

AYSO Area 8D
Season End Tournament
Oct 25, 2025 Region 1625

“Rules of Competition”

1. GENERAL

1.1 Name of Hosting Region, Pitch Location(s), Website(s), Email(s)
Region 1625, Opportunity High School, 225 E Watson St, Albion MI 49224
Admin - Kendall Smith aysoad8d@gmail.com
Host RC - Jim Stuart ayso1625soccer@gmail.com
Officiating - AD Carey Christopher branchcountyaysoreferee@gmail.com

1.2 Tournament Date Oct 25, 2025

1.3 Purpose of the AYSO Area D Tournament

- a. The AYSO Area D Tournament shall offer an opportunity to bring together players, coaches, referees and spectators to share in the fun and soccer culture of the AYSO family.
- b. The Area D Tournament shall be open to all regular core season 10U through 15U (14U) teams in the Area.
- d. *The primary focus of this event is sportsmanship, team spirit and making new friends through the activities and events that are offered during this weekend.* Also, to give players more time playing a game we all enjoy....
SOCCER.
- e. The tournament should not be interpreted nor represented as any form of an AYSO Area D Championship.

1.4 Tournament Staff

- a. The Tournament Staff will be comprised of the necessary volunteers to provide for a fun and organized event. Representatives shall include specialties involving the following: tournament coordinator/director, concessions, officiating, scheduling, fundraising and various others as needed.
- b. Field Marshals which should be stationed at locations optimized to cover one or more pitch(es). Team game cards will be retrieved from the coaches prior to every match.
- c. Field Marshals shall have, but not limited to, the following items:
 - ~ Cutters and tags.
 - ~ Match schedules and field maps.
 - ~ Water, cups and trash cans.
 - ~ Pop-up canopy, table and chairs.
 - ~ A method to communicate to tournament staff.
- d. Field Marshal duties include assisting team check-in/inspection, relay information, assist in 'crowd control', maintain the schedule.

1.5 All games will be played in accordance with *IFAB Laws of the Game* and *AYSO Rules & Regulations (AYSO R&R)*, with changes as prescribed by these rules.

2.0 POLICIES and PROCEDURES

2.1 The event is open to regular season CORE PROGRAM teams of registered AYSO players and up to two registered AYSO Coaches. Up to three additional players may be added to a roster if needed.

Region Commissioners will be responsible for the integrity of their Regions representatives.

2.2 Players must play in the appropriate age division for the AYSO 2025-26 MY, unless a player has "played up" on the team in the regular season. No player shall be allowed to play in a Division below their age group.

2.3 Divisions/Rosters

15U Co-ed 11v11 25 min half

12U Boys/Co-ed 9v9 20 min half

12U Girls 9v9 20 min half

10U Boys/Co-ed 7v7 15 min half

10U Girls 7v7 15 min half

Maximum 5 minute halftime

A match may be considered official once the second half has begun.

NOTE: It is a priority for the schedule to be maintained.

A team may penalize itself for lack of promptness!

Roster size is according to AYSO R&R

A team must field the correct number of players minus one for the match to begin, or forfeit the match. E.G. 7v7 must have 6 players present.

Build Out Line rules will be implemented in 10U.

All players must play at least half of each game per AYSO R&R.

15U Coaches should assign time tracking to a team volunteer.

10U & 12U divisions will substitute per AYSO R&R (quarters).

The Center Referee will call for a substitution break approximately mid-way through each half for **ONE MINUTE**.

15U will use monitored substitution per Rules of Competition.

Substitution will be allowed on restarts when the ball goes out of play upon approval of the Center Referee.

Substitutes will be at the halfway line before the stoppage in play (NO 'running in' players). Referees may deny substitution in the final three minutes of a half if perceived to be time wasting.

2.4 Game Cards

Coaches will be issued game cards to be completed with the team roster in *numerical order*. A game card must be presented to the match official prior to the start of the match.

After each match game cards must be returned to Tournament headquarters. The winning Coach is responsible, or the Referee (or designate) in case of a draw.

2.5 Volunteer Eligibility

AYSO Safe Haven standards should be followed in all dealings with minors. Teams are encouraged to have two named Coaches, each being a registered AYSO volunteer. Head Coaches should have AYSO training appropriate to the Team's Division. A team must forfeit if no registered Coach is present.

Referees must be an AYSO registered volunteer and have an AYSO badge.

All AYSO training protocols are expected to be followed.

2.6 Match Placement

At all matches Team benches will be on one touchline and spectators will occupy the opposite touchline. No spectators are allowed to stand near the goal line, unless silently photographing.

Unless otherwise marked as a 'technical area', the team bench will be between one Penalty Area line and the Halfway line. Coaches must remain behind the touchline in the vicinity of the Center Circle, per AYSO R&R.

2.7 Pre-game Procedure

Coaches must check in with the Tournament before their first match to present team roster and verify information.

Teams must be present at the field at least 10 minutes before assigned game time for inspection by Field Marshall or Referee(s).

Forfeiture will be five minutes after assigned game time.

10U fields will be on a 45 min rotation. 12U & 15U will have 60 min rotation.

2.8 Etc.

a. Weapons, alcohol, tobacco, any other controlled substances and pets are not allowed at any facility.

b. All trash must be picked up and put in trash cans provided.

- c. Ensure every player present plays at least the minimum amount of playing time required per the rules stated in the AYSO National Rules and Regulations.
- d. Conduct themselves in a manner promoting good sportsmanship.
- e. Encourage clean competition and fair play at all times.
- f. Encourage every region to provide a 3 person referee team for the tournament.
- g. Coach their respective team(s) to the best of their abilities.
- h. Uphold the Tournament Rules and Regulations.
- i. Participate in positive coaching that instructs and encourages players.
- j. Present a healthy and athletic environment for players.
- k. Pets are not allowed on any pitch or any common areas at any facility. The only exception is for certified working “service” animals. Complete responsibility for these “working animals” is with the animals owner. AYSO and the hosting site assume no responsibility for these animals.

3. Player Equipment

3.1 All team members must be present for a pre-match inspection to be eligible to play in the assigned match. Late arrivals will be allowed ONLY after approval of the Center Referee

3.2 Per AYSO R&R players are required to wear matching shirts, shorts, and stockings. Shoes and shinguards are required. Shinguards must be covered by stockings. Goalkeepers must be provided with a contrasting color, a pennie is acceptable.

3.3 Per AYSO R&R items not permitted include jewelry, cast & splints, hats, etc. Hooded undershirts must be fully tucked into the jersey. The Center Referee has final discretion in player equipment.

4. Format

Depending on the number of teams in a Division either round robin or double elimination format may be utilized

Round robin - teams will play each opponent in their three or four team group. Three points awarded for win, one point for a draw.

Double Elimination - Teams will be bracketed to winner/loser slots after the initial round of play. Tie breaker will be utilized in a drawn match.

The top two teams in each Division will play a Finals match.

Tie Breaker will consist of a skill shot competition. An open 6U goal will be shot at from appropriate distances, starting with five players from each team, and if still tied a single elimination.

6. REFEREE INFORMATION

6.1 Requirements-

a. All adult Center Referees must be currently be:

~ A registered volunteer with a current background check.

~ AYSO Safe Haven trained and Safesport (MI law) trained.

~ CDC Concussion Awareness trained.

~ AYSO Referee training or AYSO/USSF cross certification.

~ Use the 3 man team (1 center referee and 2 assistant referees) and utilize the diagonal system of control for all matches assigned.

6.2 Check-in and Assignments

a. All referees must check in with the referee coordinator at the referee administration tent at least 30 minutes before their 1st scheduled match they are assigned.

b. The Tournament Referee Administrator or designee will be available and will make adjustments as necessary. All referee match assignments will be posted.

Referee teams shall arrive at the pitch at least 15 minutes before their scheduled match starts to do a final player equipment check. In the event a Referee is assigned consecutive matches the Field Marshal may complete pre-game inspection.

- c. Referees shall officiate each match in accordance with The IFAB- LOTG except as modified by the AYSO R&R and by the Rules of Competition.
- d. The official game score and winner of the match will be recorded by the referee on game cards, and the game cards will be returned appropriately as described on Pg 8 Section 2.10. The game cards will be available for completing any paperwork or reports at Area Tournament Headquarters.
- e. Referees shall submit a written report in the event of:
 - ~ Any Cautions/Send Offs for players, expulsions of coaches or guests.
 - ~ Any conduct by coaches, guests that interfered with the match.
 - ~ Abuse of substitution and/or minimum play rules noted or brought to the referee's attention.
 - ~ Any other action that the referee determines merits a notation or report.

7. STOPPAGE FOR LIGHTNING, HEAT & OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

7.1 The Tournament Committee shall develop a safety plan for dealing with lightning, heat & other environmental hazards. The safety plan may provide for delaying the start of, halting or suspending the match, shortening the length of matches or eliminating overtime periods as may be appropriate to the circumstances.

7.2 The referee will have authority to take appropriate action for any game specific conditions or events which, in the opinion of the referee, endanger the safety of the players or match officials. The Tournament Committee or its designee will have the authority to order appropriate action for any site related conditions or events that endanger the safety of the players.

7.3 If thunder is heard or lightning observed, lightning is close enough to be within striking distance. The referee team or other Tournament Officials should immediately suspend play and ALL persons should seek shelter immediately in accordance with local lightning detection and tornado warning system rules.

Activities may resume ONLY when a Tournament Official has given approval. In most cases, matches may resume only after lightning or thunder has NOT been observed for 30 minutes. Tournament Officials have the capacity to adjust the tournament schedule as required.

7.4 Tournament Officials will notify referees in the event of other conditions that may arise that may cause match cancellation, i.e: tornado warnings, hail, etc.

8. PROTESTS

8.1 All protests, including but not limited to, player equipment, games, schedules, referee calls, etc. will not be entertained or allowed.

8.2 Referee decisions on the field are considered final.

8.3 The Tournament Committee shall have final say in any complaint or issue.

“The Laws of the Game are intended to provide that the game be played with as little interference as possible. In this view it is the duty of referees to punish only deliberate breaches of the Law.

Constant whistling for doubtful or trifling breaches will produce bad feelings and loss of temper on the part of players and ruin the pleasure of spectators.”

SAFE FAIR FUN