

N. C. Youth Soccer General Rules

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N. C. Youth Soccer General Rules

SECTION 1 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Rule 1

The rules contained herein shall govern members of this association in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-laws of the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association, herein called this association. All competition shall be governed by the rules stated herein unless the rules of a specific competition determine otherwise.

Rule 2

Any person found guilty of violating the By-laws or Rules of this association, USSF or USYSA, may be asked to appear before the Board of Directors of this association or their designate, in order to explain his actions. (See [Discipline and Appeals Handbook](#) for additional information.)

Rule 3

A plea of ignorance of the By-laws, Rules or Code of Conduct of this association, USSF or USYSA, is not sufficient, and violators may expect appropriate action by the Board of Directors of this association or their designate.

Rule 4

Falsification of records shall be grounds for disbarment from future participation and/or membership in this association.

Rule 5

This association, USSF or USYSA, shall not assume nor be liable for, the debts nor financial responsibilities, either implied or incurred, of any of its members, member associations, member teams, coaches or managers.

Rule 6

All bank checks, drafts and money orders submitted to this association shall be made payable to the "North Carolina Youth Soccer Association" or to "NCYSA". Returned checks shall be charged a service charge as determined by this association and shall be replaced with a bank or certified check.

Rule 7

Associations are required to pay all NCYSA imposed fines within 30 days of the certified mail receipt date of the official written notification of the fines. Associations which fail to do so are placed in bad standing. Teams affiliated with the association which is in bad standing may not participate in NCYSA, USSF or USYSA sponsored events (i.e., NCYSA Classic League, NCYSA Challenge League, NCYSA Recreation Leagues, NCYSA Recreation Cup, NCYSA Challenge Cup and NCYSA State Cup Series) and will not be approved for out-of-state travel.

If an association wishes to appeal a fine, they must do so within 10 days of the receipt of the official written notification of the fine to the NCYSA Executive Board.

Rule 8

Part 1

Any soccer goals owned or used by any association affiliated with NCYSA must be anchored or secured to the ground in an approved manner so they will not tip over. The safety of the goal will be judged by the referee before each match.

Part 2

In Classic play, if the goals are not so secured and are at a field where games are to be played and cannot be so secured by 15 minutes after the scheduled game time, the game shall not be played due to unplayable field conditions and the association responsible for the fields shall be fined \$100.00 for each game not allowed to be played.

- The referees' fees for that game or games will be paid for by the association responsible, after the appropriate match reports have been received at the NCYSA State Office.

Rule 9

Part 1 - Notification to Travel Outside of North Carolina - Within the United States

Teams registered with NCYSA must submit an electronic notification to travel outside of this state to engage in any type of USYS sanctioned competition. Competitions to include are: tournaments, scrimmages, friendlies or league play in another state. Notification to travel requests are submitted on-line. Procedures for securing permission to play outside of NC are:

- Submit a request using the on-line link available on our website
- To avoid late fees, requests and payments must be received 7 days prior to travel
- NCYSA reviews the request and then sends approval via e-mail.
- An original NCYSA certified guest player roster with the releasing registrar's red stamp, signature and date must be submitted to NCYSA. (This is only necessary if you are taking guest players out of NC to play in the competition. Guest players are required to have a NEW medical release form that reflects the name of the team for which they are guest playing for.)
- NCYSA Interstate Release Form- If the guest player resides in another state this form must be approved by BOTH State Offices.

Part 2 - Permission to Travel Outside of the United States (Canada and Mexico included)

Any team wishing to play in another country must submit the following:

- A US Soccer Federation, Inc Application for Foreign Travel form
- A US Youth Soccer Application to Travel form- which is done using the on-line application on our website Approval is granted after USSF has approved the International travel request
- 2 Certified NCYSA rosters with the NCYSA registrar's red stamp, signature and date
- 1 Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act Compliance statement signed by a team official.
- 2 copies of the Official Brochure, pamphlet, invitation or other applicable material of the Tournament or Games Host- Itineraries MAY NOT be acceptable*** Preferred is a letter of invitation on the club's letterhead

- \$50.00 payable to US Soccer – NOT USYS

US SOCCER is not required to accept or approve any application submitted less than 60 days in advance.

Submit all of the above paper work to: NCYSA - PO Box 18229 - Greensboro, NC 27419

Part 3 - Special Notes

A notification to travel CANNOT be granted if your host is unaffiliated with USYS or in bad standing with his Association. A notification to travel CANNOT be granted if the team applying for application is in bad standing with their local association, this association, USYS or USSF. Travel forms ARE NOT NECESSARY for USYS National or Regional Championship Games. A Notification to Travel is not necessary for Region III Premier League games.

Rule 10

The information of district and/or State Select teams shall be vested with the Board of Directors of this Association or their designate (the State Select Standing Committee). The Board of Directors may delegate authority at its discretion.

Rule 11

NCYSA, USSF and USYSA forbid the consumption of any alcoholic beverages in and around the playing area, before, during or after a match.

Rule 12 - Sale of Labels

This association shall make available, labels from its database, as voted on by the Board of Directors of this association. Labels shall be sold in accordance to policies and fees set by the Board of Directors (see "Request for Labels").

SECTION 2 - MEMBERSHIP

Rule 1 - 60/40 Rule

New associations containing competitive teams (challenge and/or classic), applying for membership into NCYSA must have a "60/40" split between recreation players and competitive players upon making application. Sixty percent (60%) of the players must be recreation, while no more than forty percent (40%) may be competitive.

All other rules, policies, and guidelines relating to Membership can be found in the [NCYSA Membership Manual](#).

SECTION 3- REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Rule 1

Each member association shall be responsible for insuring proper registration of the players, affiliation of teams, proper accounting of fiscal transactions and accurate reporting to the association representative and directors of this association.

Rule 2

- For NCYSA League Play - No Under 13, Under 14, or Under 15 shall have more than eighteen (18) players rostered at any one time. No Under 16, Under 17, Under 18 or Under 19 team shall have more than twenty-two (22) players rostered at any one time. All other age divisions shall have the following maximum roster size based on USYS modified rules: U12 and U11 = 14 player limit, U10=12 player limit, U8=10 player limit; U6=8 player limit. U8 and U6 limits are suggested guidelines. (New for the 2005-06 seasonal year)
- For [Region III Premier League Play](#)
- For [USYS Regional and National Championship Play](#)

All rules, policies, and guidelines relating to Registration and Registration Procedures can be found in the [NC Youth Soccer Registration Manual](#).

SECTION 4 – INSURANCE

Rule 1 - Players Insurance

All players who register with NCYSA shall be required to purchase the medical and liability insurance as specified by this association.

Rule 2 - Claims

Medical insurance claims for all injuries shall be completed on the proper form obtained through the NCYSA State Office, the local registrar or the [NCYSA Website](#).

It is requested that claims be filed within thirty (30) days of the injury. It is NOT necessary to have all the medical bills incurred, due to the injury, at the time the claim is filed.

Rule 3 - Certificates of Insurance for Playing Fields

Associations may request [Certificates of Insurance](#) on playing and practice fields that are in use in their association. The request is sent to the NCYSA State Office where it is processed and then forwarded to the requesting association.

SECTION 5 - DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS

Rule 1 Recruiting

All rules, policies, and guidelines relating to Recruiting can be found in the [NCYSA Discipline & Appeals Manual](#)

All other rules, policies, and guidelines relating to Discipline & Appeals and D&A Procedures can be found in the [Discipline & Appeals Manual](#).

SECTION 6 – RISK MANAGEMENT

All rules, policies, and guidelines relating to Risk Management can be found in the [NCYSA Risk Management Manual](#).

SECTION 7 - COMPETITION

General Rules of Play

The rules of play shall be the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA with those modifications stated herein. All contests sanctioned by this association shall abide by the Laws of the Game and the modifications as published by this association.

Rule 8

The seasonal year is September 1 of the current year through August 31 of the next year.

Rule 1

All games shall be played under the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association, as amended each year.

Rule 2

Each team shall be responsible for the conduct of its manager, coach, players, club members, etc., and it is the responsibility of each team to ensure that its action on and off the field does not bring disrespect upon this association. The coach shall have the final responsibility of his team's conduct. It is the responsibility of each team and its members to abide by the NCYSA Code of Conduct.

Rule 3

Unfair charging of the goalkeeper, as described by the Laws of the Game, shall not be permitted at any time.

Rule 4

Movement of coaches along the sidelines shall be restricted to their team's bench area unless required to attend to a player. No one (including spectators) is permitted to remain behind the goal lines.

Movement of coaches along the sideline - giving direction to one's own team on points of strategy and position is permitted. Coaches and players are restricted to the area of the restraining line.

Rule 5

During Classic and Challenge games, players may be substituted only during certain stoppages of the game. The number of substitutions shall be unlimited unless the rules of a competition superseding the jurisdiction of this association specifically determine otherwise. Substitutions may be made, with the approval of the referee, at the following times:

- A. Prior to a throw-in, by the team in possession.
- B. Prior to a goal kick, by either team.
- C. After an injury, by either team.
- D. At half-time.

E. Before the taking of a kick-off.

F. After a yellow card has been awarded, a substitution may be made for the player receiving the yellow card. (Does not apply to Cup Competitions).

In any case, a substitute may not enter the middle of field of play until he/she has been given a signal to do so by the referee and the player being replaced has come off the field.

Rule 6

Shin guards are required and it is mandatory that they be worn while playing in NCYSA sanctioned events.

Rule 7

Players will not be allowed to wear watches, bracelets, rings, necklaces or dangling earrings. Pierced earrings that are small and flat (i.e. studs) and flat barrettes will be allowed at the discretion of the referee.

Rule 8

The referee's judgment with regard to the physical condition of the field and its acceptance for play, to the actual happenings and occurrences related to the conduct of the game, and those prerogatives granted to them by the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA shall not be challenged.

Rule 9

If a player (red carded), or coach (sent off) is ejected from a game, he/she cannot be replaced in that game and must not play or coach in his/her team's next scheduled game. If a player or coach violated this rule, penalties such as suspension will be considered by the NCYSA Discipline and Appeals Committee (D & A). An ejected player or coach must be controlled by his/her team. He/She must be moved away from his/her playing area. For specific rules on ejections and cautions, please see Section 5 - [Discipline and Appeals Handbook](#).

Rule 10 Ordered off for misconduct

At all NCYSA sanctioned and all NCYSA affiliate sanctioned matches, if a coach, assistant coach, manager, or other team personnel, other than a player, is ordered dismissed from the match by the referee for misconduct, that person must immediately leave the area of the match to a distance out of sight and sound of the field and that person shall not be permitted to attend the next scheduled match of the team. The person dismissed may not be within sight or sound of the field when the teams' next scheduled match is played. Violation of this rule shall result in the team, to which the offending person is affiliated, forfeiting the match and the offending person shall be required to not attend the next scheduled match of the team, under the same terms and conditions as applied to the original suspension. Participants should be aware that under the Laws of the Game, referees shall only display red and yellow cards to players. If a team official has any question as to whether he or she has been ordered off by the referee, the match report should be consulted after the game. If a referee has directed a participant to leave the area, the mere fact that no red card was displayed does not mean that the person was not ordered off.

Rule 11

The standards for length of games, overtime periods, ball size, ball weight and dimensions for each age group for recreation and challenge competition shall be governed by each local association, in accordance with the standards as set forth by FIFA, USYSA and NCYSA.

Rule 12 What Constitutes A Match?

In order to constitute a match, the first half of the match must have been completed. A sit-out penalty will only be fulfilled in a match considered complete by NCYSA rules. If a match is terminated at anytime by a referee due to fault of a coach, player(s), spectators, the opposing team will be awarded the win using the same standard as a forfeiture. If the opposing team has a winning score at the time the match is terminated, it will be awarded the win and the score will stand.

Rule 13 Match Protest

A match protest of a recreation/challenge match must be handled by the local association or scheduling league. A match protest of a classic match must be at the NCYSA Office within 48 hours of the match. The one hundred dollar (\$100) non-refundable protest fee, certified check or money order, must be included with the reason for the protest. A valid match protest: protests the adequacy of the field; protests the neutrality of the referee; protests the eligibility of a player to participate and protests technical errors by the referee in applying the laws of the game during the match.

Rule 14

All players registered in this association in the Under 10, Under 11, and Under 12 divisions must play the NCYSA/USYSA modified rules. (See Section 3. Rule 2 of these rules for roster sizes)

SECTION 7A - Recreation Rules

All rules, policies, and guidelines relating to NCYSA Recreation Soccer can be found in the [NCYSA Recreation handbook](#).

SECTION 7B - Challenge Rules

All rules, policies, and guidelines relating to NCYSA Challenge Soccer can be found in the [NCYSA Challenge handbook](#).

SECTION 7C - Classic Rules

All rules, policies, and guidelines relating to NCYSA Classic Soccer can be found in the [NCYSA Classic Handbook](#).

SECTION 8 – Academy Program

The NC Youth Soccer Association's Board of Directors voted to add the Academy program for the U10 age group at the Annual General Meeting on January 7, 2007. The program was confirmed to continue at the 2008 Annual General Meeting. In 2010, the Board of Directors voted to expand the program to include players through the U12 age group. The administration and oversight of the program is by the Academy Standing Committee. *All rules, policies, and guidelines relating to the NCYSA Academy Program can be found in the [NCYSA Academy handbook](#).*

SECTION 9 - Tournaments and Cups

All rules, policies, and guidelines relating to NCYSA Member Association Hosted Tournaments and The NCYSA State Cup Tournament can be found in the [Association Hosted Tournaments Handbook](#) and [The NCYSA State Cup Website](#).

SECTION 10 - REFEREES

Rule 1

Member associations must have a certified assignor.

Rule 2

All associations should develop a certified referee pool.

Rule 3

The Board of Directors of this association or their designate will determine fees for the Classic, Challenge and Recreation League games.

Rule 4

Fees for the USYS State Cup and Kepner/Presidents Cup will be at the same rate of pay as the Classic league scale. Challenge Cup will be the same rate of pay as the Challenge league scale. Recreation Cups/Festivals will be paid at the same rate of pay as the Recreation league scale.

Rule 5

Grievances against referees by NC Youth Soccer members shall be put in writing to the NCYSA D & A Chairperson.

- A. Grievances must violate the Referee and/or NCYSA Code of Conduct.

SECTION 11 - COACHING SCHOOL

Rule 1

Fees for the NCYSA Coaching Schools will be set by the Board of Directors of this association or their designate.

- A. There will be a minimum and/or maximum number of participants for each school as set forth by the NCYSA Board of Directors (or their designate).

Rule 2

Pre-requisites for participation in the NCYSA Coaching Schools or USSF National Schools will be determined by the NCYSA Technical Director and/or the US Soccer Federation.

