

Spring Soccer

San Diego County AYSO

Guidelines

Supporting Combined Soccer across
AYSO Areas 11R, 11S & 11V

Revision 3.0
Feb 2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I	About this Document	1
1.1	Intended Audience	1
1.2	Content and Organization	1
1.3	Document Conflicts	1
II	Organization	1
2.1	Administration	1
2.2	Area Coordinator	1
2.3	Scheduler	1
2.4	Regional Coordinator	1
III	Format	1
3.1	Schedule	1
3.2	Team Formation	2
3.3	Standings	2
3.4	Tiebreakers	2
3.5	Overtime	2
3.6	Reporting Scores	2
IV	Fees & Uniforms	2
4.1	Program Fees	2
4.2	Area Fees	2
4.3	AYSO National Fees	2
4.4	Uniforms	2
V	Player Eligibility	3
5.1	Age of Players	3
5.2	Outside Players	3
5.3	AYSO Inter-Play with Matrix and other Extended pay Programs	3
5.4	Rosters	3
5.5	Exceptions	3
5.6	Coaches	3
5.7	Game Cards	4
5.8	Registration/Medical Release Forms	4
VI	Field of Play	4
6.1	Home Field	4
6.2	Field Preparation	4
VII	Games	4
7.1	Game Schedules	4
7.2	Schedule Publishing	4
7.3	Cancellations/Rescheduled Games	4
7.4	Forfeits	5
7.5	Make-Up Matches	5
7.6	Minimum Players	5
7.7	Player Substitutions	5
7.8	Color Conflicts	5
7.9	Team Conduct	5
VIII	Referees & Referee Scheduling	5
8.1	Qualifications	5

8.2	Scheduling	5
IX	Reporting Scores	6
9.1	Game Cards	6
X	Discipline	6
10.1	Referee Reports	6
10.2	Regional	6
10.3	Send-Offs	6
10.4	Multiple Issuance	6
10.5	Player Suspension(s)	7
10.6	Protests	7
XI	Injuries and Property Damage	7
11.1	Personal Injury	7
11.2	Property Damage	7
	<u>Appendix- A Key Dates</u>	8

I About this Document

1.1 Intended Audience

This document is considered a public document that is accessible to all participants and potential participants in AYSO Spring Soccer in San Diego County. This list should include, but is not limited to Coordinators, Schedulers, Coaches, Referees and parents.

1.2 Content and Organization

This document is considered a “Living” document. This document is open to continuous evolution and revision in order to meet the needs of the Spring Soccer Program.

1.3 Document Conflicts

These Spring Guidelines are subject to AYSO’s Articles of Incorporation, National Bylaws, National Policy Statements, National Rules and Regulations and Section 11 Rules and Regulations. All operating regulations are available on-line at www.ayso.org, and copies of these documents will be made available by the region upon request and are hereby incorporated by reference as a part of these Spring Guidelines. These Regional Guidelines are meant to enhance and to conform to the operating policies and regulations provided by AYSO’s Articles of Incorporation, National Bylaws, National Policy Statements, National Rules and Regulations and Section 11 Rules and Regulations. To the extent that there may be any contradiction or conflict among these documents, the AYSO Operating Regulations shall prevail.

II Organization

2.1 Administration

The program shall be administered by the Spring Season Coordinators elected/appointed by the participating Areas and Regions.

2.2 Area Coordinator

Each participating Area will appoint an individual to serve as that Area’s Spring Season Coordinator. If no one is appointed it shall be assumed that the Area Director is the Area Spring Season Coordinator.

2.3 Scheduler

The games shall be scheduled by the Spring Season Scheduler who will be appointed by the Spring Season Coordinator and Area Director.

2.4 Regional Coordinator

Each participating Region will appoint an individual to serve as the Region’s Spring Season Coordinator. The Regional Coordinator is responsible for identifying teams for the programs, ensuring the eligibility of each player on the roster, and to post all scores of the games played on their Regional fields on the Internet web site.

III Format

3.1 Schedule

The current season will consist of a series of games in a tournament style format. Refer to Appendix-A for the dates of the first and last weekend of play. Coaches are encouraged to coordinate directly to make-up any matches that they are unable to complete as initially scheduled, then coordinate posting to the scheduling site. Once posted at the approved scheduling site, it will be the responsibility of the designated home team Referee Administrator to identify referee support. No matches will be scheduled the Easter weekend or on Mother’s Day.

For games hosted with Area-11V, the final source for schedules will be the schedule management site

located at <http://Area11Vscheduler.org>.

3.2 Team Formation

Regions are encouraged to form teams, which will allow for any registered player wishing to play to be placed on a team. To assure that teams have a positive experience they may be seeded in pools based on their predetermined level of experience, skill, and other factors that the Spring Coordinators deem necessary. Only AYSO registered players and teams may participate, no guest players or teams not registered with AYSO may participate.

3.3 Standings

Standings will be kept using the following 10-point system.

Win	6 points
Goals	1 point for each goal, max of 3
Lose	0 points
Tie	3 points
Shut Out	1 point
Ejection	-2 points per ejection (coach or player)

Special Case Example: 0 – 0 tie, 4 points each team, 1 – 1 tie, 4 points each team

3.4 Tiebreakers

The following order of precedence will be used to determine standings if there is a tie in points.

1. Head to Head competition
2. Fewest goals allowed
3. Most shutouts
4. Goal differential (maximum of 3 goals per game)
5. Coin Toss

3.5 Overtime

There will be no over-time played during regular scheduled games.

3.6 Reporting Scores

The home team will provide the scores to their Regional Spring Coordinator. Game cards will be maintained by the home teams region until the end of the season for potential conflict resolution.

IV Fees & Uniforms

4.1 Program Fees

Each Regional Commissioner will set a fee for their regions teams according to regional expenses. These fees may include, but are not limited to uniforms, balls, field equipment, etc.

4.2 Area Fees

Each Area may access a per-player, or per-team fee where mutually agreed to by the Area Board. It is expected, but not mandated that this fee be used to meet Area level expenses for the current spring program such as awards or medals.

4.3 AYSO National Fees

Any participating player who did not participate in the previous Fall Seasons AYSO program will also be additionally assessed the AYSO National Fee to comply with National Guidelines and insurance eligibility requirements.

4.4 Uniforms

All uniforms shall be in accordance with AYSO National Rules and Regulations IV for “Proper Dress.” Exceptions will be made for AYSO Matrix teams and AYSO Extra teams wearing approved previous season uniforms with the nationally approved program logos on the left chest.

V Player Eligibility

5.1 Age of Players

Eligibility is based on the player’s age as July 31 of the current annual soccer season. A player who was in a U12 division in the most recent fall season would continue to be a U12 player in the current spring season.

5.2 Outside Players

Outside players are defined as any player who did not participate in the most recent AYSO Fall Program. Teams are required to offer positions on their rosters to AYSO players before using “Outside” players.

Outside players are allowed up to a maximum of (5) for U19 & U16 and (4) for U14, U12 and U10. Exceptions to this policy must be made on a case by case basis with the approval of the responsible Regional Commissioner and Area Director.

All outside players must be registered in eAYSO on or before they can participate in play. All players must be registered in eAYSO prior to participating in the program.

Any team which allows an ineligible player to participate will forfeit those games in which the disputed player participated. This misconduct will also be reported to the team’s Regional Commissioner and Area Director for further consideration.

5.3 AYSO Inter-Play with Matrix and other Extended pay Programs

All players and teams from these programs are eligible to participate in the Spring Season Program. Where opportunity and the number of teams makes it possible, pools or divisions should be developed grouping teams with similar experience or skills.

5.4 Rosters

The following guidance will be used for team roster formation and format of play.

Division	Max Roster *	Min Roster	Match Format	Min Format	Ball Size
U19	18	12	11 v 11	7	#5
U16	18	12	11 v 11	7	#5
U14	15	12	11 v 11	7	#5
U12	12	9	9 v 9	6	#4
U10	10	8	7 v 7	5	#4

*Roster sizes may exceed the published maximum with the approval of the designated Area Director and with the expectation that standards of “everyone plays” and “minimum half-play” will be complied with.

**U16 & U19 teams may be merged based on available players and with the permission of the Regional and Area Spring Coordinators.

5.5 Exceptions

A team that does not meet all of the ELIGIBILITY criteria may apply to the Regional and Area Spring Coordinators for approval to participate in the Spring Program.

5.6 Coaches

To participate in the Spring Program, all coaches and assistant coaches must be currently registered as AYSO volunteers and have successfully completed the AYSO Safe Haven course for coaches. A coach is also required to have obtained the age appropriate AYSO Coaching Certification.

Coaches must also provide a valid email and phone number for quick notification and communication.

5.7 Game Cards

Properly completed in jersey number order with first and last name, game cards shall be presented to the referee prior to the start of the game and shall include the names of all the players on the roster, present or not.

The home or host region will collect game cards and ensure they are forwarded to the Area Spring Coordinator in concurrence with paragraph 3.6.

5.8 Registration/Medical Release Forms

All coaches must have in their possession the AYSO registrations form (medical releases) for each player on the team at all times during games, practices, and all team functions. These forms must be current, dated and have an original signature. **If a coach does not have a current AYSO registration form for any of the players in attendance at the game, that player will not be eligible to play.**

VI Field of Play

6.1 Home Field

Each participating Region must submit:

1. The name of the field site
2. Address of the site
3. Street address
4. URL link to address of the field
5. A time block during which the field may be used
6. A field designated as the "home field" recommended for up to 6 teams.

6.2 Field Preparation

The host Region shall be responsible for insuring that all fields are properly prepared prior to all scheduled games. This includes marking the fields along with set-up and take down. Visiting teams are expected to help with taking down & putting up nets.

All playing teams will be responsible for cleaning up the general area of their sideline after each game.

No pets are allowed at any AYSO venue. Registered assistance animals are the only exception.

VII Games

7.1 Game Schedules

It is the goal of the scheduling process that a completed game schedule and roster of coaches with their contact information be sent to all Regional and Area level Spring Coordinators at least 9 days before the first scheduled game. This will be considered a draft schedule for preliminary review for conflicts and other errors.

7.2 Schedule Publishing

Once reviewed independently for errors, the scheduled will be published on a single web site mutually agreed to by all Spring Coordinators. The schedule will continue to be maintained on a single site only so that if there is a need for changes, there will not be conflicting versions of the schedule in publication.

7.3 Cancellations/Rescheduled Games

Only the Area Director, Regional Commissioner, or Spring Coordinator has the authority to cancel

games. All coaches have the responsibility to coordinate the rescheduling un-played games with their Spring Coordinator for validation and publishing to the scheduling site. The referee in charge of a game may suspend play, and if needed terminate a game due to safety concerns.

7.4 Forfeits

If the home team does not provide a field or field equipment satisfactory to the referee then the game will be considered a forfeit by the home team and will not be played. If a team does not field the minimum number of players within 10 minutes of the scheduled match start time, the match will be considered a forfeit by the offending team.

7.5 Make-Up Matches

All matches are expected to be played as scheduled with approved referees. It is the responsibility of each host region to notify participating coaches when a scheduled field is closed.

7.6 Minimum Players

The minimum number of players to field a team and safely conduct a match is specified in paragraph 5.4.

7.7 Player Substitutions

AYSO substitution rules will be enforced in all divisions. The U16 & U19 matches will have free substitutions in accordance with Section 11 Rules.

7.8 Color Conflicts

The home team shall change jerseys when there is a color conflict in uniforms, unless the visiting team selects to do so. The home team will be listed first on the schedule. Home Regions must provide conflict jerseys or vests in the event that the home team does not have conflict jerseys.

7.9 Team Conduct

Teams shall remain on opposite sides of the field of play. The home and visitor sides will be specified at each field. Only two (2) coaches are allowed on the touchline on the technical area. Wherever possible, they shall remain on their own side of the field, one yard off the touchline, and restricted to the area ten (10) yards from either side of the halfway line.

Only players and coaches are allowed on the field with the permission of the referee. All spectators must be three (3) yards off the touchline between the penalty areas.

VIII Referees & Referee Scheduling

8.1 Qualifications

Each team and region will be responsible to provide referee support proportional to their number of teams and level of activity during the season and any given weekend of play. These referees will be available to officiate, at a minimum, two games per weekend. The home team Referee Administrators will ensure that the assigned referees are qualified to officiate the Division in which they are assigned.

8.2 Scheduling

Participating regions will be responsible for the scheduling of referees for all games played in their Regions. Each participating team will provide three referees to be scheduled for home games within their Region.

All games shall be officiated by the diagonal system. If there are not three referees available, clubs linesman will be utilized.

Referees shall, at all times, impose the rules and regulations of competition as defined by FIFA laws of the game, AYSO and these guidelines.

IX Reporting Scores

9.1 Game Cards

All game cards (home and away team) will be retained be collected must be delivered to the Regional or Area Spring Coordinator with 72 hours after the last game of the day.

The Regional Coordinator will use these cards to post the scores. The Regional Coordinator will keep these cards until the end of the season. Instructions for the posting on the scores on the Internet will be sent to all Regional and Area Coordinators.

The Regional Coordinator will also be responsible for notifying the Area Coordinators of any cautions or send-offs of players and coaches. This information shall also be reported to the Area Referee Administrator.

X Discipline

10.1 Referee Reports

Referees must file a formal, written report **within 72 hours** after the end of the game to their Regional Spring Coordinator and appropriate Referee Administrator whenever there has been a caution (yellow card) or send-off (red card) involving a player or coach. The referee shall also inform the Regional Coordinator of any spectators who may have become abusive and asked to leave the game site.

10.2 Regional

The Regional Spring Coordinator shall notify the traveling team's Regional Coordinator of any send-offs, cautions issued, or disruptive behavior by any spectators of the traveling team. Notification shall also be given to the Area Spring Coordinator.

10.3 Send-Offs

The penalty for a player or a coach receiving a send-off (red card) will be a one game suspension (the following game) in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game. Additional disciplinary actions may be taken up to and including suspension for multiple matches and/or termination from further participation in Spring Season play should the situation warrant such discipline. Review of specific situations shall be the responsibility of the respective Area Director.

Any player who is sent off (red card) must remain in the bench area under supervision of the coach.

Any coach who is sent off (red card) must immediately leave the game site area. The match may continue only if there is a properly certified assistant coach present to take over the coaching responsibilities. In the absence of such a person, the referees shall terminate the match. All teams must be under the supervision of a certified, Safe Haven coach or assistant coach in order for the game to be played.

All AYSO fields shall be considered Kid Zone Areas. It is recommended that signs and poster be visible at all fields during play. Spectators who become abusive will be asked to leave the game site. In the event the individual refuses to leave, the referee may suspend the game until they leave. If they fail to leave the referee shall terminate the match.

10.4 Multiple Issuance

Players or coaches receiving more than one send-off or more than three (3) cautions during the Spring Season may be subject to further disciplinary action up to and including suspension for multiple matches and/or termination from further participation in Spring Season play. Review of specific situations shall

be the responsibility of the respective Area Director.

10.5 Player Suspension(s)

Any player who intentionally strikes any player may be subject to additional disciplinary action up to and including suspension for multiple matches and/or termination from further participation in Spring Season play. The respective Area Director shall review all such events and take responsible action.

10.6 Protests

No protests are allowed! All referee decisions are considered final.

Note: The only possible exception would be in the case of an ineligible player participating.

XI Injuries and Property Damage

11.1 Personal Injury

Injury to a player must be reported to the Regional Spring Coordinator as well as the Region's Safety Director.

11.2 Property Damage

Any damage caused by a participant/team must be reported to the host Regional Spring Coordinator.

Appendix- A Key Dates

The following key dates apply to various notations throughout this guideline and are meant to be amended each successive year.

March Match Dates:	March 02, 09, 16, 23, 30 of 2014
April Match Dates:	April 06, 13, 27 of 2014
May Match Dates:	May 04, 18, 25 of 2014
June Match Dates:	June 01 of 2014
Easter Weekend:	April 20, 2014
Mother's Day:	May 11, 2014

*Not all dates will be utilized by all teams or regions depending on field availability and other local issues of conflict or staff availability.