# **MY2025**

# Ventura AYSO Region 39 Policies & Protocols

The AYSO Standard Regional Policies & Protocols, Supplements to the Standard Regional Policies & Protocols, and Region 39 Policy Statements; with additional appendices.



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# **AYSO Policies & Protocols for Region 39**

#### **Article One: Introduction and Purpose**

Welcome to the heart of the American Youth Soccer Organization – its Region.

The AYSO Region is where "the beautiful game of soccer" meets the children of our cities, townships, and counties and in the process educates and develops our Nation's young people through AYSO's six philosophies of Everyone Plays®, Balanced Teams, Open Registration, Positive Coaching, Good Sportsmanship and Player Development. (See AYSO National Bylaws, Section 1.01 and Article Two of these Standard Regional Policies and Protocols.)

These Standard Regional Policies & Protocols<sup>1</sup> (P&Ps) have been established as a Governing Document by the National Board of Directors (NBOD) pursuant to the authority granted in Article One, Section 1.03(a)(6) and (11) of the AYSO National Bylaws and in support of AYSO's other Governing Documents (Articles of Incorporation, National Bylaws, National Policy Statements and National Rules & Regulations).<sup>2</sup> They are designed to inform the Regional Leadership (Regional Commissioner and Regional Board Members) about how an AYSO Region must be administered, and to assure a successful and rewarding experience by our AYSO volunteers, players and families.

Pursuant to Bylaw 1.04(I) and NPS 6.1, the Region has the responsibility to operate in accordance with these P&Ps unless the Region has obtained permission from the NBOD or its delegate to vary from these requirements, through the addendum process set forth in Article Ten of these P&Ps. Any such variation must also comply with any Rules & Regulations appropriately adopted by the Region's Area Director and/or Section Director, pursuant to Bylaw 8.03. To the extent that there may be any contradiction or conflict between these P&Ps, including any approved Addendum thereto and other AYSO Governing Documents, the other AYSO Governing Documents will prevail.

While these P&Ps are intended to advise AYSO's local leaders about what is required to operate a Region, suggested "Best Practices" about how to operate a successful Region can be found within the AYSO Reference Book Chapter 8.

Finally, know that you are not alone; Your NBOD, Section and Area Directors and the AYSO National Office Staff stand ready to support you and all who you serve. So, if you have questions, just ask!

<sup>1.</sup> These Standard Regional Policies & Protocols are abbreviated and referred to as the P&Ps.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2.</sup> References to some of AYSO's Governing Documents have been abbreviated for ease of use, as follows; AYSO National Bylaws = Bylaws; AYSO National Rules & Regulations = R&Rs; and AYSO National Policy Statements = NPS.

<sup>3.</sup> All of AYSO's Governing Documents, including these P&Ps, are available on-line at www.ayso.org

#### **Article Two: Mission**

The AYSO Mission is to develop and deliver quality youth soccer programs which promote a fun, family environment based on the AYSO philosophies:

**Everyone Plays**® - Our Region's goal is for kids to play soccer so we mandate that every player on every team must play at least half of every game.

**Balanced Teams** - Each year we form new teams as evenly balanced as possible because it is fair and more fun when teams of equal ability play.

**Open Registration** - Our program is open to all children between 4 and 18 years of age who want to register and play soccer. Interest and enthusiasm are the only criteria for playing.

**Positive Coaching** - Encouragement of player effort provides for greater enjoyment by the players and ultimately leads to better-skilled and better-motivated players.

**Good Sportsmanship** - We strive to create a safe, fair, fun and positive environment based on mutual respect, rather than a win-at-all-costs attitude, and our program is designed to instill good sportsmanship in every facet of AYSO.

**Player Development** - We believe that all players should be able to develop their soccer skills and knowledge to the best of their abilities, both individually and as members of a team, in order to maximize their enjoyment of the game.

(See Bylaw 1.01 and Reference Book, Chapter 5, AYSO Fundamentals.)

# **Article Three: Corporate Governance**

AYSO is a single California corporation. Each Region is a part of that corporate entity and, as such, the assets and liabilities of the Region belong to the Corporation. Similarly, it is possible for the conduct of a Regional Board Member to impose legal obligations upon AYSO. Consequently, all material contracts in excess of one year duration, including proposed leases of fields or property must be reviewed and approved by the NBOD or its delegate and prior to their execution.

Since we are one corporation, no AYSO volunteer may file a lawsuit in the name of AYSO without the prior written approval of the National Office and any claim/lawsuit against an AYSO Region or Executive or Participating Member must be immediately reported to the National Office. Finally, AYSO takes great pride in its brand identity and in the trademarks, logos and other items of Intellectual Property it has developed over the years. (See NPS 1.1 for the requirements and proper use of trade name, trademark and logos.)

(See Bylaws 1.03, 1.04(p), and 9.02; NPS 1.1, 1.3, 3.5, 3.6, 3.11, 4.5, 5.3; and the Reference Book, Chapter 8.)

## **Article Four: Duties and Responsibilities of the Region**

The obligations required of every AYSO Region are set out in AYSO's Governing Documents. The most significant of those are:

- A. To operate and offer quality youth soccer programs, which promote a safe, fair, fun and positive environment that complies in spirit and letter with the Bylaws, NPS, R&Rs, and Philosophies of the Organization. (See Reference Book, Chapter 6, AYSO Fundamentals.)
- B. To nominate a Regional Commissioner (hereinafter "RC") and to nominate and appoint, at a minimum, a Treasurer, Risk Manager/Safety Director, Coach Administrator, Referee Administrator, Registrar, and Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate. (See Article Six, Paragraphs E and F.)
- C. To register all players, coaches, referees, administrators and other volunteers prior to the commencement of the season and, as applicable, throughout the season, in accordance with the registration procedures of the Organization;

Please note that the failure of a Region to properly register a player or volunteer on a timely basis presents significant risk management and insurance issues that could result in severe sanctions, including but not limited to, revocation of the Region's charter, removal of the RC, and/or holding the Region responsible for payments under the Soccer Accident Insurance program.

(See Bylaws 1.04(c) and 1.04(t) and NPS 3.7 for a discussion of the registration and application requirements and procedures for the registration of volunteers and players.)

- D. To comply with the Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 by ensuring that all volunteers: are trained and certified; are given a position description, preferably in writing; and know and perform their duties consistent with AYSO's Governing Documents. (See Reference Book, Chapter 9, Safe Haven, for a discussion of the Federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997 and the requirements for a volunteer to obtain the legal protections it affords, and Chapter 15, for a listing of approved AYSO Position Descriptions.)
- E. To assign players and coaches to assure proper balance of teams within each age division within the Region or within a reasonable geographical part thereof; (See Bylaw 1.04(d).)
- F. To ensure the financial integrity of the Organization by complying with the obligations established by Bylaw 1.04(I) and (m), including, but not limited to, the timely payment of all National Player Registration Fees in accordance with the registration requirements and procedures of the Organization. (See Article Eight, Financial Banking and Related Matters, of these P&Ps.);
- G. To comply with the Soccer Accident Insurance (SAI) plan and to submit insurance claims according to current procedures; (See Bylaw 1.04(o) and www.AYSO.org, Volunteers/Insurance.)
- H. To educate and inform its members that AYSO is a mandated reporter in many states and that most states ask that any adult who knows or suspects child abuse or neglect, file a good faith report. (See Reference Book, Chapter 9, Safe Haven Guidelines, Child Abuse and Neglect for a partial listing of various state's child

- abuse reporting agencies. Please contact the Safe Haven Department of the AYSO National Office with any questions.);
- I. To contact the National Office if it believes that events in their community, even those not related to AYSO or youth sports, may create heightened sensitivity with respect to AYSO, its programs or its reputation; and
- J. To comply with the requirements set out with NPS 2.5 and all directions provided by the National Office whenever a Region is considering paying for services to be rendered. (See Paying for Services on the AYSO website at www.ayso.org and also Article Six, Paragraph G of these P&Ps.) (See Bylaw 1.04.)

# **Article Five: Membership in the Region**

- A. There are three categories of members in AYSO: Executive Members, Participating Members and Honorary Members:
  - EXECUTIVE MEMBERS: Every RC of a Chartered Region is an Executive Member. While RCs of Pilot Regions generally have most of the rights and responsibilities of their peers in Chartered Regions, they are not Executive Members and, therefore, do not have the right to vote, including at the National Annual General Meeting or in connection with the nomination of an Area Director. (See Bylaws 1.05, 1.06, and 7.02.)
  - PARTICIPATING MEMBERS: All properly registered and accepted players and volunteers (except for RCs) within the Region are Participating Members.
  - HONORARY MEMBERS: An Honorary Member is someone who has rendered outstanding or extraordinary service to the Organization, as recognized by the NBOD.
  - (See Bylaws 3.03, 3.04 and 3.02, respectively and AYSO Hall Of Fame Nominations on the AYSO website, www.AYSO.org, for nominating procedures for National recognition and for establishing local "halls of fame".)
- B. The names, addresses and telephone number of all members of the Region, as well as the information contained in the AYSO Executive Member Directory or any AYSO database are private and confidential. Such information and mailing lists or access to any AYSO database may not be disclosed or distributed to anyone, including any vendor or sponsor, without the prior written approval of the National Executive Director. (See NPS 1.2.)

# **Article Six: Management of the Region**

The management of an AYSO Region requires conduct consistent with AYSO's Governing Documents and discretionary decisions that a Region believes are necessary to operate a successful AYSO program in that Region's unique environment. In AYSO's Governing Documents, words such as "required", "shall" and "shall not" describe mandatory acts. Words such as "may", "could", and "might" refer to decisions or acts considered to be discretionary. (For a discussion of recommended/discretionary "Best Practices" in the management of a Region, please see the Reference Book, Chapter 8.)

The following is a list of some of the more significant Regional Board management obligations.

#### A. Regional Commissioner and Regional Board Member Composition

- 1. Upon creation of the Region by the NBOD, the RC shall appoint the initial Regional Board to serve until the first scheduled Regional Board meeting, at which time nominations for board positions will take place, subject to appointment by the RC.
- 2. The Regional Board shall, at a minimum, consist of the RC, the Regional Treasurer, Regional Risk Manager/Safety Director, Regional Coach Administrator, Regional Referee Administrator, Regional Registrar and Regional Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate, all of whom are voting members. With the approval of the Regional Board, one person may serve in more than one position with the exception of the RC who cannot also serve as Regional Treasurer. In any case, where a Regional Board Member serves in more than one voting position, there is only one vote per person, not one vote per position. (See Bylaw 1.04 (n).)
- 3. The RC, in consultation with the Regional Board, may create such other voting or non-voting Board Members or other staff positions, as deemed desirable. Unless specifically noted to be a non-voting Board Member, as required pursuant to the Addendum procedures set out within Article Ten of these P&Ps, all Regional Board Members will be deemed to be voting Board Members. The duties and responsibilities of these other positions shall be approved by the RC.
- 4. All members of the Regional Board understand that they owe a duty of loyalty to AYSO and by accepting appointment to the Regional Board agree to be bound by AYSO's Governing Documents.
- All voting Regional Board Members must have reached the age of majority (adults), as defined by the State in which they reside, whereas youth volunteers may serve as non-voting Regional Board Members. (See NPS 2.15.)
- 6. Regional Board Members serve a one-year term, or until the next annual meeting of the Regional Board.
- 7. Any Regional Board Member, other than the RC, may be suspended, limited in activities, or removed, in accordance with the Dispute Resolution procedures approved by the NBOD. (See Article Nine of these P&Ps, Dispute Resolution and Due Process for non-executive members.)

#### B. Duties and Responsibilities of Mandatory Regional Board Positions

A brief overview of the duties and responsibilities of the seven mandatory Regional Board position follows:

#### 1. Regional Commissioner ("RC")

- a) The RC, with the support and assistance of the Regional Board, shall have the responsibility and authority to conduct the day-to-day business affairs of the Region; guide the development of its future; and assure its compliance with AYSO's Governing Documents. (See Bylaw 7.03.)
- b) The RC's initial term of service shall be as appointed by the NBOD and the RC may serve multiple terms so long as he or she is nominated by the Regional Board and approved by the Area Director and/or Section Director and appointed by the NBOD. It is the responsibility of the RC to ensure that his/her term of appointment does not expire. If the term does expire, all access rights previously granted to the RC will be revoked and the RC will no longer have the rights and privileges of an Executive Member including, but not limited to, the right to vote at an NAGM or in connection with the nomination of an Area Director. These limitations will remain in place until such time as the

RC's application for reappointment, if any, is approved by the NBOD. (See Bylaw 7.05 and NPS 4.6; see also Policy for Access Rights.

- c) The RC, in concert with the Regional Treasurer, shall insure that all fees collected, and monies disbursed are done so in a fiscally responsible manner as described in Bylaw 1.04(m). (See Reference Book, Chapter 15, RC Job Description.)
- d) The RC, or his or her delegated Member of the Regional Board, shall preside at all Regional Board meetings. (See Reference Book, Chapter 15, RC Job Description.)
- e) The RC shall maintain close liaison with the Area and Section Directors. (See Bylaw 7.03.)
- f) The RC shall act in all ways to avoid even the appearance of a conflict of interest. (See NPS, Article Five "Standards of Conduct and Conflict of Interest".)
- g) The RC may be suspended by the Area Director or the Section Director and suspended or removed by the NBOD in accordance with the Bylaws. (See Bylaw 7.03.)

#### 2. Regional Treasurer

The AYSO volunteer position of Regional Treasurer shall have custody of all funds and securities, evidence of indebtedness and other valuable documents, and shall deposit funds and securities in the name and to the credit of the Region in a bank or depository. The Treasurer shall comply with AYSO's Governing Documents, including but not be limited to the following obligations: the preparation and maintenance of the Region's financial statements and their dissemination to the Region's participants and the National Office, the timely payment of all National Player Registration Fees, the full participation of the Region in the National Accounting Program, including NAP Online, the AYSO Policy on the Reimbursement of Expenses Incurred by the Region's Members, proper bank account maintenance and, AYSO's Player Refund Policy. (See Bylaws 1.04(I) and (m); NPS 3.1, 3.2, 3.9 and 3.10; and the AYSO Treasurer Manual, Accounts Receivable Section.)

#### 3. Regional Risk Manager/Safety Director

The AYSO volunteer position of Regional Risk Manager/Safety Director shall be responsible for the overall aspects of the Region's safety including the safe condition of the Region's equipment, goals and fields and for ensuring that the Region's players, volunteers and parents are aware of AYSO's Soccer Accident Insurance (SAI), and AYSO's Incident Report Procedures. This position, together with the RC, is also responsible for implementing and monitoring AYSO's Severe Weather and Concussion Awareness Policies. (See Bylaws1.04(e), (f), and (o), as well as NPS 2.10, 2.13, and 2.14.)

#### 4. Regional Coach Administrator ("RCA")

The AYSO volunteer position of RCA is responsible for implementing, monitoring and maintaining the AYSO National Coaching Program at all age levels within the Region, including program delivery, volunteer training and certification (including assisting the CVPA with Safe Haven), as well as staff development, communication and coordination. (See Bylaw 1.04(q) and the Reference Book Chapter 5, AYSO Fundamentals (Programs), and Chapter 10, National Coaching Program.)

#### 5. Regional Referee Administrator ("RRA")

The AYSO volunteer position of RRA is responsible for implementing, monitoring, and maintaining the AYSO National Referee Program at all age levels within the Region, including the program delivery, volunteer training and certification (including assisting the CVPA with Safe Haven), as well as staff

development, communication and coordination. (See Bylaw 1.04(q) and the Reference Book Chapter 5, AYSO Fundamentals (Programs), and Chapter 11, National Referee Program.)

#### 6. Regional Registrar

The AYSO volunteer position of Regional Registrar is responsible for the planning and implementation of the annual registration of all players. The Regional Registrar shall comply with AYSO's Governing Documents, including but not being limited to: the registration of all players prior to the commencement of the season and, as applicable, throughout the season, in accordance with the registration and application requirements and procedures of the Organization. (See Bylaw 1.04(c).)

#### 7. Regional Child & Volunteer Protection Advocate ("CVPA")

The AYSO volunteer position of Regional CVPA is responsible for overseeing the Safe Haven Program within the Region. This includes working with the RC, RCA and RRA to provide Safe Haven training and certification of all coaches, referees and other volunteers in the Region. The CVPA is also responsible for the screening and registration of all regional volunteers prior to the commencement of the season and, as applicable throughout the season, in accordance with the registration and application requirements and procedures of the Organization. Finally, the CVPA, together with the RC, is also responsible for the implementation and monitoring of AYSO's Code of Conduct Policy against Harassment, Abuse, or Violence. (See Bylaw 1.04(c), NPS 2.12 and 3.7, together with Reference Book, Chapter 9, AYSO Safe Haven.)

#### C. Meetings

As established within Bylaw 1.04(k), and consistent with the principles of established corporate governance, every Region shall hold an annual and thereafter periodic meetings of the Regional Board, conducting these meetings in an open and transparent fashion, excepting for any necessary executive sessions, and maintaining minutes thereof, which minutes are to be reasonably made available to the Regional Board, the Region's Participating Members, and the National Office.

For a listing of recommended "Best Practices" in the administration of the Region's Board meetings, the limitations of when executive sessions are permissible, the requirements of a quorum and the general responsibilities of Regional Board Members, see the Reference Book, Chapter 8.

#### D. Voting and Veto Powers

Unless otherwise specifically provided by these P&Ps, decisions of the Regional Board must be made by a majority decision of the voting Regional Board Members deciding on any such matter; provided, however, that the RC may veto any such decision if (a) the effect of such decision would be to violate any of AYSO's Governing Documents or applicable law or (b) in the RC's discretion, as guided by application of his or her fiduciary obligations, would not be in the best interests of the Region or the Organization.

#### E. Regional Commissioner Initial Appointment/Reappointment/Replacement

- 1. When a new Pilot Region is formed, the NBOD appoints the initial RC based upon information provided by the applicable Area and Section Directors and the National Office. (See Bylaw 1.05.)
- 2. Once the Initial RC is appointed, a Regional nominating committee shall be established by (i) the RC, in consultation with the Regional Board, at least three months, and preferably six months, before the expiration of the RC's term or the end of an RC's term due to planned resignation, or (ii) the Regional Board, whenever there is a vacancy in the RC position due to the RC's death, unexpected resignation or removal.

- a) The nominating committee will be comprised of a reasonable number of both Regional Board Members and Regional Participating Members who are not players or Members of the Regional Board.
- b) The nominating committee shall submit its list of one or more names of individuals who they have determined to be qualified as candidates for the position of RC to the Regional Board. The voting members of the Regional Board shall, by a majority vote, nominate an RC and forward such nomination to the Area and Section Director, whose territory includes the Region. If both the Area Director and Section Director approve of the nomination of the person as Regional Commissioner, then the nomination will be forwarded to the National Board of Directors for election. (See Bylaw 7.03)
- c) In the absence of a nomination by the Regional Board, it is the responsibility and authority of the Region's Area Director to work with the Region to ensure that an RC is nominated.
- d) The NBOD has full discretion whether or not to appoint a nominee or to appoint a nominee for a term of three years or for a shorter period as it deems appropriate, after taking into account any input provided by the Area Director and/or Section Director.
- e) In the event of a vacancy in the position of RC, the Region's Area Director or other NBOD designee will step in and become the acting RC and work with the Regional Board to continue the operations of the Region until such time as a nominee for RC has been appointed by the NBOD. If there is no appointed RC, then the Region will not be represented at any vote for an Area Director or have a vote at an NAGM. (See Executive Member Selection Protocol under Best Practices in the Reference Book.)

#### F. Regional Board Member Selection and Appointment

- 1. At least one month prior to the annual meeting of the Region, or from time to time as may be needed, the RC shall appoint a nominating committee of not less than three individuals, consisting of Regional Board Members, one of whom shall serve as the Chair of the committee, and a reasonable number of Participating Members, who are not Members of the Regional Board.
- 2. The nominating committee shall publicize to the Participating Members of the Region the Regional Board positions to be voted upon, recruit candidates and accept the names of interested candidates for consideration.

#### G. Regional Board Members need not be parents of players in the Region.

- At the annual meeting or from time to time as may be needed, the nominating committee shall present
  to the outgoing Regional Board a list of qualified candidates. By majority vote of the outgoing Regional
  Board Members present and voting, the final list of recommended nominees shall be presented to the
  RC for approval and appointment.
- 2. The RC may choose not to appoint a nominee to a Regional Board position, even though recommended, if the RC deems there is sufficient reason not to make the appointment. In ésuch case, the RC shall ask the nominating committee to recommend additional candidates for approval and appointment. This inclusive and democratic process should be followed any time there are Regional

Board positions to be filled, with the only exception being the appointment of the inaugural Regional Board.

3. An emergency or unplanned vacancy on the Regional Board before the expiration of the term, except that of RC, may be filled by a replacement candidate nominated by a majority vote of the voting Regional Board Members and approved and appointed by the RC. The person filling such vacancy shall serve until the next annual meeting.

#### H. Voluntary Service and Conflict of Interest

- 1. No Regional Board Member shall receive monetary or other compensation for his/her services to the Region related to their volunteer position. Nothing in this paragraph prohibits any Regional Board or staff member, or Regional participant, from being reimbursed for his or her appropriate out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the Region and in accordance with the expense reimbursement procedures set out within the Reference Book, Regional Operations, Financial Matters and NPS 3.1.
- 2. Consistent with NPS 5, no Regional Board Member may use his/her position to benefit him/herself directly or indirectly in any way, such as a supplier of equipment, materials or services to the Region except as permitted by NPS 2.5 and Article Four, Paragraph J of these P&Ps (Paying Volunteers) and the procedures established within NPS 5.3 (Conflict of Interest Policy).
- 3. The Region may not reduce or eliminate a player fee based upon volunteer work done by participant's parents or guardians. This rule does not impact the Region's ability to set early registration discounts available to all participants, to create volunteer recognition programs, to provide scholarship programs and provide other programs available in the Region's program. No fee distinction shall be made based upon parental or player participation in Regional fundraising activities.
- 4. The Region may not condition the registration of a player based upon any requirement of volunteer participation by a parent or guardian.

(See NPS 5.)

# **Article Seven: Program Vision and Administration**

#### A. Representative Visionary Requirements

The AYSO Mission of "Developing and delivering quality youth soccer programs which promote a fun, family environment" is best accomplished by assuring quality educational programs, implementing well-structured administrative systems, having an integral volunteer network focusing on AYSO's development; and guaranteeing a strong financial position. The following is a partial listing of acts necessary to best achieve these goals:

- 1. Regions must implement the Safe Haven, Coaching, Referee, and Management Programs, with a focus on providing volunteer training opportunities throughout the year. (See Bylaws 1.04(h) and (q).)
- 2. Regions must, at a minimum, implement AYSO's Standard Primary Program on an annual basis and, to the best of their ability, participate year-round in the other various National Programs available and indicate which programs are available within their Policies and Protocols which may include but not limited

to: VIP, EXTRA™, Kids Zone™, Jamboree (U5), U-16/U-19 Soccerfest, Tournaments, and NAASA - AYSO Adult, together with attending leadership events such as RC Training, Nationally-supported Section events (Section Conferences/Meetings, AYSO EXPOS, etc.) and the National Annual General Meeting (NAGM). (See Bylaw 1.04(q) and (s).)

- 3. Player and volunteer recruitment, development and retention must be a focus of the Region. (See Bylaw 1.04(h) and (r).)
- 4. To assure that the Region enjoys a vibrant future, the RC and Regional Board are expected to develop reasonable fundraising and sponsorship opportunities. (See Bylaw 1.04(m).)
- 5. The creation of both a short-term and long-range Strategic Plan for the future development of the Region is critically necessary and, once created, must be periodically reviewed and updated with the Area Director providing approval. (See Bylaw 1.04(r).) (See Reference Book, Chapter 5, AYSO Fundamentals, Mission Statement Comments.)

#### **B. Operational Expectations**

A number of concrete steps is required to meet the previously stated visionary goals. The following is a partial list of many most often achieved by successful Regions:

- 1. The Regional Board shall establish and communicate annually the registration fee for each player, as well as have a documented refund policy. (See Bylaw 3.06 and NPS 3.10.)
- 2. Teams must be formed as established in Articles II and III of the R&Rs, assuring a proper balance of teams within each age division within the Region or within a reasonable part thereof. (See Bylaw 1.04(d).)
- 3. The only team member(s) a head coach may specify to be on his/her team is his/her own child or children. Otherwise, there shall be no automatic retention of players on any specific team or with any specific coach from the previous season. (See R&Rs Article II, Paragraph G and Bylaw 1.04(d).)
- 4. Every player on every team must play at least one-half of every game; (See R&Rs Article I, Paragraph C.1.)
- 5. Regions shall provide all necessary equipment (including goals, nets and corner flags) and, for all players, provide matching team uniforms, consisting of jerseys (with approved AYSO Logo), shorts and socks. (See Bylaw 1.04(f) and R&Rs, Article VI, Paragraph A.) Any variances shall be outlined as an addendum to the Region's Standard Policies and Protocols.

- The highest standards of conduct and good sportsmanship, consistent with the AYSO philosophies, must be maintained at all times by player, volunteers and spectators. (See NPS 2.12 (AYSO's Code of Conduct Policy against Harassment, Abuse, or Violence).)
- 7. Offensive, insulting, or abusive language, the consumption of alcoholic beverages, the use of tobacco products, or smoking or simulating smoking or the use of tobacco products, at Regional-sponsored events whenever children are present, is forbidden. (See, in part, R&Rs Article I, Paragraph E.1 (d) and (e).)

#### C. Best Practices and "How-To's"

To assist the Region in meeting its responsibilities and in achieving the greatest successes possible, proven, "Best Practices" and "How-To's" can be found in the AYSO Reference Book, Chapter 8.

## **Article Eight: Financial Banking and Related Matters**

Consistent with the obligations established within Bylaw 1.04(I) and (m), every AYSO RC and Regional Board Member agree as a condition of the assumption of their Regional Board membership to comply with and assure proper oversight of the following financial obligations:

- A. All Regions must use the National Accounting Program (NAP) and NAP Online and must adhere to the financial policies and procedures described in the Treasurer's Manual, unless otherwise authorized by the National Office.
- B. An annual budget must be adopted that provides the basis for setting player registration fees, submitted to the National Office, and made available to the participants of the Region and AD no later than June 1, which is 30 days prior to the end of the Organization's fiscal year; (See Treasurer Manual.)
- C. Annual budgets must be prepared, submitted to the RC, the Regional Board, the Area Director and/or Section Director and the AYSO National Office and made available to the participating members of the Region; (See Bylaw 1.04(I), NPS 3.2 and the Treasurer Manual.)
- D. Ensure the financial integrity of the Organization by complying with the obligations established by Bylaw 1.04(I) and (m), including, the timely payment of all national player registration fees prior to the commencement of the season and, as applicable throughout the season, in accordance with the registration requirements and procedures of the Organization.;
- E. Any suspected financial irregularity/fraud or misuse of funds must be immediately reported to the Area Director, Section Director, and Finance Department of the National Office;
- F. Regional financial records must be maintained for seven (7) years;
- G. The use of regional credit cards, ATM/debit cards, deposit-only cards, electronic transfer of funds and online banking are prohibited. However, view-only online account management is permitted;

- H. All checking/savings accounts must have a minimum of three (3) signatories (the RC, Treasurer and Area Director, when reasonable), and any other Regional Board Member; and none can be members of the same family or household;
- I. All checks must be signed by two (2) account signatories, one of whom should be the RC or Treasurer. At no time can a signatory sign for or authorize a check made payable to the signatory.
- J. Pre-signed checks and blank checks cannot be used;
- K. Only one (1) checking account and two (2) savings accounts/CDs are permitted, unless previously authorized for Tournaments and/or Cultural Events;
- L. Payments to independent contractors (vendors) must be reported to the National Office for the potential issuance of 1099 forms;
- M. Fundraising in various states may trigger the obligation to pay sales or other various taxes. Whenever fundraising is considered, the National Office must be contacted to determine if a tax applies;
- N. Tournaments must be self-sustaining as Regional funds cannot be used. Similarly, Regional funds cannot be used to subsidize traveling AYSO teams, but can be used to cover many Regional operating expenses for hosting Cultural Exchanges;
- O. Please consult the AYSO Treasurer Manual for a discussion of additional requirements and "Best Practices" for the following: cash handling protocols, submission of monthly financial reports, use of PayPal, coding of income and expenses, audits of Region finances, reconciliation of registered players to player registration fees received, refund policies for dropped players, requirements of Regional Auditors, volunteer reimbursement, attendance at Nationally-supported Section events and the NAGM, land ownership and leaseholds, AYSO Supply Center purchases and other similar subjects.

(See Bylaw 1.04(I) and (m), together with the AYSO Treasurer Manual and the Treasurer's Position Description contained in the Reference Book, Chapter 15.)

# **Article 9: Dispute Resolution and Due Process**

The successful resolution of disputes involving the day-to-day activities of our AYSO volunteers is one of the most important goals in achieving a harmonious and healthy Region. As such, guiding principles such as "compromise," "suspension or removal as the last resort," the "recognition of valuable service" and "finding a fair and just resolution" are the cornerstones of AYSO's approach in dealing with such situations.

While the concepts of Dispute Resolution and Due Process apply to both Executive Members (RCs) and Participating Members, there are differences between the procedures and protocols. As a result, the following discussion only applies to the Region's Participating Members. (See Article five of the P&P's for the definitions of Executive and participating Members.)

When a Participating Member's conduct, or that of a parent or guardian, even if not a Participating Member, has risen to the potential need of "limiting, suspending or removing/terminating" that person's participation in AYSO, the Region must follow the Due Process protocols adopted by the

AYSO NBOD, as authorized within National Bylaw 3.07(d). While these procedures and protocols are set out in their entirety in the Reference Book, Chapter 8, Due Process, the following are several of the more significant provisions:

- A. When disciplinary action is found to be necessary, only the minimum action necessary should be taken. In that spirit, when possible, the Member should be allowed to resign and disputes should not be publicized to respect their individual privacy,
- B. Regions must avoid punishing a player for the conduct of the parents, except when there is no other solution,
- C. There are required means by which Notice of the contemplated action must be given,
- D. The RC is ultimately responsible for determining which of several alternative Due Process procedures will be used.
- E. If the gravity of a person's conduct presents an imminent danger to any participant or to the program, the RC may immediately suspend the person(s) involved,
- F. The RC has the ultimate authority to remove a Participating Member, a parent or guardian, as well as those not entitled to Due Process, such as other family members and spectators, from further involvement in the program,
- G. A precise Due Process procedure has been established for holding a "Disciplinary Review Panel",
- H. A onetime Appeal Process has also been established to verify that the original determination was not arbitrary or capricious, that the original procedure was fair, and that the established procedures for Due Process were followed.

# **Article Ten: Regional Amendments to Standard Regional Policies and Protocols**

#### A. Adoption of AYSO Standard Regional Policies & Protocols

The AYSO Standard Policies & Protocols (P&Ps) shall be deemed adopted by the Region, unless and until amended as set forth below. (See NPS, Article Six.)

#### B. Amendment to the AYSO Standard Regional Policies & Procedures

Should a Region desire to amend these P&Ps, it may only be accomplished with the following steps:

- 1. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Regional Board Members,
- 2. The recommendation of the RC,
- 3. Copies of the signed Standard P&Ps Addendum Form, with the recommended change(s), sent by the RC to the Area Director, Section Director and the AYSO National Office,

4. Approved by the NBOD or its delegate.

#### C. Publication of P&Ps and Addendums

The Region must make these P&Ps, along with any Regional addendums, if they exist, available upon request to the members of the Region pursuant to Bylaws 1.04(i) and (l).

# **AYSO Standard Regional Policies & Protocols – Attachments**

#### A. SR P&Ps Addendum Form

The SR P&P Addendum Form, is intended to capture all appropriate changes to the SR P&Ps that the Region determines is best for its members and community. This could include, for example, "having ¾ play before any player played the full game.

SOCCEAN RELEASE OF THE PARTY OF	A150 Standard Regional Policies & Protocols – Addendum A						
SONOED 1888	(Please check or fill in the appropriate box)						
Article	Paragraph	Change					
6	A.3	List of non-voting Regional Board positions					
		All Asst. DC P		Asst. Playground Coo	dinator	Awards Coor	dinator
		CVPA Staff		EXTRA Staff		Director of Re	eferee Assessment
		Fundraising (	Coordinator	Game Scheduler		P & P Chairpe	erson
		Picture Day 0	Coordinator	Post Season Teams Di	rector	Publicity Coo	rdinator
		Registrar Sta	ff	Social Media Coordina	ator	Team Parent	Coordinator
		Tournament	Director	Tournament Teams D	irector	Webmaster	
		Youth Refere	e Coordinator				
6	E.2. (d)	Requested le	ength of term for Re	egional Commissioner, if no	t 3 years:	☐ 2 years	□ 1 year
7	B.4.			player, if not one-half:			
				until all players play three-fo	ourtns.		
Article	Paragraph	Charge	Additional	Addendum Items			
2	a		aual play rulo fe	or all divisions			
		Add % or equal play rule for all divisions					
	Add honorary board members active in the Region business as voting board position.						
Section	Area R	egion					
10	W	39					
Date Signe		1		nmissioner Name	Regio	nal Commissio	ner Signature
04/16/2025			Megan Ruffinelli		Hega Puff:		
Approved by: Date Signed by AD			Area Director Name Area		Director Signature		
/ /2025		David Howells					
/ /2023			David Howells				
Date Signed by SD		Section Director Name S		Sectio	Section Director Signature		
/ /2025		Frank Gallucci					
Received by Date Sent	oy: to National Offi	ce	National Offi	ce	Receiv	ved By/Team/I	Date
	/ /2025	5					
					·		

#### **B.** Additional Region Policies and Guidelines

Regions with additional Region specific policies and guidelines, not covered in the AYSO Standard Polices and Protocols, are required to submit these policies and guidelines for review and approval by the Area Director, Section Director and NBOD or its delegate. The following Addendum B Cover Sheet must be used to itemize each local policy and guideline approved by a two-thirds vote of the Regional Board and be accompanied by a full copy of these Regional policies and protocols.

Examples of Region specific policies and guidelines may include a Registration Fee Refund Policy, Player Sponsorship Guidelines, All-Star Team or Secondary Play Selection Criteria, etc.

The signed and approved SR Addendum and Addendum B including a complete copy of any Regional policies and guidelines must be forwarded to the National Office upon approval.



## Addendum B - Additional Regional Policies and Guidelines

#### # Policy or Guideline

- 1 Region 39 Policy Statement on Board Composition
- 2 Region 39 Policy Statement on Staff Member Appointments
- Region 39 Policy Statement on Member-at-Large appointments
- 4 Region 39 Policy Statement on Age Division Coordinators
- 5 Region 39 Policy Statement on Team Composition for the 19U Divisions
- Region 39 Policy Statement on 14U and 19U Divisions Playing in Area 10W Inter-Region Games
- 7 Region 39 Policy Statement on Waiting Lists
- 8 Region 39 Policy Statement on Team Names
- 9 Region 39 Policy Statement on Coaches and Assistant Coaches
- 10 Region 39 Policy Statement on Volunteer Points System
- Region 39 Policy Statement on Referees and Refereeing
- 12 Region 39 Policy Statement on Youth Referees
- Region 39 Policy Statement on Length of Season and League Playoffs
- Region 39 Policy Statement on Locations and Durations of Training Sessions/Practices
- 15 Region 39 Policy on Game Start Times
- 16 Region 39 Policy on Incident Reports
- 17 Region 39 Policy on Pets at Soccer Fields
- 18 Region 39 Policy Statement on Player Evaluations
- 19 Region 39 Policy Statement on End-of-Season Awards
- 20 Region 39 Policy Statement on Tournament (Viper) and All-Star Competition
- 21 Region 39 Policy Statement on the Duties and Responsibilities of the Director of Tournament and Traveling Teams
- Region 39 Policy Statement on the Duties and Responsibilities of the Tournament Director
- Region 39 Policy Statement on Recruiting Non-Rostered Players when Coaches are Unable to Field a Full Team During the Spring Season
- Region 39 Policy Statement on the Duties and Responsibilities of the Policies & Protocols Chairperson and Parliamentarian
- Region 39 Policy Statement on votes by Regional Board Members relating to proposed changes to Regional Policies & Protocols
- 26 Region 39 Policy Statement on Fundraising
- 27 Region 39 Policy Statement on Registered Volunteer Dismissals
- 28 Region 39 Policy on Refunds

# **List of Appendices**

Appendix A: Region 39 Supplement to AYSO Standard Regional Policies & Protocols

Appendix B: Region 39 Policy Statements Appendix C: Registration Fee Schedule Appendix E: Region 39 Board Members

Appendix F: Regional Guidelines Signature Sheet

# Appendix A -Region 39 Supplement to AYSO Policies & Protocols

The following items are listed as supplements to the AYSO Standard Policies & Protocols. These supplements are meant to enhance and to conform to the operating regulations. To the extent that there may be any contradiction or conflict among these supplements, the operating regulations and Standard Regional Policies & Protocols shall prevail.

#### **Article Two: Mission**

- a) The Region shall offer the following special programs:
  - i. AYSO Playground Program Children participating in the program must be three years old by August 1 in order to participate in the Playground Program.
  - ii. AYSO EPIC Program Children must be at least four years old by August 1 to participate in the AYSO EPIC Program.
- b) The Region shall offer teams in the following gender specific age divisions.

•	
<ul> <li>5U Boys</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>5U Girls</li> </ul>
• 6U Boys	<ul> <li>6U Girls</li> </ul>
• 7U Boys	<ul> <li>7U Girls</li> </ul>
• 8U Boys	<ul> <li>8U Girls</li> </ul>
• 10U Boys	• 10U Girls
• 12U Boys	• 12U Girls
• 14U Boys	• 14U Girls
• 16U Boys	• 16U Girls
• 19U Boys	• 19U Girls

- i. The Region shall require a legal birth certificate or government-issued passport to confirm proper placement.
- ii. Players are placed in the above age divisions based on information provided in the birth certificate.
- iii. The above age divisions are non-coed divisions.
- c) Team Assignments subparagraph (a). Teams shall be formed as set forth in the National Rules and Regulations, Articles II and III.
  - i. It shall be the policy of Region 39 that players in the 14U divisions who will be playing high school soccer be offered the option to be placed in the 16U division as a 14U division team may continue extra-regional play beyond the cutoff date specified by the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) rules for high school athletes participating in recreational sports programs.
  - ii. It shall further be the policy of Region 39 that no child may play in a division outside of their age bracket without the expressed permission of the Regional Commissioner.
  - iii. Participants that are found to have falsely entered their legal information, such as, but not limited to, date of birth, etc. may be grounds for removal from the program.

- d) Paragraph 1 Team Assignments subparagraph (c). Retention of players on any team shall be limited to the head coach's child(ren). Otherwise, there shall be no automatic retention of players on any specific team or with any specific coach from previous seasons.
  - i. It shall be the policy of Region 39 that Requests by anyone for a specific team assignment, a specific coach, a specific assistant coach, a specific player, a specific teammate, specific practice or game times or locations, will not be granted, except in extraordinary circumstances, and then only with the expressed written permission of the Regional Commissioner. Requests on behalf of a player, based on extraordinary circumstances, must be submitted in writing for consideration by the Regional Commissioner or his/her designee. Carpooling will not be considered as an extraordinary circumstance. It is the responsibility of the coach to encourage all parents on the team to work together to ensure that all players have the opportunity to participate in practices and games.
- e) Paragraph 4 Length of Season and Cancellation of Games subparagraph (b). Inclement weather or poor field conditions may necessitate from time to time the postponing or cancelling of games. Any such postponement or cancellation will be made at the discretion of the Regional Commissioner or the Regional safety director as early as practical before game time.
  - i. It shall be the policy of Region 39 that in instances where games are held at geographically separated locations, the Regional Commissioner may delegate the authority to postpone or cancel games to the appropriate Regional Board Member present at such location.
  - ii. It shall be the policy of Region 39 that every effort will be made to ensure all teams in all divisions with the exception of 5U and Playground (6 weeks) will play a minimum of 10 games during the season. Due to field availability, teams and divisions may be required to play games on Sunday.
- f) Paragraph 5 Attendance; Participation subparagraph (a). Every player shall be entitled to play at least three quarters (3/4) of every game.
  - i. It shall be the policy of Region 39 that every player on every team shall play at least threequarters of every game, including tournaments outside of Region 39 where a three-quarter rule is not in effect under tournament guidelines.
  - ii. EXCEPTION: Due to a requirement to increase roster sizes to prevent a player from remaining on a waitlist, the maximum number of players may be increased with written approval of the area director. These roster size increases shall be no more than would allow each team member to play at least half of each game. Further, each player that plays less than three-quarters in a game until all players on the roster have played less than three-quarters in a game.
  - iii. Table 1 provides the maximum number of players per roster by division to guarantee every player plays three-quarters of every game. The table also provides the maximum number of players allowed on over-size rosters to ensure no player plays less than half of a game.

Table 1. Roster sizes by division.

Division	# of Players / Team On Field	Max # of Players for 3/4 Game Playtime	Max # of players for Oversized Rosters
19U	11	14	18
16U	11	14	18
14U	11	14	15
12U	9	12	13
10U	7	9	10
8U	6	8	9
7U	6	8	9
6U	5	6	7
5U	4	5	6
Playground	All	N/A	N/A

#### **Appendix B – Region 39 Policy Statements**

Regional Policy Statements are operating rules of the Region which are in effect for the same one-year period as the Regional Policies & Protocols. Regional Policy Statements may be promulgated by the Regional Commissioner, or by a majority of the Regional Board. Regional Policy Statements promulgated by the Regional Commissioner or Regional Board may be annulled or vetoed in accordance with Regional Policies & Protocols Article Five: Management of the Region paragraph 4 Voting; Veto Powers. Regional Policy Statements may not conflict with National Bylaws, National Rules and Regulations, National Policy Statements, Section Rules and Regulations, Area Rules and Regulations, the policies, and directives of the National Board or with the Regional Policies & Protocols. Regional Policy Statements shall be in writing and shall be published and available to all Executive and Participating Members of the Region.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Board Composition

In addition to the seven Officers, the Regional Board shall consist of the following Voting Board Members:

- a) Assistants to the seven Officers; One [or more] Assistant Regional Commissioners, Assistant Regional Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate, Assistant Regional Coach Administrator, Assistant Regional Referee Administrator, Assistant Regional Registrar, Assistant Regional Risk Management/Safety Director, and Assistant Regional Treasurer
- b) Regional Secretary, Uniforms & Equipment Purchasing Agent, Director of Coach Instruction, Director of Referee Mentoring, Director of Referee Instruction, Field Coordinator.
- c) Regional Extra Program Coordinator.
- d) Spring Season Coordinator.
- e) EPIC Program Coordinator.
- f) Playground Program Coordinator.
- g) Program & Division Coordinator.
  - i. Non-Competitive Program Coordinator (Boys & Girls), 5U Division Coordinator, 6U Division Coordinator, 7U Division Coordinator & 8U Division Coordinator.
  - Competitive Program Coordinator (Boys & Girls),10U Division Coordinator, 12U Division Coordinator, 14U Division Coordinator, 16U Division Coordinator & 18U (or 19U) Division Coordinator.
- h) Honorary Region 39 Board Members as defined in Article Five: Membership in the Region that continue to regularly participate in Region 39 Business.

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Staff Member Appointments**

The following Non-voting Staff Member positions may be appointed by the Regional Commissioner:

- a) Assistant Division Coordinators,
- b) Assistant EPIC Program Coordinator, EPIC Program Staff
- c) Assistant Playground Program Coordinator, Playground Program Staff
- d) Awards Coordinator
- e) CVPA Staff
- f) Registrar Staff
- g) Director of Referee Mentoring
- h) Fundraising Coordinator
- i) Game Scheduler
- j) Picture Day Coordinator
- k) Team Parent Coordinator
- I) Tournament and Traveling Teams Director
- m) Publicity Coordinator
- n) Webmaster
- o) Assistant EXTRA Program Coordinator, Extra Program Staff
- p) Assistant Spring Coordinator, Spring Season Staff
- q) Tournament Director, Assistant Tournament Director, Tournament Treasurer, Tournament Staff
- r) And additional positions.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Member-at-Large appointments.

The Regional Commissioner may appoint individuals Members-at-Large in recognition of their service to the region. Such appointments shall be Non-voting Staff Members unless they are also Honorary Members in the Region in which case, they would be voting Board Members.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Age Division Coordinators

- a) It shall be the policy of Region 39 that Age Division Coordinators have the specific duties and responsibilities listed in the position description. Additionally:
- b) Age Division Coordinators shall distribute regular season schedules and playoff schedules.
- c) Age Division Coordinators may solicit volunteers, subject to Board approval, to act as Co-Coordinators or Assistant Coordinators as necessary.
- d) Age Division Coordinators who are coaches in the age division they are the coordinator may only engage in activities not requiring total impartiality and only with the expressed permission of the Regional Commissioner.
- e) Age Division Coordinators shall attend the Annual Coaches Meeting prior to the start of the Fall Program. Formed teams and player forms shall not be handed out to coaches prior to this meeting.
- f) Age Division Coordinators shall be responsible for the maintenance and preparation of the fields, equipment, restrooms, and storage facilities at their respective playing locations.
- g) Age Division Coordinators shall ensure any issues with their fields, including how they are painted to the Regions Fields Coordinator to ensure proper corrective actions are taken.
- h) Age Division Coordinators in the 10U and older divisions shall work with the Game Scheduler to arrange a playoff schedule in a format compatible with the Region 39 Policy Statement on Length of Season and League Playoffs.
- i) Age Division Coordinators shall develop a volunteer schedule for field set-up and field take-down at their respective sites.
  - i. Age Division Coordinators shall ensure that every team gets one assignment during the season.

- ii. For those sites (Ventura College & Huntsinger Park) that have multiple divisions playing, all Age Division Coordinators shall work together to ensure that all fields are properly covered with volunteers.
- j) Age Division Coordinators shall ensure that all coaches receive in their packets the Referee Points System Form and the Coaches Code of Conduct for their review, and signature.
  - i. Age Division Coordinators shall ensure that each coach returns both signed forms to themselves, the Regional Coach Administrator and the Regional Referee Administrator. No coach shall receive their player rosters or uniforms until they have signed and returned both forms as required above.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Team Composition for the 16U & 18U (19U) Division.

- a) The Regional Commissioner may, for purposes of team balancing, approve team sizes which may prohibit every player from playing three-quarters of every game if all players are present for games.
  - i. It is common for 16U & 18U players to be absent from games due to scholastic and other commitments.
  - ii. Therefore, in these divisions, if so approved by the Regional Commissioner, players must play at least one-half of every game at which they are present, in accordance with AYSO National Rules and Regulations. In such situations where there are 14 or less players present all players must play at least three-quarters of every game.
  - iii. No player may sit out half of a second or subsequent game, during a season, or during playoff competition, until all players on that team have done so.
  - iv. During any individual game, no player may sit out a second quarter until all players have sat out at least one quarter.

# Region 39 Policy Statement on 14U, 16U & 18U Divisions Playing in Area 10W Inter-Region Games.

If required, due to the number of players and size of teams, the Regional Commissioner may approve the 14U, 16U, and/or 18U divisions playing inter-Region games in Area 10W. If this is required in any one division, both boys and girls would play inter-region games.

## **Region 39 Policy Statement on Waiting Lists**

The Region will develop a waiting list for players unable to be placed on teams. The waitlist will be maintained by the Regional Registrar, who will work with each age Division Coordinator and the Regional Commissioner to place children whenever possible.

- a) When a team loses a player, the Age Division Coordinator must be notified within two days and in turn, the Age Division Coordinator will notify the Regional Registrar.
- b) The Regional Registrar is responsible for making these replacements and the Age Division Coordinator will ensure team balance.
- c) Requests by prospective players on the waiting list for a specific team assignment, a specific coach, a specific teammate, etc., will not be granted.

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Team Names**

Team name shall bear no resemblance or insinuation to a race, religion, nationality, drugs, or alcohol; nor shall a team name evoke blatant violence or gang affiliation.

a) Team names cannot be used until approved by the Age Division Coordinator or Regional Commissioner.

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Coaches and Assistant Coaches**

- a) All coaches and assistant coaches shall be approved by the respective Age Division Coordinator, the Regional Coach Administrator and the Regional Commissioner.
- b) All coaches and assistant coaches shall be registered, trained and certified in accordance with the AYSO National Coaching Program and the AYSO Safe Haven Program. Such training shall be completed no later than October 31st of the Membership Year.
- c) All coaches and assistant coaches shall be responsible for and act in accordance with the coach position description.
- d) All coaches and assistant coaches shall be at least 18 years of age.
  - i. Region 39 encourages and supports youth trainers (less than 18 years of age), however, all youth trainers must be under the direct supervision of an adult coach at all times and may not be listed in Sports Connect or any official game reports, including score cards, as a coach.
  - ii. It is desirable for the supervisor of youth trainers to be a parent of that youth but not required.
  - iii. All youth trainers must be approved by the respective Age Division Coordinator, the Regional Coach Administrator, and the Regional Commissioner.
- e) All coaches or assistant coaches must provide to the referee prior to each game a game card with the heading portion completed and listing each player on their roster, regardless of attendance, First Name, Last Name, and in numerical order.
- f) All coaches or assistant coaches must retain signed copies of the player registration form in his/her possession at all times for any team gatherings, training sessions/practices, and games for all players assigned to their team and throughout the season as necessary.
  - i. It is recommended that head coaches make a copy of each player registration form and obtain a "wet-ink" signature on them from a parent or guardian to make available to their assistant coach in case of the head coach's absence.
- g) All head coaches must promptly inform their respective Age Division Coordinator of any changes relating to the composition of their team.
- h) All head coaches are required to recruit and provide a minimum of two referees from among the parents of their team (or youth referees as appropriate).
- No one shall coach more than one soccer team (including non-AYSO teams) at any one time, unless otherwise authorized by the Regional Coach Administrator and approved by the Regional Commissioner.
- j) Requests by coaches and assistant coaches to be placed on a specific team will not be honored if it would result in the coach's and assistant coach's unrelated children being assigned to the same team.
- k) Two individuals cannot serve together as coach and assistant coach for two consecutive years if they have unrelated children who would be assigned to the same team as a result.

## Region 39 Policy Statement on Volunteer Points System

The Fall Program will require each team to provide volunteers to referee games, set up the fields and/or take down the fields. The volunteer points system shall be structured so that each team has a reasonable opportunity to reach the total minimum points required by providing volunteers on a regular basis as required.

1) The Region shall establish and maintain a Volunteer Point System. This system is used to encourage and promote the need for many volunteers in all areas of our program. The Volunteer Point system must be approved annually by the Regional Commissioner and will be posted on the Region 39 website and distributed to each head coach.

- 2) Referee Volunteers: The Regional Referee Administrator shall establish and maintain a Referee Volunteer Point System that is used in conjunction with the Volunteer Point System.
- 3) Field Set-Up and Take-Down Volunteers: Each Age Division Coordinator will develop a schedule assigning all teams in their division an opportunity to set up their fields or take down their fields.
  - a. Those teams assigned field set-up must arrive at their respective fields no later than 7:00am on Saturday and check in with their respective Age Division Coordinator.
  - b. Those teams assigned field take-down must arrive no less than 45-minutes after the start of the last games on their respective fields and check in with their respective Age Division Coordinator.
  - c. All volunteers when done performing field set-up and take-down duties will be required to check-in with their respective Age Division Coordinator to complete their volunteer duties. Failure to check in at the start and end of their volunteer assignment will result in a partial and potentially full deduction of their volunteer points for that assignment.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Referees and Refereeing

- a) All Region 39 games in the 10U and older divisions shall be officiated using the diagonal system of control in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game and United States Soccer Federation (USSF) procedures.
- b) Referees are officials of AYSO and assume "full charge" of games they are officiating the moment they enter their assigned field.
  - i. In this capacity, the referee has authority over players, coaches, other officials, spectators, and any other person or element affecting the game.
- c) The referee has discretionary power to suspend or terminate the game he/she is officiating.
- d) If an incident involving a player, parent, coach, spectator, or otherwise is sufficiently serious, an incident report shall be prepared by the referee in charge.
  - i. Incident reports shall be prepared in all cases involving a spectator ejection.
  - ii. Misconduct reports shall be prepared in all cases involving a player or team personnel ejection.
- e) A copy of the incident or misconduct report shall be given to the appropriate Age Division Coordinator, Regional Coach Administrator, Regional Referee Administrator, and Regional Commissioner.
- f) A certified referee who is a parent of a player involved in a game may, at the discretion of the Age Division Coordinator or Board Member in charge of the field, referee their own child's game during regular season play, if there is a shortage of referees.

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Youth Referees**

- a) Referees and assistant referees less than 18 years of age must have a medical release form signed by his/her parent in his/her possession during all games.
- b) Youth referees must meet the criteria set forth in AYSO National Rules and Regulations and in any directives promulgated by the National Support and Training Center.

- c) A youth referee, when acting as center referee in any game, must be at least two years older than the players in the game he/she is officiating.
- d) Region 39 requires that all youth referees be at least 12 years of age.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Length of Season and Division Playoffs

- a) The Fall Program for the Playground and 5U division shall be a schedule of six (6) games. Game dates are not promised to be consecutive. Additional days may be added to the schedule as needed to accommodate pictures and uniform distribution.
- b) The Fall Program for the 6U, 7U and 8U divisions shall be a schedule of eight (8) games minimum and a ten (10) game maximum.
  - Reasonable efforts will be made to make up games cancelled if the season falls below eight games, but they are not guaranteed. Make-up games may be played on a Sunday if necessary.
  - ii. Games may be played in light rain.
  - iii. There are no playoffs for the 6U, 7U and 8U divisions.
- c) The Fall Program for the 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions shall be a schedule of eight (8) games minimum with an anticipated ten (10) schedule. The final 3 games (games 8, 9, & 10) will be a round robin playoff format.
  - i. In the 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions, the first game of the season shall be considered a "preseason" game, which will not count in the standings.
    - (1) The remaining six (6) games will establish a "seeding" schedule for the round robin playoffs, in which all teams will participate for an opportunity to advance to Championship Day..
      - (a) Age Division Coordinators for the 10U, 12U and 14U divisions shall ensure only those teams that have satisfied at least the minimum requirements from their volunteer assignments will be eligible for League Playoffs.
      - (b) The Referee Administrator shall develop and enforce the Referee Points portion of the Volunteer Point System which shall be used for seeding purposes in 14U divisions only and for eligibility for playoffs in the 10U and 12U divisions.
  - ii. The season of ten games may require games be played on Sundays due to field availability or may be shortened to nine games, at the discretion of the Age Division Coordinator and with approval of the Regional Commissioner, to facilitate the scheduling of playoff games.
- d) It is the policy of Region 39 that every effort will be made to ensure regular season games are not to be played on Sunday and that the Region will try to ensure that no playoff games are scheduled on Sunday. However, due to field availability or inclement weather Sunday games may be necessary.

# Region 39 Policy on Championship Playoffs and League Playoffs

- a) Region 39 will hold an end-of-season, Region Invitational. Invitations will be extended by the Regional Commissioner to up to four teams from the 10U, 12U and 14U divisions.
  - i. Only teams that fulfilled their volunteer/referee points are eligible.
  - ii. Teams must have displayed good sportsmanship throughout the season. This refers to coaches, players, and spectators.
  - iii. Additional?
- b) The division championship team, and possibly the 2nd place team, as established by the playoff schedule, may be offered the opportunity to continue on to Area and Section playoffs.

- i. If one or both of those teams decides not to continue, or is ineligible to continue on in Area play, then the 3rd place team will be asked to represent its' division to go to Area Playoffs. Likewise, the 4th place team may be asked (and so on).
- ii. Unsportsmanlike or inappropriate behavior by a coach, player, parent/spectator maybe cause for a team to be eliminated from advancing.
- c) Modifications to this playoff format may be made, if approved by the Age Division Coordinator involved and the Regional Commissioner.
- d) In order to be eligible for Regional, and subsequent Area and Section, playoff competitions, a player must have played in at least half of the total number of season games played by that playoff team to which he/she was assigned during the regular season, except in the situation where the player is assigned in time to meet this requirement but is unable to play because of illness, injury, or where a change of residence causes a change of Regions.
- e) In case of a tie during the Regional playoffs, the following tie-breaking system shall apply:
  - i. In the case of a tie at the end of regulation time, overtime periods shall be played as follows:
    - (1) 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and 18U Divisions will have two five-minute periods;
  - ii. Before the first overtime period, team captains choose by coin toss to attack a particular goal.
  - iii. Both overtime periods will be played to completion.
  - iv. At the beginning of the second overtime period, teams shall switch ends of the field, and the team that did not kick off first will begin the second overtime period with a kickoff.
  - v. If a team is playing short because of ejections, they will continue to play short during the overtime.
- f) In the case of a tie following overtime, the winner shall be determined by the taking of kicks from the mark in accordance with current FIFA Laws of the Game and Instructions for Taking Kicks from the Penalty Mark.

## Region 39 Policy Statement on Locations and Durations of Training Sessions/Practices

- a. Prior to the commencement of each Membership Year, the Fields Coordinator will prepare and distribute a list of approved and disapproved locations, parks and schools, available for coaches to conduct training sessions/practices.
  - i. Fritz Huntsinger Youth Sports Complex and Ventura Community Park are approved training session/practice locations provided they do not conflict with field painting.
- b. Individual coaches will sign up to schedule their time and location for team training sessions/practices.
  - i. All coaches are reminded that should there be a site conflict with a team from another sports organization holding a permit, it is Region 39's policy that AYSO coaches are to cede the area without further comment or incident, and are not to request to see said permit or in any other way allow the situation to escalate.
  - ii. Generally, training sessions/practices should not exceed two per week (one per week for 6U).
    - i. Training Session/practice duration shall not exceed one hour for 6U, 7U, and 8U divisions, and ninety minutes for all other divisions.
      - (1) All coaches are reminded that the AYSO National Coaching Program recommends that the activity portion of all training sessions/practices should be equal to the duration of their games.

- ii. Practice games or scrimmages with other AYSO teams are acceptable and will count as practice time.
- iii. Scrimmages with other outside organizations or club teams may be considered.
  - (1) Advanced written approval from the Regional Commissioner is required. The organization/club must have proof of insurance as required by AYSO National. Coaches, referees, or other team representatives must be in compliance with the Safe Sport Act. (Live Scan, Safe Sport, Concussion Training and Sudden Cardiac Arrest training)
- iv. Only authorized/registered AYSO players may participate in practice sessions.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Game Start Times

In all non-playoff games, the referee shall end the game no later than ten (10) minutes before the time the next game is scheduled to start.

- a. This is mandatory irrespective of the minutes played or the cause of any delay.
- b. The Age Division Coordinator shall have the authority to stop games for this purpose, without entering the field.

## **Region 39 Policy Statement on Incident Reports**

Any person may submit a written incident report, regarding the statements or actions of anyone interacting, in a negative way, with the AYSO program.

- a. The report shall be as specific as possible and shall be signed and dated, with the reporter's phone number indicated.
- b. The report shall be submitted to the appropriate Region official or officials.

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Pets at Soccer Fields**

For safety reasons, animals of any kind or size are not allowed on the sidelines while the soccer fields are occupied. The only exception is for Service dogs and law enforcement canines.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Spectators at Soccer Fields

No matter how intense the game may be, all AYSO spectators are expected to model good sportsmanship and follow the Kid Zone guidelines. All spectators are expected to show respect for our AYSO volunteers by allowing them to do their job free from harassment and abuse.

- a. Spectators shall sit on their team's respective side of the field.
- b. Spectators must sit behind the spectator line, allowing for the AR to move freely on the sideline and space for the coaches to do their job.
- c. No parent, coach, spectator, or player is to sit or stand behind either of the goal lines or behind the goals.
- d. Noise makers, such as air horns, cowbells, etc., are not permitted on AYSO sidelines.
- e. Spectators shall refrain from coaching during the game and let the coaches do their job.
- f. Spectators shall respect the calls and decisions of the referees and refrain from questioning or harassing the game officials. Only a coach should address a game official.
- g. Any spectator that harasses a youth referee is subject to automatic ejection.
- h. The referee is to stop the game if a spectator is out of line. The game will not restart until the incident is resolved.
- i. Spectators may not, for any reason, step on to the field.

j. In conjunction with our AYSO Kid Zone policy, AYSO does not permit the use of cursing or foul language. This includes verbal or displayed on clothing, hats, chairs, blankets, etc.

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Player Evaluations**

It shall be the policy of Region 39 that all coaches coaching Region teams during the Fall Program in 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and 18U shall complete and submit to their appropriate Age Division Coordinator player evaluations by the completion of the eighth week of the Fall Program. These coaches will also be required to participate in a mandatory Ratings Meeting with their respective Age Division Coordinator. The Ratings Meeting shall be completed between the 8th and 10th weeks of the fall season and shall be chaired by the respective Age Division Coordinator.

- a. Coaches that fail to complete and submit their player evaluations prior to the completion of the eighth week of the Fall Program shall not receive their team's pictures.
- b. Player evaluations shall be accomplished by completing the approved age specific player evaluation form.
- c. The coach shall submit their completed age specific player evaluation form to their appropriate Age Division Coordinator after entering each player's overall player rating into the region website at ayso39.org.
- d. The player evaluation format shall be devised by the Regional Coach Administrator and approved by the Regional Board prior to the completion of the fifth week of the Fall Program.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on End-of-Season Awards

- a. Players on teams in the 6U, 7U, and 8U divisions will be given ribbons.
- b. Players and coaches (two per team) in the 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and 18U divisions shall be given awards at the end of the regional playoffs as determined by the Regional Board.
- c. All players and coaches (two per team) will be given pins indicating the year of participation.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on Tournament (Viper) and All-Star Competition

- a. Following the completion of the regional playoffs, additional opportunities to play soccer are available for the 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, and 18U divisions in the form of tournament (Viper) teams and All-Star teams.
- b. Teams shall not be formed; players shall not be confirmed; rosters shall not be published; team meetings shall not be held; practices shall not be conducted; and, try-outs shall not be held before the 6th week of Regional Play.
- c. Fall Program coaches may begin hosting practices after November 30th.
- d. All-Star, tournament (Viper) teams are required to provide a minimum of three (3) of their own referees and assistant referees.
- e. No coach or assistant coach may condition a player's acceptance or play on an All-Star team on that player's acceptance or refusal to play on a tournament (Viper) team.
- f. No coach or assistant coach may condition a player's acceptance or play on a tournament (Viper) team on that player's acceptance or refusal to play on an All-Star team.
- g. Any coach, with the approval of the Regional Commissioner, may select a team to play in any AYSO tournament.
  - i. All such coaches and assistant coaches shall meet or exceed AYSO National regulations for coach training and certification.

- a. Each Tournament coach may select his/her own assistant coach, subject to the approval of the Age Division Coordinator and the Regional Commissioner.
- b. The respective Age Division Coordinator and the Regional Commissioner shall determine how many All-Star teams shall be established, in accordance with Area directives for the season.
  - a. One All-Star coach per team will be selected by their respective head coaches, each having one vote.
  - b. Written absentee votes may be hand-delivered to the Age Division Coordinator prior to the tabulation of votes and the final selection.
    - i. The Age Division Coordinator has one vote if necessary to break a tie.
    - ii. In the event the Division Coordinator is a voting coach or family member, it will become the duty of the Regional Coach Administrator has one vote if necessary to break a tie.
  - c. Nominated coaches will need the initial approval of the Age Division Coordinator and the Regional Coach Administrator prior to any balloting.
  - d. The Regional Commissioner may approve or veto the selection of any coach at any time prior to the commencement of Area play.
  - e. This selection will take place during the sixth (6th) week of the Fall Program.
  - f. If an All-Star coach is deemed ineligible after the voting and selections have been completed, or is unavailable to fulfill his/her duties, an alternate from the nominated coaches shall assume the position of All-Star coach.
    - i. The alternate is subject to approval as outlined above.
  - g. All-Star coaches and assistant coaches must be trained and certified for the division they coach unless exempted by the Regional Commissioner in consultation with the Regional Coach Administrator.
  - h. Each All-Star coach will select his/her All-Star team, with the assistance of the Age Division Coordinator and the final approval of the Regional Commissioner.
    - i. The number of players on each team is established annually by the Area, and/or Section.
    - ii. Once a player has been notified that he/she is a member of an All-Star team, that player may not be dropped from the team without the expressed consent of the Age Division Coordinator, the Regional Coach Administrator, and the Regional Commissioner.
  - i. Where there is more than one All-Star team in a division the method of selecting players for those teams is as follows:
    - i. a team's order of selection is determined by coin toss;
      - 1. In round 1 the teams select in order;
      - 2. In round 2 the teams select in reverse order;
      - 3. In round 3 the teams select in order;
      - 4. Etc.
    - ii. Roster sizes for All-Star teams shall be defined with the same maximum number of players as required for the fall season as follows:
      - 1. 10U 9 players
      - 2. 12U 11 players

- 3. 14U 14 players
- j. Each All-Star coach may select his/her assistant coach, subject to the approval of the Age Division Coordinator and the Regional Coach Administrator and the final approval of the Regional Commissioner.
- k. When a player is playing on both a league playoff team, or tournament (Viper) team, and an All-Star team, the player's first allegiance must be to the league team. If a player willfully fails to attend a league game or practice, he may be suspended from participation on the All-Star team at the discretion of the Regional Commissioner in accordance with Regional Policies & Protocols Article Nine: Dispute Resolution.

# Region 39 Policy Statement on the Duties and Responsibilities of the Director of Tournament and Traveling Teams

- a) The Director of Tournament and Traveling Teams shall be responsible for organizing and coordinating Regional Teams for post-season Area W and Section 10 play by Region 39 league and all-star teams.
- b) The Director of Tournament and Traveling Teams shall ensure that team rosters are entered into Sports Connect and available for distribution.
- c) The Director of Tournament and Traveling Teams shall be responsible for all post-season teams participating in the various AYSO tournaments.

#### Region 39 Policy Statement on the Duties and Responsibilities of the Tournament Director

- a) The Tournament Director is responsible for the successful organization of all tournaments hosted by the Region and shall also serve as a public representative of AYSO. The Tournament Director is responsible to form a Tournament Staff which at a minimum shall include the following positions:
  - i. Treasurer facilitates the creation and maintenance of the tournament budget.
  - ii. Safety Director prepares the Safety Plan form as well as provide advice on any key risk management steps in planning for the tournament.
  - iii. Referee Administrator leads the development of the Referee Plan as well as any key rule requirements.
  - iv. Coach Administrator leads the efforts of developing the tournament rules.
- b) The Tournament Director shall work with the appropriate Tournament Staff member to ensure the following tasks are complete:
  - i. Receipt and tracking of all applications.
  - ii. Notification of teams accepted, waitlisted and not accepted.
  - iii. Balance pools and form game schedules.
  - iv. Assign referees to matches commensurate with their badge levels.
  - v. Secure fields and associated requirements (i.e., trash bins)
  - vi. Ensure vendors are scheduled.
  - vii. Ensure medics are scheduled.
  - viii. Order Player, Coach, and Referee gifts.
  - ix. Order trophies or medals.

# Region 39 Policy Statement on Recruiting Non-Rostered Players when Coaches are Unable to Field a Full Team During the Spring Season

During the spring season, when coaches are unable to field a full team of Rostered Players, a coach may recruit additional registered spring season players from the opposing team first, and from the same age & gender or one division younger, to bring the team up to equal numbers. Players not registered for spring season are not eligible to play under any circumstances. The player registration form or a parent or guardian must be present.

# Region 39 Policy Statement on the Duties and Responsibilities of the Policies & Protocols and Parliamentarian

- a. The Policies & Protocols Chairperson and Parliamentarian shall annually chair a committee of not less than three in number, to be appointed by the Regional Commissioner, for the purpose of updating and revising the Regional Guidelines and Regional Policy Statements.
- b. The Policies & Protocols Chairperson and Parliamentarian shall assist the Regional Commissioner in conducting Board Meetings, by ruling on points of order, and by ensuring that votes are taken in accordance with the Regional Guidelines.

# Region 39 Policy Statement on votes by Regional Board Members relating to proposed changes to Regional Policies & Protocols.

- a. Any Board Member, who has been given prior notice of proposed changes to the Regional Policies & Protocols, may provide any other Board Member his or her signed proxy votes on the proposal.
  - i. A proxy vote may be submitted in writing or via email but must be submitted prior to the taking of the vote.
- b. The Regional Commissioner may, at his/her discretion, conduct a vote relating to proposed changes to Regional Policies & Protocols via email or telephone (or both) provided that all Board Members are contacted and afforded the opportunity to vote.

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Fundraising**

Any earnings from fundraising will be handled by the fundraising coordinator and the treasurer. Any/all fundraising activities/events must be approved by the Regional Commissioner.

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Registered Volunteer Dismissals**

Any Registered Volunteer (Board Member, Coach or Referee) or spectator who is dismissed from a game for any reason, shall be ineligible, at the discretion of the Regional Commissioner or their appointee, to; attend, coach, or referee any games for the remainder of the day, if the offending conduct is sufficient to jeopardize the integrity of the remaining scheduled activities. Additionally, the Registered Volunteer or spectator may be subject to sanctions via Article 9: Dispute Resolution, at the discretion of the Regional Commissioner

#### **Region 39 Policy Statement on Refunds**

a. Any player who withdraws from the program shall be entitled to a refund of such registration fee. Specific dates below shall be adhered to in order to correctly respond and apply refund requests. The refund dates have taken into consideration unrecoverable costs which may include but are not limited to player insurance, uniforms and other such fees.

b. Please note, the National AYSO Membership Fee of \$25.00 is not refundable under any circumstance; your agreement to this policy was acknowledged when you registered your child. Therefore, any refunds issued will be less the \$25.00 National AYSO Membership Fee.

#### c. Notification of Withdrawal - Refund Request

To notify the Region that you wish to withdraw your child from the current season, and to request a refund, the registering parent/guardian must complete the online Drop/Refund Request Form, which is available at www.ayso39.org under the Registration tab. Forms are time-stamped when submitted.

- d. The below refund policy charts must be prominently displayed in whole on the AYSO Region 39 website and in part respectively on the Fall and Spring registration pages, clearly visible at registration and/or by posting on our social media site during and after registration.
- e. Please note:

No Refunds will be issued to players who have participated in practice before the start of the first game – no exceptions.

Refund Policy rules apply for those parents' requesting refunds for not being placed with a specific coach, a specific practice location, a specific practice day(s) or injuries.

#### (1) Fall Refund Policy

#### (a) Before July 16th

Full refund less the National AYSO Membership Fee of \$25, a \$20 processing fee, and any transaction/processing fees paid for registration.

#### (b) July 16 - 31

PARTIAL REFUND - 50% less the National AYSO Membership Fee of \$25, a \$20 processing fee, and any transaction/processing fees paid for registration.

- (c) NO REFUNDS will be issued after July 31.
- f. Registration fees are not prorated or refunded due to suspensions, illness or injuries. Nor are discounts or credits given towards the next season.
- g. Registration fees are not prorated or refunded due to heat, fire, weather, natural disasters, or other "Acts of God".

#### Appendix C – Registration Fee Schedule

#### Fall Registration

Prices listed below reflect fees set by AYSO – Region 39 Ventura and do not include the National AYSO Membership Fee of \$25, or any other processing or transactions fees charged by the registration platform.

#### **Playground**

Early Bird: \$135 Prime Rate: \$155 Regular Rate: \$180 5U

Early Bird: \$135 Prime Rate: \$155 Regular Rate: \$180

6U - 19U

Early Bird: \$165 Prime Rate: \$185 Regular Rate: \$210

**EPIC** 

Early Bird: \$77.25 Prime Rate: \$77.25 Regular Rate: \$77.25

#### **Appendix D – Regional Calendar**

The Region shall maintain and post a calendar of events on the Region 39 website. www.ayso39.org

#### **Appendix E – Region 39 Board Members**

The Region shall maintain and post a current list of Regional Board Members on the Region website. www.ayso39.org

#### **Appendix F – Regional Policies & Protocols Signature Sheet**

#### **REGIONAL POLOCIES & PROTOCOLS**

#### Choose only one option below:

Option 1: Region 39 hereby acknowledges they are operating under the Standard Regional Policies & Protocols with approval below.

Option 2: Region 39 Regional Policies & Protocols are attached and approved below. (Attach a copy of the Regional Policies & Protocols)

Option 3: Region 39 hereby acknowledges they are operating under their own Regional Policies & Protocols dated Wednesday, May 27, 2015; filed with the NSTC and there are no changes for this year, approval below

APPROVED BY: Regional Commissioner Megaphylis	Date04/16/2025
APPROVED BY: Area Director	Date
APPROVED BY: Section Director	Date

Date Received by the NSTC:	
Date Received by the Nere.	