



AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION

Annual Referee Update

AYSO National Referee Program

Bringing the World's Game to Communities Everywhere

EVERYONE PLAYS®

BALANCED TEAMS

OPEN REGISTRATION

POSITIVE COACHING

GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT





AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION

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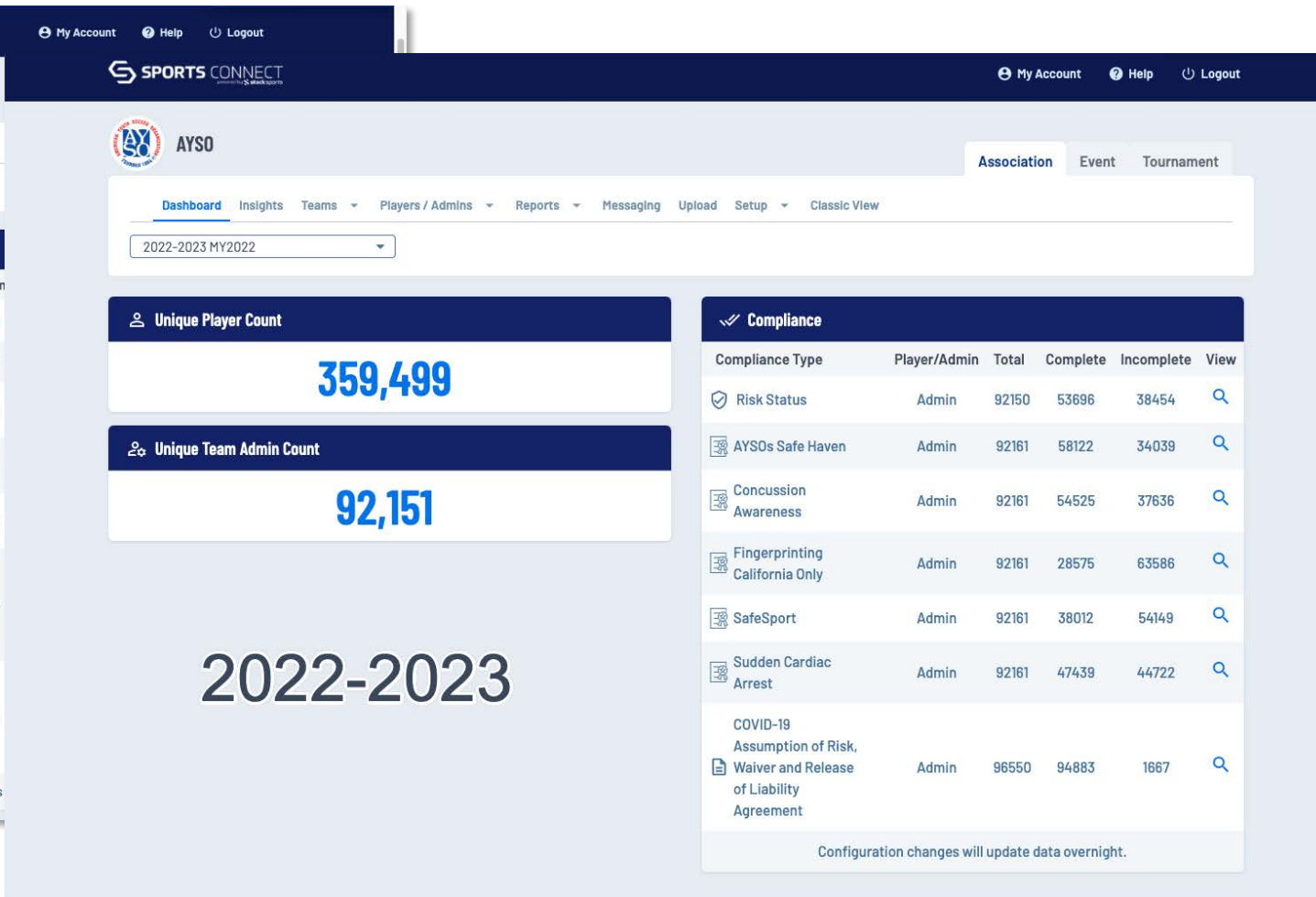
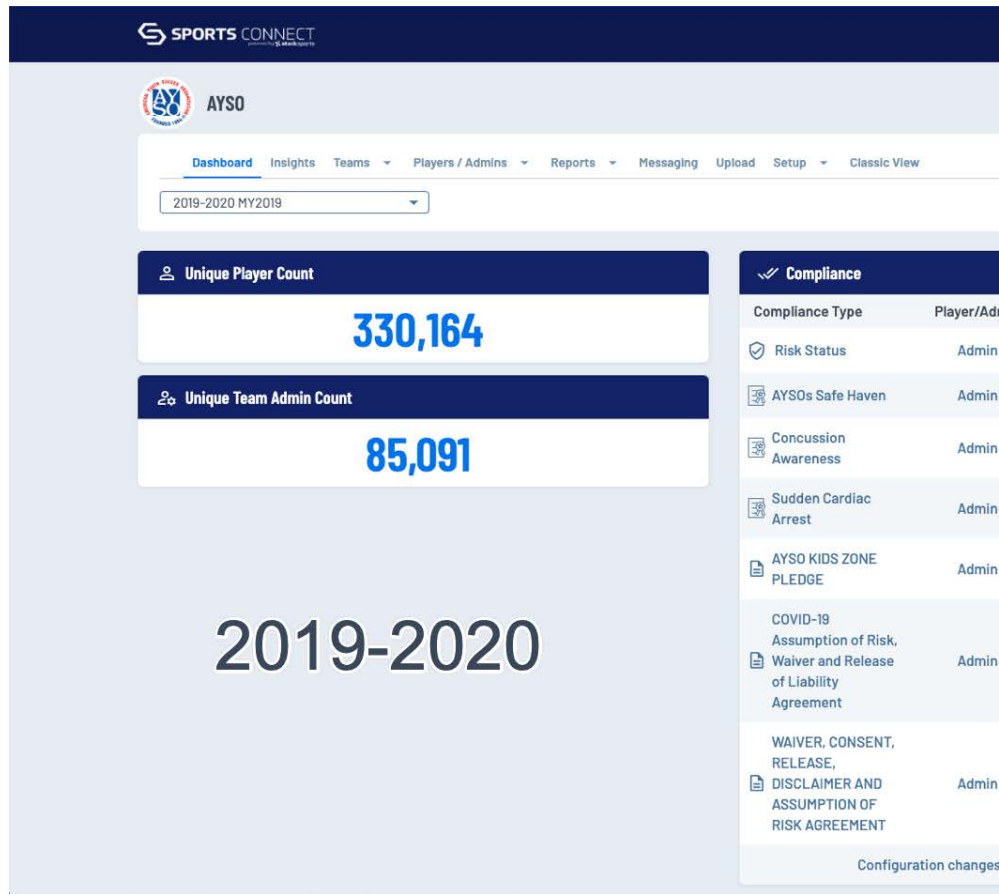
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What Are We Doing Today?

- Share information valuable to all referees
- Discuss how to be an AYSO referee
- Discuss national updates
- All participants are encouraged to share in the Q&A

Where are we at?



Be an AYSO Referee

- Know AYSO core values:

AYSO Vision:

- To provide world class youth soccer programs that enrich children's lives.

AYSO Mission:

- To develop and deliver quality youth soccer programs which promote a fun, family environment based on AYSO's Six Philosophies.

Be an AYSO Referee

- Keep the game Safe, Fair, and Fun
- Know your responsibilities
- Know the Laws of the Game
- Facilitate the game *for the kids*
- Be the best referee you can be



Be an AYSO Referee

Present a professional appearance...



versus



Be an AYSO Referee

Emphasizing learning and growing...

Continuing Education



Mentoring



National Referee Council

- **Mission Statement**

The mission of the National Referee Council is to work collectively and cooperatively with AYSO Office professionals and Volunteer professionals to produce high quality products that support the AYSO referee community in their efforts to provide world class youth soccer programs that enrich children's lives.

National Referee Council: Membership

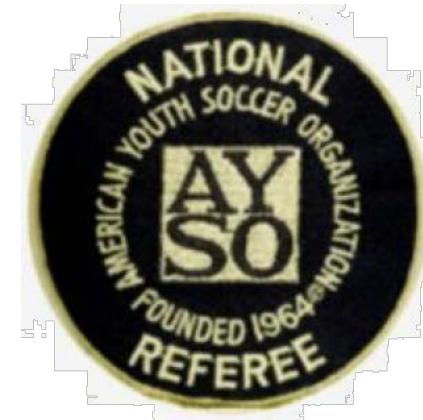
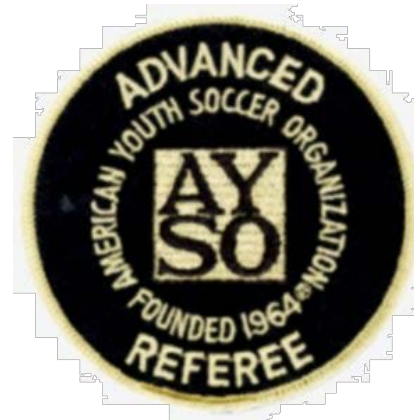
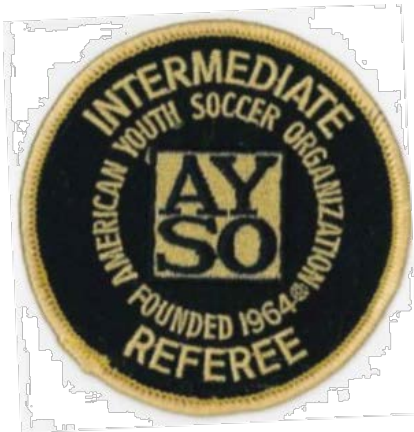
- AYSO Section Referee Administrators (SRAs)
- National Board of Directors (NBOD) Liaison

National Referee Council: Plan and Status

- Referee Training Material
 - Annual review and update of course material for LOTG changes
 - Passwords for exams are available through your SRA or SDRI
- Referee Reference Materials
 - Annual review and update of National Referee Program Manual, Referee Guideline, Referee Mentor, Regional Referee Administrator, Referee Instructor Resource Book, Recruiting and Retaining Referees
- Quarterly Council Meetings: Next meeting – April 8th, 2023

Referee Program: Certification Process

- Sections manage the process for Intermediate, Advanced and National referee upgrades as well as Instructor and Assessor upgrades.



- Badges are provided by your Section.



AYSO's Stewards of the Game

- Coaches and Referees are asked to work together as the team of **Stewards of the Game** in order to make player safety the #1 priority on the field.
- Everyone is asked to role model the principles of sport, create kids zone sidelines and promote good sportsmanship and player safety.



Maintain **AYSO's Safe Haven** as the one course for all volunteers

- Once and done
- Philosophies, Policies, Protocols, Guidelines
- Role model behaviors: AYSO Culture!

Comply with Federal (US Soccer) **SafeSport Training** requirement

- Full Course (1st year and every 3 years)
- Required Annual Refresher
- Required for 18 years of age and older

Integrate **US Soccer - Player Health & Safety Courses.**

California (only) AB 506

- Once and done
- Requires fingerprint background check, child abuse and neglect reporting, training for volunteers, as defined, of a youth service organizations.

- Simon's Heart Sudden Cardiac Arrest training recommended for all coaches by AYSO Coach Council; required by some States.
- Once and done
- Prepare and protect!





CDC Heads Up on Concussion Online training required

- National Policy requires Concussion training for all coaches, referees and Board Members
- States may have annual requirements

Licensed CDC Heads Up Materials

- Player/Parent Concussion Information and Signature Sheet
- Coach and Referee Action Plan for possible concussions – provides key responsibilities to protect players



Cedars Sinai
Kerlan-Jobe Institute

Official Medical Health Resource Support

Health, fitness, wellness workshops:

- Preventing common soccer injuries
- Dealing with anxiety (US Soccer promote Headspace)
- Nutrition – How to fuel for a game and recover afterwards
- Rehab of common injuries (ankle sprains etc.)
- Stretching/Yoga (be prepared to play)
- ACL prevention exercise
- Physiological impacts of the Growth Spurt in Adolescents

Expert review of future health, fitness, wellness content



Cedars Sinai

Kerlan-Jobe Institute

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) website. The browser's address bar shows 'ayso.org'. The page features a blue header with a soccer ball graphic on the left and the text 'THE BIG MATCHUP' in large white letters. To the right of this text is the Cedars Sinai Kerlan-Jobe Institute logo, followed by a plus sign and the AYSO logo. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: 'Register Now!', 'Volunteer Resources', 'Newsroom', 'Support', and 'Fanwear'. The main content area has the AYSO logo on the left and the text 'AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION' in blue. To the right of this is a navigation bar with links: 'LET'S PLAY!', 'GET INVOLVED', 'ABOUT AYSO', 'AYSO FAMILY', and 'EVENTS & ACTIVITIES'. A search icon is visible on the far right of this bar.



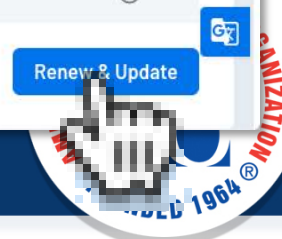
How to check your training status?

Renew when Compliance is yellow!

The screenshot shows the Sports Connect website interface. The top navigation bar includes the Sports Connect logo, a welcome message for Frederick Roberts, and links for Register Now! and Logout. The left sidebar contains links for My Account, Calendar, Volunteer (highlighted), My Orders, Messages, and Home. The main content area is titled 'Important information from AYSO' and displays 'My Roles & Certificates' for Frederick Roberts, an Assistant Coach. It shows his ID number and a 'Find Volunteer Roles' button. Below this, there are buttons for 'Details', 'Visit Team Page', 'Go to AYSO', and 'AYSOU'. A progress bar indicates his current role: 'Fall 2022-2023 All Stars' (completed), '10U - Girls - Select' (current), and 'Fall 2022 - G10U - All Stars - Select' (upcoming). The 'Region 92 Area 1D' section contains a table of certifications.

Certification	Expiration Date	Status	Compliant
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Status (Submitted for the season)	06/05/2024	Green	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Concussion Awareness	None	Verified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Fingerprinting California Only	None	Verified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Sudden Cardiac Arrest	None	Verified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> AYSOs Safe Haven	None	Verified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> SafeSport	08/01/2023	Verified	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Coaching License	None	12U Coach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Referee Grade	None	National Referee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

At the bottom right, there is a 'Renew & Update' button with a hand cursor icon pointing to it.





National Policy 2.12

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

AYSO commits fully to its founders' legacy of diversity, equity and inclusion. Providing fun and enriching soccer programs is what we do.

We welcome everyone regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, social-economic position, ability or disability.

Differences are respected and embraced. AYSO is proud to be at the heart of communities where all feel that they belong.

What is Implicit Bias?

Be aware of Implicit Bias...

Implicit bias refers to **the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner.**

Implicit bias may make it difficult to keep an open mind (dispute resolution), inadvertently create disparate treatment of participants (player development, officiating, selection to teams or volunteer positions).

Updates to Laws of the Game

2022/23 & 2023/24 (preliminary)

Documentation

- IFAB Documentation may be found at
 - www.theifab.com/log-documents
 - 2023/24 Law updates become mandatory on July 1, 2023
- AYSOVolunteers.org/ayso-reference-book
 - AYSO Reference Book (National Rules and Regulations & National EXTRA Guidelines)
- ETrainU (AYSOU) Document Library
 - AYSO Referee Guideline (AYSO Addendum to LOTG)
 - National Referee Program
 - Referee Instructor Resource Book
 - Regional Referee Administrator Manual
 - Recruiting and Retaining Referees
 - Referee Mentor Handbook
- Whistlestop: <https://aysovolunteers.org/links-to-ayso-newsletters/>

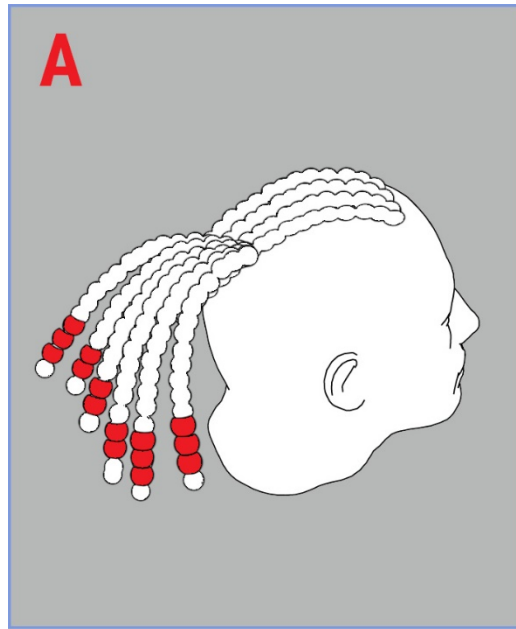


Law 4: The Player's Equipment

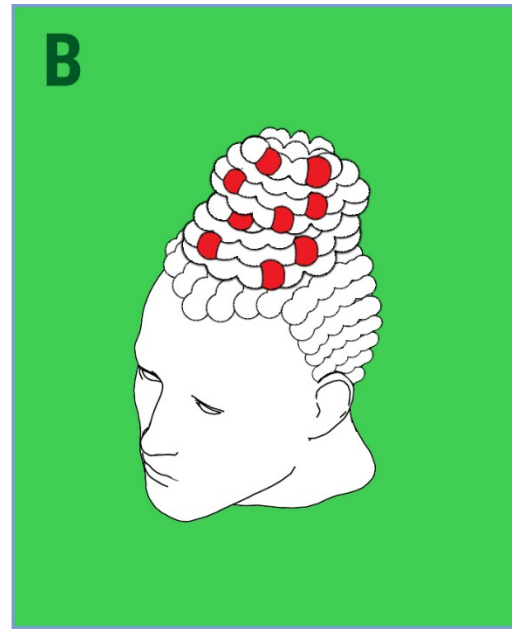
National Rules and Regulations (2.VI.F) of the AYSO Reference Book

- F. Players shall not wear anything that is dangerous to either themselves or other players subject to the referee's approval under Law 4 of the IFAB Laws of the Game. AYSO, in accordance with permitted modifications for youth games, allows the following:
- Hair Beads and Clips
Hair control devices and other adornments, such as beads, worn in the hair must meet the following criteria:
 - Be securely fastened to the head.
 - Do not present an increased risk to the player, teammates, or opponents.
 - Flat clips less than two inches in length may be used to hold the hair in place close to the head so long as their placement on the head does not present an increased risk to the player, teammates or opponents.
 - Hair charms are still considered jewelry and are not permitted.

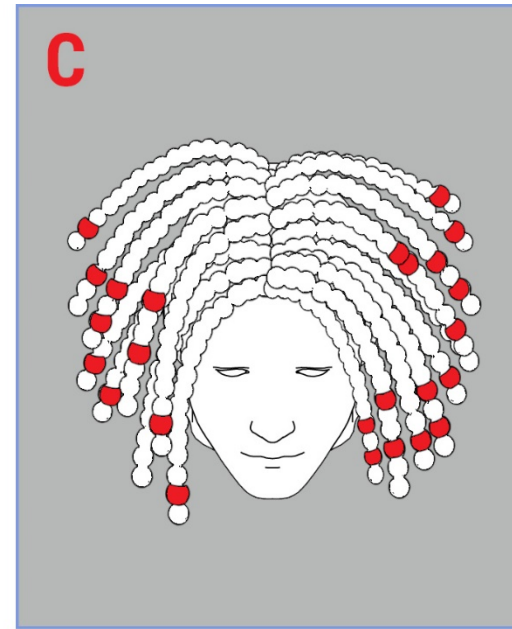
Other Equipment



Not Allowed



Allowed



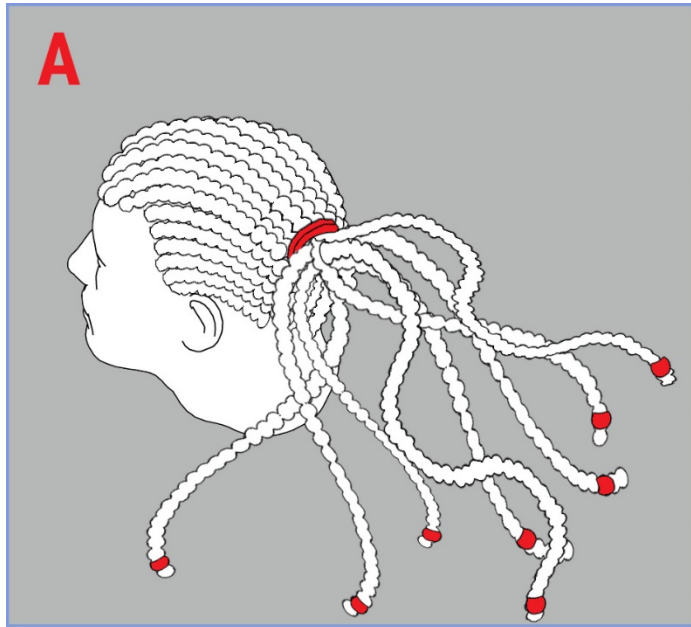
Not Allowed



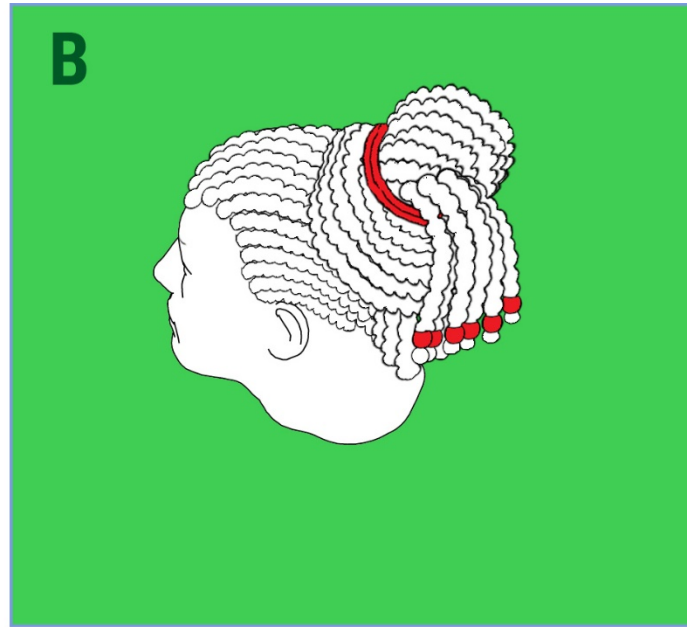
Allowed

In pictures A and C, the hair beads worn by each player are not securely fasten to the head
In pictures B and D, the hair beads worn are securely fastened to the head

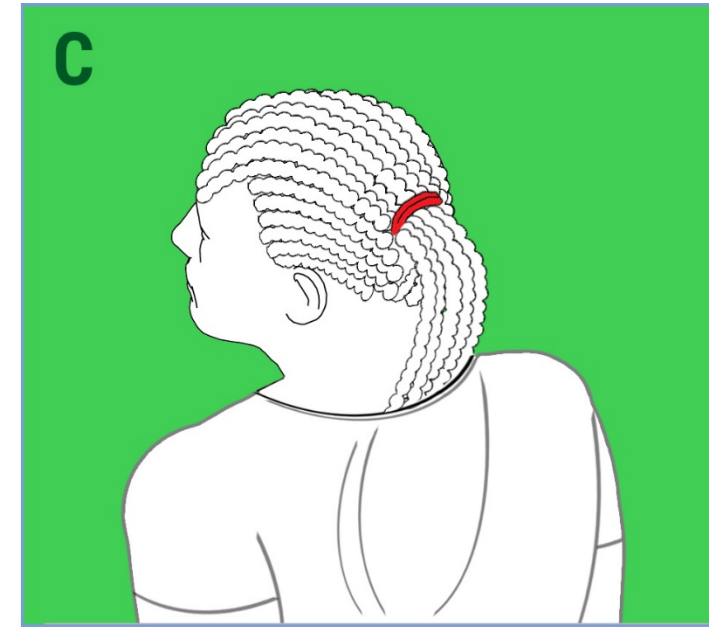
Hair adornment solutions



Not Allowed



Allowed



Allowed

In picture A, the player cannot play with the hair adornment in the current position as it is not securely fastened to the head. Players in pictures B and C are allowed.

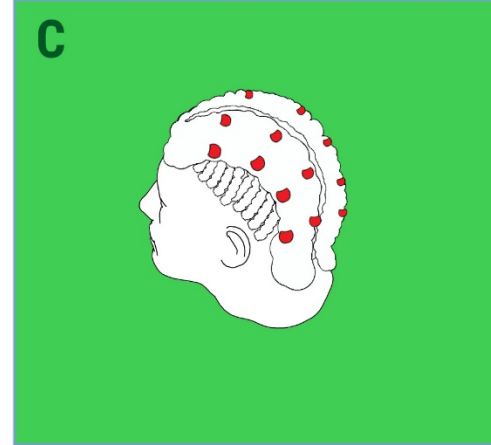
Hair adornment solutions



Allowed



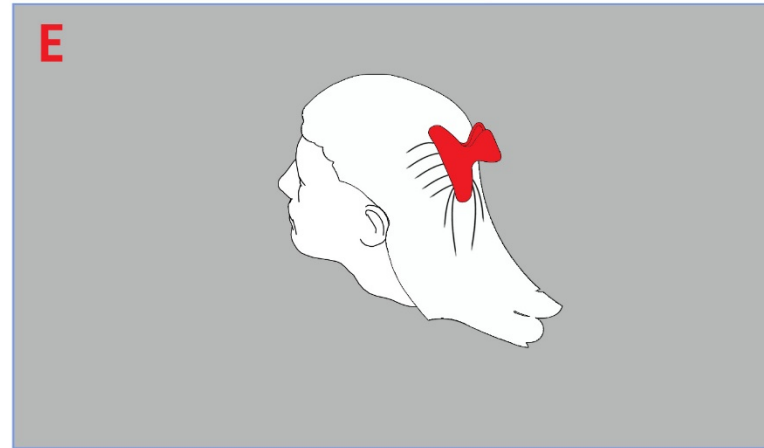
Allowed



Allowed



Allowed



Not Allowed

In pictures A, B, C & D the hair control devices are worn securely fastened and are allowed. In picture E, the hair device is not allowed as it is not securely fastened to the head.

Hair Charms



Hair charms are considered jewelry, and per Law 4 would not be permitted.

Law 4: Player's Equipment

- Medical Devices

If the device is needed to restrict mobility, protect an injury or support proper alignment to expedite the healing process of a temporary injury and is hard (cast, splint, etc.) then it is not allowed. If, on the other hand, the protective device is used to provide support, flexibility or enable an otherwise healthy player to function normally such as a knee brace, prosthesis, hearing aid, insulin pump/monitor, etc. then this would be allowed provided the device was sufficiently padded to prevent injury to other players. The Laws of the Game specify that “A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous.”

The Referee is the sole judge of whether or not the individual item in question is permissible to wear in the game.

Law 8: The Start and Restart of Play

Clarification that the referee tosses the coin to determine the “ends” and kick-off (22/23)

The referee tosses the coin and the team that wins the toss decides

Law 10: Determining the Outcome of a Match

Clarification that a team official may be cautioned or sent off during kicks from the penalty mark (22/23)

3. Kicks from the penalty mark

Kicks from the penalty mark are taken after the match has ended and unless otherwise stated, the relevant Laws of the Game apply. A player who has been sent off during the match is not permitted to take part; warnings and cautions issued during the match are not carried forward into kicks from the penalty mark.

Warnings and cautions are not carried forward for players or team officials

Law 10: KFTPM (cont.)

During kicks from the penalty mark:

- If the goalkeeper commits an offence and, as a result, the kick is retaken, the goalkeeper is warned for the first offence and cautioned for any subsequent offence(s)
- If both the goalkeeper and the kicker commit an offence at the same time, the kick is recorded as missed and the kicker is cautioned

Please remember we are dealing with youth players and
apply any discipline accordingly

Law 11: Offside

Provides clarification when “deliberate handball” is also a “deliberate play”:

Offside Offence

A player in an offside position receiving the ball from an opponent who deliberately plays the ball, including by deliberate handball, is not considered to have gained an advantage, unless it was a deliberate save by any opponent.

A “deliberate handball” is considered to be a “deliberate play”
when judging a potential offside offence

Law 11: Offside (cont'd) Proposed change for 2023/24

2. Offside offence

(...)

No change to Law 11 is necessary but, to reflect football's expectation, the guidelines for distinguishing between 'deliberate play' and 'deflection' are clarified as follows:

'Deliberate play' is when a player has control of the ball with the possibility of:

- passing the ball to a team-mate; or*
- gaining possession of the ball; or*
- clearing the ball (e.g. by kicking or heading it).*

Law 11: Offside (cont'd) Proposed change for 2023/24

If the pass, attempt to gain possession or clearance by the player in control of the ball is inaccurate or unsuccessful, this does not negate the fact that the player 'deliberately played' the ball.

The following criteria should be used, as appropriate, as indicators that a player was in control of the ball and, as a result, 'deliberately played' the ball:

- The ball travelled from distance and the player had a clear view of it
- The ball was not moving quickly
- The direction of the ball was not unexpected
- The player had time to coordinate their body movement, i.e. it was not a case of instinctive stretching or jumping, or a movement that achieved limited contact/control
- A ball moving on the ground is easier to play than a ball in the air

Law 12: “Illegal” 2nd Touch by GK

Specifies sanction on GK when “illegal” 2nd touch stops a promising attack:

The goalkeeper has the same restrictions on handling the ball as any other player outside the penalty area. If the goalkeeper handles the ball inside their penalty area when not permitted to do so, an indirect free kick is awarded but there is no disciplinary sanction. However, if the offence is playing the ball a second time (with or without the hand/arm/after a restart before it touches another player, the goalkeeper must be sanctioned if the offence stops a promising attack or denies the opponent or the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity.

Apply discipline in an age-appropriate manner

Law 12: Direct and Indirect Free Kicks

Clarifies that a free kick/penalty kick can only be awarded for an offence committed against someone on the team lists or match official

1. Direct Free Kick

A direct free kick is awarded if a player commits any of the following offences:

- (...)
- Bites or spits at someone on the team lists or a match official

If the referee stops play for an offence committed by a player, inside or outside the field of play, against an outside agent, play is restarted with a dropped ball, unless a free kick is awarded for leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.

Restart is an indirect free kick from the point on the boundary line where the player left the field of play (22/23)

Law 14: Penalty Kick: position of the goalkeeper (22/23)

When the ball is kicked, the defending goalkeeper must have at least part of one foot touching, in line with, or behind, the goal line

Technically it was an offence for the goalkeeper to have one foot in front of the goal line and one behind it, even though no unfair advantage was gained. This law has been amended to emphasize the Spirit of the Law.

Body Language, Communication, and Whistle

Penalty kick

If the goalkeeper blatantly moves off the goal line before the ball is kicked and prevents a goal from being scored, the AR should indicate the encroachment according to the pre-match instructions from the referee.

Update to standard team mechanics on a PK

Get Familiar with Updated Laws

- Download documents from the IFAB
- Recommend using the phone app from IFAB

<https://theifab.com>



Ken Aston Referee Camps



Immerse Yourself in Soccer

June 23 – 25, 2023

Chapman University

Orange, CA

Please visit www.kenastoncamps.org
for more information and to sign up



Be part of the AYSO National Games!

The Orange County Great Park, Irvine, California July 24-30, 2023



<https://www.aysonationalgames.org/>

Questions?



Thank you!



Thank you for volunteering to make a difference in the lives of children in your community.