



SECTION 11 AREA Z TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES



AYSO



Table of Contents

Jurisdiction	3
Eligibility	3
Documentation	3
Entry Fee	4
Team Check-in	4
Format	4
Roster Size	4
Sidelines	4
Game Balls	5
Match Duration	5
Substitution	5
Required Play Time	5
Scoring	6
Discipline	6
Protests	6
Coach Notes	7
Referee Notes	8

Jurisdiction:

Area tournaments shall be conducted in accordance with the following AYSO Governing Documents: National Rules and Regulations, National Bylaws, and National Policy Statement, Games and program activities will be conducted in accordance with the current FIFA Laws of the Game (AYSO Edition) and these Program Guidelines as contained herein.

The program will be administered by the Area Tournament Director, who will be responsible for providing general administrative oversight and direction of the program. This will include managing dispute resolution/discipline review on behalf of and/or through the Area Director or its designees. The Tournament Director will be authorized to appoint staff to assist in managing the program through AYSO volunteers in the best interest of the program.

Regional Commissioners are responsible for overseeing and verifying that the Program requirements are met as they pertain to player, coach, referee eligibilities, and team formation.

Issues requiring special jurisdiction will be evaluated and handled by the Area Tournament Director in the best interest of the AYSO and Area. This may include appointing a three-member committee consisting of the Area Director or its Area staff members to resolve matters of disagreement. Any appeal of discussions handled by the above identified process will be adjudicated by the Area Director or its designees.

Eligibility:

Participation in this Tournament is by **INVITATION ONLY**. A limited number of invitations are awarded to each Region. (Teams from the fall season, are reviewed and qualified by their home Region and by Area.) Participating teams agree to all tournament rules.

Teams are selected by the Regional Commissioner to best represent their region. Each Regional Commissioner is free to use any selected criteria best fit their circumstances.

Documentation:

Each team participating must submit a completed Tournament Team Stack Sports roster, in player jersey number order, signed by the Regional Commissioner to the Area Director or its designated representative. The rosters must be submitted in-person. Incomplete rosters will not be accepted. The roster information will be used to pre-print match line-up cards for each team by its own region.

The Head Coach of any team participating must be age-appropriate trained to be eligible to participate in the tournament. The Coach and Assistant Coach must be Safe Haven certified, CDC: Concussion Course Training, Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) and be identified on the team roster form. There must be a Coach and an Assistant Coach listed.

Entry Fee:

The Regional Commissioners is responsible for submitting the entry fee per team. The checks must be made out to AYSO Area 11Z and submitted with the team's application. The entry fee is per team as follows:

- ✓ 10U Division - \$325.00
- ✓ 12U Division - \$325.00
- ✓ 14U Division - \$325.00

Team Check-in:

All Coaches must check in at least 60 minutes before their first match. Coaches must present the following items to the onsite Tournament check in tent:

- A Current Fall Season, Coach Photo ID Card
- Copies of each players current Fall Medical Release Form
- Signed copy of team roster (Affinity Sports "Official Roster")
- Player ID Cards

Please note: Player Medical Release Forms in electronic or digital format will **NOT** be accepted. Hard copies **MUST** be presented at time of check-in.

Format:

The tournament format is round-robin pool play. Teams in each division are divided into pools of 4 teams. Each team will play every other team within its pool. There will be 2 pools in each Division.

The winners of each pool will play for the Championship in each division.

Roster Size:

Roster sizes for each Division are indicated below unless previously approved and authorized by the Area Tournament Director. In no case shall the roster size exceed a number that allows every player to play a minimum of one half of each match.

Division Maximum Roster Size Play Format:

	Number of Players on Roster	Minimum	vs	Maximum
U10 Division	10 players	5 vs 5	vs	7 vs 7
U12 Division	12 players	7 vs 7	vs	9 vs 9
U14 Division	15 players	7 vs 7	vs	11 vs 11

Sidelines:

Coaches, players, and spectators for both teams will be placed on the opposite sides of the pitch.

Home teams will set up on the North or East side of the pitch, while away teams will set up on the South or West side of the pitch.

Game Balls:

The home team shall be responsible for providing the match balls. Three match balls shall be presented to the referee prior to the match. If the home team does not have suitable match balls, then the visiting team will be asked to provide them.

Match Duration:

Match duration shall be as follows:

Division Pool Play & Medal Round

	Pool Play	Championship
10U Division	40 minutes	50 minutes
12U Division	50 minutes	60 minutes
14U Division	60 minutes	70 minutes

Medal round match durations may be modified to accommodate pitch availability.

Medal round matches that are tied at the end of regulation time will go directly to Kicks from the Penalty Mark (KFTPM) to determine a winner.

Any amendments will be communicated to the coaches and referees at the tournament check-in.

Substitution:

Important substitution reminders for all 10U, 12U, and 14U matches:

- Substitutions are allowed at each quarter and at the halftime period.
- All substitutions will be recorded on the match lineup card by the Assistant Referee (AR's).
- Substitutions may be made for an injured player; however, the injured player 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).
- Substitutions must be approved and recognized by the AR.
- **No "Free" substitution is not allowed in 10U, 12U, or 14U division matches.**

Required Play Time:

EVERYONE PLAYS – 1/2 OF EACH GAME

- All players in these divisions (10U, 12U and 14U) **MUST** play at least 1/2 of each game.
- Referees: Please report all incidents on the match lineup card report at the conclusion of the match.

Scoring:

Points will be awarded for each match on a 10-point system:

- Win = 6-points
- Tie = 3-points
- Goals = 1-point each (maximum of 3 points)
- Shut-out = 1-point (including for a 0-0 tie but not for a forfeit)
- Ejections = 1-point, deduction per ejection (player or coach only)
- **Referee(s)** = 2-point deduction per referee, per team, for not providing referees, **NO** exceptions.
- Forfeit = 10-points, if a team forfeits one of its matches due to a deliberate "no show", then all the matches scheduled, whether played or not, for that team will be recorded as forfeits. The score shall be recorded as 1-0 and a total of 10 points awarded to the non-forfeiting team. This will essentially render the pool to be a three-team pool. Accordingly, the Region of the forfeiting team will be banned from participating in the corresponding Area Tournament the following year.

If a tie exists at the conclusion of Pool play, the following tie breakers will be used:

- 1) Head-to-Head
- 2) Goals For (maximum 3 counted per match, i.e., if a team scores a total of 10 goals only 3 are counted toward this tie breaker)
- 3) Goals Against
- 4) Most shutouts
- 5) Least ejections (coach and player)
- 6) Kicks from the Penalty Mark (KFTPM)

If more than two teams are tied in points at the conclusion of pool play, the tie-breaker process will be the same as indicated above. If one team is shown to have the advantage over the others after any of the steps, it is declared the winner. If one team falls behind the others in any of the tie-breaking steps, while the others remain tied, that team is eliminated, and the process begins anew with the remaining teams until one move ahead of the others.

Discipline:

All coaches shall always remain within the coaching area on their side of the pitch (10 yards either way from the half-line) during the match. Any player, coach, or assistant coach who are requested to depart the playing area will result in a 1-point deduction from the team total points earned in that match and that player or coach shall not participate in the next scheduled match or matches as determined by the Area Tournament Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee members are the Area Tournament Director, Area Referee Administrator and Area Coach Administrator.

Protests:

Referee decisions during and after a match are “**final**” and “**not subject to protests**”. Matters concerning player eligibility or other breach of Section 11, Area guidelines are the only matters that may be brought up on a protest.

All protests must be in written form and will be ruled on by the Area Tournament Disciplinary Committee. However, before spending a lot of time composing the written document, please express your views verbally to a member of the Area Tournament Disciplinary Committee.

Coach Notes:

- All Coaches and Assistant Coaches **MUST** have a current Season, Region issued, Coach Photo ID Card.
- Coach and Assistant Coach ID Cards are **REQUIRED** for **ALL** Tournament Matches.
- Coach and Assistant Coach ID Cards must be always worn and remain visible.
- Player ID cards **ARE** required.
- All players must be fully registered with AYSO for the current season.
- Roster changes (adding/removing players to/from a fall roster) are **NOT** allowed.
- Guest players are “**not allowed**”, the team(s) will be disqualified.
- Coaches are required to have in their possession, **AT ALL TIMES**, copies of each players current season Player Medical Release Form. (Player Medical Release Forms in electronic or digital format, will **NOT** be accepted. Hard copies are required.)
- Coaches and Assistant Coaches must be fully registered with AYSO, approved and rostered for the current season.
- All Coaches and Assistant Coaches must meet the certification requirements as outlined per the AYSO National Coaching Program Guidelines.
- If team uniform color conflict, home team (listed first on the schedule) to change uniform color or use pennies.
- **NO** Coin Toss (Away team kick-off, home team selects goal to defend).
- Match lineup cards (totally 4) to be provided by each Region.
- All matches must start and end on time.
- Halftime break **NOT** to exceed 5 minutes.
- **NO** additional/extra time added for injuries or stoppages.
- Pool play matches may end in a tie.
- Championship matches must have a winner. If tied at the end of the 4th quarter, winner to be determined by KFPM.
- Players in the tournament will not be allowed to officiate.
- Youth Referee participation in the Tournament is by invitation only.
- Match lineup cards will be reviewed by onsite Tournament staff.
- Coaches are responsible for the conduct and behavior of themselves, their players, parents, and spectators on their sideline. Poor sportsmanship, verbal abuse and negative yelling will not be tolerated at any time and may result in being removed from the match, facility, and/or tournament.
- Referee(s) = 2-point deduction per referee, per team, for not providing referees, **NO** exception.
- **Any type of pets (i.e., dogs) are never allowed at AYSO games or practices.**

Referee Notes:

- Referees must check in at the onsite Referee Tent at least **45** minutes prior to their first match and be properly dressed (in full uniform).
 - A yellow jersey, black referee shorts, and black referee socks with 2 or 3 stripes.
 - Appropriate certified AYSO Referee Badge (i.e., Regional, Intermediate, Advanced, National) are only allowed.
 - Only **“black”** baseball style caps with no visible logos are allowed.
 - Referees are encouraged to bring alternate-colored jerseys, in case of color conflict.
 - Improperly dressed Referees may be replaced.
- All referees must be fully registered with AYSO and approved for the current season.
- All referees must meet the certification requirements as outlined per the AYSO National Referee Program Guidelines.
- Referees **MUST** perform a player and pitch safety check before each match.
- Check Coach and Assistant Coach for valid Coach ID Card for the current season and region issued.
- Coach and Assistant Coach ID Cards are **REQUIRED** for **ALL** Tournament Matches.
- Coach and Assistant Coach ID Cards must be always worn and remain visible.
- Player ID Cards **ARE** required.
- NO Coin Toss (away team kicks-off, home team selects goal to defend).
- PRE-PRINTED match lineup cards are required and provided by region.
 - Coach/Assistant Coach ID Cards must match pre-printed names on lineup card.
 - **“NO”** handwritten changes, besides jersey numbers, allowed to match lineup card.
 - All changes must be approved by the onsite Tournament Staff.
- Match lineup cards will be reviewed by onsite Tournament Staff.
- Return team match lineup cards immediately following the match. Total number of goals scored in each half and final goal total must be recorded correctly prior to being handed in by onsite Tournament Staff.
- Start and end all matches **“ON TIME”**.
- Halftime break **NOT** to exceed 5 minutes.
- **NO** additional/extra time added for injuries or stoppages.
- Pool play matches may end in a tie.
- Championship matches must have a winner. If tied at the end of the 4th quarter, winner to be determined by KFPM.
- All matches should be officiated by **“neutral”** referees. Parents **“SHOULD NOT”** sign-up, to referee their own child's match.
- Players in the tournament will not be allowed to officiate.
- Youth Referee participation in the Tournament is by invitation only.
- Each referee may only represent **“ONE”** team in the tournament.
- Coaches and Assistant Coaches, participating in the tournament, **MAY NOT** referee matches within their respected division, regardless of pool. (i.e., 10UB Coach/Assistant Coach may not Referee 10UB matches - regardless of pool. 10UB Coach/Assistant Coach may referee 10UG Match)
- Referee(s) = 2-point deduction per referee, per team, for not providing referees, **NO** exception.
- **Any type of pets (i.e., dogs) are never allowed at AYSO games or practices.**

Referees: Please report all player misconducts; player, coach, and spectator incidents; injuries; pitch issues and guideline violations to the onsite Tournament Staff at the conclusion of the match.