



PEARL YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

1080 Center City Drive

Pearl, Mississippi 39208

www.pearlsoccer.com

pyaa.siplay.com/site/

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

APPROVED: JUNE, 2016

LAST REVISED AMENDED: JUNE, 2008

SECTION I. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

1. LEAGUE NAME

The league will be known as the PEARL YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE (PYSL).

2. SPONSORSHIP

The league will be organized by the duly elected officers of the PYSL.

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Pearl Youth Soccer League shall be the development of Division II Secondary and Division III and associated programs for the youth served by this organization through the promotion, development, and regulation of an organized soccer program.

4. BOUNDARIES

The boundaries of the PYSL will include the entire area within the city limits of Pearl.

5. AFFILIATION

Upon approval of these Organization and Playing Rules, this league shall be affiliated with the Mississippi Youth Soccer Association and the United States Youth Soccer Association and shall be an integral part of these organizations, and shall at all times recognize the authority, rules and laws of these bodies.

6. LEAGUE COUNCIL

The League Council will be comprised of all elected officers. They will be elected at large **the 1st Tuesday of April and take office 1st meeting in July for a period of two (2) years.** No one person will hold more than two elected offices at a time. The League President, Vice President and Treasurer must be held by different individuals. If officer(s) position is open, newly elected officers for open position shall take office immediately following the election of said officers. The officers will be as follows:

6A. PRESIDENT (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

The President shall have the overall responsibility for the conduct and administration of this organization and shall be responsible for the following:

1. Set a leadership tone which confers to all Board members the primary objective of PYSL, which is to provide opportunities for all children under age 19 and over age 5 in PYSL's geographic area to play soccer in a safe environment. Additionally, to make sure that the infrastructure of the league allows all levels of soccer to be available - from recreational to competitive.
2. Chair monthly Board meetings - prepare agenda, clarify business, follow up if not clear where responsibility for action lies.
3. Chair Executive Committee.
4. Be responsible for liaison with the Mississippi Soccer association (MSA), including, but not limited to, serving as delegate to the MSA Annual General Meeting.

5. Respond in a timely and appropriate manner to all emails and phone calls received directly from membership.
6. Troubleshoot issues between Board members, League members and Board members, etc, if necessary.
7. Review budget proposals, contractor contracts, and operations of the League on a regular basis.
8. Appoint Committees as appropriate.
9. Together with the Board, regularly review League's Goals Vision and Core Values and communicate this to the membership. Periodically review goals and objectives with each director. Publicize and update commitments for each playing division.
10. Authority to sign checks and approve PYSL purchases under \$1,000. Board approval for planned purchases over \$1,000.
11. Assign tasks to Board members as required.
12. This office requires 1 year prior council experience; unless there is no qualified candidate at the time of vote.
13. Elected on Even Year and serves two years.

6B. VICE-PRESIDENT (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

The Vice-President shall be responsible for the following:

1. Act in the absence of the President for any official club related activities.
2. Serve as the Chair of the Disciplinary Committee, and support any other committees as requested.
3. Serve, with the President and Treasurer, on the Executive Committee.
4. Assist in the future direction of the Club including planning and oversight.
5. Perform tasks as requested by the President.
6. Chair committee on fund raising.
7. Responsible as Tournament Director for all PYSL Tournaments.
8. Provide oversight of internal controls and propose initiatives and controls for Board approval.
9. This office requires 1 year prior council experience; unless there is no qualified candidate at the time of vote.
10. Elected on Odd Year and serves two years.

6C. SECRETARY (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

The Secretary shall have the responsibility of:

1. Ensure meetings are effectively organized and record minutes.
2. Maintaining effective records and administration.
3. Uphold the legal requirements of governing documents such as registration documents, By-laws, monthly minutes, and financial reconciliations.
4. Communication and correspondence.
5. Attend monthly scheduled Board Meetings and present previous Board Minutes for approval.
6. Assist Treasurer as needed.
7. Elected on Odd Year and serves two years.

6D. PARLIAMENTARIAN (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

The Parliamentarian will have the responsibility of:

1. Handle ordering and distribution of player and coaches uniforms. Work with vendors to see that this process runs smoothly and provide timely updates on back ordered items..
2. Advise board of proper procedure under Robert's Rule of Order.
3. Assure that MSA and PYSL bylaws are followed.
4. Provide objective advice to the Board.
5. Assist the President as needed.
6. Attend monthly scheduled Board meetings and provide monthly Parliamentarian/Historian Board report.
7. Elected on Even Year and serves two years.

6E. TREASURER (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

The Treasurer shall be responsible for:

1. This office requires 1 year prior council experience, there is no qualified candidate at the time of vote.
2. Provide Board with Treasurer Revenue and Expenditure Report on a monthly basis, including bank statement, bank reconciliation, receipts, invoices, and deposit slips.
3. Provide Board with updated financial statements/budget on a quarterly basis.
4. Provide Board with a budget for each season (Fall and Spring) at the first Board meeting after registration closed. Circulate draft budget by no later than seven days after registration closure for discussion and feedback from Board members.
5. Recommend League fee structure to Board after receiving and reviewing budgets and reviewing overall financial plan for the League.
6. Review invoices and mail checks.
7. Follow up and collect Registration accounts payable and NSF checks.
8. Work with Tournament Director and other committees to ensure money is provided for change drawers. Work with Tournament Treasurers to ensure proper controls and procedures are in place to account for all cash and checks received.
9. Work with each Secondary DII Team Manager to collect each team's program fee and tournament payments in a timely manner.
10. Work with Head Referee to ensure that referee pay records maintained and referee fees are paid.
11. Attend Monthly Board Meetings.
12. Elected on Even Year and serves two years.

6F. PUBLICIST (GENERAL BOARD)

The Publicist will be responsible for:

1. Publicize and record all events of the PYSL.

2. Responsible for maintaining league emails, social media and communication with league members.
3. Recruit new sponsors and maintain sponsor relationship.
4. Maintain and order Field design and maps.
5. Advertise registration, tournaments, training camps, and other special announcements.
6. Prepare, organize, and recommend PYSL awards and recognition letters on behalf of PYSL coaches and volunteers such as Coach of Year, Volunteer of the Year, Community Service Letters, Opening Ceremonies, Closing Ceremonies and Recognition Awards.
7. Attend Monthly Board Meetings, and perform other duties as assigned.

6G. PROJECTS (GENERAL BOARD)

The Projects person will be responsible for:

1. Manage and control concession stands operations.
2. Provide Board with Concession Stand Report on a monthly basis, including revenue and expenditures, include receipts and deposits.
3. Recommend Concession stand fee structure to Board.
4. Work with Commissioners and individual volunteers to provide concession stand assistance and coverage.
5. Maintain and purchase concession stand inventory.
6. Authority to use PYSL debit card on PYSL purchases under \$750. Board approval for planned purchases over \$750.
7. Attend monthly scheduled Board meetings and provide monthly report.

6H. REGISTRAR (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

The Registrar person will be responsible for:

1. Implement and/or maintain the registration process to ensure an accurate and timely registration of the League membership for spring and fall.
2. Maintain and update as necessary the League registration through website.
3. Manage registration funds and ensure timely coordination with the Treasurer.
4. Maintain a database of all currently registered players as well as past players.
5. Coordinate resolution of incomplete registrations.
6. Provide the Parliamentarian with an accurate count of uniform purchases requested as part of registration.
7. Make sure all volunteers are registered and cleared by MSA with an active Kids Safe investigation.
8. Produce mailing lists from the registration databases, as required.
9. Provide coaches with up to date rosters.
10. Attend MSA Registrar meetings and when not able to attend, making sure someone is representing PYSL at such meeting.
11. This is a compensated position, in an amount established by the board.
12. This office requires 1 year prior council experience, there is no qualified candidate at the time of vote.
13. Elected on Odd Year and serves two years.

6I. HEAD COACH (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

The Head Coach shall have the responsibility of:

1. Interact with the City of Pearl Parks and Recreation Department regarding sports field scheduling, tournament play, user conflicts, etc.
2. Interact with vendors for field maintenance.
3. Maintain relationships with other sports field users, i.e. Baseball, Softball, Football, etc.
4. Oversee practice scheduling.
5. Oversee maintenance and lights schedule of fields.
6. Design field layout according to MSA Field dimensions
7. Order and pick up field supplies for the fields.
8. Responsible for all on field equipment: goals, nets, flags, etc.
9. Schedule Field days and coordinate volunteers to assist.
10. Assist President in any matters deemed necessary.
11. Attend monthly scheduled Board meetings and provide monthly Fields Director Board report.
12. Elected on Odd Year and serves two years.

6J. HEAD REFEREE (EXECUTIVE BOARD)

The Head Referee/Assignor shall be responsible for:

1. This office requires 1 year prior council experience.
2. Assignor licensed by the United States Soccer Federation through Mississippi Soccer Association (MSA) and will report directly to MSA.
3. Must annually recertify.
4. Schedule all referees for all PYSL games and tournament games operated under the auspices of PYSL and as outlined by MSA Rules.
5. Support and contribute to the continuous development of referees and the state's referee development program.
6. Assist Commissioners and Teams with any rescheduled games that result from weather or any other cancellation issues.
7. Authority to cancel games due to weather or any other conflict.
8. Distribute referees' pay and maintain pay records of payments.
9. Provide Board with Referee Report on a monthly basis, including games played and referees paid.
10. Compensation: Negotiated yearly. Pay for assignor and referees will be approved in July for the Fall and Spring Season.
11. Oversee, schedule, and maintain PYSL scheduled games for U-8 through U-18 age divisions, and may assign responsibilities as needed to commissioners.
12. Other game requirements:
 - a. Number of games per day: U-8 through U-18 Teams may not be assigned more than 2 games per day for recreational games. The 2 game limit is relating only to games that

are recreational “friendly” games and not enforced for tournament “competitive” play, jamborees, or required to make up prior scheduled cancelled games due to weather.

- b. Number of games during Monday through Friday: U-8 and U-12 teams may not be assigned more than 1 week night game every other week for recreational games. The number of games during Monday through Thursday are not enforced to make up prior scheduled cancelled games due to weather.

6K. DIVISION II DIRECTOR (GENERAL BOARD)

The Division II Director shall be responsible for:

1. Works with MSA Division II for game and league play
2. Organize DII Try-outs in Fall and Spring
3. Works with Volunteer DII Managers
4. Schedule friendly matches and arrange referees with Head Referee

6L. LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS (GENERAL BOARD)

The League Commissioners will be responsible for:

1. Represent your age-specific group at each meeting.
2. Recruit coaches for specific age group.
3. Ensure age-specific division coaches have background checks.
4. Provide an easy line of communication between parents and coaches.
5. Oversea recreational draft for respective age division.
6. Post schedules online, cancel games, and organize practice schedules.
7. Maintain age division fields by painting lines, hang nets, ensure sandbags on goals.
8. Assist Head Coach and Head Referee.
9. Communicate members concerns and questions to Board.
10. Assist on Field Days and Tournaments.

6M. DIRECTOR OF COACHING (DOC) (GENERAL BOARD)

The DOC will be responsible for:

1. Develop and improve coaches so that players maximize their potential at all ages.
2. Recruit prospective coaches.
3. Provide training and clinics for League coaches.
4. Provide practice sessions for coaches.
5. Nominate D2 coaches for D2 program.
6. Organize and plan academy training and associated fees.
7. Direct contact with MSA DOC.
8. Negotiate Salary yearly.

6N. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The Disciplinary Committee shall be appointed by the council and consist of 3 members. They will make reports and decisions on discipline matters. They are not members of the council.

SECTION II - REGISTRATION

1. REGISTRATION

The Pearl Youth Soccer League will organize and conduct all player registrations through webpage. On-site registration will be scheduled through the Parks and Recreation Department.

2. REGISTRAR

The Registrar will be appointed by the League Council and will serve on the council in this capacity. Said officer will be responsible for seeing that all rosters and reports are completed and sent to the State Registrar, a copy of the rosters sent to the league coaches and also the cost of registration for each player to be sent to the State Secretary.

3. SEASONAL YEAR

The seasonal year of the PYSL shall begin on **August** 1st and end on **July** 31st of the following year and will include both a Fall playing season and a Spring playing season.

All playing rules are in effect during the twelve (12) months of the seasonal year.

4. PLAYER REGISTRATION

Each player must register, in separate registrations, for both the Fall and Spring seasons. Each player's registration includes membership in the United States Soccer Federation and the Mississippi Youth Soccer Association. A permanent data file will be kept on each player's participation in the league. Each player must be officially registered with the PYSL before being allowed to participate in any practices or league games. All applicants will be accepted during the registration period, in the event that there is not enough room on a team they will receive a refund.

5. AGE DIVISIONS

PYSL shall consist of various divisions through the age of eighteen (18). The age divisions shall be:

Under 19 years of age; Under 16 years of age;

Under 14 years of age; Under 12 years of age;

Under 10 years of age; Under 8 years of age;

Under 6 years of age; Under 4 years of age

Each age division shall be comprised of players who are born by calendar year mandated by United States Youth Soccer. Birth-year registration calendars will now align with the start of the calendar year and run from January to December, rather than August to July as it had previously. For example, a U-15 player (players 15 years old or younger) would have a birth year of 2000 (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31) for the 2015 registration year. In 2016, U-15 players would be born in 2001 or earlier. Birth-year registration applies to all player age groups and not just players age 12 and younger. The MSA and United States Youth Soccer requirements that a player assigned to team in the Fall season must remain on the team (in the same age group) in the Spring season. See Appendix 1, Age Matrix.

6. PLAYING UP AN AGE GROUP:

Players can request to play up in an older age group when a written request is made by the parents. They will not be allowed to play down or change teams for the year (Fall and Spring). The exception being if a player moves up to a higher age group because there is no team available in their age group, that player can return to his/her age group at the beginning of the next seasonal year if they so desire. This play-up request must be approved by a majority of the Executive Board and the Director of Coaching, and the decision will be made on case-by-case basis. Note that there are many factors that will influence the decision, such as: player's well-being, fitting within a particular age-group, physical and social characteristics of the player, as well as the ability level of the player.

Any request to change teams or play-up an age group must complete the Playing-Up Application Form and the Playing-Up Consent Form found on the club website. The form must be completed with all required information and reasons for the request have to be explained in detail.

The PYSL reserves the right to move players when it will be in the best interest of developing the player and to maintain a team at a particular age group. This discretion is NOT bound by any of the guidelines in the Playing-Up consideration process. The PYSL reserves the right to build teams based on, but not limited to, the following considerations:

1. There are some situations where the club will ask a player to play up if it makes the overall numbers for the teams more favorable.
2. A player may be asked to play up when team continuity becomes threatened. The PYSL will always attempt to field a team at each age group and keep as many kids playing as possible.
3. In the event there is not a team in a particular age group and a team is formed combining two age groups, the younger players will not be considered "playing up" for that year.
4. If, after registration, a team is still not full, the Commissioners may consider younger players for their appropriate age group ONLY if the age appropriate team is full. These players can only be considered with the approval of the DOC.
5. The following Fall Season, all players will be required to register for their appropriate age group and/or request to register for the next level age group, following the policy outlined above.
6. Please note, that the playing-up Commissioner and DOC may at their discretion invalidate a players grandfathered status if it is determined that the player would benefit more by playing at the age appropriate level.
7. The difference in maturity and abilities between a player in an under eight (8) program who turns eight (8) in the fall and a player who isn't even seven (7) until the spring or summer is such a huge one, it needs addressing. This will not totally eliminate the problem of dealing with the advanced player who dominates his or her team and those around him but fewer players on the team means more chances for the other players to touch the ball and to play. An organization may choose to move the advanced player up in age group if his physical and mental readiness allows it. There is nothing wrong with players, 'playing up' as long as they are ready for it. Extreme caution should be used whenever considering this option as some parents can too often push their children too far too soon per Mississippi Soccer Association Policy Manual Section 20, paragraph 3.

SECTION III - TEAMS

1. TEAM SPONSORS AND NAMES

Team **sponsors and** names shall be established by the PYSL. Such **sponsors and** names shall be assigned in accordance with the head coaches requests, if possible, at the beginning of each season.

2. TEAM ASSIGNMENTS

Each child will be assigned to a team, per age divisions. There will be no transfers after rosters have been assigned to a particular team. No team (s) assignments will be made in any age group until all coaches for that age group have been secured.

3. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

Teams shall not roster more than double the number of players on the field unless approved by League and MSA.

A full playing team will comply with MSA rules according to each age group. The United States Youth Soccer standards chart was adapted effective 2016:

Under 4 play 4 v 4 with no goalkeeper; Minimum roster is 5 and Maximum is 8.

Under 6 play 4 v 4 with no goalkeeper; Minimum roster is 5 and Maximum is 8.

Under 8 play 4 v 4 with no goalkeeper; Minimum roster is 5 and Maximum is 8.

Under 10 play 7 v 7 with goalkeeper; Minimum roster is 8 and Maximum is 14.

Under 12 play 9 v 9 with goalkeeper; Minimum roster is 10 and Maximum is 18.

Under 14 play 11 v 11 with goalkeeper; Minimum roster is 12 and Maximum is 22.

Under 16 can play 11 v 11 or 7 v 7; Minimum roster is 8 and Maximum is 22.

Under 19 play 11 v 11 or 7 v 7; Minimum roster is 8 and Maximum is 22.

For games, the minimum number that team on the field can play with is as follows:

Under 19 have a minimum of 7 players (11 v 11) or (7 v 7).

Under 16 have a minimum of 5 players (7 v 7) or minimum 7 players (11 v 11).

Under 14 have a minimum of 7 players (11 v 11).

Under 12 have a minimum 6 players (9 v 9).

Under 10 have a minimum 5 players (7 v 7).

Under 8 and Under 6 have a minimum of 3 players (4 v 4).

In the case of a player being ejected from a game because of poor sportsmanship, the team shall play the remainder of the game with one less player. If because of player ejection, a team's field strength falls below their minimum number of players that team forfeits the game at the existing score if it is behind and a score of 1-0 if it is ahead.

4. ADDITIONAL PLAYERS

Any players added to a team's roster after the first scheduled league game will not be allowed to play in a league game for three (3) days after the proper registration is received and approved by the Commissioner of that league and the President. No player can be added to a team's roster and play in the State playoffs unless that player has played at least two (2) games in scheduled league play for that team.

5. SELECTION OF PLAYERS

The following procedure will be used for leveling talent within the program to avoid disparities which would result in unbalanced levels of ability on teams within a given age division:

A. ALL DIVISION III players assigned to a team will remain with that team for one (1) seasonal year.

B. All DIVISION II players assigned to a team will remain with that team for one (1) seasonal years or as long as in the same age division.

C. Div. III teams will be assigned according to Section II, paragraph 5. Div. II players will be selected or tryouts conducted as approved by council.

D. Draft procedures for all age groups will be as follows:

All the older players are rated and divided equally into teams. The younger players are then rated and divided equally into the teams with the older players. Teams are then numbered 1, 2, 3, etc. Numbers are put in a hat and coaches draw the whole team. Draft procedures for the Spring season for all age groups will be that all players entering the Pearl Youth Soccer League in the spring after sitting out one or more seasons will go through a blind draft. Each team will have the same number of players as the highest number on the existing team in that age level. An expansion team will be formed for players who were not drafted on to the existing team. If there are not enough players to form a team or if a coach cannot be found, a waiting list will be formed and the money will be returned.

E. Upon discussion of commissioner and coaches per their age division a more level way for talent to be disbursed may be used, if agreed to by all of coaches **and approved by council.**

F. Any player quitting a team during a playing season and wanting to sign back up next season will return to the same team if within a seasonal year.

6. TEAM LIABILITIES

Each team formed under PYSL shall be furnished a copy of the Organization and Playing rules and that action shall be deemed sufficient notice of their liabilities.

7. TEAM COACHES

Each team will have no more than one head coach, one assistant coach, one league assigned licensed assistant coach and one team manager for the purpose of official recognition by PYSL. A team may obtain all the unofficial assistance it desires; however, all coaches, assistant coaches, trainers and managers are approved by the Executive Board, and are required to meet Kid Safe approval before

participating in any team duties.

SECTION IV - EQUIPMENT

1. UNIFORMS

The Head Coach shall issue all uniforms to the respective Commissioners. Each player registered will be issued a uniform consisting of a jersey, shorts, and socks which will become his property at the end of the Spring season. In order to compete, a player must be dressed in similar uniforms, shin guards are mandatory, and socks pulled over the shin guards.

2. BALL SIZES

Under 19, Under 16, Under 14 teams shall use a #5 ball.

Under 12, and Under 10 shall use a #4 ball.

Under 8 and Under 6 shall use a #3 ball.

SECTION V - RULES OF COMPETITION

1. CONDUCT

With some minor modifications necessitated by the age of the soccer players, the conduct of games played in the PYSL will be in accordance with those of the United States Soccer Federation. Coaches will read and sign a Coaches Code of Conduct and be responsible for his/her players and parents.

2. SCHEDULES

The schedule of play will be determined by the Scheduler of each individual age group. Only games played between teams registered in the PYSL will be considered as games of record and will have bearing on league standings. Games, dates and times may only be changed with approval of the Commissioner of said age group, assignor/head referee. The coach of each age group will have the responsibility of notifying the assignor/head referee of any cancelled game as soon as possible to prevent the payment of referees for a cancelled game. All referees will be paid for assigned games so notification of cancellations will help on undue expenses. Coaches are to notify the scheduler of cancellation prior to 24 hours of start time of the scheduled game.

3. LENGTH OF GAMES

Each game for Under 10 - UNDER 19 will consist of two (2) periods of halves separated by a ten (10) minute half time period.

Each game for Under 8 will consist of three (3) periods of quarters separated by a five (5) minute break time for each period.

Each game for Under 4 - Under 6 will consist of four (4) periods of quarters separated by a five (5) minute half time period.

The length of game is as follows:

Under 6 playing times (minutes) of four (4) quarters of eight (8) minutes.

Under 8 playing times (minutes) of four (4) quarters of ten (10) minutes.

Under 10 playing times (minutes) of four (4) quarters of 12 minutes.

Under 12 playing times (minutes) of four (4) quarters of 15 minutes.

Under 14, Under 16, and Under 19 playing times (minutes) of four quarters of 17, 20, 23 minutes.

Each period is continuous playing time with a stop-age being determined only by the referee.

4. GAME TIME

Each game will start promptly at the scheduled starting time. There is no grace period. A game may begin as outlined in Section III - paragraph 3 with additional players being added as they arrive until full-team strength is reached. If any team cannot field seven players at the scheduled starting time, the game is forfeited 1-0.

5. TEAM REPRESENTATION

Each team shall be represented at the field of play by the head coach or designated assistant coach or parent assigned for the game. A team not so represented shall forfeit the game by the score of 1-0.

6. PLAYER PARTICIPATION

Each player must play at least **50%** (not necessarily continuous) of every game. It is the responsibility of the coach to ensure that his/her players receive this opportunity. A player that is not excused from practices or games or disrupts practices by not complying to the instructions of the coach to teach the game of soccer may be disciplined by a reduction in the required game playing time. If a coach deems it necessary for disciplinary reasons to limit the playing time of a player to less than the normal **50%**, he/she shall so notify the Center Referee prior to the start of play and the player of that decision prior to the start of play.

7. PLAYER SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions shall be made, with the consent of the referee at the following times and for the prospective divisions:

U4 - U16 Age Division

A. At quarter breaks, half time and for an injury.

U19 Age Division per FIFA Rules

8. SECONDARY PLAYERS

A. Applications must be taken at time of registration for secondary pool.

B. Multiple registration: A player may be registered on no more than two teams in a seasonal year. The player must indicate their primary team at their initial registration. If the player

registers on only one team at this initial registration, this team is their primary team. He/she may subsequently register on a second team as their secondary team. This multiple registration policy is subject to the following conditions.

C. A Division III or Division II player may secondarily register on any other team in their organization, if approved by their controlling organization. This team can be either a registered team in the three (3) established MYSA playing divisions or an "All-Star" team. The player may not play in either the State Cup of their secondary registered team or, if a Division I team, in the Division I League games.

D. A Division I player may secondarily register on another Division I team in their controlling organization, if approved by it. No Division I player can secondarily register on a Division III or Division II team. The player may not play in either the State Cup of their secondary registered team or, if a Division I team, in the MYSA Division I League games.

E. A player must play for their primary team in case of a game schedule conflict.

F. A player may transfer from either team providing the member organization(s) follows the required transfer procedures. Transfers from a primary team will be to a new primary team. Similarly, transfers from a secondary team will be to a new secondary team. Players are limited to one transfer per seasonal year.

G. With their controlling organization's approval, a player may reverse their primary/secondary designations once per seasonal year. This reversal will be processed with the State Office as a Player Transfer in compliance with all transfer policies.

H. Multiple registrations may be used to form Secondary Registration "All-Star" teams for the expressed purpose of playing in tournaments with Division I teams and/or other advanced level U. S. Youth Soccer Association teams. They may also play friendly games against these same teams. It can not participate in the State Cups of the three (3) MYSA playing divisions. The MYSA Council must approve the formation of any such team from the player resources of two (2) or more member organizations. I. A multiply registered player must pay the appropriate player registration fees for each team to MYSA.

9. INJURIES

Serious injuries in youth soccer are extremely rare. Most are just muscle cramps, loss of breath, or a bruised foot or shin. PYSL through MSA has accident insurance for all children playing in the league. If there is a need for this insurance the President is to be contacted immediately after the injury occurs. When an injury occurs during the play, play does not stop until so indicated by the referee. Parents and coaches are not allowed on the field until play is officially stopped and only then at the invitation of the referee.

10. PRACTICE FIELDS

Once league play begins, team practice shall be limited to twice each week for a total time of **three (3)** hours or less. If there is no game on the weekend, a third practice session may be held in lieu of the game. Coaches violating this provision will forfeit their next game following each violation, although

they will be allowed to play the game. Coaches are free to schedule team practices wherever and whenever they choose. Securing a practice field will be the responsibility of the coach.

11. INCLEMENT WEATHER

Soccer, like football, is played in inclement weather. Only the President and Head Referee can cancel any game. All cancelled games will be rescheduled. If a game is to be cancelled, the President will notify both coaches of the cancellation at least one hour before the scheduled game time. If notification of cancellation is not received, both coaches have the obligation to bring their teams to the field to play. At the field, at game time, the referee can cancel the game if lightning is present in the inclement weather or as he deems the field as unplayable. Prior to making his decision, the referee will, at the scheduled game time, take a head count of both teams. If either team has less than seven players, Under 10 through U19, or less than 5 players, U6 through U8, the team with less than their minimum amount of players will forfeit that game by the score of 1-0 even though the game should not be played. If both teams have less than their minimum amount of players, the game is not postponed but considered as a completed game but with both teams receiving an official loss. If both teams have at least their minimum amount of players, the game can be officially cancelled and rescheduled. Once the game is begun, the referee can only stop the game because of lightning or severe weather. If the game is still in the first half, it will be rescheduled. If it is in the second half when it is stopped, it will be considered as a game of record. If playing conditions deteriorate, both coaches can, by mutual consent, terminate the game at any point. The game will, at that point, become a game of record however.

12. POSTPONEMENT OF GAMES

Any team desiring the postponement of any scheduled game must first give notice to the coach of the opposing team. If a postponement has been mutually agreed upon, both team's coaches involved must individually obtain sanction from the Commissioner and Head Referee not less than thirty-six (36) hours prior to the originally scheduled game. In cases where the condition of a field is to be decided upon, only the referee's decision to play or not to play a game can be accepted.

13. REFUSAL OR FAILURE TO PLAY

Any team refusing or failing to play a game without complying with these playing rules as determined by the President shall forfeit all points associated with that game.

14. NOTIFICATION OF RESCHEDULED GAMES

Teams which are to play a postponed or rescheduled game must be notified by the PYSL at least forty-eight (48) hours before the game.

15. CONSEQUENCES OF FORFEITURE

A team which fails to appear at any scheduled game shall forfeit the game by a score of 0-1, in favor of the opposing team.

16. COACHING GROUND RULES

Coaching from the sideline is permitted for Under-16 teams and younger divisions; that is, giving directions to one's own team on points of strategy and position is permitted only if:

- A. No mechanical devices are used.
- B. The tone of voice is information and the instructions are positive. Negative coaching, e.g., berating a player, making disparaging remarks or blatant criticism is not permitted.
- C. The coach and substitute players remain on the sidelines or within any designated restricted area during the game.
- D. No coach, substitute or player makes derogatory remarks or gestures to the referee, other players, substitutes or spectators.
- E. No coach, substitute or player incites, in any manner, disruptive behavior.
- F. No coach, substitute or player uses profanity.

For failure to comply with the foregoing, a caution will be given to the offending coach, unless in the referee's judgment, a more serious infraction has occurred, in which case the referee will act accordingly. If the game has been stopped to award the caution, it will be restarted with an indirect free-kick taken by the opposing side at the point where the ball was when play was halted. Persistent misconduct after receipt of a caution will be dealt with by ejection of the offending coach or player or suspension of the game as appropriate. In the event of any of the foregoing, a report of circumstances will be made to the President for any further action he or the Head Referee may deem appropriate.

15. LEAGUE SCORING

The standing of teams in their respective leagues shall be figured by points. Two (3) points are awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie and no points for a loss. All tallying of records and points shall be published by the Commissioners. If the total points of the two teams are the same at the end of the season, head to head play to determine 1 & 2. If more than two (2) teams are tied, an appropriate play-off schedule consistent with the number of teams tied will be established by the President and pursued until a champion is decided.

SECTION VI – TOURNAMENTS

1. DISTRICT AND STATE TOURNAMENT

District Tournament:

All qualifying teams in the league for Spring season in each age group will be given the opportunity to represent PYSL in the **District Tournament** of the MSA. This representation is not mandatory and the decision to participate in the playoffs is left up to the coach, players and parents of the willing team. This decision must be made and reported to the President within twenty-four (24) hours after he announces the winner in each age group. If the winning team decides not to participate, the opportunity to participate will be extended to the runner-up team. If they also decline, the opportunity will be extended to the team next in the standings and so on until a representative is found. If a team accepts to play in the District Tournament the team must also play in the state tournament if they qualify.

State Tournament:

The League authorized special designation to pay State Tournament Fees for League D3 teams qualified to play through District Tournament. If a League team fails to attend the State Games, the League can

be fined by MSA. The League has established criteria to be met for the provisions to be applied as follows:

Criteria: The League must be in a financial position to support the teams such as at minimum of \$5,000 in available funds at the time of State Tournament registration. The League shall only pay up to a maximum of \$1,000 for State Tournament Registration Fees regardless of number of teams qualified for State Tournament.

Provisions:

Two Teams Qualified:

1. If the above criteria is met then the League shall pay the State Tournament Fees if only two (2) League teams qualify from District Tournament, the League will pay for the First Place Seed only.
2. If the above criteria is not met, the League will pay for 50% of the First place seed teams and unable to support second, third, or fourth seed teams.

Three or more Teams Qualified:

1. If the above criteria is met and three or more teams qualified as First Seed position, the League will pay for State Tournament Fees up to a maximum of \$1,000 cumulative. If the State Fees exceed \$1,000 then the League will split the \$1,000 and allocate to each first seed team's State Tournament Fee. Example: Five teams qualified as First Seed. The League will pay \$200 toward the State Fee based on five teams, and the team will be responsible for the remaining amount due for State Tournament.

SECTION VII – OFFICIALS

1. OFFICIATION

All games under the jurisdiction of the PYSL shall be officiated by properly registered or trained referees who stand approved by the President and the Head Referee. Under 8 will have a Center Referee only. Under 6 will be officiated by coach of teams playing. All other games will require Assistant Referees. The referee will instruct the Assistant Referee as to their responsibilities prior to each game.

2. REFEREE RESPONSIBILITIES

Referees shall at all times impose the rules and regulations of competition as designated by the PYSL and the FIFA rules in general. The referee shall at all times put great emphasis on the welfare of the players and officiate the game inducing clean competition and good sportsmanship. The referee should wear the official uniform and the official emblem.

3. JURISDICTION OF REFEREES

The referee has jurisdiction from the time he enters the field of play until he signals the end of the game. His decisions are final. He can stop the game for infringement of the rules and can suspend or terminate a game whenever he deems such stoppage necessary; for example, severe weather or interference by spectators and/or coaches. The referee can suspend from play the player guilty of

violent conduct, repetitious infringement of the Playing Rules, unsportsmanlike conduct, or for any reason deemed advisable by the referee.

4. ASSIGNMENT OF REFEREES

The assignment of referees is solely the responsibility of the Assignor. No referee shall officiate in a PYSL sanctioned game without being assigned to that game by the Head Referee or before checking with the Head Referee to insure that the game is sanctioned by the PYSL.

5. COMPENSATION OF REFEREES

The fee schedule for officiating PYSL games will be established by the PYSL council. The Head Referee will insure that all referees are paid for games they officiate. In no instance will any referee be allowed to referee a sanctioned PYSL game without receiving the approved level of compensation. Those referees not desiring compensation must accept it but are free to return it to the PYSL as a donation.

6. ABSENCE OF REFEREES

In case the assigned official fails to appear for a scheduled game, a referee should be appointed by agreement between teams. If the appointed referee is a league approved referee, he may proceed with the game without checking with the Head Referee if such checking would unduly delay the game. The Head Referee should be notified of his action by the referee immediately upon completion of the game, however. Upon arrival at the field of play of the league assigned referee or another league approved referee (in the event the substitute referee is not a league approved referee), the game will be halted at the next stoppage of play at which time the appointed referee or other league approved referee will assume cognizance of the game.

7. GAME REPORTS

Referees shall report to the Head Referee on a referee's official report form, the result of the game, personnel of the teams, and the goals scored. Any violations of the rules and regulations by either team or their team officials must be included in this report, which shall be delivered, mailed or otherwise conveyed to the PYSL within twenty-four (24) hours following the game.

Also, any disturbances or unsportsmanlike behavior shall be so stated on the Official Report Form.

8. MISCONDUCT

Any case of misconduct on the field of play by players or coaches shall be reported by the referee to the Head Referee who then reports to the President stating all the particulars of the misconduct within twenty-four (24) hours of the game. Any player or team personnel reported to the Head Referee must be informed by the referee that they are being put on report. The red card policy for PYSL is as follows:

1st red card - automatic suspension for the player and/or the coach for the rest of that game plus the next full game.

2nd red card - automatic suspension for the player and/or the coach for the rest of that game plus the next two (2) full games. Also player and parents must meet before the Board before their next scheduled game.

3rd red card - automatic suspension for the remainder of the seasonal year (fall and spring seasons equal one year.) Coach or player suspended must have board approval to register the following season.

Yellow Cards - for every five (5) yellow cards a player receives will equal a red card. Penalty will be according to the number of red cards that have been received according to the above rules.

Records of cards - head referee/assignor will have the responsibility of keeping an accurate record of all cards issued involving all PYSL players at home and away games.

Coaches - all PYSL coaches must report any cards a player receives at any away games to the lead referee/assignor within 24 hours.

9. CIRCUMSTANTIAL DEPARTURE OF REFEREE DURING GAME

Should any referee become incapacitated during the progress of a game from any cause that would prevent him from continuing the game, he shall turn over control of the game to any other affiliated referee or a person mutually agreed upon by each team. The proxy chosen shall, in turn, officiate the game to its conclusion, or until appointed official agrees to return or another league approved official arrives (in the event the substitute official is not league approved).

10. SPECTATOR INTERFERENCE, THREAT OR ASSAULT

Every coach is responsible for the actions of his players, officials, and spectators, and is responsible for taking all necessary precautions to prevent spectators from interfering, threatening or assaulting officials and players before, during and/or at the conclusion of the game. Violations of this rule may result in an official warning by the referee.

Violations after the official warning will result in the removal of the spectator and/or termination of the game by the referee. Should this occur, the referee shall report the circumstances to the Head Referee.

11. ASSAULT UPON REFEREE OR LEAGUE OFFICIAL

Should any coach, player, parent or spectator physically assault a referee or other PYSL official on the premises, such an assault shall result in the automatic suspension of said person for one calendar year from the time of such an assault from the playing premises. The suspension will also be reported to the State Secretary of the MYSA.

SECTION VIII - PROTESTS, COMPLAINTS, AND DISCIPLINARY ACTION

1. PROTESTS

Any team protesting a game, must through its coach (or his representative) initiate such a protest in writing two (2) copies by submitting one copy to the coach (or his representative) of the opposing team, in the presence of the referee before leaving the field of play. The second copy must be given to the referee at the same time. The wording can be as simple as "The game against (other team's name) by the (protesting team's name) played on (date) at (time) is hereby being protested. Signed (coach's signature)." A formal protest in writing, stating all known facts, shall be sent to the President within twenty-four (24) hours of the game. All formal protests must be accompanied by a non-refundable \$25 protest fee.

A. Protests based on late starts and/or the field of play and appurtenances shall be filed with the referee in writing prior to the starting of the game. A copy of the protest shall be handed to the coach (or his representative) of the opposing team at the time.

B. Protests based on ineligible players shall be filed with the Commissioner no later than forty-eight (48) hours after the game in which the player or players participated. The protesting coach should mail or deliver a copy of the protest to the opposing coach at that time.

C. Protests of the game can only be based on violations of the rules of the game. Quality of officiating is not a pro testable item.

D. The League Council shall take such action in the above matters as deemed necessary within ten (10) days from the time the President receives the protest. However, the President along with the League Council may rule on a protest in the interest of expediency and timeliness.

2. TEAM, PLAYER, OFFICIAL, SPECTATOR VIOLATIONS

Any team, player, coach, parent, or spectator being proved to the satisfaction of the President to have been guilty of any violations of the laws of the game the playing rules of the PYSL or any misconduct detrimental to the game, shall be dealt with appropriately by the League.

3. COMPLAINTS

Any player, coach, parent, or spectator may file a complaint about any misconduct, violation, of the playing rules, unsportsmanlike behavior, etc., by writing to the league commissioner with an explanation of all circumstances. Superfluous criticism or objections will be ignored, however, all substantive, germane complaints will be considered by the President and League Council and may be turned over to the Disciplinary Committee for review.

4. RULING AND PROTESTS

All rulings on complaints, misconduct, protests, etc. are the responsibility of the League Council. Misconduct issues may be turned over to the Disciplinary Committee for review and resolution.

SECTION IX - Division 1 and Division 2 Teams

1. Division 1- as outlined by MSA Manual Section 11

2. Division 2- as outlined by MSA Manual Section 10

2A. Coaches

Coaches will be assigned by the Division 2 Director with League Council approval.

2B. Players-Pools

Players will be chosen by the Division 2 coaching staff and Division 2 Director based on tryouts and evaluations of Division 3 game performances.