersey, shorts, or socks, shall be allowed to play at the referee's discretion, however this shall be noted on the Line-up card for the Director's evaluation for standing point deductions.
6. The Referee has the obligation to abandon the match if "in the opinion of the referee", the weather, or field conditions and equipment, are not acceptable for safe and proper play.
7. The Referee will file "24 Hour" reports on ayso2n.org reporting any Red Cards issued or any other disciplinary actions of an unusual nature.
8. At the end of each League match, the Home coach will ensure that the Game Referee completes all of the information on the Line-Up Cards (score, team winner/loser, Red/Yellow Card Infractions, and Sportsmanship Points) and shall provide the Game Referee with an addressed envelope to mail directly to the League Statistician.
- 9.

FIELDS

1. All matches will be played on turf fields and will not be cancelled due to rain.
2. Since all the matches are played on turf fields, please follow the rules posted at each park or school. Meaning no FOOD OR DRINK OTHER THAN WATER ARE ALLOWED ON THE FIELDS.
3. The host Region shall provide corner flags for their fields with scheduled matches. Home teams (listed first on schedule), will provide ball(s) for the match.
4. **Clean-up is the responsibility of each team, and every spectator, parent and coach.**
5. Host Regions are responsible for ensuring safe access to the field, and equipment at each scheduled location.

SCHEDULING

1. The League's Season will begin on **Saturday, January 9, 2016 and end Saturday, February 27, 2016**.
2. All matches must be played at the designated times and locations; any schedule changes must be approved in advance by the League Board. Requests to reschedule a match shall be made within 7 days after the Winter League Coaches Meeting. Requests to reschedule matches may be accommodated at the discretion of the League Directors. After 7 days following the Coaches Meeting, requests to reschedule matches are strongly discouraged. If such a request is sought, the League Director shall provide one alternative time/date selected at the discretion of the League Director and both coaches must accept the rescheduled match time/date. If one or both coaches do not accept the rescheduled match time/date, the originally scheduled match time/date shall remain applicable. No additional alternative times/dates shall be provided.
3. The Referee shall abandon the match if a team does not field the required minimum number of players within fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled match time. The match will be deemed a forfeit.
4. Only the municipality, school district, Home Regional Commissioner, Regional Coordinator, or the Center Referee has the authority to postpone matches for any reason, including for example, due to weather or field conditions.
5. The League Director may direct that the location of a match be changed in the interest of the Player's safety (i.e. a Region is unable to provide a safe field or qualified referees).

TEAMS

1. A minimum number of players, from each team, must take the field for a match to occur. The minimum numbers are: U9 – 5 players; U10 - 5 players; U12 - 6 players; and U14 and above - 7 players. The maximum roster sizes are: U9 – 10 players; U10 – 10 players; U12 – 12 players; and U14 – 15 players. These factors place increased demands on our resources and facilities; coaches are encouraged to closely adhere to the '¾ play rule', by monitoring player attendance and participation carefully.
2. Players are only permitted to play on the team on which they are officially registered. If a player participates on a team on which they are not registered, the match will be an automatic forfeit and the player may be subject to discipline, including expulsion from the program, and the coach or coaches suspended a **minimum** of one match, after discussion with the coach's home Regional Commissioner and/or Regional League Coordinator.
3. All eligible players in uniform and at the field at the beginning of the match must play a minimum of half the match. In addition, no player will sit out two quarters until ALL players have sat out one quarter. So a player

cannot play 4Q if another player only played 2Q. Players arriving during 1st quarter are only required to play ½ the match and those arriving during the 2nd or 3rd quarters are only required to play one quarter.

4. In U9, U10, and U12, goalkeepers may play no more than 2 quarters in goal. In U14 goalkeepers may play the whole match in goal provided that the aforementioned requirements of “Teams, section 3” (see above) are met.
5. Players will be allowed to play in neighboring regions when no team is available in their home region, but only with the approval of the Regional Commissioners involved, the player, the player’s parents, and with written notification to and acceptance by the League Director.
6. **All participants must have been signed up in the current AYSO membership year, and participated in more than 50% of the matches and practices, during the preceding Fall season.**
7. Players will only be allowed to be registered, and play, on one team.
8. A player shall play in the division in which s/he is eligible to compete based on the current Membership Year as defined by AYSO, regardless of the division played in during the preceding Fall season. A player is also permitted to play “up” in an older age division in Winter League if s/he is emotionally and physically capable, and has the required skill set to compete at a higher level. The determination as to whether a player shall play “up” is left to the Region, however the League Director has the discretion to not permit a player to play “up.”
9. A Player playing in their second year of U10 in the Fall season, or who, based on their birthdate, would play in the U12 division in the Fall season immediately after the current Winter League season, shall not be permitted to play in the U09 division.
10. Players are not permitted to begin training sessions before December 1.

PLAYERS’ EQUIPMENT

1. Players shall be prohibited from entering the field unless they are properly attired with the issued regulation AYSO uniform, consisting of a numbered shirt (with AYSO logo) tucked into the shorts, and socks covering approved shin guards. A player wearing a non-region issued uniform, including jersey, shorts, or socks, may be allowed to play, however at the Director’s discretion this shall be grounds for standing point deductions. Referees should use their discretion when enforcing this rule.
2. All undergarments (slide pants, undershirts, etc.) which extend visibly beyond the required uniform must be as close as possible in color to the main color of the uniform part under which they are worn. A solid black or white undergarment is also allowed.
3. It is the responsibility of the **home team** to supply, and wear pinnies when requested by the referee. Host regions may need to purchase pinnies in order to satisfy this requirement, and make them available for use at scheduled matches.
4. Due to liability concerns, all players must wear the issued uniforms properly, with the prescribed AYSO logo, in order to be covered by AYSO insurance.
5. In inclement weather, the referee may choose to allow sweatshirts or sweaters (worn under Team jerseys) and the use of knit caps (NO baseball caps are allowed) as well as gloves.
6. **Jewelry of any kind and/or type is prohibited.**
7. Casts of any variety are **not** allowed, not even with the written consent of a doctor. Wraps, such as ACE bandages, elastic knee or elbow supports and knee braces are permitted at the discretion of the referee.

8. Goalkeepers may wear a **soft** brim hat, cap or visor if desired, subject to the Referee's approval (NO baseball caps will be allowed). Additionally, goalkeepers may wear goalie pants, which are designed for soccer play.
9. U9, U10, U12, & U14 player jerseys will have the player's number displayed on the front, near the chest panel, but not in conflict with either the AYSO logo, or the vendor icon respectively.
10. Only Winter Select League funds, and not General Regional funds, shall be expended for any League field or equipment expenses, including but not limited to, player uniforms, warm-ups, backpacks, and additional field usage.

INJURIES

1. Any injury to, or damage caused by an AYSO participant shall be reported by any involved Coach to: (A) the host Regional Commissioner, Regional League Coordinator, or Regional Safety Director, and (B) the participating coaches' Regional Commissioner, Regional League Coordinator, or Regional Safety Director. Any individuals needing assistance with this process should contact their Regional League Coordinator immediately.
2. The Coach shall possess the AYSO Medical Release forms at the beginning of any match and at all training sessions.
3. The Center Referee is authorized to stop the match at any time to deal with an injured player.

MATCHES

1. The Rules and Regulations are in accordance with the most current FIFA Laws of the Game and AYSO Rules and Regulations. AYSO Rules shall supersede FIFA Laws.
2. Properly completed line-up cards must be presented to the referee prior to the start of the match. These cards will include all registered players regardless of attendance, listed in **NUMERICAL** order.
3. It is important when a team is leading by 4 goals that the Coach takes immediate and pro-active changes on the field to prevent further increase in the Goal Differential and avoid running up the score. Running up the score is considered unsporting and contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game. In cases where the final Goal Differential is 6 or higher, 2 points shall be deducted from the winning team's Division Standings, causing the team to receive only 4 points, rather than 6 points, for the win. Coaches need to be prepared in advance to avoid a run-away score and can even begin the process of implementing changes when the score differential is at 3. Examples of scores which will be penalized by the 2 points deduction are; 6-0, 7-1, 7-0, 8-2, 8-1, 8-0.
4. **No free substitution is allowed.**
5. The League Board shall determine the outcome of any match terminated or abandoned by the referee.
6. Match scores shall be entered into the League's designated forum (e.g., MySportsLeague.com) by the Head Coach of *each* team as soon as practicable and within 48 hours of the completion of the match. If a match score is not entered within 48 hours following the match, the team which did not timely enter its score forfeits the right to challenge any score that is entered for the match.
7. A forfeited match shall result in a 3-0 score reported in the standings and the team awarded 0 Sportsmanship Points for that match.

CONDUCT

1. No alcoholic beverages are permitted on or near the playing field.
2. No smoking by anyone is permitted on or near the playing field.
3. Players, coaches, parents and spectators will conduct themselves in a manner that supports good sportsmanship, clean play and AYSO as an organization.
4. Negative comments and complaints about match officials in the performance of their volunteer duties is strictly prohibited, and as such, must be diligently and cooperatively controlled by both teams' coaches. Failure to respect the match officials, or support their efforts to ensure a Safe, Fun, and Fair soccer experience, may be subject to disciplinary action.
5. Foul or abusive language especially that which, in the opinion of the referee, is directed toward a person or persons, will not be tolerated and will be dealt with summarily by the referee.
6. Any physical assault on referees, assistant referees, AYSO coaches or officials by a player, parent, or coach, will result in automatic and permanent expulsion from the League. All other appropriate discipline will be considered.
7. Conduct which brings disrepute on AYSO may result in the suspension of the participant(s) involved.

PLAYER CAUTIONS AND SEND-OFFS

1. A sent-off player must leave the facility of play, or if not possible to leave the facility of play, shall not interact with the match in any way. The player is suspended from the team's next match. Additional match suspensions may be mandated depending on the nature of the misconduct. The team's Head Coach is responsible for enforcing a player's suspension. In order for reinstatement, the PLAYER must contact and meet with the Area Director (or designee) prior to any further AYSO training or matches; No Exceptions!
2. A player receiving two (2) red cards, or six (6) yellow cards, during the course of the season may be suspended for the remainder of the season.
3. A player receiving three (3) yellow cards during the course of the season will be suspended for the next match.
4. All yellow cards, red cards and incidents of serious misconduct must be documented by the match referee on the line-up card, which must be promptly mailed directly to the League Statistician at the address shown at the end of these Rules.
5. All red cards issued must be reported by the match Referee within 24 hours of the match. A 24 hour report form can be downloaded at www.ayso2N.org.
6. If a player plays while suspended, or attempts to circumvent the aforementioned provisions by attempting to play in a match while on suspension, the player will be suspended for the remainder of the season. All matches played in violation of this rule will be deemed unavoidable forfeits for that team, and the team coach may be subject to discipline as well.

DISPUTES

1. Disputes that cannot be settled between the League Director and the involved Regional Commissioners or Regional Commissioner's designee will be resolved by the League Board.

PROTESTS

1. Protests will not receive enthusiastic consideration and are emphatically discouraged as being counter to the spirit of AYSO.
2. The Referee's decisions are **FINAL**, in accordance with the first two (2) paragraphs of Law V of the Laws of the Game.
3. Only protests that are based upon the technicalities of a match will be accepted and must be submitted in writing to the League Director by the Regional Commissioner or Winter League Coordinator of a team filing the protest within 24 hours after the end of the match being protested.
4. The League Director has authority and will be responsible for resolution of all disputes. Appeals of the League Director's determinations shall be to the League Board.

TEAM ROSTERS AND STANDINGS

1. **Team Rosters must be entered into eAYSO by December 21, 2015.** All additions and deletions should be entered as they occur until the cut-off date.
2. Teams will have until January 25, 2016 (i.e. conclusion of match 3) to add additional players to their rosters. Thereafter, rosters are not to be changed, nor additions made without the approval of the respective Regional Commissioners and/or Regional League Coordinator and the approval of the League Director.
3. The method of point accumulation for League standings of the divisions is as follows: 6 points for a win, 3 points for a tie; 0 points for a loss. One point shall be awarded to the winning team for a shut-out of its opponent. The shut-out point shall not be awarded for a 0-0 tie or for a forfeited game. In addition, one point shall be awarded for each goal up to a maximum of 3 points.
4. A yellow card will result in a 1 point deduction. A red card will result in a 2 point deduction. Coach dismissals will result in a 5 point deduction.
5. Standing point examples:
 - a) Team A defeats Team B by a score of 5-1:

	Match Points	Goal Points	Modification Points	Team Standing Points
Team A	+6 for a win	+3 (max of 3 goal points)	None	9
Team B	0 for a loss	+1 goal point	None	1

- b) Team A defeats Team B by a score of 8-2, and Team A received one yellow card:

	Match Points	Goal Points	Modification Points	Team Standing Points
Team A	+6 for a win	+3 (max of 3 goal points)	-1 for yellow card -2 (goal differential of 6 or more)	6
Team B	0 for a loss	+2	None	2

c) Team A defeats Team B by a score of 7-0, and Team B received one send-off:

	Match Points	Goal Points	Modification Points	Team Standing Points
Team A	+6 for a win	+3 (max of 3 goal points)	-2 (goal differential 6 or more) +1 shut-out	8
Team B	0 for a loss	0	-2 for send-off	-2 (assumes standings points exist from which to deduct – no negative standings points)

d) Team B forfeits to Team A

	Match Points	Goal Points	Modifications Points	Team Standing Points
Team A	+6 for a win	+3 (match scored as 3-0 win)	None (no shut-out point)	9
Team B	0 for a loss	0	0	0

6. Tiebreakers will be determined by the following sequence:

- a) Head to head match result
 - b) Least goals allowed during the season
 - c) Total season goal differential (goals scored less goals allowed up to maximum of 3 goals-differential per game)
 - d) Total season goals scored up to a maximum of 3 goals per game
 - e) Lowest standings point deductions for misconduct and send-offs
 - f) Sportsmanship points
 - g) If still tied, by coin toss.
7. Forfeits (technical or otherwise) are scored 3 goals to 0 goals and there is not one point awarded for a shut-out. Forfeits are considered unsporting and coaches are encouraged to consider all available options, including discussion with the League Director, to avoid a forfeit in order that the players have the opportunity to play their match. Forfeits, including multiple forfeits, may be considered as cause for the team and Region to lose their right to play in the League to be determined by the League Board.
8. ***Sportsmanship will receive special attention throughout the season.*** Good Sportsmanship is strongly encouraged and expected in this League, including by the players, coaches, and parents. One team from each division who in the opinion of the referees consistently displays the highest sportsmanship during season play will receive individual awards recognizing their exemplary play. The referees will rate the players, coaches, and spectators using a 0-6 scale for each group (with a normal rating of '4 points to each group' for a match well played, coached, and supported), allowing for up to 18 sportsmanship points per match. Sportsmanship points shall be accumulated by the League Statistician and totaled to determine the Sportsmanship Award winner. The Sportsmanship points from the final Match of the season shall not be considered to determine the winner of the Sportsmanship Award (in order to facilitate determining a winner at the time of a team's final season match, rather than experiencing the inherent delay until the points awarded in the final match would be mailed in, totaled, and reported). Sportsmanship Award tiebreakers shall be determined in the following sequence:
- a) Division standings points, not including the final match;
 - b) Lowest standings point deductions for misconduct and send-offs;

- c) Head to head match results;
- d) Least Goals allowed during the season;
- e) If still tied, by coin toss.

AWARDS

1. 1st and 2nd place teams in each age division will receive awards.
2. One exemplary Sportsmanship Award will be awarded in each division.

LINE-UP CARD PROCEDURES

1. Properly completed line-up cards must be presented to the referee by a team's coach prior to the start of the match. These cards will include all registered players regardless of attendance listed **NUMERICALLY**.
2. At the end of each League match, the Home coach will ensure that the Center Referee completes all of the information on the Line-up Cards (score, team winner/loser, red and yellow Card infractions, and Sportsmanship Evaluation).
3. **The Home coach** will provide the center referee with a stamped envelope addressed to the League Statistician to be placed in the mail as soon as practicable but within 48 hours of the completion of the match. The League Statistician's address is shown at the end of these Rules.
4. Illegible Line-up cards will not be posted until such time as the volunteer staff has the opportunity to review the information and confirm the contents.

LEAGUE BOARD CONTACTS

League Director(s):	Michael Wang mwangfamily@gmail.com
	Craig Wallace craig.wallace@yahoo.com
Area Director:	Michael Cassidy michael.cassidy@comcast.net
League Statistician:	Michael Wang mwangfamily@gmail.com
Area Coach Administrator:	Open Position
Area Referee Administrator:	Clayton Wishoff claytonwishoff@yahoo.com
Referee Coordinator	Clayton Wishoff claytonwishoff@yahoo.com