



Hosted by AYSO Section Seven

## 2026 AYSO Invitational Rainbow Tournament Tournament Rules (revised 1/2/26)



CATEGORY	RULE
<b>1) JURISDICTION</b>	<p>A. Unless otherwise noted, the current AYSO National Rules and Regulations, Section 7 and FIFA Laws of the game will be used for this tournament. The following rules are intended specifically for this tournament ONLY!</p> <p>B. The Tournament Committee (incl. Tournament Director (TD), 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!</p>
<b>2) FEES</b>	<p>A. Entry fee and referee deposit must accompany tournament application and will be returned if application is not accepted. Fee must be a single check issued from the respective Region /Organization Account (no personal checks). All teams must remit a \$300 referee deposit with entry fees.</p> <p>B. Entry Fee: 10U-\$350; 12U-\$420; 14U-\$525; 16U-\$630; 19U-\$630</p>
<b>3) ACCEPTANCE</b>	<p>A. Applications are due on May 15, 2026</p> <p>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 of their acceptance.</p> <p>C. Teams not accepted into the tournament will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list or have their application returned within 48 hours.</p> <p>D. The primary form of communication between the Tournament and applying teams will be email and the Tournament website. Teams must designate a Team Contact on their application who has email and Internet access.</p>
<b>4) REFUNDS</b>	<p>A. Teams withdrawing 30 days or more before the tournament will be issued a full refund (June 2, 2026).</p> <p>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.</p> <p>C. If the tournament is canceled a full refund will be issued.</p> <p>D. For teams that are eligible, referee deposit refunds will normally be mailed no later than 20 days after the end of the tournament. Referee deposit refunds will be on a prorated basis, comparing the number of assignments actually completed versus the number required.</p>
<b>5) RAINOUT/ CANCELLATION</b>	<p>A. Should the tournament be rained out on the original date, there will be no rescheduling of the tournament. If the tournament is cancelled due to weather after partial completion 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.</p> <p>B. 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 which were not included in the registration fee. These pre-ordered items will be sent to the team.</p>
<b>6) PLAYERS/TEAMS</b>	<p>A. Players on participating teams must be properly registered in the Region Association Platform and have played in a core, select or United program for their Region or Area during MY 2025. Regional Commissioners are responsible to ensure that all players meet eligibility requirements. <b><u>Exception: Players attending college (U19) who return to Hawaii for summer vacation are eligible to play provided they are registered in AYSO by June 1, 2026 and played the most recent season prior to departing for college.</u></b></p> <p>B. Only Region Association Platform electronically produced activated team rosters, which are approved and signed by each player's Regional Commissioner, will be accepted. <b>Rosters are due June 2, 2026. <u>Deadline for roster changes (with the written approval of the Regional Commissioner) is June 18, 2026.</u></b></p> <p>C. Guest Players will be allowed. U16-19 maximum 4 players. U12-14 maximum 3 players. <b><u>U10 no guest players allowed.</u></b> Guest Players are required to have the approval of both the Guest Player's Regional Commissioner and the Host Team Regional Commissioner. (see Guest Player Form) The Guest Player Region shall create a team in the Region Association Platform to apply the Player to the Tournament. The TD has final approval authority.</p> <p>D. Coed teams will be accepted; however they must play in the boy's divisions only.</p>

E.

Player Roster Limits			
Division	# Players Max	# Players Min	Playing
U16 & U19	18	12	11 v 11
U14	15	12	11 v 11
U12	12	10	9 v 9
U10	10	8	7 v 7

F. There will be no heading allowed in U10 and U12 games. Heading will be considered "dangerous play" and the restart will be an IFK. No punting by the GK in U10. Punting is allowed in U12.

G. 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 TD.

H. U10 & U12: All Player Development Initiatives adopted by AYSO for MY 2025 will be in effect.

**7) COACHES**

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

B. Each AYSO Coach must have a current season volunteer form on file with the NSTC, provide their AYSO Identification Number and be Safe-Haven certified.

C. Both Head Coach and Assistant Coach must have Certifications as follows:

U-10: U-10 Certification or higher  
 U-12: U-12 Certification or higher  
 U-14: Intermediate Certification or higher  
 U-16/U-19: Advanced Certification or higher

D. Coaches are expected to set the example for their team in exhibiting proper AYSO 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.

**8) REFEREES**

A. Each team in the tournament will provide a crew of 3 referees. These referees will be assigned a minimum of 3 games, based on their qualifications. The Tournament Director reserves the right to refuse teams with no referees.

B. Each AYSO referee must have a current season volunteer form on file with the NSTC, provide his or her AYSO Identification Number and be Safe-Haven Certified. USSF Referees with AYSO cross certification are acceptable.

C. Only the diagonal system of control will be used to referee the games.

D. It is highly recommended that Center Referees possess the following level of certification or experience & ability commensurate with the following guidelines:

U-16/U-19 games: AYSO National or equivalent USSF level.  
 U-14 games: AYSO Advanced or equivalent USSF level or above.  
 U-12 games: Intermediate or equivalent USSF level or above.  
 U-10 games: Regional or equivalent USSF level or above.

E. Assistant Referees should be competent in the level for which they are volunteering.

F. Youth referees (center referees) must be at least 2 years older than the age group they are refereeing.

G. All referees must be in a **complete full uniform** as defined by AYSO (striped referee shirts, black shorts, black socks 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.

H. Any team involved in post-pool play must provide qualified referees for the playoffs. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of part or all of referee deposit.

I. If all assignments are successfully completed, the Referee Deposit will be refunded (see REFEREE PLAN for more details).

J. Referees are expected to check in at the Referee Station **in full uniform** at least 30 minutes prior to their assigned game. Coaches who have a team playing just prior to an assignment may check in at the referee tent, in advance subject to the discretion of the Tournament Referee Administrator or Tournament Director. Failure to appear on time **in full uniform** 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.

K. Post game requirements: The referee team shall complete both game cards, including sportsmanship ratings on the back of each card. Names and phone # of referees must be legibly printed. A formal written misconduct report must be completed for players, coaches or spectators by the referee team before leaving the referee tent area.

	<p>L. Referee Deposits will be returned by July 31 if referee assignments have been completed. Partial refunds will be given based upon the number of game slots completed. Please note that delays do sometimes happen in processing refunds so please be patient.</p>																		
9) <b>FIELDS &amp; FACILITIES USE</b>	<p>A. All fields will be set up and taken down by the tournament staff.</p> <p>B. Teams will be expected to clean up all trash in their area before leaving.</p> <p>C. Please observe the following Facility Use Rules while attending the tournament. Parked in marked stalls only. Do not park in stalls reserved for tournament staff, vendors or emergency access.</p> <p>D. Portable pop up tents may be erected for shade during matches but cannot be left overnight.</p> <p>E. The Stadium field is off limits for games or warm up.</p> <p>F. No animals are allowed at Waipio Soccer Park.</p>																		
10) <b>FORMAT</b>	<p>A. This is a pool-play tournament for all divisions.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>C. Teams will advance from qualifying pools based on pool play standings points. The number teams and pools in the division will determine number of teams advancing per pool.</p> <p>D. Other formats may be used depending on the number of teams involved and field availability.</p> <p>E. <b>SOCCERFEST will be held on Thursday, July 2 for U10 and U12 divisions only.</b> Teams will need check the participation box on tournament application.</p>																		
11) <b>GAME CARDS AND PLAYER REGISTRATION FORMS</b>	<p>A. Coaches must have a copy of the Player Registration forms with them at all times for use as an emergency medical release.</p> <p>B. RBT will provide game cards printed from electronic rosters. Game cards will be given to referee team prior to each match. Referees will check in teams on the field prior to each match. Late arriving players must check in with the referee before entering the field of play.</p>																		
12) <b>FIELD MONITORS</b>	<p>A. There will be a tournament Field Monitors assigned to three tents placed strategically throughout the park.</p> <p>B. Field Monitors will have protocol binders with instructions as first responders to incidents or injuries, and will be in contact with 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.</p>																		
13) <b>GAMES</b>	<p>A. Pool play games will consist of 20 to 30 minute halves depending on the age division (see chart below) with a five-minute half time. There will be a running clock during break for substitutions. There will be no time added on for injuries or time wasted in qualifying rounds. <b>Games need to end on time, and may be shortened if they start late.</b> Pool play games may end in a tie.</p> <p>B. Only championship games will be full length for that division (see chart below). Championship games will be played until there is a winner (see Medal Round rules below).</p> <p>Game duration shall be as follows but may be modified by the tournament director based on # of entries.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="438 1386 1136 1575"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Division</u></th> <th><u>Pool/Flight/Semi-Final Halves</u></th> <th><u>Championship Halves</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>U-19 &amp; U16/19</td> <td>2 x 30 min.</td> <td>2 x 40 min.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>U-16</td> <td>2 x 30 min.</td> <td>2 x 40 min.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>U-14</td> <td>2 x 30 min.</td> <td>2 x 35 min.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>U-12</td> <td>2 x 25 min.</td> <td>2 x 30 min.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>U-10</td> <td>2 x 20 min.</td> <td>2 x 25 min.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>C. The "home" team will be the first team or top team listed on the game schedule and occupy the West or North side of the field as designated by the field map.</p> <p>D. <b>FORFEITS:</b> 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 3-0 for the remaining team with winning team game average of sportsmanship points awarded (See <b>STANDINGS</b> 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.</p>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Pool/Flight/Semi-Final Halves</u>	<u>Championship Halves</u>	U-19 & U16/19	2 x 30 min.	2 x 40 min.	U-16	2 x 30 min.	2 x 40 min.	U-14	2 x 30 min.	2 x 35 min.	U-12	2 x 25 min.	2 x 30 min.	U-10	2 x 20 min.	2 x 25 min.
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	<p>E. <b>SUSPENDED GAMES:</b> 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.).</p> <p>F. <b>ABANDONED GAMES:</b> 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.</p>
<b>14) SUBSTITUTIONS</b>	<p>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.</p> <p>B. 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).</p> <p>C. Substitutions in all overtime periods of medal round matches will be at the beginning of the periods only &amp; for injury.</p> <p>D. AYSO rules apply to all substitutions by divisions. Everyone must play ½ of each game. <b>U10 goalkeepers are allowed only one quarter in the goal. U12 goalkeepers are allowed 2 quarters in goal but must play 1 quarter on the field.</b> U14-U19 has no goalkeeper restrictions.</p> <p>E. Failure to abide by the substitution rules will result in the forfeit of the match.</p>
<b>15) STANDINGS</b>	<p>A. Team standings for U10-U19 determined by the following point system:</p> <p>WIN = 8 points  TIE = 4 points  LOSS = 0 points  SHUTOUT = 1 point (for an earned shutout, including a 0-0 tie)  FORFEIT = 9 points (scored as a 1-0 win including shutout point)  26 OR MORE SPORTSMANSHIP POINTS = 1 POINT  LESS THAN 26 SPORTSMANSHIP POINTS, TWO YELLOW OR ONE RED CARD = 0 POINTS  (The referee team will rate sportsmanship and assign points based on categories on the back of the game card)</p> <p>B. U10 – U19: Ties will be recorded as such in pool play</p> <p>C. Tie breaker in U10-U19 at the end of pool play will be determined as follows:  Head to head competition  Goal differential (total goals scored less total goals allowed, maximum 3 goal differential per game)  Fewest goals allowed (maximum 3 per game)  Sportsmanship points  Coin toss</p> <p>D. U10 teams will be graded for sportsmanship by the referee teams on categories listed on the back of the game card. Coaches should familiarize themselves with the categories and share this information with players and supporters. Game Cards will be distributed to teams prior to the tournament. Teams will be graded on all pool games. There will be an overall U10 Sportsmanship Award for both Boys and Girls Divisions.</p>
<b>17) ADVANCEMENTS U10-U19</b>	<p>A. Pool winners (and in some cases second in pool) will advance to medal round play.</p> <p>B. 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.</p>
<b>18) MEDAL-ROUNDS U10-U19</b>	<p>A. All semi-final matches ending in a tie shall go directly to the FIFA kicks from the penalty mark procedure.</p> <p>B. All championship matches ending in a tie will have two full overtime periods (no sudden victory) with teams changing field direction after each overtime period. In these matches, if still tied after overtime play, the game shall be decided by FIFA kicks from the penalty mark.</p> <p>C. Length of overtime periods: U10 – two five minute periods; U12 – two eight minute periods; U14 &amp; U16 – two nine minute periods; U19 – two ten minute periods.</p>
<b>19) AWARDS</b>	<p>A. Medals will be presented to coaches and players to the Champions &amp; Finalist in the U10-U19 divisions.</p> <p>B. Sportsmanship: Teams will be graded for sportsmanship by the referee teams on categories listed on the back of the game card. Coaches should familiarize themselves with the categories and share this information with players</p>

	and supporters. Sportsmanship criteria can be viewed at <a href="http://www.aysosection7.org">www.aysosection7.org</a> . Teams will be graded on all pool games. There will be an overall Sportsmanship Award for both Boys and Girls Divisions
<b>20) CONDUCT</b>	<p>A. All coaches &amp; spectators will be expected to set a positive example for their teams. Coaches will be held responsible for all spectators. Spectators must remain behind the control line and between the 18-yard lines. Two coaches maximum per team, and they must remain in the marked coaching area (within ten yards either way from midfield).</p> <p>B. Any coach or spectator sent off 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 card) must immediately leave the vicinity of the game (under supervision of their 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.</p> <p>C. Any violent conduct red card or send off will result in that player/coach/spectator being barred from the remainder of the tournament at the discretion of the Tournament Director in consultation with the Referee Staff.</p> <p>D. 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.</p> <p>E. 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.</p> <p>F. All conduct problems will be reported to the Tournament Director and the respective Regional Commissioner.</p> <p>G. All Serious Incidents will be reported to the respective Regional Commissioner as well as Area, Section and National Office parties or appropriate Organization Official.</p>
<b>21) MEDICAL and FIRST AID</b>	<p>A. Certified Trainers will be in the First Aid tent where participants may receive ice, etc. for minor injuries.</p> <p>B. There will be a roving first aid response staff member to respond to injuries on the field. Field Monitors will communicate via radio to call the first aid staff to the field where first aid is requested.</p> <p>C. If an injury is serious, the Safety Director will have a mobile phone to call 911 for emergency response.</p> <p>D. Directions to the nearest hospital/urgent care center will be available at the First Aid station.</p>
<b>22) UNIFORMS/SAFETY</b>	<p>A. All AYSO players must wear the approved AYSO uniform only. All players on the same team must wear matching uniforms (goalkeeper excepted – may have a different jersey – for AYSO, the logo is recommended but not required).</p> <p>B. Each player's uniform must be marked with a permanently-affixed unique 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. AYSO sticks on patches are not permitted.</p> <p>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. Undergarments (bike shorts, long sleeve shirts) must be same color for all teammates.</p> <p>D. The home team will change jerseys or wear different colored vests in the event of a conflict of uniform colors.</p> <p>E. No player will be allowed to participate in any game with any type of cast or splint. Removal of any type of cast or splint at the field or surrounding area in order to participate shall disqualify the team member from participation.</p> <p>F. 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.</p> <p>G. All jewelry, bracelets, hard hair clips and visible body piercings must be removed. Medical alert bracelets must be taped to the arm or body.</p>
<b>23) PROTESTS</b>	<p>A. Protests will be considered only for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An ineligible player has played.</li> <li>• One or more registered player(s), present and in uniform, has not played the required one half of the game (except for illness or injury as recorded by the game referee).</li> </ul> <p>B. All protests must be presented in writing to the Tournament Director within 1/2 hour of the completion of the game.</p> <p>C. A Protest Committee of at least three persons selected by the Tournament Director will hear all protests. In all cases, the members of the Protest Committee will be unrelated to either team involved in the protest. <b>ALL PROTEST DECISIONS ARE FINAL!</b></p> <p>D. Referee judgment calls are FINAL and are not grounds for or subject to protest or dispute!</p>
<b>24) RULES INTERPRETATION</b>	The Tournament Director retains the right to interpret and apply the tournament rules to the optimum benefit of all tournament participants. The Tournament Director does have the right to interpret the Laws of the Game and AYSO Modification to the Laws of the Games for the benefit of all tournament participants.