



Sponsored by AYSO Region 77, Lompoc, California

2026 Lompoc AYSO Spaceport Classic Open Invitational Tournament Rules

CATEGORY	RULE
1) JURISDICTION	<p>A. Unless otherwise noted, the current AYSO National Rules and Regulations, Section 10 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, 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.</p> <p>C. Referee judgment calls are NOT subject to dispute or protest!</p>
2) FEES	<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's account (no personal checks).</p> <p>B. Fees are: U-10, \$900 (entry fee \$600 plus referee deposit \$300), U-12 \$950 (entry fee \$650 plus referee deposit \$300), U-14 \$950 (entry fee \$650 plus referee deposit \$300)</p>
3) ACCEPTANCE	<p>A. Applications are due NO LATER than December 15th, 2025.</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 within 72 hours of the receipt of their applications.</p> <p>C. Teams not accepted into the tournament will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list.</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>
4) REFUNDS	<p>A. Teams withdrawing 30 days or more before the tournament will be issued a full refund.</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 and cannot be rescheduled a full refund will be issued.</p> <p>D. For teams who are eligible, referee deposit refunds will be mailed no later than 14 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 that were assigned.</p>
5) RAINOUT/ CANCELLATION	<p>A. Should the tournament be rained out on the original date, a full refund will be given. Due to schedule restraints, there will be no rain-out date.</p> <p>B. If the tournament is cancelled due to weather after partially completing 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>C. 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. Pre-ordered items will be sent to the team.</p>
6) PLAYERS/TEAMS	<p>A. Players on participating teams must be registered to play in AYSO or Club Team, and have played in the fall, 2025 season. Coaches are responsible to ensure that all players meet eligibility requirements.</p> <p>B. Team roster must be verified and approved by the region's Regional Commissioner or Club Administrator, changes may be submitted (with the written approval of the Regional Commissioner or Club Administrator); however, these changes must be received by the Tournament Registrar prior to the tournament. There will be no roster changes allowed on tournament day.</p> <p>C. 3 Guest Players (players from a different region from the applying team's region) will be allowed for each team. However, the Guest Player will be required to have the approval of their Regional Commissioner or Club Administrator (see Team Roster Form).</p> <p>D. Division U-14 will play 11-v-11, and there will be a roster limit of 15 players per team. Division U-12 will play 9-v-9, and there will be a roster limit of 12 players per team. Division U-10 will play 7-v-7, and there will be a roster limit of 10 players per team.</p>

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	E. All players MUST play at least 3/4 of each game, UNLESS roster sizes dictate otherwise. Violation of these player rules exposes a team to protest and renders them subject to suspension of the Head Coach and/or possible disqualification at the discretion of the Director.
7) COACHES	<p>A. Each team is limited to one Head Coach and one Assistant Coach only (must have one of each). These coaches must be the ones listed on the Official Team Roster.</p> <p>B. Each Coach must be Safe-Haven, concussion, sudden cardiac, SafeSport certified, and fingerprinted to participate in the tournament. They must provide their AYSO Identification number. Coaches must also be appropriately age specific certified. Coaches will be expected to set the example for proper conduct, exhibiting AYSO TEAM behavior and Kid Zone philosophy.</p> <p>C. Coaches are expected to set the example for their team in exhibiting proper AYSO behavior. Coaches are expected to remain in the technical area during games and only enter the field of play as requested by the referee.</p>
8) REFEREES	<p>A. Each team in the tournament will provide a crew of 3 referees. These referees will be assigned up to 3 games, based on their qualifications.</p> <p>B. All referees must be Safe-Haven, concussion, sudden cardiac arrest, SafeSport certified, and fingerprinted to participate in the tournament.</p> <p>C. Only the diagonal system of control will be used to referee the games.</p> <p>D. Referees for U-14 games should be Advanced level or above Referees for U-12 games should be Intermediate or above. Referees for U-10 games must be Regional or above</p> <p>E. All referees must be in full Uniform as defined by AYSO and USSF. Referees not in uniform will not be permitted to referee games, and their team's referee deposit may be subject to forfeiture.</p> <p>F. If all assignments are successfully completed, the Referee Deposit will be refunded (see REFEREE PLAN for more details).</p> <p>G. Referees are expected to check in at the Referee Station at least 20 minutes prior to their assigned game. Failure to appear on time 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.</p> <p>H. Referees will be expected to uphold the tournament rules, AYSO guidelines and FIFA laws. Any willful failure of the referee to uphold these rules may be cause for dismissal from the tournament and will place a team's referee deposit refund in jeopardy.</p>
9) FIELDS	<p>A. All fields will be set up and taken down by the tournament staff.</p> <p>B. Trash cans will be provided at each field. Teams will be expected to clean up all trash in their area before leaving.</p> <p>C. No dogs, other pets, smoking, vaping or alcohol allowed. And any noise makers are strictly prohibited.</p> <p>D. All canopies must be staked down.</p> <p>E. All game will be played at Riverbend Park Soccer Fields.</p>
10) FORMAT	<p>A. This is a pool-play tournament.</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, if pool sizes permit. 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. Number of teams advancing per pool will be determined by the number of pools in the division.</p>
11) CHECK-IN	<p>A. Teams must check in 60 minutes prior to their first game and must present Game Cards for as many games as the team will play in the tournament (including medal-round games). The Game Cards must be properly completed with the player's listed first name-last name in uniform # order. The players listed on the game cards must match the approved roster submitted with the team's application.</p> <p>B. Each coach or team representative must provide AYSO Player Registration forms with ink or electronic signatures for verification by tournament officials.</p> <p>C. Coach must have these Player Registration forms with them at all times and ready for presentation to Tournament Officials.</p> <p>D. Late arriving players must be escorted to the check-in station by a team official along with their Player Registration Form and be cleared by the Tournament Staff before participating in any games.</p>

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12) FIELD MONITORS	<p>A. There will be a tournament Field Monitor assigned to each field that report to the Tournament Field Director. Field Monitors will check in teams prior to each game and present the verified game cards to the match referees.</p> <p>B. At the conclusion of the game, the match referees must return the completed game cards to the Field Monitor.</p> <p>C. Field Monitors will be the first to respond to any incidents or injuries and will be in contact with the rest of the tournament staff by radio. Tournament participants are encouraged to report any concerns immediately to the Field Monitor, and to respectfully follow any instructions given by the Field Monitor.</p>																
13) GAMES	<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 the match including substitutions. There will be no time added on for injuries or time wasted in qualifying rounds. Games will expect to end on time and may be shortened if they started late. Pool play games may end in a tie.</p> <p>B. 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>C. Game duration shall be as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>Division</td><td>Pool Play</td><td>Semi, Final Rounds</td></tr><tr><td>U-10:</td><td>20 minute half</td><td>25 minute half</td></tr><tr><td>U-12:</td><td>25 minute half</td><td>30 minute half</td></tr><tr><td>U-14:</td><td>30 minute half</td><td>35 minute half</td></tr></table> <p>E. The “home” team will be the first team or top team listed on the game schedule and will be responsible for providing the game ball. The home team will be situated on the North or West side of the field, and the visitor will be situated on the South or East side. Spectators must remain on the side of the field designated for their team. The home team will change jerseys or don pinnies in the event of a color conflict with the visitor team. If any questions, the referee will determine whether this is necessary.</p> <p>F. There will be no warming up on the field. Teams must warm up prior to taking the field. As soon as the previous game has ended, teams must clear the field and the teams for the next game must take their places.</p> <p>G. FORFEITS: Teams must check in at the designated Field Coordinator Station 30 minutes prior to the start of the game. There will be a five-minute grace period before a forfeit is declared. The score for a forfeit match will be 1-0 for the remaining team (See STANDINGS 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 division teams the minimum number is 6 players, and for U-14 division teams 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> <p>H. SUSPENDED GAMES: 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>I. ABANDONED GAMES: 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 a late start.</p>	Division	Pool Play	Semi, Final Rounds	U-10:	20 minute half	25 minute half	U-12:	25 minute half	30 minute half	U-14:	30 minute half	35 minute half				
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14) SUBSTITUTIONS	<p>A. Substitutions shall be allowed approximately mid-way through each half for ALL divisions U-10 – U-14, 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 can be made between periods.</p>																
15) STANDINGS	<p>A. Standings for pool play games will be determined on the “ten-point system” as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>WIN</td><td>= 6 points</td></tr><tr><td>TIE</td><td>= 3 points</td></tr><tr><td>LOSS</td><td>= 0 points</td></tr><tr><td>GOAL</td><td>= 1 point (one point per goal scored up to a maximum of 3)</td></tr><tr><td>SHUTOUT</td><td>= 1 point (for an earned shutout, including a 0-0 tie)</td></tr><tr><td>FORFEIT</td><td>= 7 points (scored as a 1-0 win, no shutout points as it is not an “earned” shutout)</td></tr><tr><td>RED CARD</td><td>= 2 point deduction for team (includes 2 points for each player, substitute, or coach)</td></tr><tr><td>YELLOW CARD</td><td>= 1 point deduction for team (includes 1 point for each player, substitute, or coach)</td></tr></table> <p>B. Winners of ties in standings will be determined as follows:</p>	WIN	= 6 points	TIE	= 3 points	LOSS	= 0 points	GOAL	= 1 point (one point per goal scored up to a maximum of 3)	SHUTOUT	= 1 point (for an earned shutout, including a 0-0 tie)	FORFEIT	= 7 points (scored as a 1-0 win, no shutout points as it is not an “earned” shutout)	RED CARD	= 2 point deduction for team (includes 2 points for each player, substitute, or coach)	YELLOW CARD	= 1 point deduction for team (includes 1 point for each player, substitute, or coach)
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	<p>Head to head competition Most number of wins Least number of sportsmanship point deductions (1 point per misconduct, 1 point per spectator incident) Goals allowed – total (up to a maximum of five per game; fewest number advances) Goal differential (goals scored to six per game less total goals allowed; highest differential advances) Kicks from the mark if determining medal round advancement. Coin toss if determining medal round seeding only.</p> <p>C. Wildcard teams will be the team(s) with the highest standings points from all teams in the division who are not advancing.</p> <p>D. All individual game protests must be presented in writing to the Director within 1/2 hour of the completion of the game.</p> <p>E. Standings will be updated hourly at the Tournament Scoreboard. The deadline to challenge the posted standing results will be at the conclusion of Pool Play.</p>
16) ADVANCEMENTS	<p>A. Pool winners (and in some cases wildcard teams) 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>
17) MEDAL-ROUNDS	<p>A. All medal round matches ending in a tie will have two full overtime periods of five minutes in length, no golden goal, with teams changing field direction after the first five-minute period. In these matches, if still tied after overtime play, the game shall be decided by FIFA kicks from the mark.</p> <p>B. Only those players on the field following the second overtime period will be allowed to participate in the kicks from the mark.</p>
18) AWARDS	<p>A. Medals will be presented to 2 coaches and players from the first-place through the fourth-place teams in each division.</p> <p>B. A tournament pin will be presented to each player and coach.</p>
19) CONDUCT	<p>A. Coaches will be expected to set a positive example for the team and will be held responsible for the actions of their team including spectators. All 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. At the conclusion of each match, the referees will indicate on the reverse of the game cards any point deductions for poor sportsmanship. Point deduction's will be used as tiebreakers should that become necessary. Referees will be required to complete a game misconduct report for <u>all</u> misconducts during the game, as well as any incidents of interference by spectators.</p> <p>C. Any coach or spectator ejected must immediately leave the playing fields and will be prohibited from attending the next scheduled game. Any player sent off (red carded) must immediately leave the vicinity of the game (under supervision of a 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. There will be penalty point deductions for all send-offs (see Standings rules).</p> <p>D. Any violent conduct red card or ejection will result in that player/coach/spectator being barred from the remainder of the tournament.</p> <p>E. 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>F. 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>G. All conduct problems will be reported to the respective Regional Commissioner.</p> <p>H. All Serious Incidents will be reported to the respective Regional Commissioner as well as Area, Section and AYSO National Office parties.</p>
20) MEDICAL/FIRST AID	<p>A. There will be a First Aid station in the Referee area where participants may receive ice, etc. for minor injuries.</p> <p>B. Field Monitors/Board members will communicate the first aid needs as requested on the field. If an injury is serious, the first aid staffer or Safety Director will have a mobile phone to call 911 for emergency response.</p>
21) UNIFORMS/SAFETY	<p>A. All players must wear the approved AYSO uniform only, and all players on the same team must wear matching uniforms (goalkeeper exempt).</p>

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	<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.</p> <p>C. Undergarments may be worn during inclement weather; however, the match referee will be the judge of what should be allowed or not.</p> <p>D. Jewelry (including earrings), casts or splints of any kind, or hard metal or plastic clips on clothing or hair will not be allowed.</p> <p>E. 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>
22) PROTESTS	<p>A. Protests will be considered only for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ineligible player has played. • One or more registered player(s), present and in uniform, has not played the required 3/4 of the game, unless roster size dictates otherwise (except for illness or injury as recorded by the game referee). <p>B. Teams have up to 30 minutes after the game to protest opponents' substitutions if they believe they have done incorrectly. All teams have until the end of pool play to protest any discrepancies in points earned during pool play.</p> <p>C. All protests will be heard by a Protest Committee of at least three persons designated by the Regional Director. In all cases, the members of the Protest Committee will be unrelated to either team involved in the protest. ALL PROTEST DECISIONS ARE FINAL! The protest committee will consist of the Tournament Director, the Tournament Coach Admin, and the Referee Administrator/Director.</p> <p>D. Referee judgment calls are FINAL and are not grounds for protest or dispute!</p>
23) RULES INTERPRETATION	The Director retains the right to interpret and apply the tournament rules to the optimum benefit of all tournament participants.