

North Carolina Youth Soccer Association

Rules

SECTION 1

General Administration

Rule 1

The rules contained herein shall govern members of this association in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and By-laws of the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association, herein called this association. All competition shall be governed by the rules stated herein unless the rules of a specific competition determine otherwise.

Rule 2

Any person found guilty of violating the By-laws or Rules of this association, USSF or USYSA, may be asked to appear before the Board of Directors of this association or their designate, in order to explain his actions. (Also, please see Discipline and Appeals section for additional information.)

Rule 3

Falsification of records shall be grounds for disbarment from future participation and/or membership in this association.

Rule 4

A plea of ignorance of the By-laws, Rules or Code of Conduct of this association, USSF or USYSA, is not sufficient, and violators may expect appropriate action by the Board of Directors of this association or their designate.

Rule 5

This association, USSF or USYSA, shall not assume nor be liable for, the debts nor financial responsibilities, either implied or incurred, of any of its members, member associations, member teams, coaches or managers.

Rule 6

All bank checks, drafts and money orders submitted to this association shall be made payable to the "North Carolina Youth Soccer Association" or to "NCYSA". Returned checks shall be charged a service charge as determined by this association.

Rule 7

Each member association shall be responsible for insuring proper registration of the players, affiliation of teams, proper accounting of fiscal transactions and accurate reporting to the association representative and directors of this association.

Rule 8

The seasonal year is September 1 of the current year through August 31 of the next year.

Rule 9 – Recruiting – Recruiting of a player is defined as any effort to induce a registered player of any team under the jurisdiction of this association to transfer from his/her team to a new team. Recruiting is any action or statement, made by any team official, as defined, either verbally or in writing that encourages or entices a player to register with a particular coach, team, club and/or organization. Recruitment of players by coaches or team officials, officers or representatives is prohibited with the defined exceptions:

A. **Any** recruitment of players U14 and younger at the time of tryout is prohibited and illegal. There is no acceptable window of time where the recruitment of players is allowed. The time period between the first Monday after the USYS State Cup until June 30 is not an acceptable recruiting window for U14 and younger age groups.

B. Recruitment of boy players U15 and older will only be allowed between the first Monday after USYS State Cup Finals until June 30. If the team the player is being recruited from is involved in the USYSA Regional Tournament or National Tournament, an additional three weeks will be added to the recruitment time. After June 30 (or the additional three (3) week period due to USYSA Competition), recruitment is prohibited and illegal. If a team going to Regionals is actively recruiting or is involved with the try-out process, any team can recruit their players.

C. Recruitment of all girl players U15 and older will only be allowed between January 1st and June 30th. If the team the player is being recruited from is involved in the USYSA Regional Tournament or National Tournament, an additional three weeks will be added to the recruitment time. After June 30 (or the additional three (3) week period due to USYSA Competition), recruitment is prohibited and illegal. If a team going to Regionals is actively recruiting or is involved with the try-out process, any team can recruit their players.

Guidelines for Recruiting

1. Team Officials include parents and players.
2. Definition of any effort to induce will include but shall not be limited by the following:
 - a. A player participating in any type of unauthorized practice or tryout with a team other than the one the player is currently registered. This restriction will not apply for a player who freely chooses to tryout for another team during the time period including the first Monday after the USYS State Cup until June 30th. (Older girls from Jan. 1st to June 30th)
 - b. An offer or promise of college scholarships, free uniforms, discounted team fees, and/or negative statements, which could affect the decision of a player regarding choice of teams.
 - c. Guest players must have a signed authorization from their current team coach to participate in practices, scrimmages, camps or games with another team. The coach of the team, in which the guest player is playing, is responsible for the proper completion of this form or risk being found guilty of recruiting. (See Guidelines for Guest Players.)

Part 3

The Board of Directors of this association (or their designate) shall deal with team officials guilty of illegal recruitment. The following individuals shall be included as “team officials”; coaches, assistant coaches, managers, parents, players and/or any other individual acting as an agent for a team.

Part 4

Recruitment of players is defined as any effort to induce a registered player of any team under the jurisdiction of this association to transfer from his/her present team to a new team. Recruitment of players by coaches or team officials, officers or representatives is prohibited with the above exceptions.

Rule 10 – Part 1

Any soccer goals owned or used by any association affiliated with NCYSA must be anchored or secured to the ground in an approved a manner so they will not tip over. The safety of the goal will be judged by the referee before each match.

Part 2

In Classic play, if the goals are not so secured and are at a field where games are to be played and cannot be so secured by 15 minutes after the scheduled game time, the game shall not be played due to unplayable field

conditions and the association responsible for the fields shall be fined \$100.00 for each game not allowed to be played.

Part 3

The referees' fees for that game or games will be paid for by the association responsible, after the appropriate match reports have been received at the NCYSA State Office.

Rule 11

The information of district and/or State Select teams shall be vested with the Board of Directors of this Association (or their designate). The Board of Directors may delegate authority at its discretion.

Rule 12

Associations are required to pay all NCYSA imposed fines within 30 days of the certified mail receipt date of the official written notification of the fines. Associations which fail to do so are in bad standing. Teams affiliated with the association which is in bad standing may not participate in NCYSA, USSF or USYSA sponsored events (i.e., NCYSA Classic League, NCYSA Challenge League, NCYSA Recreation Leagues, NCYSA Recreation Cup, NCYSA Challenge Cup and NCYSA State Cup Series) and will not be approved for out-of-state travel.

If an association wishes to appeal a fine, they must do so within 10 days of the receipt of the official written notification of the fine.

Rule 13 - Sale of Labels

This association shall make available, labels from its database, as voted on by the Board of Directors of this association. Labels shall be sold in accordance to policies and fees set by the Board of Directors (see attachment "Request for Labels").

Rule 14 - Part 1 - Permission to Travel Outside of North Carolina - Within the United States

Teams registered with NCYSA must obtain permission to travel outside of this state to engage in any type of competition. Competitions to include are: tournaments, scrimmages, friendlies or league play in another state. Properly filled out forms

and the accompanying paperwork must be received in the NCYSA State Office no later than 30 days prior to the planned travel date. Procedures for securing permission to play outside of NC are:

1. A completed USYSA 2 part carbon Application to Travel form or a downloaded form from the website.
2. A NCYSA certified team roster with your registrar's red stamp, signature and date.
3. A copy of the tournament's (or association's if friendlies/scrimmages) Application to Host Tournaments or Games
4. A self-addressed, stamped envelope with your return address
5. A \$10.00 administrative fee to NCYSA. If less than 30 days, submit the \$10.00 administrative fee plus \$10.00 for each week late.
6. A NCYSA certified guest player roster with your registrar's red stamp, signature and date. (This is only necessary if you are taking guest players out of NC to play in the competition. Guest players are required to have a NEW notarized medical release form that reflects the name of the team for which they are guest playing for.)
7. NCYSA Interstate Release Form- If the guest player resides in another state this form must be approved by BOTH State Offices. This form MUST accompany the NCYSA Guest Player Roster and Permission to Travel Form.
8. The NCYSA State Office will approve and stamp the form and return the original copy to the team to present at the tournament registration.

Part 2 - Permission to Travel Outside of the United States (Canada and Mexico included)

Any team wishing to play in another country must submit the following:

1. A US Soccer Federation, Inc Application for Foreign Travel form
2. A US Youth Soccer Application to Travel form
3. 2 Certified NCYSA rosters with the NCYSA registrar's red stamp, signature and date
4. 1 Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act Compliance statement signed by a team official.
5. 2 copies of the Official Brochure, pamphlet, invitation or other applicable material of the Tournament or Games Host- Itineraries MAY NOT be acceptable*** Preferred is a letter of invitation on the club's letterhead
6. One self-addressed envelope including postage and your return address
7. TWO separate checks:
 \$25.00 payable to US Soccer – NOT USYS
 \$10.00 payable to NCYSA

US Soccer Late Fees if applicable:

Less than 90 days but more than 60 days- \$25.00 late fee plus \$25.00 application fee

Less than 50 days but more than 30 days- \$50.00 late fee plus \$25.00 application fee

Less than 30 days - \$100.00 late fee plus \$25.00 application fee

US SOCCER is not required to accept or approve any application submitted less than 60 days in advance. Submit all of the above paper work to: NCYSA - PO Box 29308 - Greensboro, NC 27429

Part 3 - Special Notes

Permission to travel CANNOT be granted if your host is unaffiliated with USYS or in bad standing with his Association. Permission to travel CANNOT be granted if the team applying for application is in bad standing with their local association, this association, USYS or USSF. Travel forms ARE NOT NECESSARY for USYS National or Regional Championship Games.

Rule 15

No Under 13, Under 14, Under 15 or Under 16 team shall have more than eighteen (18) players rostered at any one time. No Under 17, Under 18 or Under 19 team shall have more than twenty-two (22) players rostered at any one time. All other age divisions shall be rostered in accordance with USYS modified rules: U12= 14 player limit, U10=12 player limit, U8=10 player limit; U6=8 player limit. U8 and U6 limits are suggested guidelines. (New for the 2005-06 seasonal year)

Rule 16 - 60/40 Rule

New associations containing competitive teams (challenge and/or classic), applying for membership into NCYSA must have a "60/40" split between recreation players and competitive players upon making application. Sixty percent (60%) of the players must be recreation, while no more than forty percent (40%) may be competitive.

Rule 17

NCYSA, USSF and USYSA forbid the consumption of any alcoholic beverages in and around the playing area, before, during or after a match.

SECTION 2 - Membership

Rule 1

Member associations may include rules and regulations more stringent than those included herein, but in no case may rules and regulations be less stringent.

Rule 2

Members must submit their By-laws and Rules for review and approval by the Board of Directors of this association.

SECTION 3

Registration Procedures

For any terms or definitions not understood in these rules, please refer to the NCYSA Handbook for Registrars.

Rule 1

Players must register on teams within their own affiliated state youth association. Players and teams are required to follow the registration procedures established by NCYSA, USSF and USYSA as set forth in the Registrar's Manual. Under no circumstances may a player play on a team outside his/her own state association unless written authorization by the two state associations is obtained.

Part 1

Member associations must register their recreation players and coaches by submitting a copy of each team's roster along with the appropriate fees for all players participating in the recreation league. A notarized medical/liability release form must be submitted to the registrar of the local association.

Part 2

Each challenge and classic player is required to furnish his/her team with all information necessary for the completion of USYSA youth player registration materials as well as a notarized medical/liability release form or waiver form signed by the player's parent/guardian. The signing of the player pass binds that player to the team for the seasonal year (see Section 1, Rule 8) unless the player is granted a transfer.

Part 3

Each classic team shall be required to submit to the appropriate association office, the various forms and pay all dues, fees or fines that may be levied by the league or association. Also, each classic team, through a designated assistant State Registrar, is responsible for sending the proper NCYSA affiliation, roster form and fees directly to the NCYSA State Office.

Part 4

Any classic teams which have the same name (e.g., club name) must be identified by a numerical suffix or other distinguishing addition to the name. The same team name shall not be used for more than one team in the same age division.

Part 5

Players must use their full first, middle initial and full last name on all registration materials. Nicknames, if used as a first name, are NOT acceptable. USYSA requires that the appropriate date of birth for each player registered be included on all registration materials.

Part 6

NCYSA shall have first call on all players registered with this association.

Part 7

The name of the coach and no more than three (3) assistant coaches, if any, shall be listed on the team roster form.

Part 8

All recreation associations are required to provide the NCYSA State Office with a computerized recreation rosters on disk according to a format prescribed by NCYSA or to pay NCYSA fifty cents (0.50) a player to have the NCYSA State Office, or an agent of NCYSA to enter the data.

Player passes will be issued to recreation players within two (2) weeks of receipt of the disk or rosters. No pictures will be required unless a recreation player participates in a tournament. At that time, the local registrar will affix pictures to sign the pass. Passes will be sent to the local registrar for distribution.

Part 9 - Summer Tournaments

Any player not registered with NCYSA in the current seasonal year (see Section 1, Rule 8), may register through a special August registration with the fee being \$7.00 (subject to change). The player will be registered on a NCYSA recreation roster and all paperwork must be in to the State Office by August 1 of the current year.

Part 10 - Five-Day Rule

New players must complete their registration with an assistant state registrar five (5) days before the first day of play. The registration materials must be in the state office by Tuesday before the first day of play in order to receive the permanent player pass.

Rule 2 - Part 1 - Player Transfer, Release and Roster Limit (Sections A, B, and D apply to Challenge Teams)

Any player signing a player pass with a competitive team is bound to that team for the seasonal year, except as modified by the following exceptions:

A. A Transfer to another competitive team between **different** associations during the seasonal year will be permitted only if both teams agree to the transfer. If one team objects to the transfer, the transfer will be granted only in the following hardship cases:

1. If the player has moved his/her primary residence a distance of fifty miles or more during the seasonal year.
2. The player's original team has officially folded and all player passes have been received in the NCYSA State Office.

B. No more than five (5) player transfers may be accepted by any one competitive challenge or classic team during the seasonal year, if the team accepting the transfers intends to enter the USYS State Cup.

C. All Classic to Classic transfers during a seasonal year must be accompanied with a \$50.00 transfer fee with the exclusion of transfers deemed hardship. Hardship transfers are approved by the State Registrar. All transferring players (except intra-club) will not be eligible to play with the new team until the team's third (3rd) NCYSA scheduled game after the effective date of the transfer. Hardship transfers are not subject to the two game sit out. (DOES NOT APPLY TO CHALLENGE.)

D. All transfers must be initiated and completed (registrar stamp) no less than thirty (30) days in advance of all State Cup Tournaments including the Snicker, Kepner/Director's Cup/Director's Cup, Challenge State Cup and USYS Play-in matches.

There are three (3) types of transfers: (ONLY Types 2 and 3 apply to Challenge teams)

Type 1 – Classic to Classic ONLY. Transfers from one association to another. Type 1 transfers are approved by the State Registrar only. The transfer will be granted only if both teams agree to the transfer unless transfer falls under one of the hardship circumstances listed above. (Type 1 DOES NOT APPLY TO CHALLENGE.)

Type 2 – Transfers between associations, other than Classic to Classic. The State Registrar/ or designee can approve Type 2 transfers, only if both teams agree with the transfer unless the transfer falls under one of the hardship circumstances listed above.

Type 3 – Transfers within the same association for competitive teams. Only the Head registrar of an association can approve transfers from teams that have officially folded within the same association. There will be no sit out penalty.

For all intra-club transfers between competitive teams within the same association the following applies:

1. There will be no sit out penalty.
2. All such transfers must be initiated and completed (registrar stamp) no less than 30 days in advance of all games for the State Cup Tournaments including the USYS State Cup, USYS Cup Play-in matches, Kepner/President's Cup, and Challenge State Cup. **(This applies to both intra and inter club transfers.)**

Part 2

The two (2) game sit-out for classic players will not apply to a mid-year transfer for a player that began 'playing up' when no team in his/her precise age group had been formed in his/her association.

This exception will apply only when such a transfer takes place during the first seasonal year in which the team corresponding to the player's age is formed.

Part 3

A player may be released from a team by a coach only if a player is unable to play for one of the following reasons:

1. A player has violated USSF, USYSA rules, NCYSA Rules or the Code of Conduct.
2. The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance.
3. The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.

Part 4

All requests for transfer shall be submitted to the State Office, in writing on the proper forms, stating the reason for the request and signed by the parent/guardian and coaches of each of the involved teams. Final approval and the effective date of the transfer or release will be attested to by the State Registrar, unless otherwise stated in these Rules and Regulations.

Part 5

A team that is participating in the USYS State Cup or NCYSA Kepner/President's Cup, shall have their roster frozen five (5) days prior to playing the first game (including play-in matches) in the team's age division, excluding transfer rules (see Section 2, Rule 2, Part 1, (b)).

Part 6

Players may register on more than one team per USSF, USYSA seasonal year, providing the following conditions are complied with:

A. A player cannot play for more than one team in the same competition. Competition is defined as any league or tournament which has league or tournament standings. Examples are: recreational tournament, classic league, the State Cup Series, the Challenge Cup and any NCYSA sanctioned tournament. Each age level in the classic league is to be considered as a "competition".

B. A player cannot play for more than one team on the same day.

C. A player cannot play for more than one team in any competition sponsored by the USSF, USYSA, the NCYSA, i.e. State Cup, Regional Cups, McGuire Cup, National Youth Challenge (Regional or National) Games.

D. Players must indicate at initial registration their primary team for the cups, i.e. the player's pass will indicate in the proper location 'Non-Cup' team.

E. A player can register on only two teams at the same time. If the two teams are from different associations, both associations/coaches must be made aware of the multi-rostering.

F. Transfers from a designated primary team will make the new team the player's primary team; similarly, transfers from a secondary team will be to a new secondary team.

G. If a player's primary team is participating in a tournament, the player can play only for that primary team on a given day. If a player's primary and secondary teams are participating in the tournament and the primary is eliminated from competition, the player can play for the secondary team in that tournament.

Rule 3 - Foreign Players

Any professional or amateur who was not born in the United States and who entered the US after his or her twelfth(12th) birthday, must have an international transfer certificate from his or her foreign country. This can be obtained by filing a USSF Application for International Clearance form. The form is available from assistant state registrars or the State Office. The amount of time to receive the clearance varies according to the foreign countries involved. If clearance is not obtained after thirty (30) days, a provisional clearance will be issued on the 31st day after the initial request. For further information, please refer to the Registrar's Workbook.

Rule 4 - Playing with Professional Teams

Any player signing a "letter of intent", a professional contract or playing with a professional team without the permission of the Board of Directors (or their designate) of this association shall lose all privileges of youth amateur status.

Rule 5 - Amateur Trial Games

A youth player will be permitted to play an unlimited number of amateur games without losing his/her youth eligibility. The youth player must obtain permission from his/her youth coach or other authorized team official.

Using the NCYSA Eligibility for Youth Player Playing in Senior Games form furnished by the state youth association, the player obtains permission from his/her youth coach, the state youth association and the state amateur association to play on the amateur team.

When the above clearance and permission have been granted, the state amateur association has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play amateur games and will be responsible for establishing the procedure under which this will be implemented.

Rule 6 - Part 1 - Age Limit Definition

The term "youth" as applied to the NCYSA Constitution, By-laws and Rules and Regulations shall mean a youth amateur player who has not attained his/her nineteenth (19th) birthday before the first day of August prior to the seasonal year (see Section 1, Rule 8) for which he/she applies for registration.

Part 2

Players attaining the limiting age for any age group *and area* on or after August 1 immediately prior to the seasonal year (see Section 1, Rule 8), will be eligible to play for the remainder of that seasonal year.

Part 3

All leagues, unless otherwise sanctioned by the Board of Directors of this Association, may divide play among classic, challenge and recreation teams of equal age groupings as follows:

Single Year Divisions (2003-2004 Seasonal Year)

Age	Born on or after
Under 19	August 1, 1984
Under 18	August 1, 1985
Under 17	August 1, 1986
Under 16	August 1, 1987
Under 15	August 1, 1988
Under 14	August 1, 1989
Under 13	August 1, 1990
Under 12	August 1, 1991
Under 11	August 1, 1992
Under 10	August 1, 1993
Under 9	August 1, 1994
Under 8	August 1, 1995
Under 7	August 1, 1996
Under 6	August 1, 1997
Under 5	August 1, 1998

Double Year Divisions

Age	Born on or after
Under 19/18/17	August 1, 1984 - July 31, 1986
Under 16/15	August 1, 1987 - July 31, 1988
Under 14/13	August 1, 1989 - July 31, 1990
Under 12/11	August 1, 1991 - July 31, 1992
Under 10/9	August 1, 1993 - July 31, 1994
Under 8/7	August 1, 1995 - July 31, 1996
Under 6/7	August 1, 1996 - July 31, 1997

Part 4

Associations may form teams in age divisions as necessary for competitive purposes.

Rule 7 - Part 1 - Proof of Age

Any players can be called upon to prove his/her legal age by the Board of Directors, by the State Registrar or by an association representative.

Part 2

Proof of age shall consist of: a birth certificate; Board of health records; passport; a Uniformed Service Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173); birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency; alien registration card issued by the United States government; a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age or certification of an American citizen born abroad; a valid driver's license. Registrars are required to see a copy of the birth certificate or proof of age.

Rule 8 - Guest Player

A guest player is defined as a properly registered player of NCYSA/USYSA, who has been given permission to play for another properly registered team in a competition that allows guest players. Guest players will not be allowed in any league games. The following rules must be followed for use of guest players. *Amended at the AGM-Jan 2004*

Part 1 - North Carolina players that guest play with a North Carolina team, outside of North Carolina.

The registrar will use a Guest Player Roster form (see attachment: Guest Player Form). The registrar needs the following items to properly register the guest player: (1) the guest player's pass (for proof of registration); and (2) a NEW notarized medical/liability release form FOR the team they will guest play with.

The releasing registrar will then fill out the guest player form, stamp, sign and date as they do with any other roster. The team will need a copy of this guest player roster for the tournament officials and it is recommended that the registrar retain a copy for their records.

The Guest Player Roster must have the signature of the current team coach (the player's rostered team) AND the signature of the coach that the player is guest playing for.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT A COPY OF THE GUEST PLAYER ROSTER ACCOMPANY THE TEAM'S PERMISSION TO TRAVEL.

Part 2 - North Carolina players that guest play for a team from another state.

It is the responsibility of the player and parent/guardian to submit the Interstate USYSA Region III Permission Form to the appropriate parties within both the releasing and accepting state associations. Please be aware the parent and the player's coach must sign the form. When approval is granted, the NCYSA State Office will send the signed form to the parent of the player. The parent is responsible for getting this form to the out-state-team, along with a NEW notarized medical release form for the out-of-state team they will play with.

Part 3 - Out-of-state players guest playing with a North Carolina Team

The out of state player should contact his/her state office for the proper forms (if that state has no forms, then the Interstate USYSA Region III Form). The player's state office will verify the player's registration status and indicate if approval is granted. If granted, the registrar for the NC team will need a copy of the signed Interstate Agreement and a NEW notarized medical release form for the NC team. The registrar will then fill out a NCYSA Guest Player Roster (in accordance with Rule 8, Part 1) and attach a copy of the approved Interstate Agreement form.

NOTE: If the tournament is out-of-state, the guest player roster and Interstate Agreement form must accompany the Permission to Travel.

SECTION 4 - INSURANCE

Part 1 - Players Insurance

All players who register with NCYSA shall be required to purchase the medical and liability insurance as specified by this association.

Part 2 - Claims

Medical insurance claims for all injuries shall be completed on the proper form obtained through the NCYSA State Office, the local registrar or the NCYSA Website.

It is requested that claims be filed within thirty (30) days of the injury. It is NOT necessary to have all the medical bills incurred, due to the injury, at the time the claim is filed.

Part 3 - Certificates of Insurance for Playing Fields

Associations may request Certificates of Insurance on playing and practice fields that are in use in their association. The request is sent to the NCYSA State Office where it is processed and then forwarded to the requesting association.

SECTION 5 - DISCIPLINE AND APPEALS PROCEDURES

Every member association of NCYSA shall be required to send a representative to a yearly Discipline and Appeals certification meeting. This person will also serve as an active member of the NCYSA Discipline and Appeals committee.

Rule 1 - USSF Policy 531-9 - Misconduct toward Game Officials

A. Referee assault is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon a referee.

For purposes of this policy, “intentional act” shall mean an act intended to bring about a result which will invade the interests of another in a way that is socially unacceptable. Unintended consequences of the act are irrelevant.

Assault includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; head butting; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee’s uniform or personal property, i.e. car, equipment, etc.

(1) The player, coach, spectator, or team official committing the referee assault is automatically suspended as follows:

- (a) for a minor or slight touching of the referee or the referee’s uniform or personal property, at least 3 months from the time of the assault;
- (b) except as provided in clause (3) or (4), as indicated in the USSF Bylaws, for any other assault, at least 6 months from the time of the assault;
- (c) for an assault committed by an adult and the referee is 17 years of age or younger, at least 3 years; or
- (d) for an assault when serious injuries are inflicted, at least 5 years.

(2) A State Association adjudicating the matter may not provide shorter period of suspension but, if circumstances warrant, may provide a longer period of suspension.

Referee abuse is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee’s property or equipment.

Abuse includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: using foul or abusive language toward a referee; spewing any beverage on a referee’s personal property; spitting at (but not on) the referee; or verbally threatening a referee.

Verbal threats are remarks that carry the implied or direct threat of physical harm. Such remarks as “I’ll get you after the game” or “You won’t get out of here in one piece,” shall be deemed referee abuse.

The minimum suspension period for referee abuse shall be at least three (3) scheduled matches within the rules of competition.

Special Case - Assault on a Referee

A. The charge will be filed in a letter from the referee describing the incident. The letter, with a copy of the official game report, will be sent to the NCYSA State Office.

B. Persons charged with referee assault will automatically be suspended for one (1) year. Persons charged have the right to a hearing regarding the suspension by the D & A Committee within thirty (30) days. If they waive that right, the suspension stands.

C. Any decision rendered by the NCYSA D & A Committee shall be binding. The next level of appeal shall be to the USSF National Appeals Committee. The Notice Appeal form to USSF must be made within ten (10) days of receipt of the decision rendered by NCYSA. This includes appeals pertaining to assault on a referee.

Rule 2 - Discipline and Appeals

Part 1

Jurisdiction and Procedures. The Discipline and Appeals (D & A) committee has jurisdiction over the following matters assigned to the D & A Chairman appointed by the NCYSA President.

A. Allegations of violation of the Constitution, By-laws, Rules and Regulations, Code of Conduct or misapplication of the Laws of the Game.

B. Any appeal from an association's disciplinary action.

C. Any protest involving two or more associations.

D. Any incident involving an allegation of assault on a referee.

E. Any other matter assigned to it by the Executive Board or Board of Directors.

Part 2

The appeal fee, established by the NCYSA Board of Directors is three hundred dollars (\$300.00) (certified check or money order), non-refundable, for any matter arising before the D & A Committee.

A. For Association Appeal only. The D & A Chairman will notify the association when an appeal is filed regarding an Association decision. After an association has received notification of an appeal, the association shall forward five (5) copies of the evidence, findings and decisions regarding the matter to the D & A Chairman. All pertinent data must be forwarded within seven (7) days of the appeal notification. NCYSA Appeals and Hearing Procedures will be made available to all parties with notification of appeal.

Part 3 - Incidents Involving Only One Association

A. The league management within each association shall provide procedures for protests and the hearing of an appeal and not until that procedure has been completed and an adverse decision rendered on the matter in question, will it be heard by the state association.

Part 4 - Procedures for NCYSA Hosted Tournaments

A. All questions relating to the qualifications of competitors, to interpretation of the rules, or any dispute or protest whatever, shall be referred to the appointed State Cup D & A Committee.

B. To be valid and eligible for consideration, each protest:

1. Must be verbally lodged with the referee and with the opposing coach at the game before entering the field of play or leaving the game site, except as noted in Part 7, C.

2. Must be filed in writing within one (1) hour with the State Cup D & A Committee following the game involving the protestable incident, including:

- (a) A fee in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) cash. The fee may be returned at the committee's discretion if the protest is upheld (unless the committee is overruled by a higher authority).
- (b) Five (5) written copies of the protest, which must include full particulars of the grounds on which the protest is lodged; and
- (c) Five (5) written copies of any information to be presented by witnesses.

C. Any protest relating to the grounds, goal posts, bars or other appurtenances of the game shall be entertained only if a written objection has been lodged with the referee and the opposing coach prior to the start of the game.

D. The State Cup Tournament D & A Committee Chairperson shall immediately upon receipt of a protest notify the committee members and the teams affected that the protest had been made. The teams affected shall have the right to present their cases to the committee personally at the tournament site or another meeting place designated by the chairperson of the committee.

E. A lawyer shall not represent a team at the hearing of a charge unless he is a bona fide member of one of the teams concerned.

F. A plea of ignorance to the rules and regulations of this competition is not sufficient grounds for appeals or protests. Violators may expect appropriate action by the Committee.

G. Decisions made on protest and appeals by the State Cup D & A Committee shall be binding and allow State Cup competition to proceed.

Part 5 - Hearing Procedures

Upon receipt of a complaint alleging violation of NCYSA Rules, Regulations or By-Laws by individual member by the State Office the following procedures shall be followed:

- 1. NCYSA State Office staff shall fax the Complaint to the D&A Committee Chairperson
- 2. D&A Committee Chairperson shall review the Complaint and determine whether it appears to adequately state an allegation of actionable misconduct on the part of a person or entity over whom NCYSA has jurisdiction.
- 3. If the D&A Committee Chairperson finds the allegations inadequate a written statement informing the complainant of the decision and dismissing the Complaint shall be prepared and sent to the Complainant by the State Office along with a Statement that the decision not to proceed may be appealed to the NCYSA Executive Board for Review of the Determination not to proceed.
- 4. If the D&A Committee Chairperson finds the allegations adequate to demonstrate, if verified, an actionable violation of any NCYSA/USYSA/USSF Rules, By-Laws, Regulations, or Procedures then a hearing will be scheduled to verify the allegations and make recommendations. The State Office shall issue a notice to the accused party stating that a complaint has been received. The notice shall indicate:
 - a) the alleged facts of the violation;
 - b) the rule or other regulation allegedly violated;
 - c) the potential sanctions if such violation is found at the hearing;

- d) a statement that a hearing will be set before a panel of the D&A Committee and the accused and complainant will be notified of the date, time, and place of the hearing, by email (if available), by telephone, regular mail and certified mail.
- e) In the initial notification the accused shall be provided with a copy of the hearing procedures, rights, duties, responsibilities and requirements of the D&A Hearing Process.

5. The notification to an accused party of the hearing procedures of the D&A Committee shall specify at a minimum the following information:

- a) the fact that the accused is entitled to a hearing before neutral and unbiased members of the D&A Committee.
- b) a notification that the accused shall be advised at least 5 days before the scheduled hearing date of the identities of the members of the Hearing panel.
- c) a notification that any claim of bias against any of the designated members of the hearing panel must be received in the State Office at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled date and time of the hearing or any such claim is waived.
- d) a notification that the accused is entitled to assistance at the hearing, including the assistance of legal counsel if desired.
- e) a statement that any hearing shall be scheduled at least 10 days after notice of the hearing has been provided to the accused and an indication that a request for the hearing to be rescheduled for any reasonable conflict may be made if requested no later than 5 days before the scheduled hearing date. A request to reschedule the hearing made within 5 days of the hearing date will be granted only upon a showing of extraordinary circumstances.
- f) a notification that at the hearing the accused may call witnesses to offer relevant evidence in his behalf, may submit sworn written statements on his behalf, and may submit other written documentation.
- g) a notification that the name and a brief summary of each witness's expected testimony must be provided in writing at least 48 hrs in advance of the hearing to the State Office and the opposing party. Any such witness testimony offered at the hearing and whose information has not been provided in compliance with this section may be disallowed by the panel in its discretion.
- h) a notification that all parties have the right to confront and cross-examine any witness offering evidence on behalf of the opposing party.
- i) a notification that the hearing panel may, upon the stated objection of the opposing party, refuse to admit any evidence, including sworn statements or written documentation for which there is no accompanying witness testimony, on the grounds that the opposing party has been denied an opportunity to confront and cross-examine the witnesses purporting to create such evidence.
- j) a notification that any sworn statements or other written materials that either party wishes to be considered by the panel must be provided to the opposing party at least 48 hours prior to the hearing date and time.
- k) a notification that any written material found to be objectionable by the opposing party must be objected to in writing and such written statement of objections provided to all parties and the panel prior to the taking of evidence at the hearing. The panel shall not consider any material that has been properly objected to that does not allow the opposing party to confront and cross-examine such evidence unless the panel specifically finds that the proffered evidence is reliable and is unavailable in any other form. For a witness to be unavailable the panel must be provided documentation that the presence of the witness was requested by the party seeking to use the statement and a statement from the witness that they were requested to attend the hearing and that they refuse to do so, either in person or telephonically. If the panel allows the introduction of any such material, previously objected to by the opposing party, then the proponent of such evidence, at the request of the opposing party, must answer any and all reasonable questions of the opposing party as to the circumstances surrounding the taking of the statement and the relationship of the person making the statement to the party offering the statement. All such information so elicited may be considered by

the panel in determining what weight, if any, the panel should give to the substance and credibility of the proffered evidence.

- l) a notification that witnesses may testify at the hearing telephonically and that any party wishing to have a witness testify telephonically must provide to the State Office at least 48 hrs in advance of the hearing the name and contact telephone number of the witness and indicate that the witness has been advised to be available at that contact number on the date of the hearing.
 - m) a notification that if requested at least 48 hrs in advance by any party, the proceedings shall be recorded in their entirety and a copy provided to any party.
 - n) a notification that any decision of the hearing panel shall be made in writing and rendered within 15 days of the hearing, with a copy provided to all parties and with instructions as to any appeal rights that a party may have if the decision is adverse to the party.
6. At any Hearing conducted by the D&A Committee, the following minimum procedural rules shall be followed as well as any rules and procedures of the D&A Committee that may be published from time to time.
- a) When the case is called, the panel shall first determine the admissibility of any witnesses and evidence that have been previously objected to by any party and shall make a determination for purposes of the hearing as to its admissibility.
 - b) For any witness who is to appear telephonically, an agent of the D&A Committee shall telephone the contact number of the listed witness half an hour prior to the scheduled commencement of the hearing, shall confirm the witness' availability, and shall ask the witness to remain near the telephone so they may give evidence if called during the next two hours.
 - c) The panel shall determine that the Hearing is prepared to be recorded in its entirety if either party has requested it.
 - d) The panel shall determine that arrangements for any witness to testify telephonically, if such has been requested, are in place such that all parties and the Hearing Panel members will be able to hear any such testimony, interactively question any such witness, and have such witness' testimony adequately recorded if recording has been requested.
 - e) The panel shall inform the parties of the Hearing procedures. Each party shall have 45 minutes to present their evidence. Additionally, the complainant shall have 10 minutes allotted for rebuttal to the accused's evidence, and 5 minutes of surrebuttal to the accused's surrebuttal. The accused shall have 15 minutes of surrebuttal to the complainant's rebuttal. Furthermore, each party shall have 15 minutes of total argument time to the Hearing Panel. The complainant shall open and close the argument and may allot his time as he wishes, including waiving his initial Closing Argument. The complainant bears the burden of proof and must convince the Hearing Panel by a preponderance of the evidence to prevail. After the conclusion of all evidence and argument, the Hearing Panel shall declare the Hearing concluded, dismiss all parties, and shall retire to deliberate. A decision of the panel shall be issued in writing to all parties within 15 days of the hearing.
 - f) At the Hearing, the Hearing Panel may be advised as to procedural questions by Legal Counsel to the D&A Committee. The Hearing Panel shall determine all facts of the case and their determination of any such facts, if supported by competent evidence in the record, shall be binding upon any appellate reviewing body.

PART 6 Disputes and Grievances By or Among Organization Members

Upon Receipt by the NCYSA State Office of any complaint by One Member Organization against another Member Organization or by any other entity against a Member Organization that said Member Organization has violated any Rule, Regulation, Bylaw or other procedure of NCYSA, USYSA, USSF the procedures outline in Rule 2 Discipline and Appeals Part 8 Hearing will be followed.

Part 7 Appeals Procedure

For all appeals from any decision rendered under the Authority of the D&A Committee these procedures shall be followed:

1. Appeal from a Decision of the D&A Committee Chairperson that the allegations of a Complaint are inadequate to proceed with a Hearing are appealable to the NCYSA Executive Board whose determination shall be final. In such an appeal these procedures must be followed:

- a) Within 10 days of the mailing of the notification of the decision not to proceed, the initial Complainant must send in writing to the NCYSA State Office a notice of appeal regarding the decision, a request to review the decision, and a \$100 appeal fee. Said appeal fee shall be in cash or certified funds and will not be returned.
- b) The State Office shall request the D&A Chairperson to forward to the State Office immediately, all documentation utilized in formulating the decision not to proceed. The State Office shall copy all such material upon receipt and distribute said material to all members of the Executive Board and the appealing party.
- c) All members of the Executive Board shall indicate to the State Office after review of the material, whether the Executive Board Member votes to affirm the decision of the D&A Committee, reverse the decision of the D&A Committee, needs further information from the appellant as the initial D&A Investigation did not appear to have provided the appellant an adequate opportunity to supply evidence, or needs to have a conference call with the other members of the Executive Board in order to render a decision.
- d) The State Office shall then tally and record the votes of the Executive Board Members. A simple majority of the votes shall determine the decision of the Executive Board. If no majority on any position is obtained, the State Office shall schedule a Conference Call for the Executive Board to render a decision as to the appeal. If a majority of the Executive Board votes to allow the appellant additional opportunity to provide information the State Office shall inform the appellant and shall require the appellant to submit whatever additional information the appellant desires within 10 days. Upon receipt of the appellant's additional material, the State office shall copy the material and distribute it to the members of the Executive Board who shall again vote in accordance with these procedures. If after additional material has been provided there is no majority vote obtained or a majority vote for a Conference Call is obtained then the State office shall schedule a Conference Call for the Executive Board wherein a decision shall be rendered by majority vote. If a majority vote is not obtained after implementation of these procedures, the appeal is deemed denied and the decision of the D&A Committee not to proceed with the Complaint is affirmed. The decision of the Executive Board is final and is not subject to appeal unless such decision is deemed by the USSF Appeals Committee to be in conflict with the rules of the USSF, in which case appeal lies to the USSF Appeals Committee.

2. For all appeals from any Hearing Panel of the D&A Committee, these procedures shall be followed:

- a) Within 10 days of the issuance of the written decision of the Hearing Panel, the State Office must receive in writing an initial notice of appeal and an appeal fee in cash or certified funds of \$300. Such appeal fee shall not be returned.
- b) Upon receipt of the initial notice of appeal the State Office shall notify the D&A Committee Chairperson of the Appeal.
- c) The Committee Chairperson shall appoint three members of the D&A Committee to hear the appeal. Such D&A Committee Members shall have not taken any part in the determination of the matters underlying the appeal.
- d) The State Office shall prepare a complete record of the Hearing in the matter and provide a copy to all parties to the appealed action.
- e) At the time the State Office sends a copy of the Record to all parties it shall send to the appellant a notice that within 15 days of the mailing of the Appeal Record, the appellant must designate in writing each error claimed to have been made in the Hearing and must further provide any argument in support of any claimed error that the Appellant wishes the Appeals Panel to consider. The appellant must also serve a complete copy of this designation of error and argument upon the opposing party.

- f)The opposing party shall have an additional 10 days to provide a response to the appellant's assigned errors and argument and the opposing party shall serve its response on the appellant and the State Office.
- g)When all responses have been received, the State Office shall provide a copy of the record and all parties responses to each member of the Appeals Panel.
- h)The Chairperson of the Appeals Panel, who shall be designated by the Chairperson of the D&A Committee, shall set a date for the Appeals Panel to meet either in person or by telephone to discuss and decide the appeal. The meeting shall not be held less than 5 days after receipt by all members of the Appeal Panel of the material of the appeal unless all members of the Appeals Panel agree to an earlier meeting.
- i)At the Appeals Panel meeting a decision regarding the appeal shall be made by the Appeals Panel by majority vote. A written decision of the Appeals Panel shall be rendered within 5 days of the meeting by the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee or by a Appeals Panel member in the majority designated by the Appeals Panel Chairperson if the Chairperson is not in the majority. The Appeals Panel may Affirm the Hearing Panel decision, may Reverse the Hearing Panel Decision, may Reverse and Remand for a new hearing the Hearing Panel Decision, or may Affirm the Hearing Panel decision but remand the case for reconsideration of the penalty imposed.
- j)Appeal of any decision of an Appeals Panel of the D&A Committee is to the USSF Appeals Committee.

3.The decision of the D&A Committee Chairperson not to proceed shall remain in effect until and unless an appeal of that decision is upheld.

4.The decision of any Hearing Panel of the D&A Committee shall be in effect and binding, including the imposition of any penalties, during the pendency of an appeal, unless the Appeals Panel specifically orders the decision stayed pending review. The Appeals Panel shall only order the decision stayed if after a preliminary review the Appeals Panel finds by clear and convincing evidence that the appellant will suffer irreparable harm without a stay and the appellant is likely to prevail upon the merits of the appeal.

Part 8

No state association, commissioner, official, league, team, referee or player may invoke the aid of any lawyer or courts of any state or of the United States without first exhausting all available remedies within the body of organized soccer (i.e. United States Soccer Federation). The order of appeals is as follows: local association; NCYSA; USSF.

Rule 3 - Disciplinary Rulings and Suggested Punishments

All violations of the NCYSA Rules and Regulations and Code of Conduct are to be heard by the D & A Committee. These are minimum suggested guidelines. Local associations guidelines may be more stringent.

Part 1

Suggested punishments may be altered based on specific information.

Part 2

Players guilty of fighting other players, coaches or spectators before, during or after games shall receive a two (2) game suspension.

Part 3

Players guilty of using profanity, either by word or sign, against other players, coaches, spectators, referees or any league official shall receive a one (1) game suspension.

Part 4

Players guilty of making threatening gestures against other players or coaches or any league official shall receive a one (1) game suspension.

Spectators guilty of this infraction shall receive a two (2) game suspension.

Part 5

Players guilty of pushing or striking any coach or team official shall receive a two (2) game suspension.

Part 6

Players, coaches, spectators or team officials who are found guilty of making threatening gestures or using threatening language or profanity to players, other coaches or officials shall be disciplined according to the following schedule (unless USSF policy 531-9 - assault on officials which requires a stiffer penalty):

A. Players guilty of this infraction shall receive a one (1) game suspension.

B. Coaches and/or spectators shall receive a two (2) game suspension.

C. USSF Policy 531-9: Misconduct toward Game Officials: as stated in Section 5, Rule 1, Part A.

Part 7

Coaches or team officials who are guilty of fighting before, during or after a game will be brought before the D & A. committee of this association for appropriate discipline, with a minimum two (2) game suspension.

Part 8

Players, coaches or spectators who are found guilty of making verbal threats to other players, coaches or spectators: players shall receive a one (1) game suspension; coaches/spectators a two (2) game suspension.

Part 9

Players guilty of violent conduct (committed either off the field or on the field against an opposing players while the ball is dead or not in the area of play for the ball, or on the field while the ball is in the play but against a teammate, a match official or person other than a player of record on the opposing) or serious foul play (intentionally striking or kicking another player while the ball is in play and while the players are challenging the ball) shall receive a one (1) game suspension.

Spectators found guilty of violent conduct or encouraging such conduct shall receive a one (1) year suspension from all NCYSA sanctioned events.

Part 10

A. Any player found guilty by the D & A committee of violent conduct with the intent to seriously injure or encouraging such conduct shall receive not less than a five (5) game suspension, up to one year suspension from all NCYSA sanctioned events.

B. Any coach found guilty by the D & A Committee of violent conduct or encouraging such conduct shall receive a one (1) year suspension from all NCYSA sanctioned events.

C. Any coach or team official found guilty by the D & A Committee of violent conduct with the intent to seriously injure, or encouraging such conduct, shall receive a minimum of a one (1) year suspension from all NCYSA sanctioned events.

Part 11

Any violations of the NCYSA Code of Conduct not specifically covered in the provisions above will be heard by the NCYSA D & A Committee. Persons who are found guilty of violating the Code of Conduct can be penalized by probation, suspension or fines.

Part 12

In Classic Play, the D & A committee will investigate every match when a coach or team official removes his/her team from the field of play before the end of a match. A minimum of a one (1) game suspension could be given to the coach, plus penalties for forfeiting the match. If a coach abandons a match for safety reasons, the team must request a D & A investigation within 48 hours of the match to determine if sanctions apply to the match, other wise the one game suspension and penalty of forfeiting the match will be enforced.

Rule 4 - Penalties for Excessive Cautions/Ejections in Classic Play

Part 1 - Point System

A. Players receive:

1. Two (2) points for a yellow card (or caution)
2. Five (5) points for a red card (or ejection)

NOTE: Any player receive two (2) yellow cards (cautions) in the same game receives the full five (5) points.

B. Coaches receive:

1. 3 points for a caution (yellow card)
2. 6 points for an ejection (red card)

C. Spectators receive the same points for infractions as the coach.

Part 2

When the team receives the 20th point, the local association to which the team is a member, must meet with the team (coaches and team manager) within 10 days of receiving notice from NCYSA, and a written report of the meeting must be filed with the D & A Administrator at the NCYSA State Office within seven (7) days of the meeting.

The head coach shall receive a one (1) game suspension when the team reaches 25 points per season. The coach will be required to sit out the next NCYSA scheduled league game.

Part 3

When the team receives the 40th point, a \$100.00 fine must be paid to NCYSA by the team within ten (10) days of notice and a meeting must be held with the team, coaches, local association officials and a person designated by NCYSA at a location determined by NCYSA. Fines not paid within the time limit will result in the team forfeiting all league matches until fines are paid. All fine and forfeiture fees will need to be paid in order for the team to play their next game.

When the team receives the 40th point in a seasonal year, the head coach shall receive a one (1) game suspension. The coach will be required to sit out the next NCYSA scheduled league game. The team will be required to attend a rules clinic given by an approved referee by the State Youth Referee Administrator.

Part 4

When the team receives the 60th point, a \$200.00 fine must be paid to NCYSA by the team within ten (10) days of notice, and a meeting must be held with the team, the local association President or President's designee and a person designated by NCYSA at a location determined by NCYSA. The team will be assessed a one game forfeit for the next regular season match and forfeiture fees for that match. All fines and forfeiture fees will need to be paid in order for the team to play their next game.

Teams will continue to accumulate points. Teams receiving more than 61 points in a year will be subject to review by the D & A Committee and further action taken as necessary. Team points will not continue to accumulate during State Cup and/or Kepner/Director's Cup Cup play. Individual points will continue to accumulate for players during State Cup and/or Kepner/Director's Cup Cup.

Part 5

Individual player points: Once a player receives thirteen (13) points, he/she must sit out the team's next regularly scheduled season game (or State Cup/Kepner/Director's Cup Cup game). If the 13th point is received as the result of a red card, the player must sit out the red card offense and then the 13 point sit out penalty.

Individual player points will continue to accrue during State Cup and/or Kepner/Director's Cup Cup. At 17 points, the player must sit out the next game and appear before the D & A Committee before he/she is allowed to play again.

Part 6

Subtracting points. A team can have points taken off their total in the following manner (points cannot be taken off BEFORE you receive points - also taking off points cannot bring the total below zero (0)).

If a team plays two consecutive games without receiving cards, two (2) points will be deducted from the team's total points. These points will be deducted from the team's total points. These points will not be deducted from individual player points.

Part 7

Sportsmanship Award. At the end of the year, teams that have received no points (deducted points do not count), will receive a Sportsmanship Certificate from NCYSA.

Part 8

Your match report is your responsibility. It is your responsibility to verify the information on the match report is correct. A match report that contains erroneous information and is signed by someone on your team will stand as an official match report. Take time to verify score, cautions and ejection's before you sign and mail the report. NCYSA will not take responsibility for correcting or sorting out incorrect information on match reports.

SECTION 6 – RISK MANAGEMENT

Every member association of NCYSA shall be required to send a representative to a yearly Risk Management certification clinic. This person would also serve as an active member of the NCYSA Risk Management committee.

As mandated by USYSA, NCYSA must institute a program of risk management that at a minimum includes a written policy, a point person with an alternate, a law enforcement liaison, and an approved practice of hiring, training, supervision, investigation and firing/dismissal. USYSA further states:

1. that each state shall create and adopt a position statement that every reasonable effort will be taken within the KIDSAFE program to exclude from program responsibilities (not to be confused with parental responsibilities affecting their own child) any adult with a legally documented history of child molestation or any other record that would bring an unnecessary risk to the health and safety of the program's participants.
2. that each state shall adopt a program which requires all volunteers to agree to be subject to a legally sensitive background check before or during the program's operations. It is the intent of NCYSA to use disclosure statements to evaluate the candidate's potential involvement in NCYSA activities. NCYSA may use the information obtained from these disclosures and follow-up investigations to deny certification to persons of the above crimes for involvement in NCYSA activities. It is the intent of

NCYSA to deny certification for involvement in NCYSA activities to anyone who fails to complete a disclosure statement when required to do so.

[Risk Management Requirements and Procedure- Click Here](#)

Link to risk management requirements and procedures- added 10/28/2009

SECTION 7 - COMPETITION

General Rules of Play

The rules of play shall be the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA with those modifications stated herein. All contests sanctioned by this association shall abide by the Laws of the Game and the modifications as published by this association.

Rule 1

All games shall be played under the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association, as amended each year.

Rule 2

Each team shall be responsible for the conduct of its manager, coach, players, club members, etc., and it is the responsibility of each team to ensure that its action on and off the field does not bring disrespect upon this association. The coach shall have the final responsibility of his team's conduct. It is the responsibility of each team and its members to abide by the NCYSA Code of Conduct.

Rule 3

Unfair charging of the goalkeeper, as described by the Laws of the Game, shall not be permitted at any time.

Rule 4

Movement of coaches along the sidelines shall be restricted to their team's bench area unless required to attend to a player. No one (including spectators) is permitted to remain behind the goal lines.

Movement of coaches along the sideline - giving direction to one's own team on points of strategy and position is permitted. Coaches and players are restricted to the area of the restraining line.

Rule 5

During Classic and Challenge games, players may be substituted only during certain stoppages of the game. The number of substitutions shall be unlimited unless the rules of a competition superseding the jurisdiction of this association specifically determine otherwise. Substitutions may be made, with the approval of the referee, at the following times:

A. Prior to a throw-in, by the team in possession.

B. Prior to a goal kick, by either team.

C. After an injury, by either team.

D. At half-time.

E. Before the taking of a kick-off.

F. After a yellow card has been awarded, a substitution may be made for the player receiving the yellow card. (Does not apply to Cup Competitions.)

In any case, a substitute may not enter the middle of field of play until he/she has been given a signal to do so by the referee and the player being replaced has come off the field.

Rule 6

Shin guards are required and it is mandatory that they be worn while playing in NCYSA sanctioned events.

Rule 7

Players will not be allowed to wear watches, bracelets, rings, necklaces or dangling earrings. Pierced earrings that are small and flat (i.e. studs) and flat barrettes will be allowed at the discretion of the referee.

Rule 8

The referee's judgment with regard to the physical condition of the field and its acceptance for play, to the actual happenings and occurrences related to the conduct of the game, and those prerogatives granted to them by the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA shall not be challenged.

Rule 9

If a player or coach is ejected from a game (red carded), he/she cannot be replaced in that game and must not play or coach in his/her team's next scheduled game. If a player or coach violated this rule, penalties such as suspension will be considered by the NCYSA Discipline and Appeals Committee (D & A). An ejected player or coach must be controlled by his/her team. He/She must be moved away from his/her playing area. For specific rules on ejections and cautions, please see Section 5 - Discipline and Appeals.

Rule 10 Ordered off for misconduct

At all NCYSA sanctioned and all NCYSA affiliate sanctioned matches, if a coach, assistant coach, manager, or other team personnel, other than a player, is ordered dismissed from the match by the referee for misconduct, that person must immediately leave the area of the match to a distance out of sight and sound of the field and that person shall not be permitted to attend the next scheduled match of the team. The person dismissed may not be within sight or sound of the field when the teams' next scheduled match is played. Violation of this rule shall result in the team, to which the offending person is affiliated, forfeiting the match and the offending person shall be required to not attend the next scheduled match of the team, under the same terms and conditions as applied to the original suspension. Participants should be aware that under the Laws of the Game, referees shall only display red and yellow cards to players. If a team official has any question as to whether he or she has been ordered off by the referee, the match report should be consulted after the game. If a referee has directed a participant to leave the area, the mere fact that no red card was displayed does not mean that the person was not ordered off.

Rule 11

The standards for length of games, overtime periods, ball size, ball weight and dimensions for each age group for recreation and challenge competition shall be governed by each local association, in accordance with the standards as set forth by FIFA, USYSA and NCYSA.

Rule 12 What Constitutes A Match?

In order to constitute a match, the first half of the match must have been completed. A sit-out penalty will only be fulfilled in a match considered complete by NCYSA rules. If a match is terminated at anytime by a referee due to fault of a coach, player(s), spectators, the opposing team will be awarded the win using the same standard as a forfeiture. If the opposing team has a winning score at the time the match is terminated, it will be awarded the win and the score will stand.

Rule 13 Match Protest

A match protest of a recreation/challenge match must be handled by the local association or scheduling league. A match protest of a classic match must be at the NCYSA Office within 48 hours of the match. The one hundred dollar (\$100) non-refundable protest fee, certified check or money order, must be included with the reason for the protest. A valid match protest: protests the adequacy of the field; protests the neutrality of the referee; protests the eligibility of a player to participate and protests technical errors by the referee in applying the laws of the game during the match.

Rule 14

All players registered in this association in the Under 10, Under 11, and Under 12 divisions must play the NCYSA/USYSA modified rules. (*See Section 1. Rule 15 for roster sizes*)

SECTION 7A - Recreation Rules

Rule 1

During recreation games, each game will be divided into four (4) quarters or two halves, with each player playing at least one-half of the number of the minutes of the total game.

Associations may have the option to make reasonable exceptions to the above rule for the purpose of discipline or in the event of injury or illness.

Rule 2

NCYSA Recreational Leagues will establish playing rules for those individual leagues. Rules must be consistent with USYSA, USSF and FIFA, unless otherwise notated in those rules. All rules not consistent with USYSA, USSF or FIFA must be proposed and passed by the NCYSA Recreation Council.

Rule 3

Recreation players and teams must register with a Certified NCYSA Registrar.

A. A notarized NCYSA medical release/liability form must be completed for each player on a team's roster.

SECTION 7B - Challenge Rules

Rule 1

Challenge age groups will be U10 to U19 (boys and girls).

Rule 2

Challenge soccer is a competitive level with teams conducting tryouts or drafts.

Rule 3

The NCYSA State Office does not schedule Challenge matches.

Rule 4

Any group or body intending on becoming a Challenge Scheduling League must be sanctioned by NCYSA by at least receiving an Associate Membership status by September 1, 2003. Any new applications for the formation of any new scheduling leagues should follow the guidelines of new membership of NCYSA.

Rule 5

NCYSA Challenge Leagues will establish playing rules for those individual leagues. Rules must be consistent with USYSA, USSF and FIFA, unless otherwise notated in those rules. All rules not consistent with USYSA, USSF or FIFA must be proposed and passed by the NCYSA Challenge Council.

Rule 6

Challenge players and teams must register with a Certified NCYSA Registrar.

A. A notarized NCYSA medical release/liability form must be completed for each player on a team's roster

B. All girls team names will have the suffix "G" (as of the 1999-2000 seasonal year).

C. Out of state teams participating in the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association Challenge League must register in North Carolina and have North Carolina rosters and playing passes effective for September 1, 2003 season.

SECTION 7C - Classic Rules

Rule 1

Before a team can form, they must belong to an NCYSA Association.

Rule 2

Each association is required to provide a minimum of two, appropriately sized fields. If teams are registered in the Under 15 or above divisions, then the fields need to be a MINIMUM of 60 x 110 yards. If an association sponsors one Under 15 and one Under 11 team, then PAIRS of fields are needed for each age division.

Part 1

NCYSA will not knowingly schedule Under 15 and older on smaller fields.

Part 2

Suggested field sizes are as follows:

Age Division	Suggested Minimum	Suggested Desired Size
U19/18/17	65 x 110	75 x 120
U16/15	65 x 110	70 x 120
U14/13	60 x 110	65 x 115
U12	55 x 105	60 x 110
U11	45 x 55	60 x 80

Part 3

The ratio of teams: fields is (after the two field minimum): 6:1. For every six teams an association sponsors, they must provide one field. For every field short (based on the 6:1 applicable ratio with a minimum of two fields) there will be a \$3500 field fee for the association which will be due fourteen (14) days after the Classic Intent to Plays are due, and will be used to compensate the association(s) that provide(s) the substitute fields. Associations may not zero out their fields for more than two dates, only one of which may be a Sunday.

Part 4

Fields must be available for neutral site games.

Rule 3

Associations are obligated to begin certifying referees and forming their own referee pools.

Part 1

Classic Associations must have a certified referee assignor. It is the responsibility of the local association to send a person to the Referee Assignor Certification Class that is held each year.

Part 2

Local associations failing to adequately cover games with certified officials (of an appropriate level) run the risk of having their remaining home matches removed.

Rule 4

Each local association is required to have a certified registrar. It is the local association's responsibility to send a person to the Registrar Certification workshops.

Rule 5

Classic associations may be represented at the Classic Council. Voting is weighted by membership of the local association.

Rule 6

Each association sponsoring Classic teams is required to submit an Association Bond. The fee is: 1-10 teams = \$200.00; 11-20 teams = \$400.00; 21-30 teams = \$600.00; 31-40 teams = \$800.00, etc. Bonds will be carried over from season to season. Associations may request returns from the State Office in writing.

Rule 7

Teams are required to submit, before each season, an application to the Classic League (Intent to Play).

Part 1

Forms must be signed by the team official and the local association president.

Part 2

The fee for applying (one-time, annual) is set by the Board of Directors or their designate.

Part 3

Teams that fold after the application deadline will have their local associations fined \$300. Teams that fold within 2 weeks of the beginning of the season will have their association fined \$500.00.

Part 4

Associations failing to pay fines are subject to having them and their teams put into bad standing with NCYSA.

Part 5

A late charge of fifty dollars (\$50.00) will be charged to teams that submit the classic intent to play forms after the specified deadline. The VP classic has the discretion to waive the fine in the event of extenuating circumstances. If an intent to play form is filed late, there is no guarantee that the team will be accepted to play during the season.

Rule 8

Boys teams participating in the following age divisions of the Classic League: U17, U18 and U19; are also required to submit a team bond of \$200.00. The bond is returned if:

- A. The team has fulfilled its playing obligations; and
- B. The team requests the refund in writing to the State Office.

Rule 9

NCYSA offers competition in the following age divisions for Classic Play: Boys - U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U18, and U19 (State Cup Competition only). Girls - U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U18, and U19 (State Cup Competition only).

Rule 10

For the relegation and promotion of teams and for State Cup seedings, NCYSA requires that a team play a minimum of four counting matches for the single season teams.

Rule 11

New teams entering in the spring season (while other teams in that age division played a fall schedule) are only guaranteed four (4) matches by NCYSA. NOTE: Every attempt will be made to schedule as many games as possible for every team.

Rule 12

NCYSA does not approve of the practice of local associations that cancel scheduled matches due to non-weather related situations or after minimal rain.

Part 1

Non counting matches are not required to be made up.

Part 2

Counting matches MUST be made up. (See guidelines on making up counting matches located in the Classic Handbook.)

Rule 14

In the event that a local school system mandates a Saturday for school attendance, teams are required to reschedule the matches using the NCYSA Classic Rescheduling form unless the match was non-counting. A Saturday school reschedule will not count as one of the team's two reschedules. (see guidelines on making up counting matches located in the Classic Handbook).

Rule 15

Classic teams must have the following items at games.

Part 1

Player Passes. Prior to the game, the referee shall check player passes, match rosters and make sure that each player's equipment is in proper order.

Part 2

Medical Release/Liability Forms. Coaches or team officials should have in their possession the NCYSA Medical Release/Liability Form, filled out for each player, signed by their parent(s) and notarized.

Part 3

Alternate Jersey. Where colors of uniforms are similar, the home team must change to colors which are distinct from those of the opponent.

Part 4

Game ball. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide a game ball. However, both teams should have an adequate "back up" in case the game ball is put "out of play".

Rule 16

If a player plays in a match and is not properly registered, his team shall automatically forfeit that game and may face further disciplinary action by the member association and/or the Board of Directors of this association and/or the appropriate Vice President/Classic depending upon the nature of the violation.

Part 1

In case of a forfeiture, the score shall stand 1-0 against the forfeiting team.

Rule 17

Teams, coaches and spectators shall take positions on opposite sides of the field when possible, unless a fourth official has been assigned to the match in which both teams will be on the same side. The home team will have the choice of sides. If fields are side-by-side, players may locate in the middle and spectators on the outside directly opposite their own team.

Rule 18

No coach, player, substitute or spectator is to make derogatory remarks or gestures to the referee, other players, substitutes or spectators.

Rule 19

No coach, player, substitute, spectator or referee is to use profanity.

Rule 20

No coach, player, substitute, spectator or referee is to incite, in any manner, disruptive behavior.

Rule 21

The Neutral Site association will be responsible for the condition of the grounds, the proper field markings and proper equipment. Nets and spectators lines are required. It will be the responsibility of both teams to have a game ball and to see that their fans behave in a proper and respectful manner.

Rule 22

Any team delaying the start of a scheduled game more than fifteen (15) minutes without the sanction of the proper authority shall forfeit the game to the opponent by a score of 1-0 and paying the referee fees and/or fines.

Rule 23

IN the event that both teams do not show up for a scheduled game, and the referee rules grounds playable, then both teams shall be assessed with a loss and pay referee fees and/or fines. Teams will not be allowed to play their remaining schedule until all fines are paid.

Rule 24

Referees responsible for the late start of a game may be disciplined by the proper authority. Referees may, at any time, be called upon by the proper authority to explain their reports.

Rule 25

The standards for length of games, overtime periods, ball size, ball weight and dimensions for each age group in classic competition shall be according to the NCYSA Classic Handbook.

Rule 26

The referees are to be paid according to the published scale listed in the NCYSA Classic Handbook and approved by the Classic Council.

Rule 27

If a team forfeits more than one (1) weekend of play, then those teams are not eligible to participate in any NCYSA State Cup Series Tournament (even year, odd year or Kepner/Director's Cup Cup).

Rule 28

A team's position or slot is "owned" by the local association, regardless of the number of returning players for that team, therefore if a team leaves an association to start a new one somewhere else, the original association retains the right to the divisional slot of that team. Teams are relegated and promoted according to the NCYSA Classic Handbook.

Rule 29

The tie breaking procedures for regular season standings are those listed in the NCYSA Classic Handbook and passed by the Classic Council.

Rule 30

The guidelines for Ethics for Coaches, Parents and Players are to be those listed in the NCYSA Handbook and adopted by the Classic Council.

SECTION 8 - Tournaments and Cups

Rule 1

Member associations of NCYSA may host tournaments sanctioned by this association and USYSA and USSF by submitting the appropriate paper work and/or fees as specified below.

Part 1

Groups wishing to sanction a tournament with NCYSA must be affiliated with a member local association.

Part 2 NCYSA TOURNAMENT HOSTING TERMS & DEFINITIONS (Effective 2003-04 Seasonal Year-Passed AGM 1/5/03)

I. Tournament-

Any competition that charges an entry fee to cover expenses incurred for the event and desired profits and/or

any event that engages in solicitation, i.e., mailings, website information, voicemail announcements, advertisements, mass emails, etc.

Intra-League Tournaments are excluded but their existence must be reported to NCYSA.

Permission to Host Requirements-

An approved Permission to Host Form is REQUIRED for all Tournaments

II. Games- A competition between teams

A- Friendly- any competition conducted between teams where the ONLY fees collected are to offset the exact cost of the match.

1- NCYSA reserves the right to request a budget for a Friendly

Permission to Host Requirements-

REQUIRED if out of state teams are participating in a Friendly

Not required for NCYSA teams playing another NCYSA team in a Friendly

B-Scrimmage- Any competition conducted between teams where no fees are collected

Permission to Host Requirements-

REQUIRED if out of state teams are participating in a Scrimmage

Not required for NCYSA teams playing another NCYSA team in a Scrimmage

III League Play with Out of State Teams- any competition conducted between teams from different states- recreation, challenge, or classic.

*Permission to Host Requirements-
REQUIRED*

Part 3 NCYSA Host Form Submittal Deadline Dates (Effective 2003-04 Seasonal Year-Passed AGM 1/5/03)

NCYSA Hosted events/activities shall take precedence over affiliate/associate sanctioned member events to include but not limited to: tournaments, friendlies, pre-season warm-ups, scrimmages, or League Play. Decisions on sanctioned events shall be at the discretion of the NCYSA VP Tournaments and/or his/her designee.

Established Tournament- *A tournament that has existed for at least two consecutive years on the same date and offers the same levels of play (recreation, challenge, classic), and is in ‘Good Standing’ with NCYSA. In order to retain this status the post tournament report and fees along with a completed host form for the next year must be submitted to NCYSA within thirty (30) days following the completion of the tournament.*

Deadline dates to submit Permission to Host Forms:

Established Tournaments -No more than twelve (12) months in advance of the scheduled tournament date. In addition, the post-tournament report and post-tournament fees must be submitted within thirty (30) days following the completion of the tournament. The latest date a host form may be submitted is six (6) months before the scheduled tournament date.

Exceptions to Established Tournaments: If for any reason an established tournament conflicts with a NCYSA Event (any cup – Recreation, Challenge, Classic or Festivals) the VP Tournaments and /or his/her designee will have the discretion to sanction or not to sanction.

No more than eleven (11) months in advance of the scheduled tournament date for any tournament that is not an Established Tournament. The latest date a host form may be submitted is six (6) months before the scheduled tournament.

Criteria to be considered for Tournament Approval:

- A. -**
- 1) No direct conflict with a NCYSA Scheduled event**
 - 2) Post Tournament Report and fees (if applicable) have been submitted within the 30 day deadline- this criteria is
for ALL tournaments**
 - 3) Established Tournament**
- B. - If more than one host form is submitted for the same weekend:**
- 1. The above criteria will be considered**
 - 2. The geographic distance between the two tournaments should be at least 60 miles apart**
 - 3. The levels of play (recreation, challenge, classic)**

4. **The field availability**
5. **The Referee Pool availability**

Part 4 NCYSA Hosting Fees (Effective 2003-04 Seasonal Year-Passed AGM 1/5/03)

I-TOURNAMENT Hosting Fees

A-Tournament Application Fee

1. An Association check payable to NCYSA in the amount of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars
2. Submitted with the completed Permission to Host Form along with all required items and appropriate signatures
3. The Tournament Application Fee must be submitted no less than six (6) months before the desired tournament date

The \$25.00 Tournament Application Fee will be waived for any Tournament that files their Post-Tournament Report and Post Tournament Fee by the deadline (30 days after the tournament) AND submits a completed Permission to Host Form along with all required items and signatures for the next year.

B- Tournament Application Late Fees-

NCYSA/USYS are not required to accept or approve any application submitted less than one hundred-eighty (180) days in advance of the desired tournament date. Permission to Host Forms submitted less than 180 days before the event will be subject to the following late fees:

1. less than six (6) months but more than five (5) months- \$25.00 plus application fee of \$25.00-
2. less than five (5) months but more than four (4) months- \$50.00 plus application fee of \$25.00
3. less than four (4) months but more than three (3) months- \$75.00 plus application fee of \$25.00
4. less than three (3) months \$100.00 plus application fee of \$25.00

C- Post Tournament Fee

1. A fee of ten (\$10.00) dollars for each NCYSA team participating in an outdoor tournament is due thirty (30) days after the tournament along with a post tournament report.
2. A fee of five (\$5.00) dollars for each NCYSA team participating in an indoor tournament is due thirty (30) days after the tournament along with a post tournament report.
3. The post tournament fee is payable to NCYSA. ONE CHECK ONLY for the full amount.

D- Post Tournament Late Fees

Late fees will accrue if the NCYSA State Office does not receive a Post Tournament Report and Fees thirty (30) days after the completion of the tournament. 'Established' Tournaments (*) will lose this status if the report and fees are not received within thirty (30) days after the tournament

1. 31 to 60 days late- \$100.00 late fee in addition to the Post-Tournament Fee
2. 61 to 90 days late- \$200.00 late fee in addition to the Post-Tournament Fee
3. 91 to 120 days late- \$300.00 late fee in addition to the Post-Tournament Fee
4. 121 to 150 days late- \$400.00 late fee in addition to the Post-Tournament Fee
5. 151 to 180 days late- \$500.00 late fee in addition to the Post-Tournament Fee

** Established Tournament- A tournament that has existed for at least two consecutive years on the same date, offers the same levels of play (recreation, challenge, classic), and is in 'Good Standing' with NCYSA. In order to retain this status the post tournament report and fees along with a completed host form for the next year must be submitted to NCYSA within thirty (30) days following the completion of the tournament.*

II- Games- Friendly or Scrimmage Late Fees

1. No fee if the Host Form is received by the NCYSA State Office no less than seventy-two hours before the desired date.
2. If less than seventy-two hours a \$50.00 late fee will be assessed and due within seven (7) business days.
3. If the late fee is not received within seven (7) business days, the association will be placed in 'Bad Standing.'

Part 5

A USYS Application to Host Tournaments or Games must be filled out in accordance with USYS and NCYSA procedures, signed by the Association President, accompanied by all required items and signatures and submitted to the NCYSA State Office, no later than one hundred-eighty (180) days in advance of the proposed date(s) of the competition.

If foreign teams will be invited, a USYS Application to Host Tournaments or Games AND a USSF Application to Host a tournament or Games involving Foreign Teams must be submitted along with the appropriate USSF fees and a signed Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act.

Part 6

A US Youth Soccer Tournament or Games Hosting Agreement must be completed along with the certified assignor's signature and the signature of the President of the Hosting Association (local association) and the Tournament Director.

The Hosting Agreement must accompany the host form and must be submitted no later than one hundred-eighty (180) days in advance of the proposed date(s) of the competition.

Part 7

Unrestricted Tournament Insurance Requirements.

UNRESTRICTED TOURNAMENT INSURANCE POLICY

A tournament sanctioned by NCYSA may declare itself to be "Restricted" – open only to teams from USSF National State Associations or "Unrestricted" – open to teams from all USSF affiliates. If a tournament desires to be "Unrestricted", the tournament must purchase and provide evidence of a \$1,000,000.00 CSL comprehensive general liability policy including coverage for participant/spectator medical payments. In lieu of medical payments, a sports accident policy with a \$10,000.00 limit of liability per injury is acceptable. NCYSA and the hosting NCYSA member association shall be listed as additional insureds and a hold harmless and indemnification agreement in favor of NCYSA must be executed. Before NCYSA will sanction any "Unrestricted" tournament, the insurance policy(ies) must be approved by NCYSA.

CSL – Combined Single Limit

Adopted 4/12/06 by NCYSA Executive Board

Effective 1/1/2007

Part 8

A copy of the rules for the Tournaments or Games along with field maps and field dimensions must be submitted with the Application to Host and the Hosting Agreement.

A. In any Under 16 or older age division, which will include more than one (1) foreign team, the Rules of the Tournament or Games must specify FIFA limited substitution rules.

Part 9

The tournament must have a registration procedure that includes a credentials check. Items to be checked will include:

A. Player's passes. Every player must have a current seasonal year player pass. Any player without a valid player pass, must have some documented proof of proper registration with his/her state and/or local association.

The local tournament committee (in absence of an NCYSA official) has the right to decide if documentation is valid for players not in possession of a pass.

B. Medical Release/Liability forms. Each registered player must have a notarized medical release/liability form signed by his/her parent(s).

C. Certified Roster. Teams must present a current seasonal year certified roster from their state association.

D. Permission to Travel. Teams travelling from outside of North Carolina must have a Permission to Travel form signed by their state association.

Part 10

The tournament/games director is required to submit a Post Tournament Report with NCYSA within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the tournament/games. The report is to include:

A. The number of teams participating in each age division, for boys and girls.

B. The name of the Champion of each division, if a champion is determined.

C. The number of teams from each National State Association or foreign country.

D. If Sportsmanship awards are given, the criteria for the awards and the award winners.

E. The number of fields used for the tournament/games.

F. The name of the sponsor, if any.

G. The names and teams of all players issued red and yellow cards (cautions/ejections) and details of any other matters involving the improper or unsportsmanlike conduct of a team, its players, coaches or supporters. NOTE: Any incidents of referee abuse or referee assault or other incidents of a serious nature should be reported to the team's or player's home National State Association immediately, but no later than seven (7) days after the conclusion of the tournament.

H. Failure to submit this Post Tournament Report within the specified time shall prevent the tournament and/or host association from receiving sanction for any tournament for the following seasonal years until a report is filed.

Rule 2

Permission to Travel - Please See Section 1, Rule 14

Rule 3

General Rules of Cup Play

In addition to the general rules of competition, the following specific rules shall apply to Cup games, tournament games, classic competition (unless specified elsewhere in this section), State Select competition, inter-district competition, all-star games and international games.

Part 1

The authority for approval and/or operational control (including dates and times of games which are to be played for these competitions), when played or sponsored by affiliated teams or leagues, shall be vested with the Board of Directors of this association or their designate. Approved games of this type shall take precedence over all league games.

Part 2

The entrance fees and procedures for these competitions shall be established and/or approved by the Board of Directors of this Association (or their designate). All fees and forms must be submitted to the State Office on or before the due date in the manner specified.

Part 3

The referee(s) in all Cup games shall be appointed by the Board of Directors or its delegate, who shall also set the fee.

Rule 4 - Recreation Cup Rules

Local associations will be given the opportunity to bid on hosting the NCYSA Recreation Cup preliminary rounds and/or Finals round.

Part 1

Associations wishing to bid must submit the completed bid package, signed by the local association president by the due date specified.

A. Local associations bidding to host any segment of the NCYSA Recreation must agree to all stipulations contained in the bid package.

Part 2

The Board of Directors of this association or their designate shall determine revenue for the host local association.

Part 3

Determination of sites will be made by the Board of Directors of this association or the appropriate VP of Tournaments/Travel or their designate.

Rule 5 - Participating in the NCYSA Recreation Cup

Teams applying for the NCYSA Recreation Cup must submit a completed application form with the appropriate fees by the due date stated.

Part 1

A local association president signature must be secured on the application.

Part 2

Only NCYSA Recreation teams are allowed to apply for the Cup.

A. Teams must have participated in at least four (4) games against other NCYSA approved teams.

B. No registered Classic, Challenge or Premiere players will be allowed to participate.

C. No player will allowed to participate on more than one (1) team in the Cup.

D. Players must have participated in at least one half (1/2) of their team's regular season games (with exception to injury). Players participating in less than one half will be considered guest players.

E. Guest players will be allowed as according to the NCYSA Recreation Cup Rules of Play.

Part 3

The fees for the NCYSA Recreation Cup will set by the Board of Directors of this association or their designate.

Part 4

Teams participating in the NCYSA Recreation Cup must contact their local association registrar to secure player passes, a notarized medical release/liability form for each player and a certified team roster.

Part 5

All players that are rostered to a team applying for the NCYSA Recreation Cup must be invited to participate. Players choosing NOT to participate must sign the NCYSA Recreation Cup Player Affidavit Form indicating refusal to participate.

Part 6

It is the responsibility of the teams participating in the NCYSA Recreation Cup to know and follow all Rules of the Cup.

Part 7

Roster Limits.

A. The under 10 division will play with eight (8) players with a roster limit of no more than fourteen (14) players.

B. Under 11 and up will play with eleven (11) players and have a roster limit of no more than eighteen (18) players.

Rule 6 - Hosting the NCYSA Challenge Cup

Part 1

Completed bid forms must be submitted by the appropriate due date with the appropriate association signature.

Part 2

Sites for the NCYSA Challenge Cup will be determined by the Board of Directors of this association or their designate.

Part 3

The Under 15 Girls and older divisions will participate in the Fall. The Under 14 girls and younger; and the U10-U19 Boys will participate in the Spring.

Part 4

Associations bidding to host the NCYSA Challenge Cup must read and agree to the specifications of the bid package.

Part 5

The Board of Directors of this association or their designate will determine revenue for the host association.

Rule 7 - Participating in the NCYSA Challenge Cup

Part 1

Only NCYSA registered Challenge Teams in good standing may participate in the NCYSA Challenge Cup.

Part 2

The Board of Directors of this association or their designate will determine fees for the Cup.

Part 3

Teams applying for the Cup must submit the completed paperwork, accompanied by the appropriate fees. Applications must have signatures of approval from their local associations.

Part 4

It is the responsibility of the participating teams to know and understand the Entry Requirements and the Rules of Play for the NCYSA Challenge Cup.

Part 5

A player or team may only participate in one (1) State Cup Series event.

Part 6

The Challenge Cup roster freeze date will be specified in the application package.

Rule 8 - Hosting the NCYSA State Cup Series for Classic (USYS Cup, Kepner/Director's Cup/Director's Cup, Final Four)

Part 1

Completed bid packages must be submitted by the due date, with appropriate signatures to the NCYSA State Office.

Part 2

The Board of Directors of this association or their designate will determine sites.

Part 3

Local Associations bidding on any portion of the series must read and agree to the specifications in the bid package.

Part 4

The Under 15 and older girls will participate in the Fall. The Under 14 girls and younger will participate in the Spring. The Under 11 - Under 19 boys will participate in the Spring. The Kepner/Director's Cup Cup will take place in the Spring.

Part 5

Revenue for hosting associations will be determined by the Board of Directors of this Association or their designate.

Rule 9 - Participating in the USYS State Cup Series and the Kepner/Director's Cup/Director's Cup

Part 1

Teams must submit a completed application form with appropriate signatures and fees by the due date specified.

A. Teams may only apply and participate in one State Cup Series tournament per seasonal year.

Part 2

The Board of Directors of this association or their designate will determine the fees for the USYS State Cup and the Kepner/Director's Cup/Director's Cup.

Part 3

The USYS State Series is open to any properly registered NCYSA team that has participated in a minimum of four (4) league games against other NCYSA registered teams.

A. The Kepner/Director's Cup/Director's Cup is open to all properly registered NCYSA teams.

B. NCYSA Classic teams are given first right of refusal, providing they have met the entry requirements. All other teams will be placed as needed.

C. Classic Premier teams are not allowed to participate in the NCYSA Kepner/Director's Cup/Director's Cup.

Part 4

It is the responsibility of the participating teams to know and understand the Entry Requirements and the Rules of Play for the USYS State Cup Series and the Kepner/Director's Cup/Director's Cup.

Part 5

The roster freeze date for teams participating in the Cups will be specified in the application package.

SECTION 9 - REFEREES

Rule 1

The Board of Directors of this association or their designate will determine fees for the Classic and Challenge League games.

Rule 2

Fees for the USYS State Cup, Kepner/Director's Cup/Director's Cup or Challenge Cup will be at the same rate of pay as the Classic league scale.

Rule 3

Grievances against referees by NCYSA members shall be put in writing to the NCYSA D & A Chairperson.

A. Grievances must violate the Referee and/or NCYSA Code of Conduct.

SECTION 10 - COACHING SCHOOL

Rule 1

Fees for the NCYSA Coaching Schools will be set by the Board of Directors of this association or their designate.

A. There will be a maximum number of participants for each school as set forth by the NCYSA Board of Directors (or their designate).

Rule 2

Pre-requisites for participation in the NCYSA Coaching Schools or USSF National Schools will be determined by the NCYSA Director of Coaching and/or the USSF.