

PCSSL League Playing Rules

1.0 Jurisdiction and Membership

1.01 The following rules will be used for the Pacific Coach Spring Soccer League (PCSSL). AYSO National Rules will cover any situation not addressed within.

1.02 PCSSL is a developmental league promoting interplay and cooperation between members of AYSO. All league members will be developmental teams which are properly registered with AYSO. League members must submit by the published deadline an entry form and a copy of their approved eAYSO roster.

1.03 All players must be properly registered directly through an AYSO region. Players are not required to have played in fall primary season play but note that none of the spring tournaments currently accept players who did not play in the fall.

1.04 For Spring 2017, a player's age cut-off is the same as Fall 2016. Each division is aligned based on the scholastic year (August 1 through July 31). **Play-ups are allowed, but no play-downs.** The AYSO National Office has not yet adopted the new U.S. Soccer calendar year registration mandate.

1.05 Members must submit the league entry fee with a check made payable to the "*American Youth Soccer Organization*" by the published deadline

1.06 Players are not allowed to play on two member teams in the league.

1.07 Additions to rosters will be accepted through the third league game played by the team. No more than 3 roster updates will be allowed. Exceptions by the league director may be granted for season ending injuries.

2.0 Playing Rules

2.01 Playing format:

Div	Players on field	Duration	Half-Time	Ball	Max Roster Size
U10	7 a side	2 x 25 Minute halves	5 minutes	Size 4	12 players
U12	9 a side	2 x 30 Minute halves	5 minutes	Size 4	14 players
U14	11 a side	2 x 35 Minute halves	5 minutes	Size 5	18 players
U16	11 a side	2 x 40 Minute halves	5 minutes	Size 5	20 players
U19	11 a side	2 x 45 Minute halves	5 minutes	Size 5	20 players

Roster size greater than the AYSO guideline is allowed due to the nature of players having multiple activities during the spring and the league's desire to not endure forfeits. It is recommended however, that a team not carry more than the AYSO guideline if all players will be present the majority of the time to ensure adequate playing time.

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The U16 and U19 divisions will be combined if there are fewer than 4 teams that apply in either division.

2.02 Deliberate heading of the ball is not allowed in the Under-10 and Under-12 divisions. If a player 10 years old and younger is rostered on an Under-14 team or older, the coach is required to have that player adhere to U.S. Soccer's mandates on heading. Deliberate heading is not a violation of the International Laws of the Game and as such, infractions of this heading restriction must not be considered for misconduct – neither persistent infringement (caution/yellow) nor denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity [DOGSO] (sendoff/red).

2.03 Other than 2.02, there are no special rules in place for any division – this includes no playing time restriction on goal keepers (keepers can play the entire game in goal in all divisions).

2.04 Three (3) points will be awarded for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero (0) points for a loss. There will be no overtime for league games.

2.05 There will be a one (1) point deduction for each send off (red card) or coach ejection.

2.06 Games will start on schedule. Unless there is a delay by a previous game, a team that has not taken the field within 15 minutes of the scheduled start of a game will forfeit the match. A U10 team must have at least five (5) players, U12 six (6) players, and U14 - U19 seven (7) players to take the field or the team will forfeit the game.

2.07 A forfeit winner is awarded three (3) points and loser zero (0) points. If both teams forfeit the game (a double-forfeit), each team is awarded a loss and zero (0) points. Further points may be deducted for a forfeit depending on the circumstances as determined by the League Director and failure to show up for a game will most likely result in a team being eliminated from award (1st and 2nd place) consideration.

2.08 Substitution: Every player present at the time of game kickoff is required to play a minimum of one half of the game present unless injured.

For U10 – U14, a “substitution break” midway through each half will occur. No free substitution is allowed for these ages.

For U16 – U19, free substitutions are permitted through-out the game using the following procedures:

- Coach calls the Center Referee for substitutions at their team's throw-in, any goal kick or any kick-off, AND
- The substitute(s) is (are) standing at the halfway line ready to enter with the Referee's permission.
- If the players are not ready, then the Referee may not acknowledge the substitution request.

Rules pertaining to management of the substitution timesheet are detailed in rule 4.06.

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2.09 There will be a one (1) **point deduction for incomplete or improperly filled out line-up cards.**

2.10 The team listed first on the schedule is the home team and any conflict of colors will be resolved by having the home team change colors for the game.

2.11 Coaches are expected to discourage running up of excessive scores, defined as a 5-goal differential. At the discretion of the PCSSL Board, points can be deducted for repeat occurrences of running up the score.

2.12 Coaches will report scores on mysoccerleague.com within twenty-four to forty-eight hours of their scheduled game. After forty eight hours, games with no score reported, will be marked as a double-forfeit.

2.13 Cumulative points will identify first and second place teams in each bracket at the end of the season. There will be no playoffs. In the event of a tie in points, the following tiebreaker in sequence will determine the winner:

1. Head to head winner
2. Least goals allowed
3. Goal differential – maximum differential of 3 goals per game
4. Coin toss

In the event a team plays fewer than 8 games during the season, no pro-ration will be applied – the team’s final point total will be used. In the event a team is scheduled more than 8 games, then their points will be prorated down 8 games

3.0 Team Conduct

3.01 Coaches are responsible to ensure that their players, parents and fans behave in a respectful manner.

3.02 Teams (players and credentialed coaches with current season pass) will occupy one side of the field during the entire game and will not be allowed behind the goal line or within one yard of the touchline. **All spectators must be on the opposite side.**

3.03 The referee at his/her discretion may abandon a game under the following conditions:

1. A team leaves the field during play without the approval of the referee.
2. A team is sent from the field by the referee for frequent and/or violent misconduct
3. Extreme “side line area” misconduct (by player, coach, or fans) that causes interruption of play.

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3.04 Points for abandonment forfeitures: forfeit winner – 3 points: forfeit loser – zero (0) points.

3.05 Additional disciplinary penalties may be imposed at the discretion of the League Director.

4.0 Referees

4.01 *The home team is responsible for providing a Center Referee and two Assistant Referees for each game. Referees must have proper credentials. Lack of proper referees is basis for protesting a game. A game cannot commence unless at least certified Center Referee is present and two Assistant Referees are strongly encouraged.*

4.02 A properly completed game card must be submitted to the proper authority for a game to be officially recognized. A properly completed game card must also be submitted in the event of a forfeited or abandoned game. Teams in the U16 and U19 divisions must also submit a properly completed substitution timesheet.

4.03 Both teams must complete the game card before the start of the game and give it to the referee. The game card must be legible and contain the first and last name of each team player participating, listed in numerical order and their corresponding jersey number.

4.04 A properly approved PCSSL stickered Player/Coach Pass must be presented to the referee for each player/coach who participated in the game. **No Pass, No PCSSL Sticker, No Play!** The referee will verify the identity of the player/coach by his pass, and the referee during the game will retain the passes.

4.05 The referee will check player uniform and equipment before the start of the game.

4.06 The referee will monitor and keep written record of substitutions on the game card for U10, U12 and U14. For U16 and U19, each team is required to have a timekeeper at each game to record the opposing team's substitutions. The timekeeper reviews the timesheet with the coach at the conclusion of the game and if there are any issues, the coach and the timekeeper resolve the issue or documents the issue directly on the timesheet. The coach must sign the timesheet and the timekeeper delivers the timesheet to the referee. **See the Free Substitution Instructions at www.pcssl.org for a copy of the instructions.**

4.07 Substitution Rules for U16 and U19, **Unlimited substitution by either team, at the half, after a goal, any injury, any goal kick and any card. Unlimited substitution by team in possession, at own throw-in and corner kick and if "own" team substitutes, opponent may also substitute.**

4.08 Upon completion of the game, the referee must sign the game cards (U10, U12 and U14 divisions) or collect the timesheets for the (U16 and U19 divisions) and retain them

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until the end of the season in the event league administrators need to access them (we are no longer mailing game cards/timesheets to the league director). Any player or coach pass of an ejected player or coach and a properly completed referee report are to be mailed to the league director: **J. Drew Van Horne (1201 St. Joseph Ave., Los Altos, CA 94024)** as well as an Email (**ayso45drew@gmail.com**) on that day.

4.09 Referee judgment calls are final and not to be protested.

5.0 Cautions and Dismissals

5.01 A player who receives a send-off (red card) must leave the field of play immediately and either leave the premises or remain under the strict supervision of an AYSO Safe Haven certified adult. An ejected player will serve a minimum one game suspension, which will begin on the next regularly scheduled game. Coaches ejected from a game will be suspended for a period of time to be determined by the league director.

5.02 A player who receives a second send-off (red card) during a season will be dismissed from the league.

5.03 PCSSL league administrators reserve the right to contact spring tournaments to honor PCSSL suspensions and PCSSL will honor all suspensions reported by spring tournaments.

6.0 Coaching

6.01 A team coach with a proper coach pass certified at or above the level of their team must be present for a team to take the field of play.

6.02 Coaching will be confined to the sideline within ten yards of midfield, behind the technical line.

6.03 Coaching directives from the sideline should be positive and encouraging.

6.04 The medical release form for each player must be in the coach's possession at all games and practices.

6.05 Any games played with ineligible players will be forfeited

6.06 All coaches and assistant coaches must be **properly registered** for the current AYSO year (membership year or MY) through their home region, AYSO **Safe Haven** Certified, **CDC Concussion Awareness** trained (new California law effective January 1, 2017) and certified at or above the level of their team: Under-10: **AYSO U-10 Coach** certification, Under-12: **U-12 Coach**, Under-14: **Intermediate Coach**, and Under-16 and Under-19: **Advanced Coach**.

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6.07 Each coach must fill out the game card before the start of the game and give it to the referee. The game card must be legible and contain the first and last name of each team player participating, listed in numerical order and their corresponding jersey number (**a 1 point deduction, if the game card is not filled out correctly**). For U16 & U19, the coach must also fill out and give to the referee a properly filled out time monitor card.

7.0 Scheduling

7.01 *The playing league schedule will take preference over any conflicts and games will not be rescheduled, except by league officials – all “not available dates” must be known by the February Coach Meeting*

7.02 The home team is responsible for providing a suitable field for each game. An insurance certification for all fields must be obtained from the team’s parent soccer region.

7.03 Regular league games will be scheduled on **SUNDAYS ONLY**. The coach of the home team must contact (phone or Email) and confirm the scheduled game with the visiting coach within 72 hours of each game.

7.04 Cancellation of games due to inclement weather will be communicated by coaches to the league website administrator. **Falsification of information will be grounds for forfeiture.**

7.05 In the event of any game cancellation, the home team field administrator with mutual agreement of the coaches will reschedule makeup games, and notify the PCSSL Administrator. In the event that coaches cannot mutually agree on a make-up date within a responsible time, the PCSSL Game Scheduler in conjunction with the region’s fields administrator will reschedule the game at his/her prerogative. A team that cannot field a proper team (see 2.05) for a scheduled makeup game will forfeit the game. If both teams fail to play a rescheduled makeup game, both teams will forfeit (double-forfeit). All makeup games must be completed by the last day of the season and should be completed in the order of cancellation. **Please note that make-up games may result in multiple games on a Sunday or a game on another day of the week.**

7.06 The league game schedule will be final on March 1 of the current season and any changes other than field closure will result in a forfeit

8.0 Awards

8.01 First and second place teams in all divisions will be awarded individual tee-shirts.

8.02 All participating players and coaches will receive a league souvenir.

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9.0 Disciplinary Rulings

9.01 The League Director will determine disciplinary action according to the due process guidelines of AYSO. The League Director will deal with all protests and appeals. Any protest or appeal shall be made in writing and accompanied by a non-refundable \$100.00 check (check payable to PCSSL). Such protests and appeals will be postmarked within seventy-two (72) hours of the competition or action being protested. Protests should be mailed to the PCSSL League Director: **J. Drew Van Horne (1201 St. Joseph Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024)**

10.0 The league director will resolve situations not covered by these rules.

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