

AYSO EXTRA RULES AND PROCEDURES

BEFORE THE GAME:

What are my responsibilities as a coach?

The coach is responsible for the actions of him/herself, the team's players and the team's parents. Other coaching responsibilities include contacting the opposing coach by the Wednesday prior to the game. Submitting scores to your regional Extra Coordinators of each week's contest and submitting game reports in Quickbase.

What are my Region's responsibilities?

The region is responsible for provision of properly sized fields; provision of properly trained referees; and provision of properly trained coaches as well as for communicating training opportunities available within the Area. Regions are now responsible to provide a uniformed referee for both home and away games. Referees assignments for their Extra games are to be forwarded by the region to the Area by the Thursday prior to the game.

You as a coach may need to be proactive with your Regional management to ensure that your needs are being met. Please advise the Area Extra Teams Staff if you have any concerns regarding your regional resources.

What are the training requirements for AYSO Extra coaches?

Requirements:

- a) Safe Haven – classroom certification for all Extra team coaches. (Online certification alone is insufficient for Extra team coaches).
- b) All AYSO Extra Team coaches U9 through U12 must have completed the Youth/U12 coaching course and its prerequisites.
- c) Intermediate coaching course is required for U13 and U14 coaches
- d) It is highly recommended that all AYSO Extra coaches complete the AYSO Advanced Coaching course.

For Fall 2007: Please notify the Area Extra Teams Coordinator and your Regional Commissioner in writing or via email immediately if you do not presently have the required certification and training.

How should I organize my team?

Regions are encouraged to form teams based on precise soccer age eligibility. Players are permitted to play up, however the practice should be discouraged.

Roster size: The rules of the program are that U9 and U10 teams will play 7 v 7; U11 and U12 teams will play 9 v 9; U13 and older teams play 11 v 11. Plan your roster size accordingly

If possible, imbed a referee in your team. Each team is now required to provide a uniformed referee to both home and away games.

Is there a mandatory orientation course?

Yes. However due to time constraints at the beginning of this season, the orientation course will be offered prior to the start of the spring season. You will be given advance notice of the course date so that you can set aside that time on your calendar. AYSO Extra Coach and Player ID cards will be distributed at that meeting; these cards must be carried at all Extra program games and produced on request by game officials. Only coaches with ID will be allowed to coach an Extra game.

GAME DAY:

Where should my players and parents be situated for the game?

Recommended: Where field size permits, we get the best results with having parents on one side of the field and the teams on the other. If field size does not permit complete separation of teams from spectators, the spectators must be at least 3 yds off the touchline, on the side of the field, and not less than 18 yds from either end (i.e., not behind the goals, and no closer than the top of the penalty area). Substitutes (and coaches!) must be at least 1 yd off the touchline and not more than 10 yds from center, unless invited onto the field by the referee. The AR needs clear vision all the way down the line at all times; failure to respect these rules (i.e., straying from the "technical area") is technically grounds for sanction as misconduct. Note specifically, that coaches (a) must be in their own technical area and (b) are not permitted to run up and down the field to shout instructions, nor are they permitted to be anywhere close to the penalty area.

The other coach has asked if we can each play with one player extra. Should I?

Absolutely not! The rules of the program are that U9 and U10 teams will play 7 v 7; U11 and U12 teams will play 9 v 9; U13 and older teams play 11 v 11. You may play DOWN from these numbers if circumstances dictate, but you may not include more players on the field. Having an improperly sized field is not a reason to play up in numbers. See field sizes below. If the field is too big, an adjustment using cones or other markers is the preferred and suggested remedy.

What do I do if the field is the wrong size?

Recommendation: do what you can, play the game anyway. It's frequently difficult to change the length of the field, but the width can be brought in with the use of flat cones, if necessary. Report the conditions to your own and the opposing team's Extra Coordinator, with copies to John Van Steen. And remember that the recommendations allow for a fair amount of variety in field size -- for example:

Size	Extra Program Recommendation	AYSO R&R Max
U10	40 - 45 x 65 - 75	40 x 80
U12	55-60 x 80 or 46 x 100	50 x 100
U14	+FIFA	= FIFA (50 x 100 - 100 x 130).

What are the referee's responsibilities?

Referees will meet prior to the game to determine game management. Generally, the home team referee will be expected to center ref the game. However, upon mutual agreement of the referees, this assignment may be deferred to visiting referee based upon badge level or experience. Additionally, the home team will provide a qualified linesperson.

The referees will then have a formal pre-game meeting with the opposing coaches and will reinforce that the coaches:

- are expected to exhibit AYSO sportsmanship and positive coaching protocols
- are responsible for the actions and behaviors of their players and spectators associated with the team
- understand that the six-goal margin is in effect
- understand that the purpose of the game is to provide a positive experience for the players.
- beginning Spring season: check coach identification card

What do I do if I don't like the referee?

Recommendation: keep it to yourself during the game; play the game, respect the rules and the official's calls without question or dissent. At halftime or the end of the game you may be able to ask politely what the referee saw on a particular call that you missed; depending on how well-behaved you've been he may or may not answer, he is not required to. Write a polite note with just the facts surrounding your concern to your extra coordinator and/or referee administrator and the opposing team's extra coordinator and/or referee administrator. Let the assigning administrator get input from all concerned (including the referee) and whether the referee needs additional training or guidance. Things to remember about referees:

- they can only call what they see
- they are volunteers doing the best that they can for the kids
- much of the game is "in the opinion of the referee ... "
- they have been trained in the laws of the game; you haven't
- the referee's decisions concerning facts of play and player equipment are final
- they are human, they make mistakes. That's life.
- there is no consequence to winning or losing, thus no need for appeals or protest

What do I do if the opposing coach questions the age of one of my players?

Recommendation - Assure the coach the player is legitimate, and offer (nicely) to show him the copy of the **registration / medical release**, which includes the birthday, and which **is required to be in the coach's possession at all times**. Until player ID cards are available (Spring 2008), we are on the honor system.

What is the policy for running up the score?

6 goal differential principle: One of the tenets of AYSO is good sportsmanship. It is the region's responsibility to ensure that its coaches are well versed in the various means available to manage the goal differential in a match. No team may win by more than a six goal differential and coaches must instruct their players that if they are ahead by six goals, they may not score again unless the other team scores. This instruction should occur before the first game so that all players as well as parents are aware of the rule and how the teams will alter its strategy to conform to the rule. Keep-away works and is a great skill builder. There are other methods of keeping your team engaged and working on skills without goal scoring. If you instruct your teams early in the season that this is the policy that all teams play by, there will be no surprises and no running up of scores. Sanctions will be imposed on teams that violate this rule. For the first offense, a warning will be given to both the coach and regional commissioner. For the second offense the coach will be given a one game suspension and the region will be fined \$50.00 for each goal in excess of the allowed six goal differential. For the third offense, the coach will be suspended for the season and the team's region will be fined \$100.00 per goal in excess of the six goal differential.

I don't have enough players. Should I cancel the game?

Absolutely not! Only the referee may cancel or abandon a match. This is not within the coaches' scope of responsibility. There is no reason for a team to cancel a game because it cannot field enough players or because players have other commitments! Because your players have chosen to play Extra soccer, this should be their priority. However, if you are short players, you may choose to play down, borrow players from the other team temporarily in order to even up sides, or you may choose to scrimmage with the opposing team. It is completely unfair to your opponent for you to unilaterally not appear for a scheduled match. Go with what you have and work out the game circumstances with the opposing coach.

After the game

Coaches must:

1. Send score report to your Extra Coordinator
2. Enter game report in Quickbase file

Regional Extra Program Coordinators must:

1. Send score report to the Area Extra Coordinator
2. Send list of referee assignments to Area Extra Referee Coordinator by Thursday preceding Extra games.

Referees must:

1. Enter a game report in Quickbase file
2. Send game report to Regional Extra Program Coordinator. Include in your game report;
 - names of players receiving red cards
 - explanation of any problems arising from the actions of coaches, players, parents
 - any problem with fields

What information should I include in my game report?

Recommendation: "The good and the bad" Please provide a brief accounting of the circumstances of the game – observations on the quality of the experience. Field size and markings; referee; coach, player, and spectator behavior, etc. Score is but one element of how the game was played. Overall commentary on game play is useful but a full play-by-play is not necessary.