

SOURCE

These Rules and Procedures are established, reviewed and published at intervals by the CYS Board of Directors, and are subject to change by the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise specified, changes in these rules shall take effect August 1.

MISSION STATEMENT OF CYS

Colorado Youth Soccer, affiliated with FIFA, U S Soccer, U S Youth Soccer and USOC, is a charitable and educational organization formed to organize, advance and foster the sport of soccer for players under nineteen years of age in the State of Colorado. Specifically, the mission of CYS is to:

1. Promote and develop the sport of soccer for all individuals throughout the State of Colorado, including those in rural, suburban, urban and inner-city areas, without regard to race, creed, religion, national origin, and gender or physical ability.
2. Give every player, coach and referee the opportunity to develop his or her skills to the highest level of the individual's ability.
3. Provide a level of competition commensurate with each participant's ability, interest and desire.
4. Provide a healthy, safe and enjoyable soccer environment for all participants.
5. Foster honesty, integrity and good will within soccer.
6. Provide educational opportunities to all players, coaches, referees and the community at large regarding the sport of soccer.
7. Support and provide leadership within the national and international governing bodies of soccer.
8. Govern and administer the sport of soccer within the State of Colorado in a fair, efficient, and exemplary fashion.
9. Provide administrative and/or technical assistance to individuals, local clubs and associations in areas pertaining to the sport of soccer and to the management of a sports organization.
10. Provide recognition of players, coaches, referees and clubs at all levels of participation.
11. Promote unity within the soccer community.
12. Provide an equitable format for due process and adjudication within the sport of soccer through properly established rules and procedures for Colorado players, coaches, referees, participants and spectators.
13. Be a sports organization which is a positive role model and which provides leadership to the sports community at large.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Section 1 - The following apply to Associations and Programs:

ADULT (SENIOR) SOCCER - All programs, events, competitions, clubs, associations, etc. for players whose age exceeds the limits for youth soccer.

AFFILIATION - The process of associating as members of the successive associations administering soccer programs for U S Soccer, USASA, and/or USYSA. The Colorado affiliates of U S Soccer (CSSA and CYS) are responsible for governing all affiliated soccer programs in the state and for collecting and forwarding national registration fees for all players registered with the leagues/clubs/teams under their jurisdiction.

ASSOCIATION/CLUB – The basic organization for the administration of youth soccer programs and for the registration and development of players and teams.

COLORADO STATE SOCCER ASSOCIATION (CSSA) - The Colorado affiliate of the USASA.

COLORADO YOUTH SOCCER (CYS) - The Colorado affiliate of U S Youth Soccer.

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (FIFA) - The world governing organization for soccer, headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland is the highest authority for administration of international playing rules, international competitions, and technical and educational development programs. FIFA is sub administered through six continental associations; Africa, Asia, CONCACAF (North America, Central America and Caribbean), Europe, Oceania and South America.

NATIONAL COACHING PROGRAM - A program developed and administered by USSF/USASA/USYSA for training coaches at all levels of soccer in the United States. The program also provides national licensing and registration of advanced coaches as well as guidelines for training and licensing of entry-level coaches.

OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ODP) - A program developed and administered by U S Soccer and its affiliates to identify and develop players for participation on state, regional and national teams.

UNITED STATES AMATEUR SOCCER ASSOCIATION (USASA) - The division of US Soccer that governs adult (senior) soccer, headquartered in North Bergen, NJ.

UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (USOC) - The national governing body for selecting and developing Olympic athletes and teams for Olympic competitions.

UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION (U S Soccer) (USSF) - The national governing organization for soccer in the United States, headquartered in Chicago, Ill. U S Soccer is affiliated with FIFA and is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee.

UNITED STATES YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION - (US Youth Soccer) (USYSA) - The division of U S soccer that governs youth soccer, headquartered in Richardson, TX.

YOUTH SOCCER - All programs, events, competitions, clubs, associations, etc. for players who are under the age of 19 as of August 1 of the previous seasonal year.

Section 2 - The following apply to all CYS Programs:

ADD – Means the addition of a player to a team's roster.

AGE DIVISION - U S Youth Soccer's method of organizing competition by grouping players by birth date. The youngest age division in which a team may play is determined by the age of the oldest player on the team as of August 1 of the previous seasonal year.

ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY – Means registered and not under suspension.

FOUL AND ABUSIVE LANGUAGE - Verbal abuse or threats including racial or ethnic slurs whether or not directed to one or more individuals.

GUEST PLAYER – A registered player participating in a competition for a team to which the player is not rostered for purposes of tournament play.

INVOLUNTARY RELEASE – Is the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of team or club officials.

LEAGUE - A structured group formed to provide play between teams under a common set of administrative and competitive rules.

LEAGUE, INHOUSE - A league composed solely of developmental teams from the same club.

LEAGUE, INTERLEAGUE - A league formed each season as needed composed of developmental teams from 2 or more clubs.

LEAGUE, INTERMEDIATE - A league representing the highest level of recreational competition, composed of developmental teams whose play has surpassed that of most other in-house and inter-club teams.

LEAGUE, STATE - A league composed of advanced teams participating at higher levels of competition. The league is divided into divisions known as Elite, Premier, Classic and Challenge, with placement of teams within the divisions determined by the performance of the teams as indicated by league standings and other criteria.

MICRO SOCCER - A game where each team is limited to 3 players on the field of play.

OFFICIAL - "Official" shall refer not only to referees, linesmen, fourth officials, and other duly appointed to assist in officiating a match, but also to all officers, employees or appointees of CYS/USYSA/USSF or affiliated organizations as well as all volunteers working in an official capacity within these organizations and all visiting dignitaries at a sanctioned event.

PARTICIPANT - Any player, coach, manager, or any other person associated with a team.

RECREATIONAL LEAGUE – An inter-league league in which:

- a. The use of tryouts, invitations recruiting, or any similar process to roster players to any team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited.
- b. The club administering the league accepts as participants in the league any eligible youth players.
- c. A system of rostering players is used to establish a fair or balanced distribution of playing talent among all teams participating: and
- d. League rules require that each player must play one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline.

RECRUITING - The process of attracting players to join a team.

REGION - Geographical area established to administer inter-league league play.

ROSTERING – Is the assignment of a registered player to a team.

SANCTION - The authorization extended by USSF or one of its affiliates to conduct an official competition and/or travel out of state and/or out of country.

SEASON, LEAGUE - The period of time designated for scheduled competitions of a league.

SEASONAL YEAR - Established by U S Youth Soccer, it extends from September 1 of a given calendar year through August 31 of the following calendar year. The CYS seasonal year is August 1 – July 31 of each year due to seasonal influences.

SMALL SIDED GAME - A game where each team is limited to fewer than 11 players.

SPECTATOR - Any person present at a youth soccer event who is not a participant or official. Spectators are subject to all CYS Rules and Procedures applicable to participants.

SUSPENSION – The temporary withdrawal of rights and privilege.

TEAM, ADVANCED - A team composed of players selected by a tryout process. Its members may or may not be from a defined geographic area. The team plays in state league.

TEAM, COED - A team composed of male and female players.

TEAM, DEVELOPMENTAL/RECREATIONAL - A team composed of players not selected by a tryout process. Generally formed within defined geographical (neighborhood) areas. Emphasis is on participation by all players and on micro soccer or other small-sided games for younger players. Except for special circumstances, such as disciplinary matters or illness, each member of team plays at least 50% of each game.

TEAM REPRESENTATIVE - Any coach, manager, or club official who is or appears to be in charge of a team.

TRANSFER – The removal of a registered player from one Competitive/Advanced team, or U-10 Option 1 team and the addition of the player to another Competitive/Advanced team, or U-10 Option 1 team.

TRYOUTS – Any training, practice, or evaluation session used to evaluate player ability for team placement

VOLUNTARY RELEASE - The removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player.

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1.1 These rules shall govern:
- a. all members of the Association except as provided by paragraph 1.5.
 - b. all competitions sanctioned by the Association unless the rules of a specific competition, as approved in advance by the CYS Board of Directors, provide otherwise.
- 1.2. Each club shall designate a Club Registrar who shall be responsible for the proper registration of its players, teams, and club officials, proper accounting of fiscal transactions, and accurate reporting to CYS.
- 1.3. Each club shall register on or before the dates prescribed by CYS. Registration deadline dates shall be established from time to time by CYS and shall be communicated to the membership at least 45 days prior to said deadline dates.
- 1.4. Each club is responsible for its players, coaches, managers, team representatives and supporters adhering to these rules. Each club shall insure that the actions of all associated individuals, on and off the field, do not bring the Association into disrepute.
- 1.5. CYS reserves the right to reject any applying club if CYS, at its sole discretion, determines that the acceptance of that club would be detrimental to the Association or its purposes.
- 1.6. A player may be registered on only one CYS affiliated team at any time and may play for only 1 team in any competition sponsored by CYS.
- a. A youth player is registered for a seasonal year from the moment the player or the player's representative executes the registration form and pay the appropriate fees.
- 1.7. A coed team shall be considered a male team for placement in any league or other sanctioned competition.
- 1.8. Prior to participation in any sanctioned CYS event, each team and its players shall have:
- a. Paid appropriate registration and other fees, as determined from time to time by CYS.
 - b. Registered the team and its players by the appropriate Fall season and Spring season dates, as set by CYS.
- 1.9. Annually, each association/club shall complete and submit the association affiliation forms and the association's officers' forms prior to the deadline set by CYS.
- 1.10. All CYS member clubs must provide a full disclosure of all fees charged to participate in their program to the parents or legal guardians of their players. These disclosures are to be kept at the club offices and must be signed by the parent or legal guardian.

Interpretation and Analysis:

Clubs should provide to their membership and parents a complete and full disclosure of all fees and charges. This includes registration fees, coaching fees, CYS fees and transfer fees. Clubs must also disclose their policy on the forfeiture and obligation to dues not yet paid if a player transfers during the seasonal year. Failure to provide proof of parent or guardian signature on a fee disclosure will waive the club's right to assert that as a reason for dropping or refusing to transfer a player

2. AGE LIMITS

- 2.1. All leagues and all sanctioned competitions, unless otherwise approved in advance by CYS, shall divide play among their teams by the age divisions in Section 2.2.
- 2.2. Age Division Chart: The age groups in section 2.2. apply to developmental and advanced teams whenever they participate in an in-house, inter-league, intermediate league and state league games or other CYS sanctioned competitions.

AGE CHART

Fall 2009 – Spring 2010

U18	8/1/91 – 7/31/92
U17	8/1/92 – 7/31/93
U16	8/1/93 – 7/31/94
U15	8/1/94 – 7/31/95
U14	8/1/95 – 7/31/96
U13	8/1/96 – 7/31/97
U12	8/1/97 – 7/31/98
U11	8/1/98 – 7/31/99
U10	8/1/99 – 7/31/00
U9	8/1/00 – 7/31/01
U8	8/1/01 – 7/31/02
U7	8/1/02 – 7/31/03
U6	8/1/03 – 7/31/04
U5	8/1/04 – 7/31/05
U4	8/1/05 – 7/31/06

2.3. A player whose birthday falls within the dates outlined in the chart may play up two years when approved by the Club. A player may play up three (3) or more years only when approved in writing by the CYS Director of Coaching. (This does not apply to U10 or younger players)

2.3.1. A player whose birthday falls within the dates outlined in the chart may not play down.

2.3.2. U10 and younger players shall not play in state league or in U11 Option 1 competition, except those players that are enrolled in the 5th grade and played up one year in the prior season, and they may only play up one year.

2.4. Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the United States, a birth registration issued by an appropriate governmental agency or board of health records, passport, an alien registration card issued by the United States Government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, a current driver's license, or a certification of a United States citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates will not be accepted. Foreign birth certificates must be translated and verified according to the current rules used by the US Youth National Championship Series. **To protect the identity of our players, birth certificates are not required to be kept by team officials and shall not be carried to any CYS sanctioned event.**

3. STATE LEAGUE ADVANCED REGISTRATION

3.1. A youth player must register each seasonal year in the State Association in which they reside with their parent (s) or guardian (s), or, for a student in residence at a boarding school, college, or university, the player may register in the state in which the boarding school, college, or university is located. The State Association in which the player is registered to vote or holds a current license may determine any other questions of residency.

a. Any youth player wishing to play on a team of a member of a State Association other than the State Association where the player is registered, must receive written permission from:

- 1) the State Association where the player is registered; and
- 2) the State Association of the team on which the player wishes to play.

b. Permission must be obtained each seasonal year.

3.2. Each player participating in CYS for State League competition shall have a current USYS member pass with current photograph attached thereto, approved by the Club Registrar. **A USYS member pass is valid only for USYS recognized purposes.**

- 3.3. Each Coach, assistant Coach and Club Coach participating in State League competition shall meet the requirements of the KidSafe Program as described within the CYS KidSafe Policy. No more than four (4) credentialed coaches per team shall be allowed on the team sideline during the course of the game.
- 3.4. a. Team registration, fees and roster updates for continuing teams must be submitted to CYS by 6:00pm on the appropriate date designated by CYS.
- b. Each club shall submit to CYS, via the online registration system, a Team Roster of no fewer than 11 players by the deadline dates established by CYS.
- c. Once a club has registered its teams with CYS a \$2,000 fee will be imposed for each team of the club that withdrawals from league play after **January 15 for the U15 and older Boys Spring Season/Segment** and July 1st for the **Fall Season/Segment**. The fee shall be payable immediately following the team(s) withdrawal. None of the clubs advanced teams shall be registered for the following season until the above fees have been paid in full.
- d. All State League Advanced teams must register all players via the CYS on-line system. Each club must designate an Authorized User and Club Registrar. **Requested changes received after 2:00pm will not be guaranteed to be reviewed until the next CYS business day.**
- e. All pass cards and rosters must be signed by the Authorized Club Registrar on record with CYS. All pass cards must be laminated. All teams must present the team's Roster and player pass cards to the game official(s) prior to the beginning of each game.
- 3.5. State League teams, which have the same name, must be distinguishable by a unique color, number or letter suffix, or teams may change names.
- 3.6. Rules governing rosters and players for competitions leading to the U S Youth Soccer National Championships (State Cup) supersede Colorado rules outlined in this section.
- 3.7. **Releases**
- 1) A team may not release, voluntarily or involuntarily, any player from its roster unless a written request, stating the reason why the release has been requested, has been sent to, and approved by, the state association on the appropriate form provided by CYS.
- a) A team may release involuntarily a player from its roster only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons:
- 1) The player has violated bylaws, policies, or requirements of the Federation, USYSA, CYS, or the member of the State Association through whom the player is registered.
 - 2) The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what constitutes a reasonable distance is subject to definition by CYS.
 - 3) The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.
 - 4) Recreational players do not require a release.**
- 3.8. **Transfers:**
- 1) A transfer of a player shall be defined as adding a currently USYSA registered player to a roster, or as returning a currently dropped player to a roster. A team participating in State Cup shall be limited to a total of 5 transferred players per seasonal year.
- The following exceptions exist:
- a. A player on a recreational team.
 - b. A player who is not currently registered
- 2) The club to which a player is currently registered shall have the sole discretion of whether to grant a transfer to that player, as players are bound to their club for the entire seasonal year once registered. The decision of their club on whether to grant a requested transfer shall be final. A player that has moved more than 50 miles from his primary residence may be granted a transfer by CYS.
- 3) All requests for transfer of a player shall be submitted to CYS in writing, on the appropriate completed form.
- 3.9 **Limitation on Midseason Transfers(U11-14)**
- 1) A team may not transfer any players onto its roster from another club or from within its**

own club after the date on which CYS freezes State Cup Rosters in the Spring until June 1st.

2) A club may appeal to the LOC for an exemption if it can show any of the following:

- a. Injuries or players dropping from the roster will leave the team's roster with 12 or less players if the exemption is not granted. Only one player may be added to a team's roster under this rule.
- b. A team may add a maximum of two previously unregistered players at any time after the freeze date. Non registered shall mean a player who has not played on any CYS team either recreational or competitive during the current seasonal year.
- c. Other reasons which the LOC shall deem as appropriate.

3.10 Holding team tryouts at any of the following times is illegal recruiting:

- a. On or before Memorial Day Holiday of the previous seasonal year.
- b. During the fall season of the current seasonal year (U15-U18 boys excepted).
- c. Between the fall and spring season of the current seasonal year (U15-U18 boys excepted).
- d. During the spring season of the current seasonal year.
- e. Evaluating a guest player's performance during a tournament and or inviting a player not currently on your roster to attend a practice shall not be considered a team tryout for the purposes of this rule.

3.11 No team or club shall attempt to bind or in fact bind any player to it prior to the tryout dates contained in 9.1. This includes but is not limited to having a player or parent sign a club or US Youth Soccer registration form prior to the tryout dates above, or collecting any monies from the player or parent for the upcoming fees or dues prior to the tryout dates above. Any violation of this rule will result in disciplinary action against the team, coaches and or club. Any player registered in contravention of this rule shall be free to transfer from the team and club at any time without charge.

4. RULES FOR ADVANCED STATE LEAGUE 2nd Edition

4.0 CYS Transitional Rules for Advanced State League

The following transitional rules shall be effective immediately upon approval by the CYS Board of Directors. They shall govern the promotion and relegation of teams during all CYS Advanced League Play during the Spring 2009 season. Commencing August 1, 2009 The Rules for Advanced State League 2nd Edition shall become effective superseding the Transitional Rules for all future relegation and promotion. The CYS BOD has adopted these rules to facilitate a smooth transition into the Rules For Advanced State League 2nd Edition which shall take effect commencing with the Fall 2009 Season. These transitional rules seek to foster player and team development through a de-emphasis on league standings by giving teams a longer time to adjust playing at their appropriate level per the CYS Mission Statement.

A. Relegation and Promotion from Spring 2009 into Fall 2009 (U11,U12,U13 only)

1. The bottom team in P1 shall move to P2. The LOC shall review the league records, current and prior, head to head results between the involved teams, prior relegation history, strength and any other relevant factors of the 10th place team in P1 and the first place finisher in P2. The LOC shall then determine which of these two teams shall be placed in P1 and which shall be placed in P2 for the Fall 2009 Season. All other continuing P1 teams shall remain in P1 for play commencing in Fall 2009.
2. The bottom 2 teams in P2 shall move to Classic Division for play commencing in Fall 2009. The LOC shall review the league records, current and prior head to head results between the involved teams, prior relegation history, strength and any other relevant factors of the 8th and 9th place finishers in P2 and the first place finishers in Classic Blue and Silver. The LOC shall then determine which two out of these four teams shall be placed in P2 for the Fall 2009 season. All other continuing P2 teams shall remain in P2 with the exception of the first place finisher in P2 who may be considered for promotion to P1 as outlined in A.1 above.

3. All continuing Classic teams from Spring 2009 shall remain in Classic for play commencing in Fall 2009 with the exception of the first place teams in Classic Blue and Silver who may be considered for promotion to P2 as outlined in A 2 above.
4. The top 6 teams from Challenge 1 shall be promoted to the Classic Division for league play commencing in Fall 2009.
5. All remaining Challenge 1 and Challenge 2 teams shall be placed in the newly formed Challenge Division for league play commencing in Fall 2009.
6. As per the Rules For Advanced State League 2nd Edition commencing in Fall 2009 all Classic and Challenge Divisions will be formed both on the basis of geographical location and strength.
7. Relegation of all other age groups shall be in accordance with the Rules for Advanced State League 2nd Edition.

4.1 LEAGUE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE (LOC)

- A. Prior to the start of each state-league season, the League Operations Committee shall meet and, using the rules in Parts II and III (below), shall assign each team to a division within its appropriate age-level league based on either 1) automatic or 2) non-automatic relegation.
- B. The LOC shall assign teams (with non-automatic relegation) based on information supplied by the coach or manager on the "Information for Registration" form. If the coach or manager provides no data, it is not the LOC's obligation to seek out information. If no data is provided, a team could be seeded lower rather than higher.
- C. Prior to the start of each state-league season, the Executive Director (ED) shall:
1. Advise each club registrar in writing of the division to which each team in that club has been assigned for the forth-coming state-league season. It is the registrar's duty to communicate the information about state-league assignment to each team in the club.
 2. A team, which disagrees with its state-league placement, may request, at no charge, that the LOC review its decision.
 3. The decisions of the LOC, however, are final and non-appealable.
- D. The LOC shall meet at such other times as appropriate for efficient and just league operations.
- E In those rare instances where the rules of relegation fail to provide a fair migration of teams, the LOC reserves the authority to suspend the rules and modify the structure of a given league appropriately.

4.2 LEAGUE DIVISION STRUCTURES

Length of Season: league play shall consist of one 18 game season (hereinafter referred to as season). The season shall span both fall and spring play commencing and ending on dates established by the CYS BOD. The fall portion of the season shall be referred to as the fall segment and the spring portion of the season shall be referred to as the spring segment.

A. Under 11 Boys and Under 11 Girls (i.e. youngest boys' and girls' age groups)

1. **Fall Segment:** The best 20 teams, as determined by the League Operations Committee on the basis of information provided by club coaches, club registrars, and the State Director of Coaching, shall be placed into two 10-team divisions, designated Premier White, and Premier Blue... The next best 30 teams as determined by the LOC on the basis of information (same as above) shall be placed in three 10-team divisions designated Classic North, South and Metro. The remaining teams shall be placed in Challenge divisions designated North, South and Metro.
 - a. Classic and Challenge divisions shall be geographically divided in so far as possible. The LOC reserves the right to alter the number of classic divisions or the size when team numbers and or strength require such action.

2. Transition from Fall to Spring Segment:

- a. For the Spring segment, the top 5 teams in Premier White and the top 5 teams in Premier Blue shall be placed in Premier 1. The remaining 10 teams shall be placed in Premier 2.
- b. There will be no relegation or promotion in the Classic and Challenge Divisions between the Fall and Spring Segments of the Season for the U11 age group.

B. Under 12 through Under 14 League Structure (Automatic Relegation):

1. League competition shall be divided into the following divisions: Premier I, Premier II, Classic and Challenge.
2. Premier I shall consist of the top 10 teams and shall be limited to a maximum number of 10 teams.
3. Premier II shall consist of the next best 10 teams and shall be limited to 10 teams.
4. Classic Division shall consist of the next best 30 teams in an age group. Classic teams shall be divided into three flights designated Classic North, South and Metro. Each flight shall contain 10 teams. The LOC will seed the flights based on geographic location and on an equal distribution of teams with regard to strength. In an age group where there are not a sufficient number of teams to form a 30 team classic division or within the sole opinion of the LOC there are not 30 "classic" level teams in terms of ability in an age group the LOC may limit the classic division to two flights or reduce the number of teams in each flight as it deems appropriate.
5. The remaining teams shall be placed in one or more equally weighted challenge flights. The LOC will seed the flights based on geographic location and on an equal distribution of teams with regard to strength.

C. Automatic Relegation shall be based on the prior season's divisional standings. It will not be used in U11, 15, 16,17and U18 divisions, or in any division with predominantly new teams.

1. The bottom 2 Premier I teams from the prior season will change places with the top 2 Premier II teams.
2. The bottom 3 Premier II teams from the prior season shall relegate to the classic division in those instances where there are three classic flights. The relegating Premier two teams shall be placed in different flights as the top seeds regardless of geography. In those instances where there are two or less classic flights then only the bottom two Premier two teams shall relegate. The top team in each classic flight shall be promoted to Premier two.
3. The bottom 2 teams from each classic flight will be relegated to Challenge.
4. The top 6 teams from Challenge will be advanced to Classic. Where there is more than one Challenge flight, the 6 promoting teams shall be selected equally in so far as possible from the different flights (i.e. – 3 Flights – 2 teams from each flight promoted, 2 Flights – 3 teams from each flight promoted and so forth) to reach the total number of 6 teams promoting.

D. Non-automatic relegation/assignment (In those leagues where appropriate). Consideration will be given to such factors as prior regular season record, number and caliber of returning players and teams

E. Under 15-18: Non-automatic assignment based on, among other things, prior season.

F. CYS Super League shall consist of (SL)16 and Super League (SL)18.

1. SL 16 - The top 10 teams in the U15 and U16 team age groups as determined by the LOC based primarily on previous league performance. Other factors that may be considered are State Cup Performance and strength of roster. SL 16 shall be open geographically and the teams shall play a maximum of 9 games.

2. Promotion and Relegation of SL 16 Division.

The top 2 teams promote regardless of age into the SL 18's. Teams must have a .500 record or better for

consideration for promotion into SL 18's. The bottom team shall automatically relegate to Division 1. The LOC may at its discretion relegate additional teams from SL 16 into Division 1 if they do not have a .500 record.

3. SL 18 – The top U17 and U18 teams in addition to the top 2 SL16 teams for a total of 10 teams.

Placement shall be determined by the LOC based primarily on previous league performance. Other factors that may be considered are State Cup Performance and strength of roster. SL 18 shall be open geographically and the teams shall play a maximum of 9 games. Promotion and Relegation of SL 18 Division. Promotion not applicable. The bottom team shall automatically relegate to Division 1. The LOC may at its discretion relegate additional teams from SL 18 into Division 1 if they do not have a .500 record.

4. Division 1 shall be comprised of no more than 10 teams per age group. Teams in division one shall play a nine-game season. Division one shall be open geographically. Promotion and relegation shall be determined by the LOC based primarily on league performance according to established rules. As relegation and promotion are non-automatic in this age group, the LOC may alter the structure, numbers and relegation rules in Divisional play when necessary.

5. Division 2 and below. All remaining teams shall be placed in Division 2 and lower i.e. 3 and 4) as numbers dictate. These divisions: shall be comprised of no more than 10 teams per age group. Teams in these divisions play a nine-game season. Division 2 and below shall be geographically based when possible. Promotion and relegation shall be determined by the LOC based primarily on league performance according to established rules. As relegation and promotion are non-automatic in this age group, the LOC may alter the structure, numbers and relegation rules in Divisional 1 play when necessary.

- G. SL teams and all U18 teams will be allowed to have a maximum of 3 intra-club guest players for league games, subject to the following restrictions:**
- 1. The intra-club guest player must be properly registered by CYS with the same club as the SL team for which they will guest play.**
 - 2. An intra-club guest player may play for any SL team within their appropriate age group or older.**
 - 3. Under no circumstances will more than 18 players be allowed to dress for any league game.**
- H. For U15 and younger teams, the team roster shall not have more than 18 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. For U16 and older teams, the roster may have up to 22 youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Every team roster shall have a minimum of 7 players on the roster at all times.**

4.3. LEAGUE STRUCTURE

A. Continuing teams:

- 1. A continuing team that is not changing club affiliation must retain 51% of the players from the team's most recent previous roster. For purposes of this rule, placement for a team's following season will be based on their roster as of the date of the last scheduled league game.**
- 2. A continuing team that is changing club affiliation must retain 11 players from the team's most recent previous roster for the purposes of league relegation. (Note: The only time an intact team may switch club affiliation is between seasonal years.)**

B. If a team is not a continuing team, it is a new team.

C. A new team must play its first season in the lowest division of that age group unless otherwise designated by the LOC.

D. Scoring shall be 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, no points for a loss.

E. Scoring shall be 3 points for a win (including forfeits), 1 point for a tie, no points for a loss.

The following shall be used in sequence as tie breakers when two or more teams are tied in points in divisional standings:

1. Head-to-head competition between the tied teams during regular season (these criteria not used if more than two teams are tied).
2. Team red cards issued to players or coaches during league play. For purposes of tie breakers, a red card shall apply to the team at the time of the infraction regardless of roster changes.
3. Goals against.
4. Goals for.
5. A coin toss shall decide the winner (coaches to be invited)
6. If more than two teams are tied, the sequence will be followed until a team is eliminated. The remaining teams will then restart the sequence at Point "2" above until the tie is broken.
7. When a team has been awarded a forfeit, they will be awarded 3 points for the win, and the score shall be recorded as 4-0 for purposes of tie-breaking procedures.

F. All games will count in the standings.

G. No team may play up in an older age group, except in the U-15 and above age groups upon approval of the League Operations Committee for State League teams, the Recreational Committee for inter-league and Option I teams and the Western Slope Committee for WSSL teams.

H. No team may play up in an older age group, except in the U-15 and above age groups upon approval of the League Operations Committee for State League teams, the Recreational Committee for inter-league and Option I teams and the Western Slope Committee for WSSL teams.

4.4 PROCEDURE FOR POSTPONEMENTS AND RESCHEDULING GAMES

A. If the field is closed because of bad weather, the home team coach shall notify the referee assignor and the opposing coach as soon as possible that the game has been postponed.

B. Except for postponements from field closures and Permission to Travel, all games will be played as scheduled. If a game is cancelled with or without the knowledge of CYS and the home club is not notified in accordance with their published policies, the home team shall be responsible for the payment of any additional fees for the game in question.

C. A TBA game is the responsibility of the home team to schedule. The home team must follow the scheduling procedure as stated in CYS Rule 4.5.c.

D. Teams may by mutual agreement bring games forward in the seasonal year. However, CYS will not mediate disputes that arise from rescheduling these games and will not consider any forfeit requests.

4.5. PROCEDURE FOR MAKE-UP GAMES DUE TO FIELD CLOSURES AND PERMISSION TO TRAVEL GRANTED BY CYS

A. Please make up games as soon as possible.

B. All make-up games must be played (and reported to CYS) within 2 weekends of the last regularly scheduled game of the league season. If one or more games remain incomplete 2 weekends after the date of the last regularly scheduled game, then only the games completed shall be used to determine that team's standing.

C. Scheduling make-up games is the responsibility of the home team. The home team shall contact the opposing team within 10 days of the date of the canceled game and shall offer 3 reasonable make-up dates and times. The visiting team shall have 48 hours from contact to either accept one of the three dates or offer 3 alternative dates and

times to the home team. If no agreement is then reached within 24 hours, both teams shall submit their positions in writing to the League Operations Committee, who shall decide (after the date of the last approved make-up game) the disposition of the game. For the purpose of this rule, contact with the office of the soccer club shall be sufficient as contact with the coach. It is highly recommended that you have documented proof of each contact (i.e. email, fax receipt, etc.)

4.6. FORFEITS

If one team is present and ready to play but the other team does not show up, the team that was present must submit in writing to CYS a written statement of their attendance. Upon receipt and review, a forfeit will automatically be granted to the team that was present. The LOC will review any requests to reconsider forfeits after the date of the last final make-up game deadline. Any request to review a forfeit does not require a \$100 protest fee.

CYS will only consider forfeits for games unable to be rescheduled that were originally postponed for the following three reasons:

1. Field Closures
2. Permission to travel granted by CYS
3. An opposing team refusing to travel to a scheduled game

Forfeiture requests must be submitted in writing to the CYS State League Administrator. A request must include the following information:

1. Game Number and original scheduled date.
2. Reason for cancellation of original game (must meet above criteria).
3. Number of attempts to reschedule the game.
4. Any and all information regarding the attempts to reschedule the game.
5. The LOC will review such requests after the date of the last final make-up game deadline.

In all instances of forfeits, including the event that a team refuses to travel to an assigned game the following penalties will be enforced against the team that forfeits:

- a. For each game that a team forfeits, they will be dropped one place in the standings at the end of the season when final standings are determined.
- b. In the first offense, the team's club will be fined \$500.00.
- c. For the second violation, the team's club will be fined \$1000.00 and the team and club shall appear before the CYS Disciplinary Committee to show cause why the team should not be suspended from CYS league play.

4.7. NOTIFYING CYS OF GAME SCORES

Both coaches shall submit game reports via the telephone system or CYS web site for each league game within 48 hours. The coach's report shall provide CYS with the correct score. If the coach fails to correctly report the game score, and the game is not noted in the standings by than the date of the last approved make-up game, then the game will not count in team placement by league standings during the next season.

4.8. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

4.8.1 If a game is terminated because of weather or other environmental considerations, CYS shall judge it a completed game if 10 minutes of the second half elapsed before the game was terminated. If the match was of lesser duration, then it shall be replayed.

4.8.2 In the judgment of the referee, if one team is not ready to play by 10 minutes after the scheduled start of a match, then the other team shall be awarded a victory by forfeit, by action of CYS.

4.8.3 No team may participate in a scheduled match without a coach or team representative, who is a participant with the team's club, present to coach the team within 10 minutes after the scheduled start of a match. If a coach/team representative is not present within 10 minutes, then the other team shall be awarded a victory by forfeit by action of CYS. If there is any doubt about the official capacity of a team's coach at the time of

the match, the game shall be played, and after the match CYS may contact the team's coach-of-record and/or club to verify the coach's credentials and authority to represent the team at the match(s) in question.

5. RECREATIONAL REGISTRATION

- 5.1. Each club shall submit to CYS all team rosters on hard copy, disk or electronically by the deadline date established by CYS.
- 5.2. Each Coach, assistant Coach and Club Coach participating in CYS Recreational competition shall meet the requirements of the KidSafe Program as described within the CYS KidSafe Policy. No more than four (4) credentialed coaches per team shall be allowed on the team sideline during the course of the game.
- 5.3. All recreational teams must be formed under the following guidelines:
 - 1. By age group – adhering to rule 2., All sections
 - 2. By gender
 - 3. By Neighborhood/School
 - 4. By request
 - 5. By registration date set by club
- 5.4. For CYS-sanctioned events recreational teams shall consist of:

Age	Maximum # of players on field	Minimum # of players on field	Maximum roster size
11-19	11	7	18
9-10	8	6	14
7- 8	4	3	10
5- 6	3	2	6
*15-19	8	6	18

*Metro League

- 5.5. Clubs are responsible for keeping the roster changes of their developmental teams updated with CYS
- 5.6. No developmental leagues or scheduled competitions may be conducted without prior approval of the Recreational committee.
- 5.7. Member organizations must register all players including those who play only in-house programs including U4 players.
- 5.9. A club must register 100% of their recreational players by the registration deadlines set by CYS. For those who do not 100% affiliate, additional fees may be charged to participate in CYS programs and tournaments.
- 5.10. U4 players shall be limited to in-house play, festivals, camps and clinics.
- 5.11. A player may play for only 1 team in any competition sponsored by CYS.

6. INTERLEAGUE OPTION 1 AND U9 CROSS QUAD

- 6.1. Interleague, Option 1 and U9 Cross Quad are CYS recreational programs.
- 6.2. Each player/coach participating in any inter-league, Option 1 or U9 Cross Quad competition shall be registered with CYS and have a current USYSA pass with current photograph affixed thereto, approved by the Club Registrar. **A USYS member pass is valid only for USYS recognized purposes.**
- 6.3.
 - a. Option 1 and U9 Cross Quad team registration, fees and roster updates must be submitted to CYS by 6:00pm on the appropriate date designated by CYS.

- b. Each club shall submit to CYS, via the online registration system, a Team Roster by the deadline dates established by CYS.
 - c. All Option 1 teams must register all players via the CYS on-line system. Each club must designate an Authorized User and Club Registrar. **Requested changes received after 2:00pm will not be guaranteed to be reviewed until the next CYS business day.**
- 6.4. Inter-league, Option 1 and U9 Cross Quad teams which have the same name must be distinguishable by a unique color, number, or letter suffix, or teams may change names.
- 6.5. USSF certified referees shall be assigned to Option 1 matches and, if available, to all inter-league and U9 Cross Quad matches. In addition, each team shall provide a club linesman who is knowledgeable regarding the Laws of the Game and any CYS modifications thereto, especially pertaining to linesman duties.
- 6.6. Each club shall monitor its own inter-league, Option 1 and U9 Cross Quad team formation process.
- 6.7. Option 1 level of recreational play starts at the U10 age group and continues so long as there are teams that wish to participate. In the U10 age group, all games will be 8v8.
- a. The formation of all-star inter-league and intermediate teams is prohibited.
 - b. U10 teams competing in Option 1 must be intact recreational teams, formed in the usual recreational manner, without tryouts or any other selection process intended to strengthen the team. Such teams must have and maintain a minimum of 51% of their players returning to the CYS team from the prior season.
 - c. U11 and older teams must maintain a minimum of 40% of their players returning to the CYS team from the prior season
 - d. The prior season shall be defined as the last season that the team played.
 - e. Teams participating in the Option 1 league may not play up an age group.
 - f. Each Option 1 U10 team may have no more than 3 underage players on it's roster.
- 6.14 U9 Cross Quad level of recreational play is for the U9 age group only. All games will be 8v8.
- a. The formation of all-star Cross Quad teams is prohibited.
 - b. U9 teams competing in Cross Quad must be intact recreational teams, formed in the usual recreational manner, without tryouts or any other selection process intended to strengthen the team. Such teams must have and maintain a minimum of 51% of their players returning to the CYS team from the prior season.
 - c. The prior season shall be defined as the last season that the team played.
 - d. No U8 teams may play up into the U9 Cross Quad
 - e. Each U9 Cross Quad team may have no more than 3 underage players on it's roster.
- 6.15. Procedures for postponement and rescheduling games for all Option 1 and U9 Cross Quad:
- A. If the field is closed because of bad weather, the home team coach shall notify the referee assignor and the opposing coach as soon as possible that the game has been postponed.
 - B. Except for postponements from field closures and Permission to Travel, all games will be played as scheduled. If a game is cancelled with or without the knowledge of CYS and the home club is not notified in accordance with their published policies, the home team shall be responsible for the payment of any additional fees for the game in question.
 - C. A TBA game is the responsibility of the home team to schedule. The home team must follow the scheduling procedure as stated in CYS Rule 6.14.
- 6.16 Procedure for make-up games for all Option 1 and U9 Cross Quad due to field closures and permission to travel granted by CYS
- A. Please make up games as soon as possible.
 - B. Scheduling make-up games is the responsibility of the home team. The home team shall contact the opposing team within 10 days of the date of the canceled game and shall offer 3 reasonable make-up dates and times. The visiting team shall have 48 hours from contact to either accept one of the three dates or offer 3 alternative dates and times to the home team. If no agreement is then reached within 24 hours, both teams shall submit their positions in writing to the CYS Recreational Administrator, who shall decide the disposition of the game. For the purpose of this rule, contact with the office of the soccer club shall be sufficient as contact with the coach. It is highly recommended that you have documented proof of each contact (i.e. email, fax receipt, etc.)

6.17 Scores for Option 1 only will be kept on the CYS website. Both coaches shall submit game reports via the CYS web site for each league game. Official standings are not kept by CYS and no awards will be given for Option 1. No forfeits will be considered or awarded. No scores will be accepted for U9 Cross Quad.

7. METRO LEAGUE

7.1 The Metro League will consist of teams U15 through U18. Teams must be formed in the usual recreational manner, without tryouts or any selection process. Metro League teams will play an 8 v 8 format with a maximum of 18 players per roster. Games will be played on standard 11 v 11 fields.

7.2. In the event that all teams in the Metro League for a particular age bracket would like to play in an 11v11 format, that option will be made available for that season only.

Each player/coach participating in the Metro League shall be registered with CYS and have a current USYSA pass with current photograph affixed thereto, approved by the Club Registrar. **A USYS member pass is valid only for USYS recognized purposes.**

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7.3. USSF certified referees shall be assigned, if available, to all Metro League matches. In addition, each team shall provide a club linesman who is knowledgeable regarding the Laws of the Game and any CYS modifications thereto, especially pertaining to linesman duties.

8. WSSL

8.1 See addendum – WSSL Rules

9. INSURANCE

9.1. Participants who are registered with CYS have secondary medical insurance coverage when participating in USYSA sanctioned activities.

9.2. All known potentially significant injuries shall be reported in writing to CYS by the referee.

9.3. All injury claims against the medical insurance program shall be reported to CYS within 30 days of the occurrence of the injury on the proper insurance claim form. Forms are available on the CYS website. www.coyouthsoccer.org.

10. PLAY DURING A HIGH SCHOOL SEASON

10.1. A player who is a member of a high school soccer team should consult all applicable Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) rules concerning State League play during the High School season.

10.2. A player who is a member of a high school soccer team may participate with a CYS ODP team during the high school soccer season only with the appropriate written approval from the school.

10.3. A player who is not a member of a high school soccer team may play in the Metro Recreational league during the appropriate high school season. A player participating in this league may return to his or her competitive team for the regular CYS league competition. Neither the player nor the competitive team shall be in violation of transfer rules.

11. MISCONDUCT PROCEDURES

11.1. All participants and spectators in CYS activities shall be subject to all misconduct rules contained herein, regardless of whether they have passes and regardless of whether the referee displayed a yellow or red card. The proper authority may investigate misconduct that is not noted in a referee's game report but is reported in writing to the CYS state office by any individual.

- 11.2. A participant whose pass has been retained or who has been notified of suspension shall be ineligible to participate in any CYS sanctioned game until the pass is returned to the team representative or the suspension satisfied. Any individual who participates in a game while ineligible shall be subject to further disciplinary action. Any team, which permits an ineligible player, an overage player or a non-rostered player to participate in a game, shall forfeit all games in which that player participated and the team representative and or club shall be subject to further disciplinary action.
- 11.3. If an individual engages in prolonged harassment of officials, or abusive disagreement or interference with officials, the team representative may be asked to control the individual. If the team representative has no control over the individual or situation, the team representative shall not be penalized. Instead, the referee shall take other appropriate action.
- 11.4. The referee may suspend play when necessary due to spectator or participant interference until the individual(s) creating the disturbance leaves the playing area to a minimum of 100 yards from the field. Said individual(s) shall remain silent for the duration of the game and take no further part in the game. Failure of (an) individual(s) to comply with the referee's request within 2 minutes may result in the referee's terminating the game. Such incident may result in forfeiture of the game as well as further disciplinary action.
- 11.5. Any team representative, whose team refuses to take the field without cause, refuses to travel to an assigned game site without cause or quits a game prior to its completion, shall be reported in writing by the referee. The team representative and the team shall be subject to a disciplinary hearing.

11. MISCONDUCT PROCEDURES

- 11.6. Any participant or spectator, who refuses to give his or her correct name to the referee while being cautioned, sent off or otherwise disciplined shall be subject to additional disciplinary action.
- 11.7. Any participant or spectator, who refuses to give his or her correct name to the referee while being cautioned, sent off or otherwise disciplined shall be subject to additional disciplinary action.

12. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES

- 12.1. The Disciplinary Committee (DC) shall consist of at least three (3) impartial members and shall have jurisdiction to act on any disciplinary matter in which the Articles of Incorporation, By Laws or Rules and Procedures of CYS may have been violated. The DC shall have the authority to consider all available information regarding a disciplinary matter. The DC is empowered to conduct hearings in order to investigate alleged misconduct.
- 12.2. Any violation of By Laws or Rules and Procedures of CYS shall be reported in writing to CYS within 14 days of the incident.
- 12.3. The DC shall have the discretionary power to establish the penalties applied to participants and spectators. The DC is authorized to set specific periods and conditions of probation and to establish penalties for probation violations.
- 12.4. A participant or spectator charged with misconduct shall have the right to:
- a. Notice of the specific charges or alleged violations in writing and possible consequences if the charges are found to be true
 - b. Have a hearing on the charges within 45 days of CYS's receipt of a written report of alleged misconduct.
 - c. Receive 14 days (from date of postmark) advance notice of the charges and of the date, time, and place of the hearing.
 - d. Attend the hearing in person.
 - e. The right to be assisted in the presentation of one's case at the hearing; the person assisting in the presentation shall not be allowed to speak unless they were a witness to the incident in question.

- f. The right to call witnesses and present oral and written evidence and argument.
 - g. The right to confront witnesses, including the right to be provided the identity of witnesses in advance of the hearing.
 - h. The right to have a record made of the hearing if desired.
 - i. Receive written notification of the committee's findings, conclusions, actions, and recommendations of his or her appeal rights, of the procedure for filing an appeal, and of the time within which an appeal may be filed with the CYS Executive Director. Except in extenuating circumstances, the decision shall be mailed within 10 days of the hearing.
 - j. Appeal any decisions to the CYS Protest and Appeals Committee, and beyond, in accordance with these Rules and Procedures.
 - k. A decision of the CYS Disciplinary Committee shall not be appealable by anyone other than the individual or club charged with the violation of CYS Rules and Procedures or By-Laws.
 - l. The concept of double jeopardy to all individuals exonerated as well as any individual that accepts the penalties established by the Disciplinary Committee. Any appeal made by a party other than the individual charged with a violation of the CYS Rules and Procedures or By-Laws shall be summarily rejected by the Executive Director.
- 12.5. After both sides have presented all testimony, the DC shall retire to executive session to deliberate and decide. The decision shall represent the considered judgment of the majority of the voting DC members who heard the evidence presented at the hearing.
- 12.6. Cautions issued during non-league competition shall not carry forward to league play.
- 12.7. Any suspension stated in these rules shall commence with the next sanctioned game in which the suspended individual would otherwise be eligible to participate. In any game, whether in state or out of state that a participant is "sitting out", it is the responsibility of the coach or team representative to inform the referee of the name of the individual not participating. It is also the responsibility of the coach or team representative to provide written evidence for the "sitting out" which satisfies CYS as to its authenticity. It is not the ultimate responsibility of the referee to report a player's or coaches "sit out". Any participant other than a player who wishes credit for sitting out must be more than 100 yards from the field of play.
- 12.8. In the event of an unsuccessful appeal of participant's suspension, the full penalty shall begin with the next sanctioned game in which the participant would otherwise be eligible to participate. The duration of the suspension shall not be diminished by the passage of time consumed by the failed appeal.
- 12.9. Participants whose misconduct outside of Colorado is reported to CYS shall be subject to CYS discipline as though the offense had occurred in Colorado. The written or verbal report must be received by CYS within 90 days of the date of the misconduct, in order for the participant to be subject to CYS discipline.
- 12.10. Any participant who accumulates five (5) stand-alone cautions during any 365-day period shall be suspended automatically for a minimum of one game. CYS shall monitor the accumulation of stand-alone cautions and shall notify the participant and the team representative in writing of a participant's one-game suspension when five (5) such cautions have been accumulated within a 365-day period.
- 12.11. When sent off the field of play and shown the red card for infringement of the "Laws of the Game", players and substitutes shall be disciplined by further games suspension as follows:
- A. Serious foul play (S1)
 - 1. Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to: when a player, in a violent or dangerous manner intentionally trips, holds, pushes, charges, or tackles an opponent from behind the penalty shall be: ALL AGE GROUPS- Suspend for minimum of one (1) game.
 - B. Violent Conduct (S2)

1. Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to, Striking or attempting to strike another player, team official or spectator, unlawfully entering the field of play during an altercation. ALL AGE GROUPS – Suspend for a minimum of two (2) games.
2. Pushing in an act of aggression, striking or attempting to strike a referee, linesperson or fourth official. ALL AGE GROUPS- Suspend for a minimum of one (1) year, unless serious injuries are inflicted then the minimum suspension period will be at least five (5) years.

C. Spits at an Opponent/other Person (S3)

1. Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to: spitting or other unseemly acts on or at another person. . ALL AGE GROUPS – Suspend for a minimum of two (2) games.

D. Denies opponent goal or goal scoring opportunity by deliberately (S4) handling the ball. ALL AGE GROUPS – Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

E. Denies obvious goal scoring opportunity to an opponent moving (S5) towards the players' goal. ALL AGE GROUPS – Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

F. Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language. (S6)

1. Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to: uttered in frustration and in the referee's opinion, loud enough to be heard. ALL AGE GROUPS – Suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.
2. Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to: words or actions directed towards any person. ALL AGE GROUPS – Suspend for a minimum of two (2) games.

G. Second Caution: (S7)

ALL AGE GROUPS – suspend for a minimum of one (1) game.

H. Miscellaneous

1. Any player, substitute or coach who refuses the referee's request for their name, or gives a false name, while the referee is gathering data to report an infringement of the "Laws of the Game", involving them, shall have a minimum of one game added to the suspension that would normally be levied by the Disciplinary Committee.

2. Actions listed above are to be regarded as minimum suspensions.

3. In specific situations, the Disciplinary Committee or Cup Committee may place an individual on probation in addition to the suspension. The probationary period is to be served immediately following the suspension period and is intended to monitor an individual's degree of reformation. Should an individual on probation be sent off the field of play and shown the red card during the probationary period the matter shall be referred to the DC committee for evaluation.

12.12. Reports of a participant's violent conduct or serious foul play shall be reviewed by the Executive Director, who may recommend that the incident be subject of a Disciplinary hearing, by the DC.

12.13. The terms "abuse" and "assault" shall include but not be limited to any of the following:

- a. Abuse – verbal abuse or threat; obscene gestures; threatening attitude directed at an Official or Participant or his or her property, or similar offensive action.
- b. Assault – the act (or attempt) of striking, kicking, tripping, holding, restraining or otherwise physically accosting; the act of taking or attempting to take any item from an Official or Participant; directing any object at an Official or Participant whether harmful, e.g., a rock; or harmless, e.g., water, or similar offensive action.

12.14. The minimum suspension period for abuse shall be at least three (3) scheduled matches. The DC may provide a longer period of suspension when circumstances warrant.

12.15. The minimum suspension period for assault shall be at least (3) months. The DC may provide a longer period

of suspension when the circumstances warrant.

12.16. Any participant who is suspended for a total of four (4) games during any 365-day period shall be automatically suspended for an additional four (4) games and shall automatically be placed on probation for a period of six (6) months. This rule does not apply as a result of a disciplinary hearing.

12.17 During a participant's probation period the accumulation of three stand-alone cautions or one send off shall require the participant to appear before the DC.

13. REFEREE MISCONDUCT PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

13.1. All allegations of referee misconduct, unethical conduct, or conflict of interest occurring as a result of sanctioned youth matches shall be directed to the CYS office. The CYS office shall communicate such allegations promptly to State Referee Administration (SR Admin.) and the CYS Co-Chairman of the SRC. The Referee Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall handle the matter. The CYS Co-Chairman of the State Referee Committee shall provide a report of the resolution of the allegations to CYS.

14. PROTEST AND APPEALS PROCEDURES

14.1. The CYS Protest and Appeals (P&A) Committee shall consist of at least three (3) impartial members and have jurisdiction to hear and determine the following matters:
PROTEST - Actions arising from or related to specific game results or cautions or ejections. Only team representatives may protest a game result. Protests must be based on violations or misapplications of CYS Rules and Procedures, or Bylaws, or FIFA Laws of the Game. Protests submitted to a sanctioned competition (such as a tournament) must proceed in accordance with the rules of that competition; however, protests of matters for which discipline or suspension may be imposed by CYS shall proceed in accordance with these rules.
APPEALS - Actions arising from a decision by a CYS committee or official, by a member club, a quadrant or by a sanctioned competition (e.g., tournament). Only those parties to the original action are entitled to appeal.

A properly filed Protest or Appeal of an action against an individual shall delay the effect of the protested action or ruling pending decision by the P&A Committee. Decision of the Disciplinary Committee, P&A Committee and/or Board of Directors, directed against a team and/or club shall stand and be in full force and effect until changed by a higher authority.

14.2. The line of authority for protests and appeals shall be as follows:

- a. CYS P&A Committee
- b. CYS Board of Directors
- c. USSF Appeals Committee

No protest or appeal shall be heard or determined by the next higher authority until a decision on the matter has been rendered by the lower authority; provided, however, that a failure of the CYS P&A Committee to decide a matter within 60 days of receiving the protest or the appeal entitles the party to have the protest or appeal heard by the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Any higher authority may decide any protest or appeal upon review of the record of proceedings and decision of the lower authority.

14.3. **PROTEST PROCEDURES AND APPEAL REQUIREMENTS.** Any person wishing to protest (or appeal) must submit a written Notice of Protest (or Notice of Appeal) to the CYS office, which Notice is postmarked or delivered within 7 calendar days following the date of the alleged violation or misapplication (or in the case of an appeal, following the date that the person received notice of the action or decision being appealed). The Notice of Protest (or Notice of Appeal) must set forth the protester's (or appellant's) full name, address, and telephone numbers (home and work); describe each violation or misapplication (or describe the action or decision being appealed), state the relief or redress sought; and be accompanied by the required fee. Any protest (or appeal) which does not substantially comply with the requirements of this paragraph may be summarily dismissed by the Chair of the Committee.

14.4 **FEES.** The CYS protest and appeals fee is one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each protest or appeal. All protest and appeals monies are non-refundable.

- 14.5 HEARING PROCEDURES. Each protest and appeal received by CYS, which complies, with 14.3. or 14.4. shall be forwarded to the Chair of the Committee. The Chair shall set a date for a formal hearing and shall give written notice to the protester/appellant and other interested parties. The written notice shall set forth the date, time and place of the hearing, the deadline for receipt of supplemental materials from the parties (materials may be requested by the Committee), and that ten (10) minutes shall be allotted for each side to present his/her case. At the hearing, the Committee members shall hear and consider arguments elaborating on the issues supported by the documents. Records of all proceedings shall be maintained. The Committee shall retire to executive session to deliberate and determine the outcome of the hearing. The decision shall represent the considered judgment of the majority of the voting Committee members who heard the protest/appeal. After the hearing, the Committee shall issue a written decision, which shall state adequately the reasons for the decision and shall announce the effective date of the decision for purposes of review or appeal to the next higher authority.
- 14.6. Decisions rendered by the P&A Committee shall be conveyed in writing to all interested parties within fourteen (14) days of the decision, and a copy of the decision, along with all pertinent documents and findings, shall be filed with the CYS Executive Director.
- 14.7. Any decision rendered by the P&A Committee may be appealed following the line of authority as stated in rule 14.2. The appeal shall be submitted in writing to the CYS office, postmarked or delivered within 7 calendar days of the receipt of the decision of the P&A Committee. An additional fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) is required. The appeal does not entitle the appellant to a new hearing, but may be decided based on a review of the record and proceedings of the P&A Committee. The Chair of the P&A Committee shall present the Committee's decision to the Board of Directors, but shall abstain from the vote on the Board's decision on the appeal. The Secretary of the Board of Directors shall convey, in writing, the Board's decision to all interested parties, within 14 days of the decision.
- 14.8. No CYS affiliated club or individual member may invoke the aid of any court in Colorado or in the United States without first exhausting all available remedies within the body of organized soccer. For violation of this rule, the offending party or parties shall be subject to suspension from this organization and any affiliated organization and be liable for all expenses incurred for legal costs and time of any officials of this organization or any affiliated organization. These include court fees, attorneys' fees; compensation for time spent by CYS/USSF officers and employees, travel expenses and expenses for special meetings necessitated by said court action.
- 14.9. Any protest or appeal which the Protest and Appeals Committee determines to be lacking in good faith or substantial justification shall be grounds for disciplinary action against the protester/appellant.

15. ADULT GAMES

- 15.1 A youth player may play an unlimited number of adult games without losing his or her youth eligibility. The youth player must notify his or her youth coach or other authorized team official of the player's intention to play adult games. The youth player shall request, in writing:
- (1) eligibility clearance from the Youth State Association through which the player is registered, and
 - (2) permission from the appropriate Adult State Association. When the clearance and permission have been granted, the Adult State Association has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play adult games and will be responsible for establishing the procedures under which the youth player will be allowed to play. In the event of a conflict between an adult game and a youth game, the youth game shall take precedence. A youth player who is required to sign an adult form shall retain youth eligibility.
- 15.2 (a) A youth team with the written permission and mutual consent of both the Youth and Adult State Associations may play in an adult-approved league and not lose its youth eligibility to compete in the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. If the youth team's players are required to sign an adult form, the team shall retain its youth eligibility.
- (b) The youth team will be required to play under the rule of the Youth State Association concerning registration, roster rules, transfer rules, and any additional qualifications that are required to be eligible for the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. Whether participation in any adult league shall qualify a youth team for the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions play shall be determined by each Youth State Association.

16. TEAM TRAVEL PROCEDURES

Any CYS team wishing to travel to US Youth State Sanctioned tournaments **outside** the jurisdiction of CYS (out of state travel) shall submit the following:

1. A properly completed "Application for Travel".
2. Approved Application to Host form from the tournament.
3. Application Fee
4. Copy of Approved league roster
5. Player loan form if necessary for guest players
6. Request to post pone form if travel is scheduled during league play.

Travel applications must be submitted to CYS at least thirty (30) days prior to travel. Applications received after the thirty (30) days subject to late fees.

Any CYS team wishing to travel to a tournament not sanctioned by a US Youth State Association shall submit the following:

1. Request to post pone form if travel is scheduled during league play

Teams will not be covered by the CYS insurance for travel nor will they be denied the right to travel. Each team will be issued a letter stating that the team is in good standing with CYS.

Teams traveling out of state will be assessed the following fee:

1. \$5.00 per team if application to travel is filed thirty (30) days prior to travel.
2. \$5.00 plus \$1.00 per day per team if application to travel is filed less than thirty (30) days prior to travel.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL - Travel outside of the United States requires approval of USSF:

All teams requesting International Travel approval must submit the following 30 days prior to travel date:

1. All documents as listed above for out of state travel.
2. US Soccer Application (Must be original. No fax copy will be accepted).
3. Signed Ted Stevens Amateur Sports Act.
4. Copy of official brochure, pamphlet, invitation or other applicable material of the tournament or games host.
5. Copy of official roster of applying team which is in good standing, which includes all players and team officials, signed and/or stamped by appropriate registrar.

International Travel Fees:

The following fees must be submitted with application for approval.

1. CYS fees as stated above.
2. \$ 50.00 (made payable to US Soccer).

Notification of International travel approval or denial will be sent directly to the team's coach or team representative and to the Tournament Director or Host Organization.

CYS teams participating in non-USYS sanctioned events (for example: US Club Soccer sanctioned tournament) cannot use CYS rosters or player pass cards, nor will they be provided any documentation or insurance when traveling to or participating in these non-USYS sanctioned events.

17. TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION AND PROCEDURES

- 17.1. Only teams and participants in good standing with CYS/USYSA/USSF and affiliated organizations may participate in tournaments sanctioned by CYS. Participants and teams playing in tournaments that have not been sanctioned by CYS or USYSA will not have the privileges, benefits and protection of CYS. All players and coaches must have USYS player/coaches passes before each game played in any CYS sanctioned tournament.
- 17.2. All tournaments sanctioned by CYS shall adhere to and abide by all Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Rules and Procedures of CYS.
- 17.3. If an assault on a referee occurs in a Colorado event/tournament by a player from another state, the referee shall immediately notify the Event/Tournament Chairman and forward a copy of the game report and his/her comments on the incident to the Event/Tournament Chairman on the day of the incident, and the National State Association President and the player's home state within ten (10) days. The Event/Tournament chairman shall have the right to immediately convene a hearing at the site of the event/tournament, at which the player, his/her coach and the game official shall be present. The Event/Tournament Chairman shall promptly relay action taken at this hearing to the player's State President, verbally and in writing.

18. ALCOHOL, DRUGS OF ABUSE, CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND FIREARMS

The possession, consumption or use of any alcoholic beverage, drug of abuse or controlled substance or the possession or use of any firearm at the field area by any player, coach, referee, team official or spectator prior to, during or after the playing of any CYS activity is prohibited. Any individual who violates this prohibition shall be subject to disciplinary action by CYS.

19. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

The above rules and procedures are not meant to be all-inclusive. Matters not provided for or extraordinary circumstances shall be brought to the attention of the CYS Board of Directors for determination and appropriate action.