

Fall Playoff Rules and Regulations Region 97 - U8 Tournament

(update of Nov 3)

1. GENERAL

- A. The winning coach must report the game result the same day on the website www.newportayso.com. In the case of a tie, the home team coach should report the score.
- B. The playoffs will be played under FIFA - Laws of the Game and AYSO National Rules and Regulations, except as indicated below.
- C. All games will be 40 minutes in length. The clock will continue running during quarter substitution breaks. Half-time breaks will be five minutes in length. Games must begin and end on time. The referee is the sole judge of the time for the game.
- D. Coaches must be in possession of each of their players' Registration Forms at all times.
- E. Teams must be at the field ready to play at the scheduled game time
- The minimum number of players necessary to begin the game - 5 players,
 - A five-minute grace period is given, during this time the game clock is running.
 - If a team is unable to begin the match by the end of five minutes, a forfeit will occur.
- F. Coaches, players and spectators shall remain on their designated side of the field of play, and opposite of the opposing team.
- HOME team is listed first on the schedule and will choose side of field.
 - Every coach, player, substitute player and spectator must remain on their side of the field during the duration of the game within the designated area.
 - Coaches will remain within 10 yards on either side of the halfway line.
 - ALL SPECTATORS AND SUBSTITUTES MUST REMAIN AT LEAST FIVE FEET BACK FROM THE TOUCHLINE SO THE ASSISTANT REFEREES CAN DO THEIR JOBS.
 - No person shall be behind or near the goals or beyond the 18-yard line (forward boundary of the penalty area).
- G. Each team is responsible for clean-up of their sideline after each game.
- H. In the event of inclement weather, the Region 97 mud line - (888) AYSO-R97 - will dictate field availability.

2. PLAYER'S EQUIPMENT

- A. All uniforms worn shall be those issued by the Region.
- B. Shin guards must be worn by all players at all times during the duration of the game. Shin guards must be completely covered and INSIDE the game sock during the duration of the game.
- C. Sliding pants/bicycle shorts may be worn, but at no time can they extend below the knee. The color of the sliding pants/bicycle shorts must be black or the same color as the uniform shorts. T-shirts, either short- or long-sleeved, may be worn but must be of the same color as the uniform jersey, and must be worn underneath the jersey.

D. Knee braces, if worn, must be soft and flexible. Hard-type, plastic, metal or anything considered dangerous to either the player or opponent by the referee may not be worn at any time during the duration of the game. Soft wrap (ACE bandages) will be allowed, but no metal clips can be used.

E. Hats, bandannas, kneepads and elbow pads will not be allowed on any player with the exception of the goalkeeper.

- The goalkeeper is allowed to wear knee and/or elbow pads.
- If eyeglasses are worn, they must be secured by either a plastic guard or a head strap.

F. Players with hard casts or soft casts shall not be permitted to play.

3. SUBSTITUTION OF PLAYERS

A. Substitution shall be in accordance with AYSO National Rules and Regulations as follows:

B. Approximately midway through the first half.

C. Approximately midway through the second half.

D. AYSO substitution rules will apply in case of injury.

E. The substitutes may not enter the field until given permission to do so by the referee. All substitutes must enter and exit at the halfway line.

F. ALL COACHES, in all divisions, are responsible for ensuring that each player participates (plays) a minimum of three quarters of each game.

G. A player may be goalkeeper for a maximum of 2 quarters.

4. GAME RULES

A. Offside rule will not be enforced.

B. No penalty kicks will be awarded (except as part of the tie-breaker in overtime). Penalty kicks will be taken from a spot 10 yards from the goal line

C. No cautions (yellow cards) or sendoffs (red cards) will be issued, except for poor coach or parent behavior.

D. All free kicks are direct (ie. goals can be scored directly off the kick).

5. PLAY-OFF FORMAT (except for Girls matches on Nov 21)

A. All games will be 40 minutes

B. If a tie exists at the end of regulation time, TWO complete 5 minute overtime periods will be played. A coin toss will decide who kicks off, for the first overtime period.

C. Should a tie exist after both overtime periods, the two teams will participate in KICKS FROM THE PENALTY MARK to determine the winner. AYSO-FIFA instructions regarding the taking of kicks from the penalty mark shall apply.

- Only the players that are on the field at the end of the second overtime may participate in the taking of kicks from the penalty mark.
- Winner of the coin flip chooses whether they kick first or second
- Each team is eligible to take 5 kicks (teams alternate kicks)
- If, before both teams have taken 5 kicks, one has scored more goals than the other could score, even if it were to complete its five kicks, no more kicks are taken
- If, after both teams have taken five kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, kicks continue to be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks
- Keeper must keep his feet on or behind the goal line until the ball is kicked. If the keeper steps off the line and a goal is not made, the kicker is awarded another opportunity.

D. Only winning teams advance to the next round of playoffs

6. PLAYOFF FORMAT (Girls final matches on Nov 21)

A. Each of 3 remaining teams will play 2 games. Games may end in ties. No overtime periods or penalty kicks.

B. League championship will be based on the following points system.

C. The ten (10) point (max) system shall be used as follows:

- WIN = 6 Points
- TIE = 3 Points
- LOSS = 0 Points
- ONE POINT FOR EACH GOAL UP TO THREE (3) GOALS
- SHUTOUT WIN = 1 Point (no extra point for a shutout tie)
- FORFEIT = 1-0 Game Score
- RED CARD = -2 Point (see 8C)

D. If there is a tie in points, tournament champion will be determined by using the following "Tie Breakers" in the order in which they are listed:

1. Tie Breaker A - If the tied teams played head to head, the team that won that game shall be deemed the winner.
2. Tie Breaker B - Goal differential with a +/- 3 maximum per game.
3. Tie Breaker C - Team with the lowest total number of goals scored against them, will be deemed the winner.
4. Tie Breaker D - Team with the highest total number of goals scored for them, will be deemed the winner, using maximum of 3 goals per game.
5. Tie Breaker E -Coin Toss (by Regional Commissioner or designee).

7. Referees

A. Each home team is responsible for providing a certified U8 or above referee for the match preceding their match. Failure to provide a referee will result in that teams forfeiting their match

B. For semi-final and final matches, neutral referees will be assigned by the RRA or his designee.

8. SEND-OFF PROCEDURES (EJECTIONS)

A. Any coach, or spectator who has been sent off (given a red card), must immediately leave the game site area to the referee's satisfaction.

B. Any coach being sent-off will be expelled from that game, and will be disqualified from coaching for the remainder of the playoffs. Stronger penalties may be imposed, depending on the circumstances. Coaches are responsible for the actions of their players, assistant coaches and spectators. Coaches are required to prevent and discourage unruly behavior, threats, and/or assault of any kind on players or officials, before, during and after the conclusion of any game.

C. If a coach or parent is sent-off the field during Girls final matches on Nov 21, two points (2) will be deducted from that teams total points

9. CONDUCT

A. All players, coaches and spectators are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship throughout the playoffs.

B. Negative or derogatory comments shall not be permitted from the sidelines by coaches, substitutes or spectators. (The Coach sets the tone; the coach is responsible for the sideline conduct.)

C. Failure by coaches to control the behavior of their sideline may result in their being issued a caution or send-off.

D. Coaches shall not enter the field of play unless requested by the referee.

E. The Regional Commissioner and/or Playoff Committee reserve the right to immediately suspend from the playoffs any team that causes damage, injury or disturbance, on or off the field.

F. NO ALCOHOL, TOBACCO OR DOGS permitted on or near the field of play at any time during the tournament.

10. PROTESTS

A. Protests will not be allowed.