

COASTAL YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE  
CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS and GAME RULES  
Amended November 2019  
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1: NAME

- a. The Organization shall be known as the Coastal Youth Soccer League. Herein referred to as the CYSL.

ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE

- a. The purpose of the CYSL shall be to foster the development of soccer, promote sportsmanship and goodwill between members, and to formulate uniform regulations and controls within the Organization.

ARTICLE 3: AFFILIATION

- a. The CYSL shall be affiliated with Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association (MYSA), United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA), United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and International Football Association Board (IFAB).

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

- a. The geographic area of the CYSL shall encompass the towns of Carver, Cohasset, Duxbury, Halifax, Hanover, Hingham, Hull, Kingston, Marshfield, Middleboro, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton and Scituate.
- b. The Membership of the CYSL shall consist of the following Associations: Carver YSA, Cohasset YSA, Duxbury YSA, Halifax YSA, Hanover YSA, Hingham YSA, Hull YSA, Kingston YSA, Marshfield YSA, Middleboro YSA, Norwell YSA, Pembroke YSA, Plymouth YSA, Plympton YSA, Sacred Heart YSA and Scituate Soccer Club.
- c. New Associations may be admitted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the CYSL Members.
- d. Any Association may be expelled by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the CYSL Members.
- e. Any Association may withdraw from the CYSL providing notice is given in writing by September 1st.
- f. Member Associations will have one vote at any CYSL meeting.
- g. Member Associations shall submit the names of its President, Vice President, Registrar, Treasurer, Referee Coordinator, Statistician, and CYSL Representative(s) to the CYSL Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 5: BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a. There shall be a CYSL Board of Directors consisting of one designated Representative from each of the Member Associations. Herein referred to as the BOD, Member Associations shall submit and maintain a list of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Representatives.
- b. There shall be an Executive Committee of the BOD consisting of a President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar. Here-in referred to as the EC.
- c. Nominations for EC positions will be accepted during September. Elections to EC positions will take place the first week in October. Members of the EC shall be elected by a majority vote of the

- BOD or their designated alternates. Newly elected officers will assume their positions at the conclusion of the election.
- d. All EC Officers shall serve for two (2) years. The President, Second Vice President and Treasurer shall be elected in even numbered years; the First Vice President, Secretary and Registrar shall be elected in odd numbered years. Even and odd years are determined by the Spring Season. For example, the 2018-2019 CYSL season is an ODD year since the Spring Season takes place in 2019. The President will appoint individuals to fill vacant EC positions until an election is held.
  - e. Executive Committee officers may also hold committee appointed paid positions within the League.
  - f. The League Referee Coordinator is appointed by the CYSL Executive Committee and shall be an advisor to the Standards Committee.
  - g. The League Statistician is appointed by the EC and approved by the CYSL BOD each year. This position may be a paid position, with amount approved each year as part of League budget.

#### ARTICLE 6: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND DEFINED APPOINTED POSITIONS

- a. The President shall preside at all meetings of the BOD and EC, call all regular and special meetings, appoint and maintain contact with working groups or ad hoc committees and represent the CYSL at meetings with State and National federations. The President will, subject to the approval of the BOD, appoint a Standards Committee, a Competition Committee and other committees as required. The President shall vote only to break ties at regular and special meetings of the BOD. The President shall have the authority to carry out the policies established by the CYSL.
- b. The 1st Vice President shall generally assist the President and assume the President's duties in his/her absence. The 1st Vice President shall chair the Standards Committee and other committees at the discretion of the President. The 1st Vice President shall receive all referee reports of misconduct and keep records of such misconducts.
- c. The 2nd Vice President shall generally assist the President and shall chair the Competition Committee and other committees at the discretion of the President.
- d. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all meetings, attend to all correspondence, send out notices and prepare and distribute a current listing of Member Association Representatives, Executive Committee Members and Committee Chairpersons. At scheduled meetings, the secretary will have the past year's minutes available.
- e. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all monies at the direction of the BOD. He/she must keep an accurate record of all monies received and disbursed. He/she must submit a report at all quarterly meetings and when called upon to do so at any meeting of the BOD or EC.
- f. The Registrar shall receive, review and validate all Grade 3/4 and older team rosters used in connection with team play and register all teams with State/National Associations as may be required by these By-Laws. The Registrar may validate additional Player Credentials such as pass cards or photo rosters.
- g. The Referee Coordinator shall be responsible for recruiting, training and developing referees within the CYSL. He/she shall be responsible for scheduling referees for CYSL Tournaments, Jamborees and Play-off games.

- h. If an EC member does not attend meetings for three consecutive months, the BOD may review and vote to determine if that member should continue in their position.
- i. The Statistician will maintain game results and standings for the CYSL season, including playoffs.

#### ARTICLE 7: MEETINGS

- a. The BOD will meet at least monthly starting in August through June. A meeting schedule will be set for next 12 months starting at the August meeting.
- b. The President may call special meetings at any time. The President must call a special meeting, upon written request, from four, or more, Member Associations. The written request must clearly state the object of the meeting. The President shall be responsible for notifying all BOD members of any special meeting. The 1st Vice President will assume these duties in the absence of the President.
- c. All BOD meetings shall be open except in cases where issues of a personal nature may be the subject.
- d. All BOD and EC decisions will be by majority vote unless otherwise stated. A quorum for BOD meetings will be 9 voting Association Members, 4 Members for EC meetings.
- e. Except as otherwise provided for in these by-laws, all questions shall be decided by a simple majority of votes cast. In case of doubt as to procedure, Roberts Rules of Order shall govern.
- f. The President shall call a meeting of the EC at any time necessary to conduct League business. President must hold a meeting within seven (7) days of written request signed by a minimum of four (4) EC members.

#### ARTICLE 8: AMENDMENTS

- a. Amendments to the Constitution and/or by-laws may be made at any meeting of the BOD by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the CYSL Members provided that notice of the proposed change has been submitted in writing to all members of the BOD at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.
- b. Amendments to CYSL Game Rules may be made at any meeting of the BOD by a Two-thirds (2/3) vote of the CYSL Members.

#### ARTICLE 9: FEES

- a. Annual fees shall be paid by each Member Association to the CYSL.
- b. Fees and budget shall be determined by the EC and approved by the BOD.
- c. Fees shall be for the sole purpose of meeting operating expenses and verified by the EC.

#### ARTICLE 10: BY-LAWS AND GAME RULES

- a. The BOD may from time to time enact by-laws and Game Rules, which shall be binding upon all CYSL teams at scheduled CYSL games.

## BY-LAWS

### 1. STANDARDS COMMITTEE

- a. The Standards Committee will consist of eight (8) members, including the 1st Vice President. The CYSL First Vice President will chair this committee. A member of the SC will chair this committee in cases where the 1st Vice President's Association is involved or is unavailable. SC members will be selected by vote of the CYSL BOD. At least one Association member should be changed on the Standards Committee each year. All members must be registered with MYSA. A minimum of five votes is required for a Standards Committee decision.
- b. The Standards Committee shall also have two alternate members who may deliberate and vote on matters when there are insufficient votes from the regular Standards Committee members.
- c. The Standards Committee has the authority to impose sanctions.

### 2. COMPETITION COMMITTEE

- a. The Competition Committee will consist of seven (7) members, including the 2nd Vice President, and shall be members of the EC or Primary Association Members from Member Associations. The CYSL 2nd Vice-President will chair this committee. The CYSL Registrar shall be a member of this committee. Competition Committee members will be selected by vote of the CYSL BOD. At least one Association member should be changed on the Standards Committee each year.

### 3. LEAGUE-TEAM ORGANIZATION

- a. There will be a First Division and/or Second Division in the Grade 5/6 through Grade 11/12/PG age groups, and a third non-MTOC eligible division for Grade 5/6 and Grade 7/8 age groups called the Coastal Cup Division. Grade 3/4 age groups teams are considered non-MTOC eligible teams.
- b. If an Association has one or more teams in a sex/age group, then one team must be entered into the First Division unless the Competition Committee makes a recommendation to move a team to the Second Division based on the Divisional matrix. The matrix will be formed utilizing requests for team placement, past League results, CYSL scheduling formats, and will be presented to the BOD in February. Changes in team placement may be made by the Competition Committee until the final schedule is completed.
- c. An Association may appeal to the Competition Committee for placement adjustments. Request for adjustments must meet deadlines set by the Competition Committee. Deadlines may be adjusted at regular scheduled league meetings by the Competition Committee to coincide with their meeting schedule. Requests for adjustments must be provided to the Competition Committee in writing. An Association may include any other material they feel is relevant in a request.

### 4. TEAM COMPOSITION

- a. Each Association shall be divided into Girls and Boys Divisions by age groups as specified by the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association. Associations may appeal to the Competition Committee for an exception.

- b. All rostered players shall reside within that town or Association. Request for player waivers must be brought before the Competition Committee for approval.
- c. Requests from players to play in Organizations other than CYSL must be approved by the Competition Committee.

## 5. ROSTERS

- a. Signatures
  - i. For the fall season, rosters for all teams Grade 3/4 and above must be signed by the Association Registrar.
  - ii. For the spring season, rosters for all teams Grade 3/4 and above must be signed by the Association Registrar and the CYSL Registrar.
- b. Format
  - i. All rosters must be submitted in the format defined by the CYSL Registrar.
- c. Roster Deadlines
  - i. For the fall season, all rosters must be submitted to the CYSL Registrar 2 weeks prior to the start of the season.
  - ii. For the spring season, preliminary Rosters for all teams in Grade 3/4 through Grade 7/8, must be submitted to the League Competition Committee by the second League meeting in January.
  - iii. Final Spring Team Rosters for all teams in Grade 3/4 through Grade 7/8, must be submitted to the League Registrar for validation prior to the first CYSL meeting in March.
  - iv. Final Spring Team Rosters for all teams in Grade 9/10 through Grade 11/12/PG, must be submitted to the League Registrar for validation within one week of the final pooling decisions being released by the Competition Committee.
  - v. Teams in competition for MTOC must submit final rosters to the League Registrar for approval, fourteen (14) days prior to the Massachusetts Tournament of Champions (MTOC) roster freeze date as established by the MYSA Leagues Committee and announced at a CYSL league meeting.
    - 1. For Grade 5/6 the roster size is limited to 16 players per MYSA guidelines. For CYSL games, waivers for rosters above this size may be approved by the Competition Committee. However, for MTOC games the roster size is limited to 16 players.
    - 2. For Grade 7/8 and older, the roster size can be up to 22 players. However, only 18 players are allowed to participate in any MTOC game. Rules for designating players that will play in a game are provided by MYSA in the MTOC Rules and Procedures.
  - vi. The League Registrar may adjust submittal deadlines, but in no event will the deadlines be extended past the beginning of CYSL league play. Changes in deadlines will be announced at a CYSL regular meeting and be recorded in the minutes.
- d. Roster Changes

- i. For the fall season, roster changes at all levels are at the discretion of the Associations, assuming the additions meet the guidelines described in the By Laws and Game Rules.
- ii. For Grade 3/4 in the spring season, roster changes may be made until the change deadline given below. Changes for Grade 3/4 do not require approval of the Competition Committee.
- iii. For Grades 5/6 and 7/8 in the spring season, after the deadline for submitting the Final Rosters, all Roster adds and transfers must be submitted to and approved by the Competition Committee.
- iv. For Grades 9/10 and 11/12/PG in the spring season, after the deadline for submitting the Final Rosters, all Roster adds and transfers must be submitted to and approved by the Competition Committee.
- v. Roster changes after the final roster submittal at all levels will be limited to three (3) player adds or transfers per team. The following exceptions apply:
  - i. Players that move into a CYSL town during the current soccer year (September 1st through August 31st) may be added to a roster, up to the roster maximum, at any time by submitting a request to the Competition Committee.
  - ii. If, during the season, a team does not have enough players to continue, a written request from that Association President to the Competition Committee can be made to effect additional player adds or transfers.
- vi. The deadline for roster changes at any level is the last Saturday in April.
- vii. The Second Vice President will notify the town requesting the roster change and the Registrar of the decision of the Competition Committee via email. For approved roster changes, the player is allowed to start play once the Registrar approves the updated roster.

e. Dual Rostering

- i. With approval by the Competition Committee, an association may designate up to two teams in the same age group in the Coastal Cup Division as teams with “Dual Rostered players”. These teams would be referred to as “Dual Rostered Teams”.
- ii. Each dual rostered team must be equally balanced with regards to talent. The number of teams that can be designated as dual rostered will be limited to two teams per age group. Both teams can designate on their roster up to five “open slots” which can be filled by any player rostered on the other dual rostered designated team. Both rosters must be submitted to the referee at team check-in on the pitch at game time.
- iii. An Association requesting approval to designate dual rostered teams is required to have any MTOC eligible teams in the same gender age group at the maximum roster size. The Competition Committee can approve waivers for exceptional circumstances.
- iv. If any Coastal Cup Division teams in an age group are approved for dual rostering for an Association, all of that Association’s team in that Coastal Cup Division age group, whether dual roster designated or not, shall be ineligible for spring end of

season play. For example: If an Association has four teams in the U14 Girls Coastal Cup Division, and the use of dual rostering is approved by the Competition Committee for two of the teams, then none of the four teams can participate in spring end of season games.

- v. Coaches and/or Associations using the dual rostering process inconsistent with these guidelines, as determined by the Standards Committee may apply:
  - i. Any game where an ineligible player was used will be declared a forfeit.
  - ii. Coach will be suspended from coaching CYSL games for 1 year
  - iii. Team will not be eligible for any post season play

The Standards Committee reserves the right to impose further sanctions based on their review of the circumstances surrounding the use of the ineligible player.

- vi. The fact that a team is a Dual Rostered Team cannot be used by an association as a reason to require other association(s) to reschedule any game time(s). Associations are free to inquire about the possibility of just such an accommodation, but that inquiry and that particular circumstance will in no way obligate a hosting association to affect a game time change to accommodate the fact that a particular team is a Dual Rostered Team.

## 6. TEAM SIZE

- a. All players must be MYSA registered for the current year. Players may not appear in any game without being MYSA registered and rostered. All MYSA registrations must be filed promptly. All MYSA registrations must include the appropriate approvals.
- b. For CYSL play only, including playoffs, the following age group roster limits apply:
  - GRADE 3/4** – 13 players
  - GRADE 5/6** – 16 players
  - GRADE 7/8** – 22 players
  - GRADE 9/10** – 25 players
  - GRADE 11/12/PG** – 25 players
- c. An Association can apply to exceed the age group roster limit(s). Request must be made in writing or by email to the Competition Committee. The Competition Committee must approve all waiver requests.

## 7. PLAYER POOL

- a. If a Member Association has MYSA registered players within an age group in which that Association does not have a sufficient number of players to field a viable team, the Association may request that these registered players be assigned to the CYSL Player Pool. Copies of the player's registration forms must be provided if requested by the Competition Committee and/or the CYSL Registrar.
- b. The Competition Committee will develop guidelines and procedures as necessary to administer the Player Pool, subject to BOD approval. The CYSL Competition Committee will

develop viable teams by merging the MYSA registered players of two or more Member Associations. No Associations are exempted from consideration.

- c. For Grade 5/6 and Grade 7/8, pooling decisions will be made by the Competition Committee as they are received, so that towns can conduct tryouts, create teams and order uniforms in a timely fashion. All pooling requests for these levels must be received by mid-July, when the preliminary team numbers are required.
- d. For Grade 9/10 and Grade 11/12/PG, pooling decisions will be made by the Competition Committee after the deadline for high school team numbers and players, which is the second meeting in March.
- e. No player will be assigned from the player pool without Competition Committee approval. Any games played with a pool player not approved by the Competition Committee will be referred to the Standards Committee.

## 8. AGE LIMITS

- a. The age groups for all divisions from Grade 3/4 through Grade 11/12/PG will be in accordance with MYSA guidelines.
- b. MYSA guidelines allow for waivers in the cases where older players wish to play with classmates and where players in a higher grade wish to play with their same age group. Any Association that has players that qualify for a waiver needs to notify the Registrar of the waiver when the rosters are submitted. The Registrar may request that the Competition Committee review and approve the waiver.

## 9. SEASON

- a. References made to a season will mean the period between September 1 through August 31.
- b. The Fall Recreational games will begin on the second Saturday in September.
- c. CYSL scheduled spring games will begin the first Saturday of April.

## 10. STANDARDS COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. The Standards Committee will hear and rule on all protests, reports of misconduct, and complaints regarding officials, coaches, players or Member Associations and/or their representatives. The Standards Committee may request written reports from the Referee any coaches involved and other relevant parties. The Standards Committee may conduct a hearing.
- b. A coach being investigated may request a hearing with the Standards Committee.
- c. A member of the Standards Committee shall be disqualified from participating, deliberating, or ruling on a particular matter if that member was involved in the game as a referee, coach, or is the relative of an involved referee or coach, has a relative playing on team(s) involved, or is from an Association involved.
- d. Initial investigation process must begin within 14 days of receipt of any issue that is properly referred to the Committee. The Standards Committee Chairperson will notify the involved parties as soon as possible about the matter. The Standards Committee will render a final decision within sixty (60) days of receipt of referral. Standards Committee decisions may be appealed to the CYSL Appeals Board.



- e. The CYSL Appeals Board will consist of three ad hoc members appointed by the CYSL President. One of the members will be identified as the Chair. A member may not be from any association that is part of the matter being appealed.
- f. The appeal of the Standards Committee decision must be received by the CYSL President within 7 calendar days of the decision. A non-refundable fee of \$100 must be submitted with the appeal. The Appeals Board may only review the material upon which the Standards Committee based its decision. No new material may be provided. The Board will be governed by CYSL games rules, constitution and by laws, and MYSA and USYS guidelines. The Appeals Board decision must be issued within 30 days of the filing of the appeal. The Appeals Board may not impose sanctions beyond what was imposed by the Standards Committee but may mitigate the sanctions. Decisions of the Appeals Board may only be appealed to MYSA.
- g. The Chairperson will keep a record of all reports forwarded to the Standards Committee and player passes will be returned to the Association Member or a designated Association official after completion of any investigation.

#### 11. COMPETITION COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. The purpose of the Competition Committee is to develop even competition. The Competition Committee will establish placement of teams and seeds within each division of play in accordance with By-law #1. The Competition Committee will also establish the formats and seeds for the CYSL Playoffs and Tournaments.
- b. The Competition Committee will have the right of access to team's records for all games played with MYSA affiliation.
- c. The Competition Committee will have the option to review changes made to team rosters and have the authority to deny roster changes.
- d. The Competition Committee will administer the CYSL player pool.
- e. If the committee has two or more members from the same association, the association will have only one vote during committee proceedings.

#### 12. PROTEST

- a. A rules violation may be protested, a referee's judgment cannot.
- b. Any protest must be communicated to the Chairman of the Standards Committee or an Executive Board Member within 72 hours of the incident.
- c. The communication of the initial protest to the Chairman of the Standards Committee may be made via email. The formal written protest must be addressed to the Chairman of the Standards Committee, signed by the Association President and postmarked no more than 7 days after the incident.
- d. A fee of \$100.00 must accompany the formal written protest. The protest fee shall be forfeited should the protest not be sustained.

#### 13. DEADLINES FOR INFORMATION SUBMITTAL

- a. Towns are required to submit information to CYSL at various times during the season so that brackets schedules can be created. To facilitate these activities, the following deadlines are defined:

Preliminary Number of Teams for Fall Season – mid-July  
*Final Number of Teams for Fall Season – First Meeting in August*  
Fall Schedule – 2 weeks before start of season  
*Rosters for Fall Season – 2 weeks before start of season*  
Preliminary Club Player Lists – November Meeting  
*Fall Scores – December Meeting*  
Preliminary Spring Team Numbers and Placement Requests – First January Meeting  
Preliminary Grade 5/6 and 7/8 Rosters – Second January Meeting  
*Final Spring Team Numbers and Placement Requests – Second January Meeting*  
*Final Club Player Lists – Second January Meeting*  
Preliminary Brackets – First February Meeting  
Requests for Changes to Preliminary Brackets – One Week After First February Meeting  
Final Brackets – Second February Meeting  
Spring Schedule – First March Meeting  
*Final Rosters for Spring Season – First March Meeting*  
Preliminary High School Team and Player Numbers – First March Meeting  
*Field and Game Time Assignments for Score Reporting – Second March Meeting*  
*Final High School Team and Player Numbers – Second March Meeting*  
High School Schedule – One Week After Second March Meeting  
*Final High School Rosters for Registrar Approval – One Week After Second March Meeting*  
*High School Field and Game Time Assignments for Score Reporting – April Meeting*  
Deadline for Roster Changes – Final Saturday in April

- b. These dates may be adjusted by the appropriate Committees. Associations will be provided at least two weeks' notice of any deadline changes.
- c. Any associations missing the italicized deadlines will incur a fine of \$50 for every week the information is missing.
- d. A \$300.00 fine will be charged to any Association that withdraws a team from play after week one of either the fall or spring seasons.

## CYSL GAME RULES

Current IFAB, USYSA and MYSA rules shall be in effect except as specifically stated in these rules. The CYSL Standards Committee will be the final authority on any point covered by the game Rules, IFAB, USYSA or MYSA rules.

### 1. CYSL STANDINGS

- a. During CYSL play. Teams will be awarded points as follows: Win = 3 points, Tie = 1 point, Loss = 0 points
- b. In the event of a forfeit, the team forfeiting receives 0 points and the other team receives 3 points.
- c. Each Member Association must input all results during the week following the games. A Member Association will be subject to a \$50.00 fine for game results or postponement notifications not received within 10 days of the scheduled game unless such game is postponed or cancelled by the CYSL.

### 2. BALL

- a. The host team shall provide a regulation game ball; #4 for Grade 3/4 and Grade 5/6 games and #5 for Grade 7/8 and higher games.

### 3. UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

- a. Uniforms and equipment will consist of numbered shirts, shorts, socks, and suitable soccer shoes or sneakers. In cases where the colors conflict, the home team must wear an alternate color shirt or pinnie. All shirts must have clearly legible numbers on back or the original number must be clearly visible through the pinnie with no duplicate numbers. Players will be allowed to wear sweat clothes under their uniforms only if sweat clothes match the colors submitted to league.
- b. No players shall play wearing a hard cast, even if covered.
- c. A player shall not wear anything that is considered by the Referee to be dangerous to themselves or to other players. Players will not be allowed to wear any of the following: earrings, finger rings, barrettes of any type, wrist watches, wrist chains, neck chains, or shoes with metal cleats.
- d. Shinguards are mandatory equipment.
- e. Players who must wear glasses during the game must wear a glasses strap.
- f. The following is a list of the traditional colors for CYSL Associations. Associations may change colors prior to the season by informing the League.

<u>Association</u>	<u>Colors</u>
Carver	cranberry
Cohasset	blue / white
Duxbury	green / white
Halifax	red
Hanover	white
Hingham	white / red stripes
Hull	blue / gold
Kingston	red/black
Marshfield	green / white
Middleboro	orange / black

Norwell	yellow / navy blue
Pembroke	red / white / blue
Plymouth	navy / red/ black
Plympton	silver / black
Sacred Heart	royal blue
Scituate	blue / blue

#### 4. COACH AND PLAYER CREDENTIALS

- a. For the spring season, players on all MTOC eligible teams are required to have signed credentials for all League games. Credentials must be typed and certified (signed) by each Association Registrar. Credentials for all players require a photograph no later than the first game of the spring season.
- b. Credentials are not required at any level for the fall season or for Grade 3/4 and Coastal Cup Division in the spring.
- c. Teams must have a coach with a lanyard at all games in the fall and spring. The lanyard is an indication that the coach is registered and has completed all required CORI and training requirements. The lanyard takes the place of a coach card, which is not required.
- d. In the event a rostered coach with a lanyard is not available, any adult with a lanyard may serve as coach. The referee must note the lack of a coach with a lanyard in the game report.
- e. If no adult with a lanyard is present, then the referee will record that the game could not be played in a game report, specifically noting the team with a coach without a lanyard. Standards Committee will review and assign a forfeit as appropriate.
- f. Two copies of the MYSA team roster and player credentials, if required, must be submitted to the referee before each game. Paper copies of the roster are required. No electronic versions will be accepted. Jersey numbers may be written in for Coastal games. White out and/or tape are not allowed on rosters.
- g. If player credentials and/or rosters are not available, the team has until the end of the game to produce the missing documents. If they are not available at game's end, then the referee will report the missing information in a game report. The Standards Committee will review and award a forfeit against the team without documentation.
- h. The Referee will ensure that the MYSA team rosters and player credentials match the players dressed for the game. The Referee will keep all players' credentials until after the game. In the event of a red card or other ejection, the Referee forward a game report to Standards Committee within three (3) days. Referees will sign each team's roster, indicate the final score, and give a copy to the opposing coaches.

#### 5. SUBSTITUTIONS

- a. Substitutions may be made at the following times with permission of the referee:
  - Prior to a throw-in by either team providing the team making the throw-in substitutes and substitute players are at midfield ready for substitution.
  - Prior to a goal kick by either team.
  - After a goal by either team.
  - After an injury by either team, as allowed by the referee.

- At half time.
- b. Substitute players waiting to enter the game should wait on their own half of the field at the midfield line.

## 6. INJURED PLAYER

- a. An injured player must be substituted when he/she is down, and the referee stops the play. Goalkeepers are exempt from this rule. The injured player may return to the game on the next substitution.
- b. For concussions, CYSL follows the MYSAs protocol, which is:
  - a. *Mass Youth Soccer requires all Member Organizations where no HCP (health care professional) is present at a soccer activity (practice, game, clinic, etc.) that any player who (1) sustains a significant blow to the head or body, (2) complains about or is exhibiting symptoms consistent with having suffered a concussion or (3) is otherwise suspected of having sustained a concussion, must be evaluated by an HCP before the player will be allowed to return to practice or play.*
    - a) *No coach shall permit a player who has been removed from a game for a concussion to RTP (return to play) until cleared to do so by an HCP.*
    - b) *If a coach seeks to allow a player who has been removed from a game for a concussion assessment to re-enter the game, the referee shall allow the player to return to the field but shall:*
      - 1) *immediately stop play*
      - 2) *direct the player to leave the field of play and*
      - 3) *direct the coach to remove the player and select a substitute*
    - c) *If a coach seeks to allow a player to re-enter the game who has been removed from a game for a concussion assessment, the referee shall issue a warning to the coach. If a coach persists in seeking to allow such player to re-enter the game after having been issued a warning, the referee shall be entitled to take such other disciplinary measure as are permitted.*
  - b. *Unless an HCP determines that the player has not suffered a concussion and clears the player to RTP, the player will not be permitted to return to practice or play until the player has successfully completed the graduated RTP protocol described below and has been cleared to RTP by a physician.*
  - c. *Return to Play (RTP) Protocol – Mass Youth Soccer and all Member Organizations will follow the following graduated RTP protocol (not including steps b. (4) - (5) unless the player has a baseline test and access to a neuropsychologist).*
    - a) *For any player removed from a practice or play who has been diagnosed as having suffered a concussion, the player will not be permitted to return to practice or play until the player has successfully completed a graduated RTP protocol under the guidance of an HCP.*
    - b) *The graduated RTP protocol will consist of at least the following steps:*
      - 1) *the player must be symptom free at rest for 24 hours before commencing the protocol;*

- 2) *the player must be symptom free after moderate activity for 24 hours;*
- 3) *the player must be symptom free after heavy activity for 24 hours;*
- 4) *player will retake baseline tests (SCAT3, BESS, and/or imPACT);*
- 5) *neuropsychologists must review and interpret test versus baseline; and*
- 6) *HCP must confirm that the player has completed the RTP process and a physician must make the final RTP decision.*

## 7. LENGTH OF GAMES AND OVERTIME PERIODS

- a. The game lengths are as follows:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Game</u>	<u>Overtime for Playoffs Tournaments</u>
Grade 11/12/PG	Two 40 Minute Halves	Two 5 Minute Halves
Grade 9/10	Two 40 Minute Halves	Two 5 Minute Halves
Grade 7/8	Two 35 Minute Halves	Two 5 Minute Halves
Grade 5/6	Two 30 Minute Halves	Two 5 Minute Halves
Grade 3/4	Two 30 Minute Halves	

- b. In play-off or tournament play, if the game is still tied after the overtime periods IFAB “Kicks from the Penalty Mark” rules will apply in order to determine the winner.
- c. IFAB “Kicks from the Penalty Mark” will be administered as follows: the Referee shall toss a coin and the team whose Captain wins the toss must take the first kick. Each team shall take five (5) kicks from the Penalty Mark. Kicks shall be taken alternately by different players. Players taking the penalty kicks must be on the field at the end of overtime play.
- d. If, after both teams have taken five (5) kicks, both have scored the same number of goals, or have not scored any goals, alternating additional kicks shall be taken in the same order until one team has scored a goal and the other does not score a goal. Players taking the penalty kicks must be on the field at the end of overtime play.

## 8. GAME TIMES AND FORFEITS

- a. The referee and teams should be present at the playing field 20 minutes prior to the scheduled start of game. Teams that have not arrived at the playing field 20 minutes after the scheduled start shall forfeit the game.
- b. A minimum of 7 players must be present to begin play for 11 v 11 competition. For 9 v 9 competition, 6 players are required.
- c. If the minimum number of players are not present 20 minutes after scheduled start, a forfeit win is awarded to the team with the minimum number of players. If both teams have less than the minimum number of players 20 minutes after the scheduled start, the referee will prepare a game report within 48 hours of the scheduled game. The Standards Committee will review the report and award a forfeit as appropriate. After the 20-minute wait period, a scrimmage game may be played for the benefit of the players present and the good of the game. Forfeited games shall not be rescheduled.
- d. For Grade 3/4 and Grade 5/6, when the referee does not arrive within 20 minutes after scheduled start, the two coaches may agree upon a qualified person to serve as a substitute Referee and play

- the game. Given the difficulties in rescheduling games, every effort should be made to play the game.
- e. For Grade 7/8, Grade 9/10 and Grade 11/12/PG games, when the referee does not arrive within 20 minutes after scheduled start, both coaches will determine if a qualified person is present to serve as a substitute referee and appoint that person to officiate the game. If coaches use a qualified person to officiate the game, the game may not be protested on that basis. If no substitute can be found the game must be re-scheduled.
  - f. In case of a forfeit in advance of the game start, each coach must notify both Town Associations within 24 hours of the scheduled game. The Town Association must provide a written notice of the forfeiture to the Standards Committee within 7 days of the scheduled game.
  - g. Teams committing a no show forfeit the day of the game will be fined \$100.00. Teams forfeiting with notification prior to the date of the game will be fined \$25.00.
  - h. The Association of a MTOC eligible team will be responsible for fees assessed due to forfeits at MTOC.

## 9. CANCELED & RESCHEDULED GAMES

- a. FIELD UNPLAYABLE: Town Coordinators will make the decision if a field is in unplayable condition due to weather prior to 7:00 AM or 2 hours before the first game, whichever is earlier. The Town Coordinator will then notify the home team coaches and Town Referee Coordinator. The Town Referee Coordinator will notify the assigned referees. Home team coaches are responsible for immediately notifying the visiting team coach. If you cannot contact the visiting coach two hours prior to a rained out game, then please be at the field to notify the visiting coach. Unless notified by the Town Coordinator or home team coach, teams must report to the scheduled field where the decision to play is made by the assigned referee.
- b. HALTED PLAY: In the event of electric and/or thunderstorms, the game shall be stopped for the duration of the storm. Re-starts are solely the referee's decision. If the game cannot be restarted, it shall be replayed.
- c. INSUFFICIENT PLAYERS: Associations that do not have enough players to field a team may request to reschedule the game. The opponent is under no obligation to reschedule.
- d. DATES FOR ALL MAKE UP GAMES FOR GRADES 3/4, 5/6 AND 7/8: Any games originally scheduled through the Saturday prior to Memorial Day and not played due to (9a) through (9c) must be played before May 31. Any canceled games after Memorial Day must be played before the last game of the season. Forfeits will result if the procedures in (9g) were not followed or games are not played within the makeup period. Requests for forfeit declarations for games originally scheduled prior to Memorial Day must be made to the Chair, Standards Committee before May 31<sup>st</sup>. If no request is received by this date, a double forfeit will be awarded. An appropriate fine (8g) is charged when a game is forfeited.
- e. DATES FOR MAKEUP GAMES FOR GRADES 9/10 AND 11/12/PG: Any games not played due to (9a) through (9c) must be played by the last Sunday of the regular season. Forfeits will result if the procedures in (9g) were not followed or games are not played within the makeup period. Requests for forfeit declarations must be made to the Standards Committee before the last Sunday of the regular season. If no request is received by this

date, a double forfeit will be awarded. An appropriate fine (8g) is charged when a game is forfeited.

- f. MEMORIAL DAY: All Associations may reschedule Memorial Day weekend games. Notification of postponement must be made by the first Saturday in May. Any games rescheduled for Memorial Day weekend must be played before Memorial Day. Forfeits will result if the procedures in (9g) were not followed or games are not played prior to Memorial Day. An appropriate fine (8g) is charged when a game is forfeited.
- g. SCHEDULING PROCEDURES FOR ALL MAKE UP GAMES: The home coach will provide the away coach with a list of three (3) different dates and times within 5 days of initial notification. The away coach must respond within 5 days of receiving the dates. If the coaches cannot agree, the Town Coordinators must attempt to resolve the dispute. If the Town Coordinators cannot agree to a date, the matter will be forwarded to the Standards Committee. Notice of the Standards Committee decision shall be given in writing to both teams.

## 10. PLAY-OFF GAMES

- a. The playoff matrix will be setup by the Competition Committee but may be adjusted by the Executive Committee because of rain and ties in sections to expedite the schedule. Changes will be communicated to the Town Associations.
- b. The playoff sites chosen by the league are neutral sites even if one of the teams is from that town. The league appoints all referees.
- c. If teams in the MTOC-eligible divisions are tied after the regular season and the tie needs to be broken to determine playoff eligibility, a play-in game or games will be scheduled to break the tie. The Executive Committee will schedule these games at a designated playoff site and provide the officials. These decisions are made at the league meeting held after the end of the season. Decisions will be communicated to the Town Associations. The winning team will proceed to the CYSL MTOC playoffs.
- d. If teams in the Coastal Cup divisions are tied after the regular season and the tie needs to be broken to determine playoff eligibility, a play-in game or games will be scheduled to break the tie. The Executive Committee will schedule these games either at a neutral site prior to the Coastal Cup playoffs or add them to the Coastal Cup schedule and provide the officials. These decisions are made at the league meeting after the season ends. Decisions will be communicated to the Town Associations.

## 11. REFEREES

- a. Referees shall be certified by the MSRR and registered.

## 12. AUTOMATIC PENALTIES FOR CARD(S) IN A SEASON

- a. A player receiving a Red Card will be expelled from the game with no substitution.
- b. A player receiving a Yellow Card must be substituted but may reenter the game.
- c. A player receiving two Yellow Cards in a game will be expelled from the game with no substitution.
- d. A player receiving a RED card(s) during the combined fall and spring seasons will also be subject to the following additional discipline:
  - First - One game suspension assessed the next scheduled game whenever played.



- Second – Two game suspension
  - Third - Suspension for the remainder of the season and the individual must appear before the Standards Committee prior to being allowed to play or coach during the next season.
- e. A player receiving an accumulation of YELLOW and RED cards during the fall and spring seasons will also be subject to the following additional discipline:
- An accumulation of Three (3) Yellow and/or Red Cards - One game suspension
  - An accumulation of Four (4) Yellow and/or Red Cards - Two game suspension
  - An accumulation of Five (5) Yellow and/or Red Cards - A suspension for the remainder of the season. Individual must appear before Standards Committee before being allowed to play or coach during the next season.
- f. If the individual feels there are mitigating circumstances related to the red or yellow card, he or she may appeal the card to the CYSL Standards Committee.

### 13. FRACASES OR UNBECOMING CONDUCT

- a. If a player leaves the sidelines to participate in a fracas and it is so noted by any game referee, then that player shall be suspended. In addition, a report shall be forwarded to the Standards Committee, which could result in banishment from further league play.
- b. If any member on a team engages in unbecoming conduct which is brought to the League's attention, the Standards Committee will investigate and apply appropriate penalties.

### 14. ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

- a. Team Officials, coaches and managers, are to maintain the highest Standards of conduct for themselves, their players and supporters at all match. Abusive and obscene language, violent play, violent conduct, fighting and other behavior detrimental to the game, will not be tolerated.
- b. All coaches and non-playing players must stay on their own half of the field, at least 5 yards from the midfield line. Players and coaches may not enter the field of play unless invited by the referee.
- c. Spectators are expected to stay five (5) yards from the touchline. No spectators are allowed behind goals or end lines.
- d. Team Officials, coaches and managers must fully support the referee at all times. In cases where the fans are, in the opinion of the referee, getting out of hand (verbal abuse to the referee, opposing players, coaches or opposing spectators) the referee has the power to stop the game and ask the appropriate coach to get his or her fans under control. In no case, will the referee deal directly with a spectator. If after the appropriate coach has tried to comply with the referee's request and the problem still exists, the referee can terminate the game and make a full report to the Standards Committee. In cases where the spectator affiliation cannot be determined, it is up to the home team coach to address the situation. If the situation is not corrected, the referee can terminate the game.
- e. In the case where the referee terminates the game, the referee will forward a report to the CYSL Standards Committee. The CYSL Standards Committee will recommend all penalties. Penalties may include playing all away games, suspension of team from the league to playing without spectator support. For the particular game, the CYSL Standards Committee may decide to award

points to either of the team or neither of the teams based on their evaluation rather than replay the game.

- f. If a team official, coach or manager is “sent off” from the field for conduct, he/she will receive an automatic 3 game suspension. Such suspension will apply to the team that the person was coaching at the time of the ejection. Should there not be enough games remaining in the regular season and playoffs for that year, such suspension will carry over into the following CYSL season. The Standards Committee reserves the right to impose further action including a suspension from other teams based upon a review of the circumstance, e.g. referee report, witness statements, etc.
- g. The Zero Tolerance Policy extends to abuse via social media. The discovery of abuse via social media that is directed towards another player, a coach or referee will be referred to the Standards Committee for review and potential suspension.

## **GRADE 3/4 GAME RULES**

Below are the rules for the Grade 3/4 program. These rules are based on a recommended program from the USYSA plus additions by a CYSL Grade 3/4 Committee. The purpose of the program is to provide an atmosphere where the players feel free to try a lot of different techniques without being concerned about winning or losing. Coaching emphasis should be skills and ball control by the individual player. Fewer players are being put on a small field to ensure that each player has a lot of touches of the ball.

By extending the small field concept to the Grade 3/4, we expect the players to have better skills at the Grade 5/6 level when they should begin to learn tactics.

### **LAW I: THE FIELD**

#### **A. DIMENSIONS:**

The field of play shall be rectangular, with a suggested length of 60 yards and a width of 40 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width. Fields will vary.

#### **B. MARKINGS:**

1. Distinctive lines not more than 5 inches wide.
2. A halfway line shall be marked across the field.
3. A center circle with a radius of 8 yards.
4. Four corner arcs with a 1yard radius.
5. Goal area - 6 yards from each goal post and 6 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line.
6. Penalty area - 14 yards from each goal post and 14 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line.
7. Build-Out Line - Midway between the edge of the penalty area and the midfield line. It is recommended that this line be marked as a dashed line or in a color different from the rest of the lines.

#### **C. GOALS**

Maximum 7 feet high and 21 feet wide. Minimum size of 7 feet high and 12 feet wide. Size will vary.

### **LAW II: THE BALL - SIZE FOUR (4)**

### **LAW III: PLAYERS**

#### **A. TEAM MAKEUP**

Teams will be divided by gender into boys and girls per CYSL rule #2. Co-ed is acceptable if no other roster slot available. Competition Committee needs to approve co-ed rosters.

#### **B. ROSTER SIZE**

CYSL recommends a maximum roster size of 15. This should allow adequate playing time for all.

#### **C. PLAYERS ON FIELD**

Seven (7) players are allowed on the field at any one time. One of the seven players must be designated as the goalkeeper.

#### **D. PLAYING TIME**

EACH PLAYER SHALL PLAY A MINIMUM OF 50% OF THE TOTAL PLAYING TIME.

#### **E. ROSTER COMPOSITION**

All teams competing in Grade 3/4 must be level picked.

**LAW IV: PLAYERS EQUIPMENT** - Conform to IFAB

#### **LAW V: REFEREE:**

- A. Registered Referee
- B. All rule infractions shall be explained to the offending player providing it does not interfere with the “flow” of the game.

**LAW VI: ASSISTANT REFEREES:** Assigned by town. Club linesmen/women can be used if no assigned linesmen/women available

#### **LAW VII: DURATION OF GAME:**

The game shall be divided into 2 equal halves of 30 minutes each with a half-time break of 5 minutes.

#### **LAW VIII: THE START OF PLAY:**

Conform to IFAB with the following exception: Opponents must be 8 yards from the center mark while the kick-on is in progress.

**LAW IX: BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY** - Conform to IFAB.

**LAW X: METHOD OF SCORING** - Conform to IFAB.

**LAW XI: OFF-SIDE** - Conform to IFAB.

#### **LAW XII: FOULS AND MISCONDUCT**

##### **A. GOALIE DISTRIBUTION**

An indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team when, a goalkeeper handles the ball within his/her penalty area and throws, punts, or kicks the ball across midfield without making contact with the goalkeepers side of the field or being touched by any player on that side of the field. If a goalkeeper dribbles the ball outside the penalty area or does not play the ball with the hands, then the kick may cross the midfield.

##### **B. GOAL KICKS**

An indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team when a goalkeeper and/or field player, when making a goal kick, kicks the ball across midfield without making contact with his/her side of the field or being touched by any player on that side of the field. In both cases, the indirect free kick will be taken at the point of the midfield line where the ball crossed.

##### **C. HEADING**

All players in U10 age groups shall not engage in heading in either games or practices. An indirect kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player, in the opinion of the referee, deliberately heads or attempts to head the ball at the point of the infraction.

If, in the opinion of the referee, a deliberate head ball or attempt to head the ball occurs in the penalty area, the indirect free kick will be taken on the top edge of the penalty area parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurs.

If, in the opinion of the referee, a player does not deliberately head or attempt to head the ball, then play should continue.

#### **D. BUILD OUT LINE**

When the goalie has the ball in their hands during play from the opponent, the opposing team must move behind the build out line until the ball is put into play. Once the opposing team is behind the build out line, the goalie can resume distribution in accordance with these game rules. Ideally, the goalkeeper will wait until the opposing team has retreated to put the ball into play but has the option to do so sooner. If the goalie does not wait, they accept the positioning of the opponents and the consequences of how play develops. After the ball is put into play by the goalkeeper, the opposing team can cross the build out line and play resumes as normal.

The opposing team must also move behind the build out line during a goal kick until the ball is in play. Limitations on the goal kick as specified in these game rules apply.

The ball is considered "in play" in accordance with IFAB rules. There are no modifications because of the build out line.

#### **LAW XIII: FREE KICKS**

Conform to IFAB with the following exception: Opponents must be 8 yards away before kick is allowed.

#### **LAW XIV: PENALTY KICKS:**

Conform to IFAB with the following exception: Opponents must be 8 yards away before kick is allowed.

#### **LAW XV: THROW IN - Conform to IFAB.**

#### **LAW XVI: GOAL KICK**

The opposing team must move behind the build out line during a goal kick until the ball is put into play. The goal kick cannot go directly beyond the midfield line. The penalty for kicking the ball directly beyond the midfield line is an indirect free kick awarded to the opposing team at the point of the midfield line where the ball crossed.

#### **LAW XVII: CORNER KICK**

Conform to IFAB with the following exception: Opponents must be 8 yards away from the ball.

### **GENERAL RULES**

Opposing coaches and players should shake hands after each game. Participation awards for ALL - no trophies or awards just for the best team. Game results will be kept for league jamboree use and not be published. All Grade 3/4 teams will participate in the Grade 3/4 JAMBOREE on the final weekend of the season.

## **GRADE 5/6 9v9 GAME RULES**

Below are the rules for the Grade 5/6 9v9 program. These rules are based on a recommended program from the US Youth Soccer plus additions by a CYSL Board of Directors. Advantages of playing small sided games:

- More time with coach.
- Energetic workouts due to playing both offense and defense.
- More efficient use of field space.
- Matches can be played simultaneously across a full size field.
- Children are physically more efficient in smaller space.
- Children are actively involved for a longer period of time.
- It takes less time to score a goal or advance to goal.
- Greater success rate for the players.

### **LAW I: THE FIELD**

#### **A. DIMENSIONS**

The field of play shall be rectangular, with a suggested length of 70 yards and a width of 55 yards. The length in all cases shall exceed the width. Fields will vary.

#### **B. MARKINGS**

1. Distinctive lines not more than 5 inches wide.
2. A halfway line shall be marked across the field.
3. A center circle with a radius of 8 yards.
4. Four corner arcs with a 1yard radius.
5. Goal area - 6 yards from each goal post and 6 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line.
6. Penalty area - 14 yards from each goal post and 14 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line.
7. Penalty mark is ten (10) yards from the center of the goal line.
8. Penalty arc with a radius of eight (8) yards.

#### **C. GOALS**

The goals shall be 6 feet high by 18 feet wide.

### **LAW II: THE BALL - SIZE FOUR (4)**

### **LAW III: NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

#### **A. PLAYERS ON FIELD**

Nine (9) players, one of whom must be designated as a goalkeeper are allowed on the field at any one time.

#### **B. MAXIMUM ROSTER SIZE**

The maximum roster size of 15.

### **C. MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

The minimum number of players to begin a match is six (6).

**LAW IV: PLAYERS EQUIPMENT** - Conform to FIFA

**LAW V: REFEREE:** Registered Referee

**LAW VI: ASSISTANT REFEREES:** Assigned by town.

**LAW VI: DURATION OF GAME**

The game shall be divided into 2 equal halves of 30 minutes each with a five minute half time.

**LAW VIII: THE START OF PLAY:**

Conform to IFAB with the following exception: Opponents must be 8 yards from the center mark while the kick-on is in progress.

**LAW IX: BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY** - Conform to IFAB

**LAW X: METHOD OF SCORING** - Conform to IFAB

**LAW XI: OFF-SIDE** - Conform to IFAB

**LAW XII: FOULS AND MISCONDUCT: LAW XII: FOULS AND MISCONDUCT:**

#### **A. GOALIE DISTRIBUTION**

An indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team when a goalkeeper handles the ball within his/her penalty area and throws, punts, or kicks the ball into the opposing penalty area. If the violation occurs, an indirect free kick will be awarded at the top of the opposing penalty area.

#### **B. HEADING**

All players in U12 age groups shall not engage in heading in either games or practices. An indirect kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player, in the opinion of the referee, deliberately heads or attempts to head the ball at the point of the infraction.

If, in the opinion of the referee, a deliberate header or attempt to head the ball occurs in the penalty area, the indirect free kick will be taken on the penalty line parallel goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurs.

If, in the opinion of the referee, a player does not deliberately head or attempt to head the ball, then play should continue.

**LAW XIII: FREE KICKS**

Conform to IFAB with the following exception: Opponents must be 8 yards away before kick is allowed.

**LAW XIV: PENALTY KICKS**

Conform to IFAB with the exceptions that the penalty mark is ten (10) yards from the center of the goal line and those players other than the kicker and defending goalkeeper are at least eight (8) yards from the penalty mark.

**LAW XV: THROW IN** - Conform to IFAB.

**LAW XVI: GOAL KICK**

Conform to IFAB with the exception that the goal kick cannot go directly into the opposing penalty area. The penalty for kicking the ball directly into this area is an indirect free kick awarded to the opposing team at the top of their penalty area.

**LAW XVII: CORNER KICK**

Conform to IFAB with the following exception: Opponents must 8 yards away from the ball.