

**Sponsored by AYSO Region 275
Tennessee Valley Fall Soccer Classic
November 11-13, 2011
Tournament Rules**

1) JURISDICTION

A. Unless otherwise noted, the current AYSO National Rules and Regulations, Area 5B Rules and FIFA Laws of the Game (with AYSO modifications) will be used for this tournament. The following rules are intended specifically for this tournament ONLY!

B. The Tournament Committee (incl. Tournament Director, Assistant Director(s), Field Director, Referee Director and other designated staff) will have jurisdiction over all games played. Disputes will be resolved by the end of the soccer day.

Referee judgment calls are NOT subject to dispute or protest!

2) FEES

A. Entire entry fee must accompany tournament application and will be returned if application is not accepted. Fee must be a single check issued from the Region's account (no personal checks, money orders, credit cards, etc.).

B. Fees are according the following schedule: U10 - \$150; U12 - \$160; U14 - \$175; U16 and U19 - \$200

3) ACCEPTANCE

A. Applications are due by October 22, 2011

B. Applications will be accepted on a first-come basis, based on completed application (see Team Application Form for criteria). Teams will be notified by email within 72 hours of the receipt of their applications.

C. Teams not accepted into the tournament will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. If a team chooses not to be on a waiting list, the application and entry fee will be returned within 48 hours of notification.

D. The primary form of communication between the Tournament and applying teams will be email and the Region 275 website. Teams must designate a Team Contact on their application who has email and Internet access.

4) REFUNDS

A. Teams withdrawing 30 days or more before the tournament will be issued a full refund.

B. Teams withdrawing less than 30 days before the start of the tournament will only be issued a refund if a replacement team can be found.

C. If the tournament is canceled and cannot be rescheduled a full refund will be issued less any amounts for items that have been pre-purchased.

5) RAINOUT/CANCELLATION

A. Should the tournament be rained out on the original date, it will be rescheduled to the weekend of November 18-22, 2011. All teams will be expected to return on that date to resume the tournament. Any team not able to return will only receive a refund if a replacement team can be found, less the cost of any pre-ordered items (items for sale by the tournament which are not included with the registration fee). Any pre-ordered items will be sent to the team.

B. If the tournament is cancelled due to weather after partially completing and it cannot be rescheduled to be completed, refunds will be made to teams on a prorated basis, based on the number of actual games played.

C. If the tournament cannot be held due to weather or other conditions beyond the control of the tournament hosts, then a full refund will be sent to all teams, less the cost of any pre-ordered items (items for sale by the tournament which are not included with the registration fee). Any pre-ordered items will be sent to the team.

6) PLAYERS/TEAMS

A. Players on participating teams must be properly registered to play in AYSO, and have played in the current Fall 2011 season in a minimum of one-half of the games for which they were eligible (excluding any injury time). Regular season games do not include regional tournament games. Coaches are responsible to ensure that all players meet eligibility requirements.

B. All players must be officially registered in eAYSO in their appropriate age/division classification per the National Rules and Regulations. Proof of age may be required. Any exception to this must be pre approved by the Tournament Director.

C. For identification purposes, each player must have a laminated identification card with name, picture, AYSO ID# and the signature of their Regional Commissioner. These ID cards must be presented for inspection at check-in time or upon request by any tournament official or match referee.

D. Each team submitted must be balanced per the National Rules and Regulations.

E. The team roster must be verified and approved by each player's Regional Commissioner.

Roster changes may be submitted (with the written approval of the Regional Commissioner); however, these changes must be received by the Tournament Registrar prior to the tournament.

There will be no roster changes allowed on tournament day. The tournament only accepts rosters created in eAYSO.

F. Players may play up a division (except no players concurrently playing in or just completing the U-8 primary program season may participate in the tournament).

G. 3 Guest players (players from the same region as the applying team's region) will be allowed for each team. Guest players from different regions may be allowed with prior approval of the Tournament Director.

H. Coed teams will be accepted; however they must play in the boys' divisions only.

I. Divisions U-16 and U-19 will play 11-v-11, and there will be a roster limit of 18 players per team.

Division U-14 will play 11-v-11, and there will be a roster limit of 15 players per team.

Division U-12 will play 9-v-9, and there will be a roster limit of 12 players per team.

Division U-10 will play 7-v-7, and there will be a roster limit of 10 players per team.

Any team that is over the roster limit should have received prior approval from the Tournament Director. You must attach this approval to your Team Application Form. An additional fee of \$12.00 per player over the roster limit will also be due.

J. All players must play at least half of each game. Violation of these player rules exposes a team to protest and renders them subject to forfeiture of game and possible disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director.

K. Regions are subject to an audit by the Area if there is a question of tournament guideline violation. Violations could result in disciplinary action against the responsible parties or the entire region.

L. Any player sent from a game must leave the field of play immediately. The team shall play short for the remainder of the game as well as any overtime periods. Any player who is sent off for “violent misconduct” or “abusive language” will be suspended from the tournament. Any player who is sent off will be ineligible to participate in his or her next scheduled game.

M. Only the Tournament Director or designee shall have the authority to waive any of these requirements.

7) COACHES

A. Each team is limited to two coaches but must have two – one Head Coach and one Assistant Coach. These coaches must be the ones listed on the Official Team Roster.

B. Each Coach must provide their AYSO Identification Number, be a currently registered volunteer, Safe-Haven certified and be AYSO trained at the age-appropriate level. If the coach is not the regular season coach for the team then this change must be approved by the Regional Commissioner and Area Director. Proof of coach certification and training will be verified by the coach and assistant coach attaching their training record from eAYSO to the roster. Minimum coach training requirements are as follows:

U10 coaches must have completed a U-10 Coach course or above

U12 coaches must have completed a U-12 Coach course or above

U-14 coaches must have completed an intermediate coach course or above

U16 & U19 coaches must have completed an Advanced coach course **(this policy is according to AYSO rules for tournament play, however, in special circumstances the Area Director may waiver this rule)

C. Coaches are expected to set the example for their team in exhibiting proper AYSO behavior and Kids Zone behavior. Coaches are expected to remain in the technical area during games and only enter the field of play as requested by the referee.

D. Continued dissent and/or unsportsmanlike conduct on the part of a coach or spectators (and in some situations players) shall be cause for temporary suspension of the game with request to the person to leave the field area. If the person refuses to leave and the suspension continues for more than five (5) minutes, the game shall be considered terminated. The Tournament Judiciary Committee shall review the matter and decide the outcome of the game. Such incidents may be cause for further disciplinary review by the Tournament Judiciary Committee.

E. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their spectators. They will instruct the spectators they are to remain at least six (6) yards from the touchline and between the penalty areas.

F. Spectators shall demonstrate good sportsmanship and comply with the AYSO spirit. Negative and dissenting comments toward the referee, opposing players or coaches shall not be tolerated. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their spectators.

8) REFEREES

A. Each team in the tournament will provide at least 2 referees. These referees can be assigned up to 3 games, based on their qualifications.

B. All referees must be an AYSO registered and trained volunteer and be Safe-Haven Certified.

- C. Only the diagonal system of control will be used to referee the games.
- D. Referees for U10 games must be AYSO trained and certified Basic Referees or higher and approved by the Regional Referee Administrator as being active referees and capable of officiating at the level for which they volunteered. Referees for U12 games and above must be Intermediate certified referees capable of refereeing at the age group they are volunteering for. When possible it is suggested that U12 Referees be an Intermediate referee or above. U14 referees be an Advanced referee or above and U16/U19 referees be a National referee.
- E. Youth referees (center referees) must be at least 2 years older than the age group they are refereeing.
- F. All referees must be in full uniform as defined by AYSO, including the Referee Badge. Referees not in uniform will not be permitted to referee games, and their team's referee deposit may be subject to forfeiture.
- G. Referees are expected to check in at the Referee Station at least 30 minutes prior to their assigned game. Failure to appear on time may result in a replacement referee crew being assigned to the field. Once a replacement crew has been assigned, they will have priority and the original crew must report to the Referee station for alternative assignment.
- H. Players in the tournament will not be allowed to referee.
- I. Referees will be expected to uphold the tournament rules, AYSO Rules and Regulations and FIFA laws. Any failure of the referee to uphold these rules may be cause for dismissal from the tournament.
- J. AYSO PRO youth referees are appreciated at the tournament, as long as they are not players on a team in the tournament. Youth referees will be required to have their Youth Referee Form (provided by the tournament) on them at all times while officiating at the tournament, and present to any tournament official upon request. This form must be signed by the youth referee's Referee Administrator, and be accompanied by a copy of the youth referee's Youth Volunteer Registration form.
- K. Should a coach submit their name as a referee than the referee assignments shall take precedence over the coach duties. The tournament director may take sanctions as deemed appropriate for the failure of a coach to meet their refereeing assignments (including but not limited to reductions in sportsmanship and game points).

9) FIELDS

- A. All fields will be set up and taken down by the tournament staff.
- B. Trash cans will be provided at each field. Teams will be expected to clean up all trash in their area before leaving.
- C. Children shall not play on goals, nets or other field equipment.
- D. Pitching tents for teams is allowed, however the location may be at the discretion of tournament officials. Such tents or personal equipment should not be a safety hazard
- E. Vehicles must be parked in designated areas only.

10) FORMAT

- A. This is a pool-play tournament.
- B. Each age division will be bracketed into playing pools. Each team will play a minimum of 3 preliminary play games within their respective pools. Where there are sufficient teams, divisions will also be separated into multiple competition flights.

C. Teams will advance from qualifying pools based on pool play standings points. Number of teams advancing per pool will be determined by the number of pools in the division.

D. If less than 4 teams sign up in a particular division, the tournament committee may provide an alternative playing format for these teams to participate.

11) CHECK-IN

A. The coach or a team representative shall attend a pre-tournament check-in session and submit the following FULLY COMPLETED documents: AYSO player registration forms, signed team roster, player ID cards with photos attached, and five(5) completed game line-up cards. Each game line-up card shall have the top section complete and each player from the roster listed with jersey number. For quicker check-in, it is recommended that the order of the players be consistent between player registration forms, line-up cards, roster and player ID cards. If all forms are properly completed and all registration requirements have been met, the team will be certified to participate by a tournament official. At this check-in, the coach will be provided with further information, a game schedule and materials.

B. Only players listed and certified at check-in are eligible to participate in the games. Any changes after this initial check-in must be approved by the Tournament Director before the team's first game.

C. Teams discovered to have an ineligible player(s) shall be disqualified from further completion. Previous matches played by a disqualified team will be recorded as a 1-0 win for the opposing team, regardless of the initial result.

12) FIELD MONITORS/TEAM VOLUNTEER

A. Each team will be required to provide an administrative volunteer for the tournament. Required volunteers will be expected to contribute a minimum of four hours. These four hours can be split between multiple volunteers.

B. There will be a tournament Field Monitor assigned to each field, and will report to the Tournament Field Director. Field Monitors will check in teams prior to each game, and present the verified game cards to the match referees.

C. At the conclusion of the game, the match referees must return the completed game cards to the Field Monitor.

D. Field Monitors will be the first to respond to any incidents or injuries, and will be in contact with the rest of the tournament staff by radio. Tournament participants are encouraged to report any concerns immediately to the Field Monitor, and also to respectfully follow any instructions given by the Field Monitor.

13) GAMES

A. Each coach and team shall arrive at the field 30 minutes prior to the scheduled playing time and check-in with the Field Marshall and/or game referee. The coach shall be prepared to show the official AYSO player registration forms for each player, if requested. The coach shall also have the player ID cards and certified game line-up cards. The game line-up card, which should have already been certified by tournament officials at the check-in session, shall not have any non-approved changes; other than noting absent players, Captain, Alternate Captain and Goalkeeper. Any other alterations made to the line-up after the check-in session must be accompanied by a Line-up Change Slip, indicating approval from tournament officials. **Quarters in/out of play should be left for the referee to mark.**

B. A team that is unable to field the minimum number of required players for a game will be allowed a fifteen (15) minute grace period after the scheduled kickoff time. If at such time the minimum numbers of players have not arrived, a forfeit win is awarded to the opposing team.

C. Failure to complete a match by a team will also be grounds for a forfeit win being awarded to the opponent.

D. Games will normally continue during rain showers; however, games will be suspended by the referee or tournament officials in the event of lightning, hail or unplayable field condition or any other such threats to safety.

1. In the event of inclement weather, the Tournament or Tournament Director shall have the authority to relocate, reschedule, or change the duration of any game (s). Furthermore, any game(s) that no longer have a bearing on the selection of the winners may also be subject to cancellation.

2. Games may be temporarily suspended if the threatening weather appears to be temporary.

3. You will be notified by tournament officials if all games should be suspended due to threatening weather. When notified, all games shall stop; the referee shall record the time and report to the tournament officials for further instructions. All participants should seek appropriate protection from the weather conditions.

E. Only one player may be selected as Captain and one as alternate Captain.

F. A game ball may be provided by the tournament. In cases where one is not available, the referee shall choose a ball from either team and may designate an alternate ball. If the ball is provided by the tournament it must be returned to tournament officials after the game. If the tournament provides a game ball, it shall be used unless it becomes unusable after the beginning of the match.

G. Coaches and Referees shall conduct themselves in a manner promoting good sportsmanship, encourage clean competition and fair play, uphold the AYSO philosophies/rules, and participate in positive coaching that instructs and encourages players. Coaches and referees shall not use tobacco products or consume alcoholic beverages during games or in the immediate vicinity of the soccer fields. Unsportsmanlike conduct toward any player or volunteer will not be tolerated.

H. Any Caution, Send Off, Game Suspension or Termination shall be noted on the back of the official game line-up card by the referee; and, with the exception of cautions, shall have a Referee Game Misconduct Report completed and filed by the referee immediately following the game.

I. Pool play games will consist of 20 to 40 minute halves depending on the age division (see chart below) with a five minute half time. Games will expect to end on time, and may be shortened if they started late. Pool play games may end in a tie.

J. There will be a running clock during all pool play games. There will be no time added on for injuries or time wasted during substitutions. Each coach is urged to have their team ready at the start of each half and to conduct substitutions in as expedient a manner as possible.

K. Championship games shall be played at their normal regulation time in accordance with the AYSO National Rules and Regulations.

L. Game duration shall be as follows:

Division Pool Play Semi, Final Rounds

U-10: 20 minute half 25 minute half

U-12 25 minute half 30 minute half

U-14: 30 minute half 35 minute half

U-16: 35 minute half 40 minute half

U-19: 40 minute half 45 minute half

M. Small sided play will be utilized for the U-10 and U-12 divisions in accordance with the Area 5B Guidelines. The following and only modifications are made to the game

Under 10-size of field: Maximum 80 X 40

Under 12-size of field: Maximum 90 X 45

N. The "home" team will be the first team or top team listed on the game schedule. Both teams will be situated on the North or East side of the field, and the spectators will be situated on the South or West side. Coaches will share the coach area and will be limited to one side of the field per team. Coaches should remain clear of the touchline, in the coach's area (ten yards on either side of the halfway line and one yard back from the touchline). If needed, the referee will determine which coach occupies which side of the field. The home team will change jerseys or don pinnies in the event of a color conflict with the visitor team. If any questions, the referee will determine whether this is necessary.

O. There will be no warming up on the field. Teams must warm up prior to taking the field. As soon as the previous game has ended, teams must clear the field and the teams for the next game must take their places.

P. FORFEITS: Teams must check in at the designated Field Coordinator 30 minutes prior to the start of the game. There will be a five-minute grace period at the start of the game for a team to take the field before a forfeit is declared. The score for a forfeit match will be 1-0 for the remaining team (See STANDINGS for the points to be awarded). For U-10 division teams, there is a minimum of 5 players on the field to continue a game. For U-12 the minimum number is 6 players. For all other divisions, there must be a minimum of 7 players to continue a game. If a team cannot field the minimum number of players, the game will be abandoned and a forfeit will be declared.

Q. SUSPENDED GAMES: The Tournament Committee may determine to end matches early if field schedule is behind due to game delays, interference, or if weather conditions provide unsafe conditions; and may distribute awards according to games played and points. The Tournament Committee will determine the outcome of any single game which is terminated prematurely (due to inclement weather, participant injury, or interference by outside party, etc.).

R. ABANDONED GAMES: if any pool play games cannot be played due to circumstances beyond the control of the tournament, the final standings of the pool will be determined by applying the Winning Percentage formula (Total Points Earned in all Game Played divided by Total Points Possible for the Number of Games Played) to each team in the pool. Note. This does not apply to games which were shortened due to late a late start. Only the Tournament Director or designee can declare a game to be abandoned or not played.

14) SUBSTITUTIONS

A. Substitutions shall be allowed approximately mid way through each half for ALL divisions U-10 through U-19, and will be recorded on the game cards by the referee. All players must participate in at least ½ the game and all players playing 3 quarters before

any player plays all 4 quarters; other players and all other conditions are met as prescribed by the AYSO National Rules and Regulations.

B. Substitutions in U-16/U-19 may be monitored substitution according to the AYSO Area 5B Guidelines for U-16/U-19 Play. In this case a Time Monitor Form will be completed by a Time Monitor in addition to the standard game card.

C. The time monitor must be present, otherwise monitored substitution will not be allowed. A parent from either team, a trained neutral 4th official (referee), or a neutral Adult volunteer can be a time monitor. A time monitor cannot be the coach, assistant coach player or referee who is involved in the match.

D. Prior to the beginning of each period the coach shall instruct the players who will be sitting out to go to the halfway line and face away from the field until the center referee has indicated that substitutes have been noted. All other players must remain on the field of play except during half time.

E. All substitutions must be approved and recognized by the referee. Substitutions may be made for injured players; however, they may not return until the beginning of the next quarter and will be considered as having played the current quarter (exception: an injured player not replaced may return to play at any time with the referee's permission).

F. Substitution breaks are not for coaching. Coaches should use this time to quickly reposition and substitute players as needed. Players who must have water should come to the touchline quickly (without leaving the field) and be handed water from someone outside the field. Water containers shall not be thrown onto the field. Referees and Coaches should work to move quickly through substitution breaks to keep the tournament schedule.

G. Coaches must make every effort to ensure that all players play, at a minimum, one half of every game and that every player has played $\frac{3}{4}$ th of the match before allowing any player to play the entire game.

H. The center referee shall have sole discretion on allowance of substitutions and will instruct the assistant referees on the appropriate way to handle substitutions, during the pre-game discussion.

I. Substitute players shall remain at least two (2) yards back from the touchline and within the marked team area unless warming up in which case they shall warm up behind their team area. Otherwise they will be standing at the half line.

J. Substitutes shall enter and leave at the half line only with the permission of the center referee. All subs must line up at the halfway line. The coach will notify the assistant referee when a substitution is desired and they will notify the center referee at the appropriate time. Substitution for both teams is allowed, with the permission of the referee, at any stoppage of play. The substitute player shall not enter the field of play until the player they are replacing has left the field of play. Substitution is allowed prior to a PK. But the substitute cannot take the kick or replace the goalkeeper.

K. Time monitors take position on the team side of the field. They complete the worksheet documenting playing time for each player. The worksheet is given to the referee after the match. Time Monitors have no authority-they are record keepers only.

L. At the end of the match the center referee is responsible for turning in the monitoring documents to the Tournament Director or the Referee Administrator.

M. Substitutions in overtime periods of medal round matches at the U14 and lower levels will be at the beginning of each period, in addition substitutions will be allowed at

the referees discretion for injuries during the overtime periods. (It is not the intent of this wording to allow for wholesome substitutions just prior to taking of kicks from the mark but mass injury scenarios). For U16 and U19 matches, the same system of substitution used during the match will be continued into the overtime periods.

15) STANDINGS

A. The score of a forfeited game is recorded as 0-1 in favor of the non-forfeiting team. In round-robin play this can be viewed as a win and a shutout. The tournament committee reserves the right to modify scores related to forfeits if a forfeit appears to be counter to the spirit of fair competition. Forfeiting teams are subject to disqualification from the tournament by the tournament committee, pending reasons for forfeiture and best interests of the tournament.

B. The standing of any game in progress that must be cancelled due to weather conditions will be determined as follows:

1. If the cancellation occurs before half-time, the game will need to be continued for the time remaining according to the referee's official time at a field location and time to be determined by the Tournament Director.

2. If the cancellation occurs at any time during the second half of play, the score at the time of cancellation shall stand as the final score.

C. Standings for pool play games will be determined as follows:

WIN = 6 points

TIE = 3 points

LOSS = 0 points

SHUTOUT = 1 point for a shutout, including a 0-0 tie

FORFEIT = 7 points (scored as a 1-0 win)

RED CARD/ = 2 point deduction for team (includes 2 points for each player, substitute, or coach) EJECTION

D. The team in each group (bracket) with the most points in round robin play shall advance to the next level of tournament play. Winners of ties in standings will be determined as follows:

Total sportsmanship for all games played

Head to head competition

Least number of goals allowed (defensive) in all games played.

Total shutout points for all games played

If still tied the procedure in E. will be followed

E. Overtime Periods-This procedure shall be used when it is necessary to determine which team shall advance to the next level of tournament play or to determine a champion.

1. Teams shall play a full 10 minute overtime period. If the score is still even at the end of this period, a sudden victory 10 minute tie breaker period will follow. The team which scores first during the second period shall advance and the game shall immediately be terminated.

2. Unless the teams have just been reassembled to determine a tie from round robin competition, the teams will be given a five (5) minute rest. The winner of the coin toss prior to the start of the first tiebreaker period shall determine the end of the field it will defend and the teams will exchange ends between periods. The team losing the coin toss shall kick-off to start the first tie-breaker period and the other team shall kick-off to

start the second. However, if a winner is determined at the end of the first tie-breaker period, then the game is terminated and the winning team advances. ; The second tie-breaker period is not played.

3. In all cases except championship matches, if the teams are tied at the end of the second tie-breaker period, then a “knockout competition” (shoot out) will determine which team advances. In championship matches, teams tied at the conclusion of the second tie-breaker period will be declared co-champions.

F. Knockout Competition-This procedure is used as a last resort, to determine which team advances, when the score is still tied after previous overtime tie-breaking procedures.

1. The referee shall choose the goal at which all of the kicks shall be taken.

2. The referee shall toss a coin. The team whose captain wins the coin toss shall choose whether to kick first or second.

3. The referee will note each player as he/she takes a kick

4. Each team shall take five kicks from the penalty mark alternately. The kicker must wait for the referee’s signal before taking the kick.

5. If after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals or have not scored any goals, the taking of kicks shall continue with the same team kicking first for the next round, until such time as both have taken an equal number of kicks head to head (not necessarily five more kicks) and one team has scored a goal more than the other in the same round of kicks (I.e. the sixth kicker v. the sixth kicker.)

6. Only the players who are on the field at the end of the last overtime period shall take part in the taking of kicks (referred to as eligible players). The only exception shall be, in the case where a goalkeeper, who sustains an injury during the taking of the kicks and who, because of the injury, is unable to continue as a goalkeeper, may be replaced by a substitute. No other players may be replaced by a substitute, even if an injury requires that they leave the game. In this case, the team will kick with remaining players but will not be required to miss a turn in the kick procedure.

7. Each kick shall be taken by a different player, and not until all eligible players of a team, including the goalkeeper, have each taken a kick, may a player of the same team take a second kick.

8. Subject to the terms of paragraph 7 any eligible player may change places with the goalkeeper anytime during the taking of the kicks.

9. Except for the goal keepers and the player taking the kick, all players shall remain within the center circle while the taking of the kicks is in progress. The goalkeeper, who is the teammate of the kicker, shall take up position within the field of play, outside the penalty area, behind the line which runs parallel with the goal-line, and at least 10 yards from the penalty mark and opposite the assistant referee.

10. Unless stated otherwise above, all other laws of the game shall still be applied, in so far as they can apply at the taking of kicks. Each kick is terminated immediately if the ball rebounds from the goalkeeper, crossbar, or goal-post.

11. If light fails or weather is dangerous, and it is determined by the tournament committee that the taking of kicks cannot be accomplished without detriment to the tournament, then a coin shall be tossed to determine the advancing team.

12. If both coaches agree and it is their desire, the taking of kicks can be replaced by a coin toss in order to determine the advancing team.

G. Wildcard teams will be the team(s) with the highest standings points from all teams in the division who are not automatically advancing

H. Standings will be updated hourly at the Tournament Scoreboard. The deadline to challenge the posted results will be at the conclusion of Pool Play.

16) ADVANCEMENTS

A. Each age division will be divided into one or more groups (brackets). The tournament committee shall have absolute authority to structure a division in the best interests of all participating teams.

B. Pool winners (and in some cases wildcard teams) will advance to medal round play. The attached Sportsmanship Judgment Criteria is used in the process of determining which teams advance.

C. Teams will play semi-final and/or championship final matches, depending on the number of teams in each pool and the format of play for that flight.

17) MEDAL-ROUNDS

A. All medal round matches ending in a tie will have two full overtime periods of five minutes in length with teams changing field direction after the first five minute period. In these matches, if still tied after overtime play, the game shall be decided by FIFA Kicks from the Penalty Mark.

18) AWARDS

A. Individual players and coaches of first and second place teams will receive a memento of recognition.

B. All participants, players and games staff will receive individual tournament mementos.

C. Placing teams should see the Tournament Director or staff member for presentation of awards before leaving.

19) CONDUCT

A. Coaches will be expected to set a positive example for the team, and will be held responsible for the actions of their team including spectators. All spectators must remain behind the control line and between the 18-yard lines (penalty areas in small fields). Two coaches maximum per team, and they must remain in the marked coaching area (within ten yards either way from halfway line).

B. At the conclusion of each match, the referees will indicate on the reverse of the game cards any point deductions for poor sportsmanship. Points deductions for poor conduct can impact the team standings for advancement. Referees will be required to complete a game misconduct report for all misconducts during the game, as well as any incidents of interference by spectators.

C. Any coach or spectator ejected must immediately leave the vicinity of the playing field (out of sight and sound) and will be prohibited from attending the next scheduled game. Any player sent off (red carded) must immediately leave the vicinity of the game (under supervision of his/her parent or Safe Haven-certified adult), and may not return to the field of play during the current game, including for the post-game handshake, and may not be substituted for, and is suspended from participation in the next game. In the alternative, the player may stay on the sideline under the supervision of the coach. There will be penalty point deductions for all send-offs (see Standings rules).

D. Any violent conduct red card or ejection will result in that player/coach/spectator being barred from the remainder of the tournament.

E. If it is determined that an ineligible player has participated in a game, the team will forfeit all games in which that player participated illegally. Furthermore, if it is determined that the coach knowingly played a player illegally, that coach will be barred from further participation in the tournament.

F. It is mandatory to play a scheduled game. If it is determined that a coach willfully fails to have his team participate in a scheduled game, the coach will be dismissed from the tournament and the incident will be reported to the respective Regional Commissioner.

G. All conduct problems will be reported to the respective Regional Commissioner.

H. All Serious Incidents will be reported to the respective Regional Commissioner as well as Area, Section and AYSO National Office parties.

20) MEDICAL/FIRST AID

A. There will be a First Aid station at the main tent where participants may receive ice, etc. for minor injuries.

B. If an injury is serious, the first aid staff or Safety Director will call 911 for emergency response.

C. Directions to the nearest hospital/urgent care center will be available at the First Aid station.

21) UNIFORMS/SAFETY

A. All players must wear the approved AYSO uniform only according to the National Rules & Regulations, and all players on the same team must wear matching uniforms (goalkeeper excepted – may have a different jersey, AYSO logo is recommended but not required.)

B. Each player's uniform must be marked with a permanently-affixed number that matches the uniform number on the Game Card, and may not exchange numbered jerseys with any other player during the game including the goalkeeper.

C. Garments may be worn under the uniform (i.e. long sleeves, etc.) during inclement weather, however the match referee will be the judge of what should be allowed or not.

D. Not allowed: jewelry, hard metal or plastic clips on clothing or hair. No player will be allowed to participate with any type of cast or splint. Removal of any type of cast or splint at the field or surrounding are in order to participate shall disqualify that team member from participation.

E. AYSO will not prohibit the use of knee braces by players in AYSO events and programs; providing that the brace is adequately covered and padded in the judgment of the referee, so as to eliminate the possibility of its causing injury to the other players on the field.

22) PROTESTS

A. Protests will be considered only for the following reasons:

- An ineligible player has played.
- One or more registered player(s) present and in uniform, have not played the required one half of the game (except for illness or injury as recorded by the game referee).

B. All protests must be presented in writing to the Tournament Director within one (1) hour of the completion of the game.

C. All protests will be heard by a Protest Committee of at least three persons selected by the Tournament Director. In all cases, the members of the Protest Committee will be unrelated to either team involved in the protest.

ALL PROTEST DECISIONS ARE FINAL!

D. Referee judgment calls are FINAL and are not grounds for or subject to protest or dispute!

23) TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE/JUDICIARY COMMITTEE/STAFF

A. The tournament committee, chaired by the Tournament Director, is appointed by the Region 275 Regional Commissioner and the Tournament Director. Each of these tournament officials participates in the planning, organization and operation of the tournament.

B. Three of the Tournament committee members make up the Judiciary committee, which has sole authority to act when unusual conditions or circumstances arise requiring judgment decisions, is made for the best interest of the tournament or to determine the outcome of a game which is terminated by the referee. The Judiciary Committee shall consist of the Tournament Director, 275 Regional Commissioner, and the Tournament Referee Administrator. Committee members must be replaced with a neutral party if any of them are from a region involved or have a conflict of interest. The Tournament Director or designee shall appoint a neutral party to fill such position when required. All rulings of the committee are final.

C. All other volunteers of the tournament, including the referees, field marshals, etc. are considered staff of the tournament and report to the Tournament Director or the respective Area Staff overseeing committee member.

D. All Tournament officials, as described above, are expected to conduct him/her in a manner promoting good sportsmanship; encourage clean competition and fair play; uphold the tournament rules and AYSO philosophies; present a healthy athletic environment for players; and shall not consume alcoholic beverages or use tobacco products during the games or in the immediate vicinity of players and games.

E. Additional instructions for referees, instructions for field marshals and any other official instructional procedures for specialized tasks shall be considered a supplement to these rules and are hereby incorporated by reference.

24) SPORTSMANSHIP COMPETITION

A. In addition to competing to be the overall winner of the tournament, teams will be competing to be the Best Sportsmanship Team. There will be a Sportsmanship Winner in each age division, as well as an Overall Best Sportsmanship Team for the team with the highest overall sportsmanship points in the tournament.

B. At the conclusion of each game, field monitors with input from the referees, will score players, coaches and team spectators in different categories.

C. The Winners will be announced during the awards presentation for medal round games. The Tournament Director retains the right to interpret and apply the tournament rules to the optimum benefit of all tournament participants.

SPORTSMANSHIP JUDGMENT CRITERIA

(Outstanding) – This is not a given – this level of acknowledgement is earned. IF awarded it truly should be an example for us all to follow of how the AYSO philosophy is played out on the field. These are the games that get us all fired up and wanting to participate again and again and again. SAFE, FAIR, FUN – PIE. Five points are awarded for outstanding performance for the coaches, players or spectators exhibiting the following behavior.

1. Coaches – POSITIVE, INSTRUCTIONAL, and ENCOURAGING comments to players, coaches and parents. The coach interacts with all participants encouraging

their good behaviors and providing an example of the AYSO philosophy – IT IS ABOUT MORE THAN THE GAME it is an example of how we can all interact.

2. Players – A good game – yes there will be fouls – but it is a game where sportsmanship and skill are appreciated. Players are congratulating other players for things done well, comments are POSITIVE. Mistakes, will happen but how do the other players react to them – are they supportive and encouraging to do better next time? Post game the congratulations are meant, players may take extra time to respect the other team and also shake the hands of the officials.

3. Spectators – To be rated outstanding the parents should be demonstrating by their actions that what is important is playing the game of soccer and the ideal of SAFE, FAIR and FUN for all players on both teams. Spectators are the cheerleaders encouraging all the participants on the field and sidelines – you should be hearing supportive comments for coaches, referees, players and field marshals. The post game congratulations and actions should reflect the commitment and respect for both teams. Common arches – cheers for both teams - spectator actions that share a commitment to the experience for the players and all participants. For instance, a realistic thank you or well done where appropriate to other volunteers. A well done for a game where referees have not done a good job will not be expected– but it is appropriate to hear an appreciation for them taking the time and effort to be there. If it was a super job by the referee team – then there should be comments to that effect.

4. Field condition – players and spectators have left the field in a clean condition free of litter and debris. (Above Average)-This would be where the behavior of Coaches, Players or Spectators is not quite outstanding but is still better than your average AYSO game. Four points are awarded for above average performance (Average) - Most games should fall in this category – Average is in general the following of the AYSO guidelines and behavior standards – Comments should be Positive, Players, Coaches, and Referees should be Encouraged, Coaching comments should be instructional. The game should be SAFE, FAIR, and FUN for all. Three points are awarded for Average performance for the coaches, players or spectators exhibiting the following behavior.

1. Coaches – Consistent Positive, Instructional and Encouraging comments to all participants. There may be some slip ups but they should be minor in nature and general tone of the interaction must be PIE.

2. Players – concentrating on playing the game fairly, helpful and positive comments to fellow players and referees. This doesn't mean that can't be some disagreement or being upset by a player at how they are playing – but it does mean that they are following the rules of the game and not taking unfair advantage.

3. Spectators – Consistent Positive comments from the spectators – cheering for their team, letting the coach do the tactical instructions, not the parents. Parents supporting the actions of the other volunteers on the field (refs, field marshals). Yes there may be some disagreement or what was that call – but it should be handled quietly and not lead to confrontation or building to a problem.

4. Field Condition players and spectators have typically put what they arrived with, in the proper receptacle but have not made an effort to pick up for others.

(Below Average) – This would be warranted when the performance of the Coaches, Players or Spectators is less than is expected from AYSO participants but does not

quite degenerate to poor performance. Two points are awarded for Below Average performance.

(Poor) – Significant elements that make this less than a SAFE, FAIR and FUN experience for any of the participants

1. Coaches – Consistent coaching that is not POSITIVE, INSTRUCTIONAL, and ENCOURAGING. Any loud and inciting actions that lead to questioning of the referees calls, or attempts to interfere with the referees conduct of the game. Coach action and comments that incite the parents to question the conduct of the game or adversely affect the enjoyment of the players playing the game.

2. Players – Any consistent actions that bring the game into disrepute. Ongoing and intentional fouling or seeking of unfair advantage. Consistent unsporting language or behavior on the field of play – derogatory comments to the other players of either team, yellow or red cards may be an indicator, or unsporting behavior may be considered in this evaluation.

3. Parents – Actions that adversely affect the enjoyment of the games by players, referees, coaches or other parents. Including but not limited to excessive coaching of players, refusal to follow the directions of the referee crew, loud and or inciting comments about the conduct of the game, comments intended to distract or otherwise adversely affect the performance of the referee crew. Any booing or comments of a derogatory nature directed at any participants of volunteers.

4. Field Conditions – players and spectators have failed to place debris and garbage in appropriate containers.

GENERAL NOTE FOR MISCONDUCTS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION RELATING TO THE PLAYERS, COACHES and SPECTATORS of a given team: IF ANY INDIVIDUALS ARE CAUTIONED OR ASKED TO LEAVE THE FIELD THEN THIS IS AN AUTOMATIC DEDUCTION FOR THAT TEAM –

- Red card issued to a player – a two point deduction for the offending team.
- Send off of a coach or assistant coach – a four point deduction for the offending team
- Yellow card issued to a player – a one point deduction for the offending team
- Warning issued to a coach or assistant coach- a two point deduction for the offending team
- Suspension of the game or expulsion from the field of a spectator – a two point deduction for the team associated with the offender
- Warning to a spectator – a one point deduction from the team associated with the offender.

Example: A team is rated Average so the sportsmanship score would be a 3 – if a yellow card was issued to a player on the team then the score would be 2.

A team with members who are not in conformance with AYSO uniform standards may be assessed a team sportsmanship point penalty of up to 2 points per game at the discretion of the tournament director