

**AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION  
AREA10W-SERVING VENTURA AND SANTA BARBARA COUNTIES  
R39 – R68 – R82 – R122 – R147- R148 – R242 –R304 – R683**

**AYSO AREA 10W  
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR INTER REGIONAL 14U, 16U & 19U COMPETITION  
MY2023 SEASON**

**1. PURPOSE**

- A. Our goal is to provide an Inter-Regional recreational soccer program based on an environment that is fun, safe and competitive for all who wish to play.
- B. The number one priority in athletic competition is good conduct and good sportsmanship. This is the right of every player enrolled in our Inter-Regional soccer program. Violating player rights via mean-spirited play, unsporting behavior and/or undue or malicious outside interference will not be tolerated.
- C. Poor sportsmanship, misconduct and/ or inappropriate behavior in soccer matches from players, coaches and/or spectators will not be tolerated and are subject to disciplinary action by the referee, the appropriate Regional Commissioners and/or the Area Director.
- D. Taunting, baiting, ridiculing motions or body language after any play by a competitor, coach or spectator or pointing, hollering, chesting-up, or otherwise getting “in the face” of an opponent; showing up an opponent or referee; or other means of trash talking used to incite or intimidate an opponent, referee, or other designated official is not acceptable conduct.
- E. The Regional Commissioners shall be responsible for the conduct of their coaches, who in turn shall be responsible for the conduct of their players and spectators, all of whom shall display the most positive aspects of good sportsmanship in keeping with the AYSO philosophy. All of our young people deserve the best examples of sportsmanship and goodwill toward all players and participants and respect should be exhibited at all times to the referees and AYSO officials.
- F. Coaches and parents are the foremost role models in the teaching of good sportsmanship to young athletes, and must play a leadership role in demonstrating appropriate conduct.
- G. The Area Director shall have the final right to remove coaches and assistant coaches and spectators.

**2. AREA 10W INTER-REGIONAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

- A. These Policies and Procedures (P&P) do not supersede the AYSO National Rules and Regulations or Section 10 Rules and Regulations, but are intended to cover those situations not addressed in the AYSO National Rules and Regulations or Section 10 Rules and Regulations. The Area 10W P&P shall prevail in case of conflict. Unless noted, these P&P will cover both 14U and 16U/ 19U divisions in Area 10W inter-regional play.

### 3. COORDINATION

- A. The Area Director is responsible for the oversight and administration of the Inter-Regional 14U & 16U & 19U soccer programs. The program will be administered by the Area Inter-Regional Coordinator (AIRC), who will be appointed by the Area Director. The AIRC will be authorized to appoint staff to assist in managing the program with the technical points such as rules, fields, schedules, and similar items to be determined by the Area Director.
- B. **Important Dates and Terms to Note for the 2023 Season.**
- The first game of the 2022 14U & 16U/ 19U Season will be held on **the weekend of August 26.**
  - Area 10W 14U League Playoffs will be held November 18-19 2023 in (Ventura).
  - Section 10 16U & 19U Championships will be held November 11-12 2023 in Bakersfield
  - There will be no Area W 16U & 19U playoffs/championships this season.
  - See the Area 10W Web site (area10w.org) for game schedule and standings.
  - 16U & 19U teams in good standing will be invited to the Section Championships by the Area Director.
- C. All coaches, players, and referees, shall use their best efforts to begin all games at the appointed time. ALL GAMES MUST END ON TIME. We are a “Kids Zone” Area. Kids Zone is in effect at all fields and at all games in the Inter Regional Program.

### 4. JURISDICTION

- A. The Area Director, AIRC, Area Referee Administrator (ARA) and appropriate Regional Commissioners (RC) or designee shall have jurisdiction over all games played.
- B. **Disputes, not requiring a Board of Review, shall be resolved by the AD, AIRC, ARA, ACA or designee within 72 hours of the scheduled game time.**
- C. In the event that a game is cancelled or terminated by any person other than the AD or AIRC, or a scheduled game is not played or is abandoned, the AD and AIRC, shall have the full power to uphold a forfeit, levy discipline, reschedule the game, or take such other action as may be deemed appropriate.

### 5. ELIGIBILITY

#### Coaches

- A. In order for a coach to be eligible to participate in a Section 10 Championship Tournament:
- a. The coach and assistant coach must have completed Safe Haven, CDC Concussion Awareness training and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Training.
  - b. The coach and assistant coach must have completed the Safe Haven updates as they become available.
  - c. The coach and assistant coach must have completed their LiveScan required by California law.
  - d. The coach and assistant coach must have completed their Safe Sport training required by Public law.

- e. **The coach and assistant coach must have completed and received credit for AYSO coach training for the age level of the team they are coaching, according to the following table:**
  - i. **14U AYSO Intermediate Coach Training**
  - ii. **16U AYSO Advanced Coach Training**
  - iii. **19U AYSO Advanced Coach Training**
- B. This training must be completed prior to October 1 for 16U and 19U. The training must be completed prior to October 31 for 14U and below.
- C. All teams that participate in the Section 10 League Championships must have a certified and trained coach. A 14U, 16U, or 19U coach may be “making progress” toward this training goal. “Making progress” is interpreted as follows:
  - a. For a 14U coach, the requirement is to have completed the 12U Coach Course within the last twelve months.
  - b. For a 16U or 19U coach, the requirement is to have passed the Intermediate Coach Course within the last twelve months.
- D. Each RC is responsible for ensuring the eligibility of coaches and assistant coaches from their respective programs.
- J. The AD shall have the final right of approval of all coaches and assistant coaches.
- K. **Coaches are required to wear coach ID badges at all Inter-regional games.**

### **Players**

- A. Only players registered in AYSO for the 2023 -2024 season may participate in these games. Teams playing non-eligible players shall be subject to discipline, forfeit of games or elimination at the discretion of the AD or designee. Each RC and the AD is responsible for ensuring the eligibility of each player from his or her respective programs. (National Bylaws 1.04, c).

### **REFEREES**

With the oversight of the Area Referee Administrator, Regions are responsible for providing badge level appropriate referees to cover each Inter-regional home game. If none can be found after a reasonable effort by the RRA and/or ARA the home region will forfeit because safe play cannot be assured.

- A. **Referees participating in the Inter-regional program should be of excellent character. At a minimum the referee shall:**
  - a. **Have a current volunteer application on file at the National Office and must have completed their Sterling and LiveScan background checks.**
  - b. **Be an AYSO trained and certified referee**
  - c. **Be Safe Haven certified, Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) trained and Safe Sport trained.**
  - d. **Be in good standing with the Region, Area and AYSO**
  - e. **Be approved by the Area Referee Administrator (ARA) and**
  - f. **Be evaluated and approved each membership year.**
- B. It is strongly recommended that the Inter-regional program referees be CDC Concussion Awareness trained.
- C. Referees will be assigned to games in divisions for which they are certified based on their badge level and/or Area Referee Administrator's recommendations.

***If a region continuously fails to provide qualified referees to officiate Inter Regional games, that region's Inter Regional teams MAY be ineligible to participate in Inter Regional Area playoffs and/or Section Championships.***

## **6. PLAYER REGISTRATION FORMS**

**NO FORM, NO PLAY, NO EXCEPTION!**

- A. Coaches must have in their possession at all times a valid AYSO Player Registration Form for each player on the team. A registration form, which contains medical and other release language, must be signed by such player, parent, or guardian prior to the player being allowed to play. Forms without an original signature or an e-signature will not be accepted and the player or players affected will not be allowed to play.

## **7. ROSTER CHANGES AND ADDITIONS**

- A. AYSO rosters for participating teams shall be submitted to the AD prior to their first game. Updated rosters with jersey numbers shall be submitted when they are available. Any player who was not properly registered and assigned a team as of October 1, 2023, is ineligible to play.
- B. Each RC shall be responsible for providing appropriate Proof of Age for each player on a roster.
- C. Coaches shall carry a copy of the official team roster at all times and shall present it upon request to the AD, AIRC, or any other Area staff or designee of any of the foregoing.
- D. No changes or additions to team rosters may be made after October 1st (Sec 2.A.B.). Prior to October 1st, changes or additions require notice to the AD, AIRC or designee. Once verified the eligibility will become effective.

**IMPORTANT: Coaches, Division Commissioners, and RCs – Only teams with rosters submitted in accordance with these Policies and Procedures shall be eligible for the Section 10 Championships and only players listed on such rosters shall be eligible to play.**

## **8. HOME TEAM**

- A. The home team is responsible for supplying the game ball and shall change their team jerseys or wear scrimmage vests in the event of a color conflict. The home team is the team listed first on the schedule.
- B. The home team, coaches and spectators associated with the home team should occupy the sideline designated by the host region. The visiting team, coaches and spectators associated with the visiting team should occupy the opposite side of the field. Coaches are responsible for ensuring the spectators from their teams comply with this requirement.

## 9. FIELD RESPONSIBILITY

- A. It will be the responsibility of the hosting region to set up nets, goals, and corner flags when they have the first game of the day on that field.
- B. It will be the responsibility of the hosting region to take down the nets, goals, and corner flags, and cleanup the field area, when they have the last game of the day on that field.
- C. It is the responsibility of every team to clean up its sideline area after each game.

## 10. AREA 10W GAME FORMAT

### Schedule

- A. The gaming schedule/standings for the Inter-regional program will be posted on the Area W website.
  - a. All games, which may include weekday games, will be played as scheduled (date, time and venue). Referees shall note the late start time of any game. Games that begin late may be shortened. **Games MUST end on time.**
  - b. **The length of games shall be 80 minutes for 19U teams, 80 minutes for 16U teams and 70 minutes for 14U teams**
- B. A game shall not be rescheduled without the approval of the RC, AD with concurrence of the AIRC and ARA. Once the final schedule is posted, games may not be rescheduled except for cancellations due to adverse weather conditions or unsafe field conditions.
- C. The designated home Regional Contact is responsible for ensuring scores are reported to the AIRC and/or Area Referee Administrator. This includes providing copies of the game cards and any written misconduct reports within 24 hours.
- D. Coaches, substitutes, and spectators of the two teams playing the match shall be on opposite sides of the field unless field constraints require them to be on the same side, in which case they will remain on separate ends of the field. Home side of the field will be consistent with home Region practices. Coaches will remain in the technical area (10 yards on either side of the midfield line). Spectators will not sit any closer to the goal line than the start of the penalty area.
- E. If either of the teams is not ready to play at the scheduled kick-off time, the referee shall allow a grace period of no more than twenty (20) minutes (See 10. A. a.). A team not ready to play at that time shall forfeit the game. If a team does not show for a scheduled game, their opponent will be awarded a 1-0 victory by forfeit. Area W may impose other sanctions if the forfeiting team gains an advantage by the forfeit. The AD shall have the discretion to not impose the sanction of a forfeit if it is determined that circumstances were beyond the control of the team that was not ready to play.
- F. In cases of games cancelled by adverse weather conditions (rain, poor air quality, excessive heat or act of God), the Regions will reschedule the game to be played within two weeks of the scheduled game and no later than the designated last weekend of the season. Area W has the authority to reschedule games or declare a forfeit should there be an unfair advantage by not rescheduling a game.
- G. In the event a game is terminated due to reduction in players below the minimum of seven, or due to the conduct of the players, coaches, or spectators of a particular team, the offending team, as determined by the AD or designee, shall lose that game. Should it be determined that both teams contributed materially to the termination, both teams may be deemed to have forfeited that game.

- H. Any team that abandons a game after the start of play may be subject to a disciplinary review board and discipline, which may include eligibility for Area 10W and Section 10 Playoffs. The AD and AIRC shall have the discretion to not impose this sanction if it is determined that circumstances were beyond the control of the team.
- I. In case of inclement weather, RCs will be notified of any game cancellations and game information will be posted on the area website [ayso10W.org](http://ayso10W.org). RCs shall be responsible for notifying their region's teams. If coaches have not been notified by their RC, coaches shall assume all games will be played as scheduled. If in doubt, go to the field for play.
- J. The referee may terminate or suspend a match for reasons of safety (bad weather or darkness), for any serious infringement of the Laws, or because of interference by spectators. The referee shall use the Misconduct Report to fully explain.
- K. Area 10W has the authority to declare a winner, a forfeit, or a replay of a match in its entirety as follows:
  - a. If a team does not appear for a scheduled game, their opponent will be awarded a 1-0 forfeit.
  - b. A team not ready to play within (20) minutes of the scheduled game time shall forfeit the game and their opponent will be awarded a 1-0 forfeit. (See 10. A. a.).
  - c. If a game is terminated due to the actions of both teams, the game shall be deemed a forfeit by both teams and will count as a 1-0 loss for both teams in the standings.
  - d. If a game is terminated due to the actions of one team, either the game score at the time of termination or a 1-0 loss for the offending team shall be awarded (whichever is most beneficial for the non-offending team).
  - e. If a game is suspended prior to completion due to inclement weather, heat, or any other unforeseen circumstance, the game score will stand as recorded by the referee provided one half or more of the regulation game had been played at the time of suspension.
  - f. If less than one half of the regulation game time had been played at the time of the game suspension, the game will be rescheduled and played in its entirety at a later date and time. If the game is not rescheduled for any reason, the game shall stand as a 'not played' game irrespective of the score at the time of game suspension.
- L. The home Region Safety Director shall submit a copy of the AYSO Incident Report to the Area Safety Director for any injury requiring medical attention.

#### Game Points

- a. Points shall be awarded as follows:
  - i. Win 3 points
  - ii. Tie 1 point
  - iii. Loss 0 points
- b. A one (1) point deduction for each Send-off (red card) received by a player
- c. A one (1) point deduction for each Send-off (red card) received by a coach or assistant coach
- d. A one (1) point deduction for players accumulating three (3) cautions during the season.
- e. A one (1) point deduction for using an ineligible player in a match, in addition to the forfeit of the match.
- f. A two (2) point deduction when a coach refuses to provide the name of an expelled spectator to the referee.

- g. A player, coach, or spectator who fails to serve their game suspension will cause the team to have a five (5) point deduction. **The player, coach or spectator will still be required to serve their game suspension at the next scheduled game.**

Tie breakers for league standings shall be as follows:

- a. Head-to-Head (if more than two-way tie, all teams must play each other same number of times for this to apply)
- b. Team with the most wins
- c. Teams with the fewest goals allowed
- d. Teams with the most shutouts
- e. Goal Differential; goals scored less goals allowed, maximum differential of five (5) goals per game
- f. Fewest point deductions for misconducts

The 16U & 19U teams participating in Area 10W that finish First in their respective Divisions, and are in good standing, may be invited to be the Area 10W representative at the Section 10 Championships. In the event Area 10W is authorized to send two teams to the Section 10 Championships in a particular division, the team with the second highest number of points *may* also participate in the Section 10 Championships.

**ADDRESS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE ABOVE TO  
THE AREA DIRECTOR AND OR THE AREA INTER REGIONAL COORDINATOR**

**11. GAME CARDS**

- A. Each coach shall submit a properly completed game lineup card to the referee prior to the game. The full name of all players on team roster must be listed on each game card, even if the player will not be present at the particular game. Players shall be listed in jersey number order.
- B. At the conclusion of a match, the host Regional Referee Administrator (RRA) shall retain the game cards. It shall be the responsibility of the host RRA to forward the game cards at the conclusion of the game to the AIRC (or designee) to officially record the results. In addition, the RRA shall communicate (phone, e-mail) as soon as possible after the game to the AIRC or designee the results of the match to expedite the update of team point totals/standings. The results shall not be considered official until the game cards have been received and reviewed.
- C. Text or email a copy of the game cards (front and back) to:

**Area Referee Administrator  
Area10wref@aol.com 805-890-9351  
AND  
Area 10W Inter-Regional Coordinator  
Damcardona79@gmail.com 805-341-9803**

- D. It shall be the responsibility of the coach to notify the AD or AIRC if there is any error in a game score as posted on the web site.

## 12. SUBSTITUTIONS

- A. Substitutions will be by quarters.
- B. **As defined in the National Rules and Regulations, all eligible team members in attendance at each game must play at least half of the game, excluding overtime. In 14U games no player shall play the full game until all players have played  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the game. 14U teams with oversize rosters will follow the equal play rule. That is no player(s) will continually sit  $\frac{1}{2}$  the game until all teammates have sat  $\frac{1}{2}$  the game.**
- C. **THERE WILL BE NO FREE SUBSTITUTION IN AREA 10W INTER REGIONAL MATCHES**

## 13. Players Under Doctor's Care

- A. Upon a return to active play after treatment for any injury, all players under a doctor's care must present a participation release form, signed by a parent or legal guardian to return to active play. Such releases shall be presented to the Regional Safety Director and RC who has the responsibility of informing and certifying to the AD or designee that the child may return to active play.

## 14. STANDINGS

- A. Standings will be maintained for Area 10W Interregional Play. 14U and 19U standings will be posted on our Area W website, [ayso10w.org](http://ayso10w.org).

## 15. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- A. Violent conduct, use of offensive, insulting or abusive language or gesture, serious foul play, and/or disruptive conduct toward opponents, referees or officials will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of each coach to counsel their players and spectators regarding positive and sportsmanlike conduct at all times. It is not the referee's responsibility to control unruly players and spectators ---- it is the responsibility of the coach!
- B. Coaches must take swift action during the course of the match if one of their players begins to show signs of disruptive or unsporting behavior towards an opponent or an official. This action should include warning and/or removing the player from the field of play until the coach is satisfied that the player is capable of resuming participation in the match. **Removing a player from the field must be done in compliance with the Laws of the Game (i.e., obtain referee's permission if during play or at the usual substitution time).**
- C. Players, substitutes, spectators, and coaches who are asked to leave the match shall leave the field and the area immediately around the field. With respect to players younger than 18 years of age, the prior sentence shall be subject to consideration of safety and other concerns. The referee shall, with discretion, suspend the match until this is complied with, or shall terminate the match, if necessary.
- D. Players, substitutes, coaches, or spectators who are sent off (ejected) prior to, during, or after a match will be suspended from all participation in the remainder of the match and from the **NEXT** match. Upon the AD's evaluation, which may be made in consultation with the AIRC, the ARA, the referee of the game in question, and others as deemed appropriate by the AD, such



persons may receive additional game suspensions or full suspension from participation in all subsequent matches for the remainder of the season.

- E. Outrageous conduct by any player, coach or spectator may result in suspension from AYSO.
- F. Any team member who is sent off (ejected), or shown the red card, for **fighting**, shall be suspended from all participation for a *minimum* of the team member's **NEXT TWO** scheduled games, playoffs included. The AD, or a disciplinary review board, may also decrease or increase the suspension to any length, up to and including the balance of the season or expulsion from AYSO.
- G. Suspensions will also be assessed for an accumulation of misconducts – three Cautions equals a Send Off.
- H. Any player or coach or spectator who seeks another player, coach, spectator, referee or official for the purpose of taunting or fighting, or threatens the well-being of a player, coach spectator, referee or official either before, during or after a match either on or in the vicinity of the playing fields or parking areas, including adjacent streets, will be suspended from all further play during the season, including playoffs.
- I. Any suspension shall be served in its entirety and, if necessary, will carry over into subsequent play, i.e. Section Championships or the following year's season.
- J. In the event any match is terminated by the referee as a result of physical altercations between players or for any other reason involving misconduct of coaches or players, the Area Director may cancel the next scheduled game or games of the offending team or teams.
- K. If a suspended team member is found to have participated in a game from which that team member was to have been suspended, then that game shall be awarded as a win to the opposing team, and that team member shall be suspended from his/her next scheduled game. The game will be scored in favor of the opposing team as though there was a forfeit, unless the opposing team had a more favorable score than the 1-0 score applied in the case of a forfeit. The offending coach shall be suspended from his/her next scheduled game with possible suspension for the balance of the season after a Board of Review.

## 16. REFEREE REPORTS

- A. Referees shall submit an official Area 10W Game Misconduct Report within 24 hours to the ARA in the event of:
  - a. All cautions (yellow cards) and send offs (red cards);
  - b. Any violent conduct of the players, coaches or spectators interfering with the control of the match;
  - c. Abuse of AYSO minimum play rules that may come to the attention of the referee;
  - d. Any other action that in the referee's judgment merits a report.

## 17. PROTESTS AND APPEALS

- A. Protests may only be made for misapplications of the Laws of the Game, Area or National Rules. Protests shall not be allowed for judgment calls or for any other reason.
- B. Protests must be made in writing to the RC and delivered to the AD within twenty-four (24) hours of the protested game. If the protest is upheld, the AD, in consultation with the AIRC and ARA, shall determine what action, if any, is warranted under the circumstances. For example, if a protest is successful with respect to a player who was mistakenly ejected for receiving two

cautions during a game but the player had only been cautioned once, the AD, ARA and AIRC would revoke the postgame sanctions and the player would not be required to sit out the next scheduled game.

- C. An Appeal from the imposition of disciplinary action by the referee must be made in writing to the RC and delivered to the AD within 24 hours of the appealed action.
- D. Protests and Appeals will be considered by a Disciplinary/Protest and Appeals Review Board of appropriate Area officials.
- E. The Board of Review shall be comprised of: the AD, ARA, AIRC and one neutral RC, or such other individuals as selected by the AD. If the discipline involves a coach, the AD shall make every effort to include the Area Coach Administrator, Area Coach Trainer, or other appropriate coach, on the Board of Review. In the case where the discipline was imposed at the discretion of the AD, and not specifically by these Guidelines, then the Assistant AD or other neutral RC, as selected by the AD, shall appoint the members of the Board of Review. All Review Boards will be carried out using procedures outlined in the "Due Process" guidelines contained in the National Rules and Regulations.
- F. The Board shall hear all appropriate protests and appeals, and shall make a recommendation to the AD, or the Assistant AD or other neutral RC (if applicable), regarding the subject matter of the Board of Review, including, for example, recommending confirmation of the action being protested, or the reduction or increase of any penalties or decisions being protested or appealed.