

Fort Bragg Youth Services (YS) Sports & Fitness
Soccer Program
Rule Amendments
Spring 2018

CYS Sports will adhere to the regulations administered by the National Federation of State High School Associations with exception of the following rules.

1. Scoring:
 - a. Score will not be kept in the 4U, 6U and 8U Leagues.
 - b. Score will be kept in the 10U and 13U Leagues.
2. League Standings: League standings will be kept in the 10U and 13U Soccer Leagues. A single elimination tournament will be held at the end of the regular season (tournament seedings will be based on league standings). If there is a tie in league standings at the end of the regular season, seedings will be determined first by the *overall number* of different players who have scored a goal, then by the *percentage* of players on a team who have scored a goal over the course of the season.

Example – Teams A, B, and C are tied at the end of the regular season. Team A has 18 players and four of them scored at least once over the course of the season (22.22%). Team B has 16 players, also with four who have scored (25%). Team C has 22 players, with five who have scored (22.73%). Team C would win the first tiebreaker, having the most players who scored, leaving Teams A and B tied. Team B would win the next tiebreaker, having the higher percentage of scorers between the two remaining teams.

If a tie still exists, then a coin toss will be used to break the tie.

3. Regulation time for tournament games will be the same as for the regular season. If a tie exists at the end of regulation, a five shot per side penalty shoot-out will be used to determine a winner.
4. CYS will furnish three game balls; one that is in play and one spare by each goal (if Ball Holders are not used) to avoid wasting game time retrieving balls that have been kicked far out of bounds. When a goalkeeper uses a spare ball, a representative from that keeper's team will retrieve the ball that was previously in play and place it next to the goal to be used as a spare.
5. Per NFHS Rule 6 Section 1, Ball Holders will be allowed (though not required) for 10U and 13U games. Since ball holders are to remain silent and do not step on the field (i.e. not interacting with the players), they do not need to go through the clearance process. Any player, parent, sibling, or spectator is welcome to serve as a ball holder as long as they are willing and able to perform the duties as directed by the officials.

Ball holders are an official part of the game and are expected to perform impartially. If the game officials deem a ball holder to be acting inappropriately (e.g. talking, coaching, cheering, taking too long), officials may dismiss that ball holder and ask for a replacement. If a suitable replacement is not found, the game may carry on without a ball holder on that side.

6. One parent or a parent representative of 4U, 6U, and 8U Soccer League participants are required to stay at all practices and games.
7. Uniforms/Equipment:
 - a. 4, 6U & 8U Leagues – Game uniforms consist of t-shirts, shorts, soccer socks and shinguards. CYS will provide t-shirts and shinguards (if needed). Players must provide their own soccer socks and shorts which should have no pockets. Soccer socks must be regulation and cover the entire shinguard. Shinguards must be worn for all practices and games.
 - b. 10U & 13U Leagues – Game uniforms consist of t-shirts, shorts, soccer socks and shinguards. CYS will provide t-shirts. Shinguards, shorts, and soccer socks will be provided by CYS if requested (must be returned at end of season). Teams may purchase their own team socks. Soccer socks must be regulation and cover the entire shinguard. Shinguards must be worn for all practices and games.
8. Game Location: Linden Oaks and Main Post teams will have their games at the MP Polo Field.
9. All players that have braces on their teeth must wear a mouth guard.
10. Mercy Rule – If a 10 point differential exists at the end of the first half or any point of the second half, the game will end. This rule only applies to the 10U and 13U Leagues, since those are the only leagues that keep score.
11. There are no penalty kicks in the 4U, 6U, or 8U Leagues. A direct kick will be awarded for all violations that would normally result in a penalty kick.
12. Playing Time—All players in good standing will be scheduled to play the minimum of one half of the total game clock time. A substitution stoppage will occur at the midpoint of each half. Coaches are not obligated to play an individual the minimum time under the following conditions:
 - Players who are late for start of game or a no show. The coach should be notified when a player is going to be late for a game or unable to make a game.
 - Players with an unexcused absence from practice. The coach must be notified when a player is unable to attend practice. Parents and coaches should decide at the first parent's meeting what is considered an

unexcused absence, so that everyone will have a clear understanding of how the coach interprets absences.

- Players who have been a discipline problem. In this case, the coach should notify the player's parents if there are minor discipline problems. The coach and parents need to work together to prevent further issues. Coaches are asked to mentor youth and explain the guidelines and possible consequences for choosing not to follow guidelines.
- A player is injured. The parent will determine if an injury requires a physician's examination and whether a child is capable of returning to a game after an injury. Parents are the final authority on determining a child's ability to play. In the absence of a parent, CYS Sports & Fitness staff will make these determinations.
- Players refusing to participate.
- Players who break their glasses, and cannot continue to play because of blurred vision.

13. Duration of game:

- a. 4U – Four, 10 minute quarters, 2 minutes between quarters, five minutes for halftime.
- b. 6U – Four, 10 minute quarters, 2 minutes between quarters, 5 minutes for halftime.
- c. 8U – Four, 12 minute quarters, 2 minutes between quarters, 7 minutes for halftime.
- d. 10U – Four, 15 minute quarters, 2 minutes between quarters, 10 minutes for halftime.
- e. 13U – Four, 15 minute quarters, 2 minutes between quarters, 10 minutes for halftime.
- f.

14. Offsides:

- a. 4U & 6U – This rule does not apply. Coaches should do their best to teach the concept to their players if developmentally appropriate.
- b. 8U – Each team will be given one warning per game; penalties will be assessed for additional violations. The first infraction will result in a warning to the players and the coach. The offensive team will retain possession and throw-in the ball from the sideline at a point nearest to where the ball was last touched legally. Any additional penalties will result in an opponent's indirect free kick at the spot of the infraction.
- c. 10U – 13U – Enforce per NFHS rulebook.

15. Coaches boxes - The team and coaching areas are designated for players and coaches only. Coaches and teams must remain in the team boxes during the games (except as noted in Rule #3). Spectator areas are located on the opposite side of the field.

- a. 4U & 6U – the coaching area extends from the top line of one penalty area to the top line other penalty area.
- b. 8U – 18U – coaches will stay within their coaches' box.

16. Slide tackling is not allowed in the 4U, 6U, and 8U Leagues. Each team will be given one warning per game; penalties will be assessed for additional violations. The first infraction will result in a warning to the players and the coach. The offensive team will retain possession and throw-in the ball from the nearest sideline. Any additional penalties will result in a direct free kick from the spot of the infraction.
17. The 4U and 6U League teams play with seven players on a side, 8U and 10U with nine per side, and 13U with 11 players per side. These numbers may be modified if the number of cleared coaches allows for smaller teams.
18. Efforts will always be made to provide a game situation for those participants who “show-up” for games. However, if an entire team does not show up, the officials’ contract does not require them to officiate an “intrasquad scrimmage.”

In the 4U-8U leagues, if teams have less than the regulated number at the beginning of the game, coaches may borrow players or agree to play with fewer players.

Coaches in ALL leagues have the option of playing “short-sided” if they so desire. They are not required to borrow opposing players. Coaches of a “lending” team should rotate the players they lend in a manner that allows all players to still get their regular 50% playing time with their own team.

In the 10U and 13U leagues, if a team has less than seven players ready to play at game time, that team will forfeit the game (per NFHS Rule 3, Section 1, Article 2). However the game will still be played using the aforementioned methods.

19. 4U and 6U League teams may display/hang banners on their game soccer goal.
20. Balls:
 - a. Start Smart balls or Size 3 balls will be used in the 4U League.
 - b. Size 3 balls or Size 4 will be used in the 6U League.
 - c. Size 4 balls will be used in the 8U – 10U Leagues.
 - d. Size 5 balls will be used in the 13U League.
21. Any participants 14 and up will play in an intramural style game on Saturdays. Additional Age 4U League Rules will be provided to Coaches. The coaches should also view the Standards of Conduct for guidance.