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## **0.0 PURPOSE OF OSYSA**

**0.1** The purpose of the OSYSA is to organize and promote recreational and competitive youth soccer programs, clubs, leagues, associations and societies for youth up to and including those 19 years of age; to offer programs for teams to participate in State, National and International competitions and National Championships; and to offer a program under the approval of US YOUTH SOCCER and US SOCCER for the development of individual players for state, regional and national teams and development camps that will lead to their selection on teams to represent the United States in the Olympics, Pan American games and other National and Inter-national competition as required.

## **1.0 ADHERENCE TO US SOCCER BYLAWS**

### **1.1 PURPOSE**

As a result of the organizational changes of US SOCCER, the following rules will take precedence over all other OSYSA rules and regulations. In the event of conflicting rules, the OSYSA \US SOCCER rules will be enforced.

**1.2** The membership of OSYSA and the members of OSYSA shall be open to any soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators and officials not subject to suspension under section 4 of Bylaw 241, nor subject to disqualification as provided in Section 12 of this OSYSA manual and to any amateur soccer organization in its territory.

**1.3** OSYSA will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender or national origin.

**1.4** The US SOCCER articles of incorporation, bylaws, policies and requirements take precedence over and supersede the governing documents and decisions of OSYSA and its members to the extent applicable under state law, and OSYSA and its members will abide by those articles, bylaws, policies and requirements.

**1.5** The OSYSA articles of incorporation, bylaws, policies and requirements take precedence over and supersede the governing documents and decisions of its members to the extent applicable under state law, and its members will abide by those articles, bylaws, policies and requirements.

**1.6** OSYSA will not join any organization that has requirements that conflict with the US SOCCER articles, bylaws, policies and requirements.

**1.7** OSYSA shall register all of its players, coaches, teams and administrators with US SOCCER at least once each year and pay all dues and fees of the US SOCCER in a timely fashion.

**1.8** OSYSA and its members will abide by the US SOCCER articles, bylaws, policies and requirements on interplay.

**1.9** OSYSA shall have a Board of Directors (or similar body) selected through an open and democratic election process.

**1.10** OSYSA shall provide to the Secretary General of US SOCCER an annual report on the activities of the association and most current annual financial statements within 90 days after the start of the US SOCCER seasonal year.

**1.11** OSYSA will (A) provide annually to the US SOCCER copies of OSYSA constitution, bylaws and other governing documents, (B) submit changes to those documents to US SOCCER for approval not later than 90 days after adoption and (C) make copies of those documents available to its members.

**1.12** OSYSA will provide equitable and prompt hearing and appeal procedures to guarantee the rights of individuals to participate and compete. Those procedures shall include that all grievances involving the right to participate and complete activities sponsored by US SOCCER and OSYSA and its members may be appealed to US SOCCER Appeals Committee that shall have jurisdiction to approve, modify or reverse a decision.

**1.13** OSYSA shall maintain its tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code.

**1.14** OSYSA shall adopt policies prohibiting sexual and physical abuse that meet certain minimum criteria established by US SOCCER (subject to any contrary requirements contained in state or local law applicable to state association).

## **2.0 MEMBERSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **2.1 PURPOSE**

US YOUTH SOCCER and/or OSYSA have established rules and regulations that provide the procedures for operation of member association and leagues, member teams, sanctioned tournaments, friendly games, in-state and out-of-state play, US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup games and referees. All member leagues, associations, teams, players, coaches, managers and referees must abide by these rules to remain in good standing.

OSYSA is composed of member associations and leagues that offer competitive or recreational soccer, except as provided in section 3.1.

Recreational programs have flexibility in that not all of the rules and regulations included in the OSYSA Manual apply to recreational programs whose teams play only within their own organization. For these recreational member leagues, their own procedures may be acceptable. They should ask the OSYSA office if there is a question on any rule and regulation included in the OSYSA Manual that may be in conflict with the rules of their recreational league.

**2.1.1** This designated flexibility includes establishing rules different than those contained within this OSYSA Manual specifically including, but not limited to, those regarding:

- a) Rules defining the number of players on the field during a recreational league sanctioned game.
- b) Rules regarding the definitions of the individual age groups within the recreational programs.

**2.1.2** The flexibility of recreational leagues to establish rules different than those within this OSYSA Manual does not include the ability to not comply with:

- a) Those rules regarding the OSYSA Risk Management Program.
- b) Those rules requiring the registration of all players within the recreational league with OSYSA and US YOUTH SOCCER.

### **2.2 SANCTIONED LEAGUE**

**2.2.1** In order to retain membership in the OSYSA, all member associations and leagues must include at least four teams in each of their individual competition formats (age group leagues).

**2.2.2** The schedule for each age group must include at least five games against teams, the majority of whose players live within OSYSA. In order to remain in good standing with OSYSA, teams must complete this minimum five game schedule within the current season.

**2.2.3** Teams cannot be scheduled to play more than two games in a single day and shall not exceed the following maximum standards.

- a) U-10 and younger teams shall play a maximum of 100 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- b) U-11 and U-12 teams shall play a maximum of 120 minutes of scheduled play per day.

- c) U-13 and U-14 teams shall play a maximum of 140 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- d) U-15 and U-16 teams shall play a maximum of 160 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- e) U-17, U-18 and U-19 teams shall play a maximum of 180 minutes of scheduled play per day.

**2.2.4** OSYSA member leagues and associations that fail to register players and coaches for 2 consecutive seasonal years shall be dropped as a member of OSYSA following a vote by the majority of the OSYSA Board of Directors to do so .

### **2.3 OUT-OF-STATE LEAGUES**

**2.3.1** If member US YOUTH SOCCER leagues or associations that are sanctioned by another US YOUTH SOCCER state affiliate wish to play in leagues within OSYSA they must be approved by the Board of Directors of the OSYSA prior to any teams being invited to participate.

**2.3.2** Out-of-State member US YOUTH SOCCER leagues or associations will be approved for Ohio South teams if their rules and regulations meet the standards required for leagues and associations of the OSYSA

**2.3.3** Teams, the majority of whose players live in OSYSA, must purchase their US YOUTH SOCCER player and coach passes from OSYSA. All Ohio South teams must have at least two and not more than three coaches. All of the OSYSA registration rules and regulations apply to these teams and this material must be handled and validated by a registrar of OSYSA or its member leagues. The out of State Association or League registrar for the OSYSA area must be approved by the OSYSA Registrar. The league rosters are the responsibility of the member league that registers the players and coaches. A copy must be sent to OSYSA.

**2.3.4** All OSYSA rules and regulations must be followed by all teams, the majority of whose players live within OSYSA. The out-of-state association or league must report to OSYSA all violations by any OSYSA team, the majority of whose players live in OSYSA, and any violations of any US YOUTH SOCCER rules and regulations and/or rules and regulations of the out-of-state member league or association.

**2.3.5** Individual teams domiciled in Ohio South may request permission from OSYSA to participate in US YOUTH SOCCER or leagues sanctioned by another state affiliate of the US YOUTH SOCCER. Requests can only be made if the out-of-state member association or league has been approved by OSYSA.

a) Such requests must be submitted in writing to Ohio South four months prior to the first game of the season.

b) Requests will be approved if the rules and regulations of OSYSA are met.

c) Teams that elect to play outside of the OSYSA boundaries do not meet the OSYSA standard for participation in the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup based on their play in the out of state league or association.

**2.3.6** Teams are considered to be domiciled in the boundaries of OSYSA if the team has more than half of the players on the roster participating on a regular basis with the team and are living inside of OSYSA boundaries.

**2.3.7** Teams that are invited to participate in the National League or the Official Region II Regional League may do so provided OSYSA permission is granted. These teams will be eligible to participate in the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup.

## **2.4. IN-STATE LEAGUES**

**2.4.1** OSYSA member leagues or association may accept for entry teams from another state association. Prior to entry into the OSYSA member league or association, they must have written permission from their home state association.

a) These teams are required to purchase their players passes from their home state association. These player passes must be issued and validated by their home state association.

b) Out-of-state teams must complete an OSYSA roster for the OSYSA league in which they will participate.

c) Out-of-state teams are not eligible to participate in the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup competition.

**2.4.1** If their home state association does not have a coach's pass, these teams must purchase a coach's pass from OSYSA. All coaches of teams playing in OSYSA sanctioned member competitive association or leagues must have an OSYSA coaches pass. All registration material required by the member association or league, (except player passes), must be completed by the out-of-state team by the registrar for the member association or league. The OSYSA member league or association must approve the out-of-state's team roster. This roster must be the league OSYSA roster.

**2.4.3** Out-of-state teams are to purchase player passes from their home state association; however, they must pay OSYSA \$9.00 per player to cover insurance and administrative costs. The member league or association is responsible for collecting this fee and remitting to OSYSA.

**2.4.4** Teams, the majority of whose players live in Ohio South, playing in a member league or association are eligible to enter the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup if the number of teams from all of the out-of-state association(s) entered in that association or league does not exceed 40% of the total teams in any single total age group and the teams, the majority of who players live in Ohio South, play at least six games against OSYSA teams during the league season.

**2.4.5** OSYSA sanctioned member leagues or associations can only accept for play (U-10 and below) teams that have the majority of their players who live in the same OSYSA district as the member league or association. U-10 and below age teams are required to participate in member league and associations located within the same OSYSA district. U-11 and above age teams may participate in any member league or association in any district. See section 2.3 Out-of-State Leagues for play outside of OSYSA.

**2.4.6** Teams, U-10 and below, are considered to be domiciled within the boundaries of an OSYSA District when the greatest percentage of players on the roster is from that OSYSA district. When the greatest percentages of players on a team are from more than one district, the district of the residence of the team's head coach shall determine the residency requirement of the team.

**2.4.7** Team age is based on the age of the oldest player on the roster. All teams participating in the State Cup Championship shall do so from the district from where the greatest percentage of players on the roster reside. When the greatest percentages of players on a team are from two different districts, the district of the residence of the team's head coach shall determine the residency requirement of the team.

**2.4.8** These rules and regulations do not prohibit any team playing in a OSYSA member league or association from entering and playing in US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup, sanctioned tournaments or friendly games in other OSYSA districts or other members US YOUTH SOCCER state associations or teams who belong to organizations who are affiliate members of US Soccer. However, before any team participates with any teams that are affiliate members of US Soccer, they should check the Insurance Section.

**2.4.9** If the OSYSA district does not have a competitive member league or association within its boundaries, team(s) may request permission from the Board of Directors to participate in a competitive member league or association located within another district. If any team is located closer to a member competitive league or association located in another OSYSA district than the member competitive league or association in their home OSYSA district, they may request permission from the Board of Directors to participate in a competitive member league or association located in another OSYSA district. Any permission given is only valid for the seasonal year for which it is granted.

**2.4.10** The restriction for teams of the age U-10 and below must play within their own OSYSA district does not apply to teams from another US YOUTH SOCCER National State Association if they have given permission for their team(s) to play within OSYSA. Team(s) from another US YOUTH SOCCER National State Association must meet the rules and regulations of OSYSA covered in other sections of the OSYSA Manual.

## **2.5 OUT-OF-STATE PLAYERS**

**2.5.1** Players who are domiciled outside of the boundaries of OSYSA are to follow the procedures established below.

**2.5.2** Players from outside of the boundaries of the OSYSA must have written permission from their home state soccer association to be become members of teams located in the OSYSA. This written permission is to be carried to all games.

**2.5.3** The home state soccer association is to issue a player pass in the name of the team that the player will be a member. The player is responsible to also pay the OSYSA registration fee (less that portion paid to US YOUTH SOCCER) for each year that they play on an Ohio South team. They must also complete the OSYSA player registration form and attach to the copy of their written permission.

**2.5.4** This procedure only applies to Players who play on Ohio South teams. If a team from another state association is playing in an Ohio South member league or association they are only required to have player passes from their home state association. Players on these teams are to pay a fee of \$9.00 to Ohio South to cover OSYSA costs. This team will receive their other US YOUTH SOCCER benefits from their home state association.

## **2.6 PLAYERS PLAYING OUT-OF-STATE**

**2.6.1** Players who are domiciled inside of the boundaries of OSYSA are to play on teams located within these boundaries. The following explains the procedures to request consideration for an exemption to this requirement and the procedure to follow if the exemption is granted. If an exemption is not granted, players who are domiciled inside of the Ohio South boundaries cannot play on a team in another state association.

**2.6.2** Player that are interested in playing on a team located outside of the boundaries of the OSYSA must ask for and receive written permission from the Ohio South to play on a team located in another state association.

**2.6.3** OSYSA will grant permission for players to play with teams in other state associations only if there are NO teams in the player's general geographical area located inside of the boundaries of Ohio South for the player to join.

**2.6.4** If written permission is given the player must register with OSYSA, pay the established registration fee and complete the player registration form. Ohio South will issue a player pass in the name of the team, which must be used by the player on his/her team.

## **2.7 TEAM COMPETITION**

**2.7.1** US YOUTH SOCCER and OSYSA have established rules and regulations that provide the criteria for US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA team to play against other teams that are not registered with US SOCCER /US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA.

**2.7.2** Participation in formal league games, by OSYSA / US YOUTH SOCCER players and teams against non-OSYSA / US YOUTH SOCCER registered players and teams are not permitted.

**2.7.3** Participation in tournaments by players and teams of OSYSA /US YOUTH SOCCER / US SOCCER against non-OSYSA / US YOUTH SOCCER / US SOCCER registered players and teams are not permitted. US YOUTH SOCCER, OSYSA and US SOCCER registered players and teams must compete in sanctioned tournaments only with teams and players who are registered with OSYSA /US YOUTH SOCCER /US SOCCER and other member state associations. However, if the Tournament is going to allow entry of teams who are affiliate members of US Soccer, it is recommended that the Teams/Tournament review the Tournament Sanctioning Rules section and the Insurance section

**2.7.4** US YOUTH SOCCER / OSYSA registered teams can schedule and play friendly games against any team they wish. Such play against teams that are not members of US SOCCER / US YOUTH SOCCER are not protected by the rules of US YOUTH SOCCER, or OSYSA. Insurance coverage may not apply in such matches. Teams should review the Insurance Section.

**2.7.5** OSYSA registered players and teams who elect to participate in any indoor soccer program may do so at their own option. However, indoor play is without the protection or support of any of the rules, regulations or benefits of OSYSA. The OSYSA insurance program is not in effect for any indoor play on independent teams.

**2.7.6** It is strongly recommended by OSYSA that ages of all players on all teams fall within the two year age groups of US YOUTH SOCCER, i.e. U14, U12. For example, it is recommended that U10 players not play on U12 teams.

## **2.8 GOOD/BAD STANDINGS**

**2.8.1** Any player that quits (not a transfer) a team is considered to be in bad standing and cannot participate in any US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA tournament, US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup, or league..

**2.8.2** Any US YOUTH SOCCER player that joins/plays with an independent team during the period of time that his/her US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA team still has playing commitments by that action has quit their team.

**2.8.3** Teams, players, coaches or managers may be declared in bad standing by OSYSA for violations of any of the rules and regulations of OSYSA or for any action, which is detrimental to the benefits or goals of OSYSA /US YOUTH SOCCER /US SOCCER and the sport of soccer.

**2.8.4** If a team, player, coach or manager is fined by OSYSA for violation of OSYSA rules and regulations, the bad standing will continue until the fine is paid.

**2.8.5** If the suspension is ordered for violation of OSYSA rules and regulations, the bad standing will continue until the expiration date of the suspension.

**2.8.6** Teams, players, coaches or managers in bad standing are not permitted to participate in any US YOUTH SOCCER league, tournament, or US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup games.

**2.8.7** Players, coaches or managers in bad standing are not permitted to be members or participate in the OSYSA ODP function. If they are in the program and are declared in bad standing by their action or the action of the Board of Directors of OSYSA, they will be dropped immediately from the ODP program.

## **2.9 SIMULTANEOUS PLAY**

**2.9.1** Players are not permitted to play on a US SOCCER / US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA team and an independent, OHSAA high school, or NCAA / NAIA college team during the same period of time.

**2.9.2** If a player is on an OHSAA high school varsity / reserve / freshman team or NCAA/NAIA college team simultaneous play is not permitted. He / She cannot register and play with a US SOCCER / US YOUTH SOCCER / OSYSA team during that time period from when his/her school plays their first OSYSA determined official OHSAA / NCAA / NAIA game until their last game of that season.

**2.9.3** If a player elects to play for an independent team (not OHSAA high school, NCAA / NAIA college or US SOCCER / US YOUTH SOCCER / OSYSA team), simultaneous play is not permitted. If that player is currently registered with a US YOUTH SOCCER / OSYSA team and he / she elects to begin playing on an independent team, the action by the player automatically cancels the players US YOUTH SOCCER player pass for the remainder of the seasonal year and that player is considered in bad standing for the balance of the seasonal year.

**2.9.4** Any player that plays for an independent team prior to the time that he/she registers with an US YOUTH SOCCER / OSYSA team, may register and play without penalty as long as he / she has quit his / her independent team prior to his/her registration.

**2.9.5** Any player playing on an OHSAA, NCAA, NAIA, or independent team cannot be a guest player in any US YOUTH SOCCER / OSYSA tournament during the time that they are members of

these teams. Any player that played on an US YOUTH SOCCER / OSYSA team and quit to play on an independent team cannot be a guest player during the period of time that he/she is in bad standing.

**2.9.6** Players who have played on a US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA team and quits to join an independent team cannot be a guest player on an OSYSA team in a sanctioned tournament.

**2.9.7** For purposes of simultaneous play, indoor soccer is not considered to be covered under this section.

**2.9.8** For purposes of determining simultaneous play, players who are invited to participate in OHSAA / NCAA / NAIA sanctioned All Star games are permitted to participate. Participation in OHSAA / NCAA / NAIA sanctioned All Star games is not considered simultaneous play.

**2.9.9** Tryouts and participation in OSYSA ODP program or any other tryout or competition of US YOUTH SOCCER or US SOCCER is not considered simultaneous play.

**2.9.10** During the fall and spring seasons, players cannot roster and participate on two different OSYSA teams (as primary and secondary players).

**2.9.11** In the OSYSA summer season, players are permitted to roster and play on two different OSYSA teams, one team as a primary player and a second team as a secondary player. This permission to authorize simultaneous play on two teams only applies to two different OSYSA teams (players registered as a primary and secondary player on two different teams). Simultaneous play, (as outlined) is not permitted on independent OHSAA/NCAA/NAIA teams and OSYSA teams.

**2.9.12** Any player that elects to register as a player on a summer season team must meet the playing obligations of the primary team if any conflict develops. Players must also meet their ODP playing commitments

**2.9.13** Any player that who participates on two teams other than permitted under this section will be placed in bad standing and the restrictions of the Bad Standing Section shall apply.

## **2.11 PRIMARY/SECONDARY REGISTRATION**

**2.11.1** The seasonal year within the boundaries of OSYSA is divided into the fall season (Sept-December), the spring season (January-May) and the summer season (June-July). Teams in the fall season can participate as teams in the fall, spring and summer periods. Teams in the spring season can participate as teams during both the spring season and the summer season. Teams in the summer season can only participate as teams during the summer season.

**2.11.2** Players who first register during a seasonal year in the fall or spring season must register as primary players. Players who register in the summer season must register as secondary players if they have already registered in the fall or spring season as a primary player. Players registering for the summer season may register as either a primary or as a secondary player if they have previously registered in the fall or spring season.

**2.11.3** All teams that will be playing in that seasonal year's State Cup Championship (in all seasons) are limited to total of five previously rostered players on their roster per seasonal year. For the purpose of this rule and all other similar references within these rules, the term "previously rostered players" shall mean the number of previously rostered players at the time that the roster is frozen for

State Cup Championship play. The limit of five previously rostered players on a team shall not be applicable to teams that will not be participating in the State Cup Championship during the seasonal year that there are more than five previously rostered players on the team. Teams that are not participating in the State Cup Championship may have an unlimited number of previously rostered players on their team.

**2.11.4** Players can only register once as a secondary player and once as a primary player during the same seasonal year. However, players may transfer between teams subject to OSYSA and league transfer rules.

**2.11.5** If the transfer is within the same OSYSA member association or league, the closing date of transfer within the league/association is the controlling date. If the transfer is between leagues, the controlling date is the close off transfer date of the league/association being transferred to.

**2.11.6** Players are prohibited from transferring between October 1<sup>st</sup> and the end of their league's fall season from any OSYSA team that participated in league play during the fall season. After May 15<sup>th</sup> of each seasonal year, players are prohibited from transferring from any OSYSA team that participated in league play during the spring season. OSYSA member league may establish additional restrictions as to the timing of transfers and limitations as to the reasons for which transfers may be approved.

Any transfers that occur between teams in different leagues are to be documented and forwarded to the state office.

**2.11.7** During the fall and spring seasons, players cannot be registered and playing on two teams at the same time. During the summer season players may be registered and participate on two teams (primary-secondary). However, the players must meet the playing commitment of the primary team. If a player fails to meet the playing commitment of the primary team during the dual registration summer period, the player(s) will be placed in bad standing and will not be permitted to participate on either team and/or participate while they are still in bad standing.

**2.11.8** The registration status, either primary or secondary, of all players is to be shown on the team roster for all seasons.

**2.11.9** Players on spring season teams as primary players who elect to register as secondary players on another team for the summer season must pay the OSYSA registration fee for the summer season.

**2.11.11** Once a player or a player's parent or guardian signs the registration form for a team, that player is considered a member of that team and must be transferred even if the player has not participated in a game for that team.

## **2.12 OSYSA JURISDICTION**

**2.12.1** Jurisdiction and adjudication of all matters concerning their organization belongs to member leagues and associations except as noted in sections of the US SOCCER and/or US YOUTH SOCCER rules and/or the OSYSA Manual.

**2.12.2** OSYSA has jurisdiction on all disputes between OSYSA member associations and leagues.

**2.12.3** At OSYSA's option, OSYSA may elect to exercise original jurisdiction on matters resulting from violation of any US SOCCER /US YOUTH SOCCER national rule or when another US

YOUTH SOCCER state association or member of another US YOUTH SOCCER state association issues a complaint or made requests for resolution of problems caused by a violation of any rules.

**2.12.4** Member leagues or association must take action within 30 days of notification of potential violation of any rules. If no action is taken within the required time limit, the complaint concerning the potential violation may be filed directly with OSYSA. Based on an investigation, OSYSA may elect to take jurisdiction to adjudicate the issue.

## **2.13 REFEREE DEVELOPMENT**

**2.13.1** All of the referee registration and re-registration fees collected by OSYSA, except that portion that must be paid to US SOCCER, will be spent on referee training, assessment, development and support of the US SOCCER referee program.

## **2.14 RECOVERY OF GRIEVANCE EXPENSES**

**2.14.1** In this section, “party” means a Member of Ohio South Youth Soccer Association including officials, leagues, clubs, teams, players, coaches, administrators, or referees.

**2.14.2** If a party brings a grievance against Ohio South Youth Soccer Association and does not prevail in the grievance, that party shall be liable to Ohio South Youth Soccer Association for all expenses incurred by Ohio South Youth Soccer Association and its officials and staff in defending the grievance, including the following:

1. Grievance costs;
2. Attorney’s fees;
3. Reasonable compensation for time spent by Ohio South Youth Soccer Association officials and staff in responding to and defending against allegations involved in the grievance, including responses to discovery and appearances regarding the grievance;
4. Travel expenses.
5. Collection costs

**2.14.3** If the party fails to pay to Ohio South Youth Soccer Association the expenses due under subsection 2.14.2 of this section, the party may be subject to legal action, suspension, or the party’s membership or position terminated in Ohio South Youth Soccer Association and all of its Members.

## **2.15 Definition of a “Club”**

**2.15.1** For use throughout this manual of rules and policies, the term “club” is defined to mean a collection of two or more teams that have two or more of the following attributes:

- are known by a similar set of team names
- use a common set of similar uniforms
- are organized under a common board of directors
- have a common set of coaches and trainers
- have their game and practice fields at one or more common locations

## **3.0 OSYSA PROGRAM REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

### **3.1 PURPOSE**

The basic requirements and definition of type of member association and leagues are established by OSYSA. There are two types of organizations in OSYSA, either recreational or competitive. All member associations and leagues must be classified as either a competitive program or a recreational program. Once each member association or league is classified, each program must follow procedures for their type of classification when registering players and teams with US YOUTH SOCCER and OSYSA. Any member association that has continuously organized both competitive and recreational programs may continue to sponsor those age and gender groups that they organized prior to January 1, 2002. All other member associations may only organize either a competitive program or a recreational program, unless they receive authorization from OSYSA to establish both types of programs, (offer both competitive and recreational).

### **3.2 COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS**

**3.2.1** Member associations or leagues that allow coaches to select members of their teams are classified as competitive programs.

**3.2.2** Each member association or league must affiliate all players in their program with OSYSA /US YOUTH SOCCER. All players in all age groups and divisions playing in any program of the competitive member league or association must pay the fee established by the board of directors for recreational programs.

**3.2.3** Member competitive leagues or associations cannot accept for play in their programs teams from any organization that is not affiliated with OSYSA /US YOUTH SOCCER. Such organizations that enter teams in a competitive member league or association even if they operate a recreational program, the remaining players in their organization must be affiliated with OSYSA /US YOUTH SOCCER or US SOCCER. If they are not affiliated, teams from their organization cannot be entered into the programs of a member competitive league or association. However, member competitive leagues or associations can accept for play in their programs, teams that have dual membership – both in a US Youth Soccer program and an affiliate member organization of US Youth Soccer.

**3.2.4** All age groups and all divisions playing in any competitive program must pay the US YOUTH SOCCER coach and player pass competitive team registration fee established by the board of directors for competitive programs. That fee shall be \$11.00 per registered player and coach that is issued a pass.

Each competitive league shall submit to OSYSA a complete listing of all players and coaches who are registered as members of their league. The described listing shall be submitted either electronically or in paper form to the OSYSA office to facilitate the prompt processing of the information. If the information is submitted in paper form, the submission shall be accompanied by a payment equal to \$.50 per name submitted.

**3.2.5** All competitive teams in good standing are entitled to play in the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup or sanctioned tournaments either inside or outside of the boundaries of the OSYSA

**3.2.6** All registered players and coaches in good standing, (not currently suspended), in the member association/league competitive programs are covered by the OSYSA insurance program.

### **3.3 RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS**

**3.3.1** Member associations or leagues that assign players to teams are classified as recreational programs.

**3.3.2** Each member association or league must affiliate all players in their program with OSYSA /US YOUTH SOCCER. All players in all age groups and divisions playing in any recreational program must pay the recreational registration fee established by the board of directors for recreational programs. That fee shall be \$4.00 per registered player.

Each recreational league shall submit to OSYSA a complete listing of all players and coaches who are registered as members of their league. The described listing shall be submitted either electronically or in paper form to the OSYSA office to facilitate the prompt processing of the information. If the information is submitted in paper form, the submission shall be accompanied by a payment equal to \$.50 per name submitted.

**3.3.3** Recreational programs are not required to issue US YOUTH SOCCER player passes nor use OSYSA forms for teams playing within their program. However, their teams without player passes are only permitted to play teams within their program or practice games with teams outside of their program.

**3.3.4** Teams in recreational programs are entitled to play in the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup, and any sanctioned tournament inside the boundaries of the OSYSA. Teams from recreational programs are not permitted to play in sanctioned tournaments outside of the boundaries of OSYSA (EXCEPTION: does not include tournaments or league games operated by a league as part of their own league competition). However, if these teams elect to play in authorized competition within the boundaries of OSYSA, they must be issued US YOUTH SOCCER players passes following the guidelines in the State Manual and must pay the competitive player registration fee for all players on all teams electing this right. The competitive player registration fee must be paid for the players on the teams that will participate in any competitive event (i.e. US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup, tournaments). The coaches for these teams must also register and pay the coaches registration fee following the coaches registration guidelines in the State Manual. Teams within the recreational program that elect the right to play in competition outside of their program must pay the difference between the recreational fee and the competitive fee to OSYSA during the spring or fall seasons.

**3.3.5** Only players and coaches in good standing, (not currently suspended), who have been registered by their league or association with OSYSA and US YOUTH SOCCER are covered by the OSYSA insurance program.

**3.3.6** Recreational programs may elect not to use the state furnished US YOUTH SOCCER player passes, rosters, roster change forms, or the US YOUTH SOCCER registration form or receive the state manual for their program.

**3.3.7** Recreational programs may elect to declare any age group a competitive age group. If they elect this opinion, all players on all teams in all divisions of that age group are to pay the competitive team fee. If this option is elected, all teams in this group are competitive teams for this basis of entering competitions.

### **3.4 US YOUTH SOCCER MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGES/ RESPONSIBILITIES**

**3.4.1** Only US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA registered teams playing in a sanctioned program can play in US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup, or sanctioned tournaments. Teams from recreational programs are restricted to in-state events (except league sponsored competition as part of their league). Only teams from competitive league or associations are permitted to travel and play in sanctioned US YOUTH SOCCER play outside of the boundaries of OSYSA.

Teams cannot receive US YOUTH SOCCER player cards for play in sanctioned tournaments, or US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup unless that team participates in a sanctioned league of at least four teams operated by a member league or association.

**3.4.2** Only recreational programs that assign players to teams will be permitted to compete in the Ohio South sponsored American Cup Competition. The US YOUTH SOCCER player pass does not have to be issued to teams playing in the American Cup.

**3.4.3** Insurance coverage will only be extended to programs and their members within their program that are affiliated with US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA and pay the appropriate registration fee. Receipt of the computer disk with players' data required on the US YOUTH SOCCER registration form, or for smaller programs the US YOUTH SOCCER registration forms and/or rosters is required for proof of registration and insurance.

**3.4.4** Each member league/association will have to report on the Ohio South League Status Review for each season during the seasonal year the number of age groups/divisions and the number of teams being served by them for that season. The status of each league as to being competitive/recreational will also be reported on this review.

### **3.5 PLAYER REGISTRAION**

**3.5.2** All Players who move from a secondary registration to a primary registration on a different team following the rules and regulations of OSYSA must purchase a new US YOUTH SOCCER player card at the established rate.

**3.5.3** All players who register as secondary players (after having been registered in the seasonal year as a primary player) for a team in the summer season must pay the rate established by OSYSA for a new player pass.

**3.6** Competitive and recreational leagues may use an internet based team, player, coach registration process in lieu of the procedures outlined in section 4.0, 5.0 and 6.0, provided that all of the following conditions are met:

a) The internet based process contains all of the essential elements of registration as outlined in sections 4.0, 5.0 and 6.0 and that the output from that process; registration forms, rosters, passes, etc., are substantially similar to the standard OSYSA forms.

b) The internet based process contains sufficient safeguards to maintain a completely accurate registration and financial accounting of the teams, players and coaches registered through the internet process.

c) The internet based process is developed and maintained in such a manner that all of the records are in a secure environment.

d) The internet based process allows a method by which the OSYSA office may verify the accuracy of the process and may retrieve the player, coach and team registration information.

e) The internet based process as implemented by the member league is approved by the OSYSA Executive Director, OSYSA Treasurer and the OSYSA Registrar.

**3.6.1** All leagues, both competitive and recreational, must establish within their rules and / or bylaws a requirement that any person who submits or uses or who permits the submission of or use of a fraudulent birth certificate, player registration form, coach registration form, team roster, travel permit, player pass, coach pass or other US Youth Soccer or OSYSA document shall, upon a finding that the complaint is valid, suspend any offending party, that is an adult, for a minimum of 3 years.

Lesser penalties shall be established by all leagues in Ohio South for any player for whom is submitted or used, a fraudulent birth certificate, player registration form, coach registration form, team roster, travel permit, player pass, coach pass or other US Youth Soccer or OSYSA document.

These requirements shall be applicable where the document was prepared or submitted during the use of an internet based registration system as outlined in 3.6 or through the use of a manual form

## **4.0 TEAM REGISTRATION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **4.1 PURPOSE**

The basic requirement for registration of teams is established by US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA. Competitive leagues and association are responsible for registering teams for OSYSA and this set of rules and regulations establishes a common procedure to use with the OSYSA provided rosters and coaches manual. In addition, the -Team regulations and rules create a common procedure for all member leagues and associations so that all teams can easily be entered into the OSYSA computer and the data utilized in an efficient manner. Leagues are to refuse registration for teams until these rules and regulations are properly satisfied. The OSYSA Membership Rules and Regulations should also be reviewed in conjunction with this section. Recreational programs do not need to follow these rules and regulations.

The teams of any OSYSA member competitive association or league that do not operate under the OSYSA Team Rules and Regulations (except for the secondary registration procedure) are not eligible for entry into interstate, regional, national and international competition sponsored or approved by this association and/or US YOUTH SOCCER (teams of these organizations can participate in-state tournaments [US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup is a national competition not a sanctioned OSYSA tournament] sanctioned by the OSYSA ).

### **4.2 LEAGUE ASSIGNED TEAM NUMBERS**

All member leagues and associations are to number their teams using the following procedure. In this manner, all teams within the state association will have the same basis of team numbering.

**4.2.1** The team number shall consist of:

- a) The league number [See list of league and association numbers],
- b) A "B" or "G" for boys or girls team,
- c) The next two digits of the year of birth of the oldest player on the team,
- d) The last is a two-digit number starting from 01 and increasing by one for each team in that age group. An example would be:

2B8309

This team number reflects the following: A boys team in the Miami Valley Soccer Association playing in the 1978 age league [oldest player on the team born 8/1/83 to 7/31/84] and the ninth team assigned by this association to this age group. See league number section for league numbers.

### **4.3 LEAGUE ROSTERS**

**4.3.1** OSYSA will provide a standard team roster for use by all member competitive associations/leagues. In addition, OSYSA will provide the necessary support forms: Roster Change Forms, Transfer Approval Forms, Player Quit Forms, and Tournament Guest Players Rosters. In this manner, all member associations will have their needs provided and everyone will benefit by working from the same standard forms. All member leagues and associations that are classified as competitive must use the state provided forms. The League Team Roster is a two part carbonless set. The two-part set is to be separated into two sections after the league registrar has completed the validation of the roster. The distribution of each of the pages of the set is outlined on the roster. The team's copy goes to the team and other copy goes to the league/association.

**4.3.2** Each League Team Roster is to be completed in duplicate. If it is not done correctly or in duplicate, the Team Roster is to be rejected and must be re-completed prior to being approved by the league registrar. It is required that players be listed on the Team Roster in alphabetical order.

**4.3.3** Both copies of the league roster are to be presented to the league registrar at the time of player registration.

**4.3.4** The league registrar is to validate and approve the team roster after it has been verified as correct versus the US YOUTH SOCCER Registration Cards (i.e., birth date, name, all players on roster, etc).

**4.3.5** The league registrar is to stamp all copies of the League Team Roster with the OSYSA validation stamp and sign and date the League Team Roster.

**4.3.6** US YOUTH SOCCER Membership and Registration forms are to be stacked in alphabetical order to match the League Team Roster order.

**4.3.7** Teams may not exceed 18 players on their Official Team Roster, except that U-16 and older teams may have a maximum of 22 players on their roster..

**4.3.8** US YOUTH SOCCER rules limit teams of member associations and leagues to five previously rostered players, at any one time, in any one seasonal year, if they are participating in the State Cup Championship. However, if a team rosters less than 18 players, (22 players if U-16 or older team), at the beginning of the season, the team may add or transfer in as many players as needed to reach 18 players, (22 players if U-16 or older team), on the roster. Adding players (who are not registered on any other US YOUTH SOCCER team) to reach 18 players, (22 players if U-16 or older team), the first time does not count against the five previously rostered rule. Any player that is currently registered with another US YOUTH SOCCER competitive team and is joining another team is a transfer. The Roster Change Form will provide the procedure to control the number of changes permitted by any team.

**4.3.9** Teams not playing in the spring season may have up to (4) four league guest players on the League Guest Player Roster for U-19, U-18, U-17, U-16, U-15 teams if approved by the member association or league. League Guest Players in the spring and/or summer are to be registered as secondary players.

**4.3.10** Once the Team League Roster has been completed, a series of vertical parallel lines are to be drawn through the unused lines on the Team Roster (this is to also be done on Tournament Guest Rosters, and Roster Change Forms) so that no additional players can be added to that Roster form.

**4.3.11** Once the league registrar approves a League Roster, players can only be added to that the team's roster by the use of a Roster Change Form. Players cannot be dropped from a roster except as outlined in Section 4.4.

**4.3.13** Rosters with player's names crossed off are to be considered to be not validated rosters and are not acceptable for any US YOUTH SOCCER event (except for requesting travel permits to show which players have of their own choice elected not to travel).

#### **4.4 TEAM MEMBERSHIP**

**4.4.1** Once a player or a player's parent or guardian signs the player registration form and the player signs the US Youth Soccer / Ohio South player pass, the player is bound to that team for the entire

seasonal year unless he/she requests and obtains a transfer. All requests for transfers shall be submitted on the appropriate forms to OSYSA and must include the reason for the transfer. After OSYSA approves the transfer, it must then be submitted to the player member league or association for completion of the transfer.

**4.4.2** Players may only register once during a seasonal year. All other moves must be within the five previously rostered player rule, as defined in section 2.11.3.

**4.4.3** During the Summer season, players may participate on two teams at the same time - once as a primary registration and once as a secondary registration. Players may register in the summer season as a secondary registration. Players who elect to participate on two teams during the summer season must honor the playing commitments of their primary team prior to those of their secondary team. ODP playing requirements must also be met.

**4.4.4** All member Associations and Leagues must approve all transfer requests that meet the rules, i.e. no more than five previously rostered players, as defined in section 2.11.3, being on a team's roster per seasonal year and is within the member Association or League authorized transfer period.

**4.4.6** Teams in the summer season may have an unlimited number of transfers, either primary/secondary.

**4.4.7** A transfer shall be defined as adding a currently registered and rostered US YOUTH SOCCER player (competitive or recreational) to the roster of another US YOUTH SOCCER team during the seasonal year. Transfers of players must be approved by the member league except as noted for member recreational Association and Leagues.

Transfers between teams will only be approved within the league-playing season and before the date that the league freezes the roster. Players not transferred within the approved period are bound to that team until the next seasonal year.

**4.4.8** All US YOUTH SOCCER registered players who switch between member associations or leagues must be transferred subject to the rules of OSYSA.

**4.4.9** A member recreational Association or League program may transfer players without limit between teams within their program

**4.4.10** For member recreational Associations or Leagues, players are considered registered to their team once they are assigned to a roster and the coach of their team has notified them of their assignment. If a player drops from the member recreational Association or League at the time of notification, they are not a US YOUTH SOCCER registered player. If a player drops from a member recreational Association or League team after the player has received notification of his/her team assignment (and did not drop at that time), they are a US YOUTH SOCCER registered player.

If any Member recreational Associations or League enters teams into a competitive program operated by another member Association or League (or operates both competitive and recreational programs), players must be transferred between teams in the same manner as any player being transferred between two different member Associations or Leagues.

**4.4.11** The players of a recreational member Association or League that only play in one season during the seasonal year are, after the end of their playing season, considered to have been secondary

players and can be registered as primary players by other teams of other member Association or Leagues in another season.

**4.4.12** Players who are registered with a team may become a Tournament Guest Player for any other team if the tournament accepts guest players and if the team that player is registered to does not have a playing commitment during the period of time of the tournament. In these circumstances, the player may play without the approval of the coach of his/her team. If a player wants to play as a Guest Player for a team and the player's team has a playing commitment for the same period of time, the player cannot become a Tournament Guest Player without the approval of the coach the player is registered with. The player must honor his/her playing commitment to the team to which he/she is registered.

**4.4.13** If a player wishes to quit a team, the player may quit; no player can be forced to remain on a team. This player may transfer to another team if, (a) it is still within the period of time that transfers are permitted by the member League or Association, and (b) the team that the player is being transferred to have not exceeded the five player transfer rule, as defined in section 2.11.3.

**4.4.14** If the player is unable to transfer, this player may still play for another team in tournaments that accept guest players as a Tournament Guest Player. This player may play for any team at any time without the permission of the team that he/she is bound to for the entire seasonal year (the team he/she quit) unless the team that the player quit has a playing commitment for the same time that the player wishes to play as a Guest Player in a tournament. In that event, the player must have the permission of the coach of the previous team in order to become a guest player since this player is bound to his/her the team for the seasonal year. If the coach does not give his/her permission, the player cannot play as a guest player since he/she is bound to his/her team until the new transfer period or until new player passes are issued for the next seasonal year.

A player that has quit a team may register for another team in the next seasonal year without approval of the team that he/she quit. In the summer season, he/she may register as a secondary registration.

If a player who has quit a team re-registers as a secondary player for the summer season, the player may participate for that team except during the time that his/her primary team has a playing commitment. He / she may still participate if the coach of the team that the player has quit releases the player from his/her commitment to the primary team.

**4.4.15** In any case outlined above, a player is deemed to have received permission from the coach to play in a conflicting event if the coach gives the player pass to the player or the coach of the other team. If the player pass is provided for play as a Tournament Guest Player, the player pass must be returned before the player can participate as a Tournament Guest Player in another tournament.

**4.4.16** Only players who are rostered as primary players can play in the State Cup.

**4.4.17** In order to qualify for play; players must be on an approved team roster prior to playing in any of the teams US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup matches. Any player signing a player US YOUTH SOCCER Membership Registration form and US YOUTH SOCCER Player Pass is bound to that team for the entire seasonal year unless he/she requests and obtains transfer.

a) A team is limited to a total of five previously rostered players, as defined in section 2.11.3, per seasonal year. A transfer shall be defined as adding a previously rostered US YOUTH SOCCER player to a roster. Transfers between teams will only be approved within the time limits established

by the league. Players not transferred within the approved period are bound to that team until the next seasonal year

b) A player may be released (dropped by the coach) from a team by the coach only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons: 1) The player has violated a US YOUTH SOCCER or OSYSA disciplinary rule. 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 seasonal year.

If none of the above reasons apply, the coach must keep the player on the roster. However for a release in each of these qualifying cases, the coach to affect the release must complete and sign a US YOUTH SOCCER player release form. If a player is to be dropped for one of the three reasons outlined above, the Roster Change Form must be validated by the league register. Players who are released (dropped by the coach) for one of the above listed three reasons, must be notified by the coach, in writing, prior to the player being removed from the roster. This notification can be by having the player sign a voluntary quit form or by sending a letter to the player, via certified mail. .

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Players cannot be dropped (removed for the roster) except for the three reasons outlined above.

c) Players may voluntarily elect to quit a team. If a player elects to quit a team and the coach of the team wishes to free up a spot on the roster for a new registration or transfer (with in authorized time period), the coach is to submit an OSYSA Voluntarily Quit Form. The OSYSA Voluntarily Quit Form must be signed by both the player and the parent(s). If both do not sign the form, the Quit Form cannot be approved. Once approved by the member league or Association, the player may be removed from the roster and another player may be added or transferred under the rules. If a player that quits a team wishes to play soccer during the same seasonal year they must return to their original team (if an opening exists) or transfer to another team (if with in authorized time period). If the player that quits elects to transfer, the player must be transferred following the appropriate rules and regulations of OSYSA and the member league or Association. A player must understand that by signing a voluntary quit that they are not intending to play soccer until at least the next seasonal year.

**4.4.18** Players who quit and elect to play for an independent team are by their action considered in bad standing. Players in bad standing cannot participate in US YOUTH SOCCER / OSYSA league games or tournaments.

**4.4.20** In any case outlined above, a player is deemed to have received permission from the coach to play in a conflicting event if the coach gives the player pass to the player or the coach of the other team. If the player pass is provided for play as a Tournament Guest Player, the player pass must be returned before the player can participate as a Tournament Guest Player in another tournament.

**4.4.21** Coaches of teams without playing commitments are to offer the opportunity to his/her players to become Tournament Guest Players. If the coach does not offer the opportunity, the tournament team coach may contact the player.

**4.4.22** When a coach gives permission for a player to participate, as a Guest Player for another team while the team does not have a playing commitment, that permission cannot later be withdrawn. If the coach accepts at a later date a conflicting playing commitment, the player must honor his commitment as a Guest Player.

If a player accepts a commitment as a guest player when his/her team does not have a playing commitment and does not seek permission of his/her coach, he/she must return to his/her team if the team later accepts a playing commitment.

## **5.0 US YOUTH SOCCER PLAYER REGISTRATION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **5.1 PURPOSE**

The basic requirements for registration of players (and teams) are established by US Youth Soccer /OSYSA. Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. as the governing body is responsible for validating all US Youth Soccer Registration Forms and Cards for players within the geographical boundaries of Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. This responsibility is delegated by OSYSA to each member Association and league, as long as, all of the procedures as outlined are followed by each OSYSA member. Leagues are responsible for rostering teams. Leagues and Associations are to refuse rostering for teams and players when these rules and regulations are not properly followed. (See Membership Rules and Registration)

### **5.2 REGISTRAR**

Each league will establish and maintain the position of League Registrar. Each Registrar will be responsible to the OSYSA State Registrar for administering these procedures and insuring that all US Youth Soccer Registration Forms and Cards issued meet standards as set forth. OSYSA must approve the appointment of league Registrars.

**5.2.1** The name of the league Registrar will be provided to the OSYSA State Registrar.

**5.2.2** At the direction of the league registrar, each league may appoint assistant registrars as necessary to handle the number of players/teams registering each year. These names must be furnished to the OSYSA Registrar and can be rejected by the OSYSA State Registrar.

**5.2.3** The league Registrar will be responsible for the action and validation of US Youth Soccer /OSYSA youth registration cards by any assistant league Registrar(s).

**5.2.4** The OSYSA executive director or designee shall act as an assistant registrar for all competitive leagues that register teams from more than 1 district.

### **5.3 US YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION FORMS AND CARDS**

**5.3.1** OSYSA will make available US Youth Soccer Membership and Registration Forms and Cards for use by each affiliated member. (Not required for recreational members)

**5.3.2** Each affiliated member league and Association is responsible for purchasing US Youth Soccer Registration Forms and Cards for all teams in their league. Cards will not be sold directly to teams or players by OSYSA. Leagues and Associations may keep a small supply of Registration Forms and Cards on hand for registration of new players to existing teams.

**5.3.3** Leagues and Associations must restrict their purchase of US Youth Soccer player cards to the current seasonal year. OSYSA will provide forms and passes equal to registrations from the last seasonal year (allocated to Fall or Spring) plus 10% if requested. Additional amounts of material may be issued if the league or Association expects growth beyond 10%. Registration cards may not be purchased and carried over into a new seasonal year.

**5.3.4** Registration forms and cards are to be paid for when received or may be accepted by signed receipt. Receipts for all Registration Forms and Cards must be signed by the league Registrar or the league President and forwarded to the Registrar.

**5.3.5** Payment will be made to OSYSA at the designated rate of \$11.00 per player and coach card. OSYSA may issue interim billings for US Youth Soccer Player Passes. Payment for US Youth Soccer Player Passes is due to OSYSA within 10 days of the billing date.

**5.3.6** In the event that all cards issued by OSYSA are not used during the seasonal year, they are to be returned to OSYSA.

**5.3.7** All checks for cards are to be made out to OSYSA.

## **5.4 REGISTRATION PROCEDURES**

**5.4.1** All players must register and roster through the US Youth Soccer/OSYSA league in which they participate. Each affiliated League will establish procedures in compliance with the following:

**5.4.2** Youth Players are permitted to roster once each seasonal year (Sept. 1 - Aug. 31). Players cannot be rostered with more than one team at one time during the Fall and Spring seasons. During the Summer season players can be rostered as a primary player on their Spring season team and a secondary player on their Summer season team. OSYSA does not permit dual US Youth Soccer registration except as noted.

A youth player is one who prior to August 1st of the current seasonal year has not reached the age of nineteen (19) years. A player who reaches his nineteenth (19th) birthday on or after August 1st of the current seasonal year shall be allowed to complete the season.

**5.4.3** Players will be registered with the OSYSA Registrar (or designee) on the Form approved by US Youth Soccer /OSYSA. Each player must have a US Youth Soccer Membership Card and participate with the US YOUTH SOCCER program under the jurisdiction of OSYSA.

**5.4.4** A player must register in the State Association in which he/she resides with his/her parents/guardians. All players wishing to compete on a team in a league operating in a State Association other than the State Association in which they are registered, must receive written permission from the State Association where they are registered and the State Association where they wish to play. (see Membership Rules and Regulations).

These permissions must be obtained for each seasonal year.

**5.4.5** Each team must complete a US Youth Soccer Registration Form and Card for all players prior to the start of the season. Cards are valid for the entire seasonal year and expire on August 31 of each year. Additional cards may be required when rostering as a Summer Secondary or if players are rostered after having been on a Fall Guest Roster Team. Teams rostered and going to play only in Fall and/or Spring and/or Summer must complete new cards each Spring.

**5.4.6** Each player must be rostered to a team except for Tournament Guest Players. The team must be rostered to an OSYSA sanctioned league. No team is permitted more than eighteen (18) registered players, (22 players if U-16 or older team), at any given time, nor shall any team be allowed to have less than seven (7) registered players.

**5.4.7** Player passes must carry the OSYSA Validation Stamp of the league in which the team is playing.

**5.4.8.** Players cannot be registered with an affiliated League or Association unless they are included on the official team roster.

Teams that participate in two different leagues are not to be issued two - separate sets of player cards.

In the case of a team that plays in two leagues, one league will issue the player pass and the second league must counter stamp the player pass for their league.

Any player signing a player registration form is bound to that team for the entire seasonal year unless he/she requests a transfer. During the Summer season if a player is rostered both as a primary players (Fall and/or Spring season) and a secondary player (Summer season), the playing commitments of the primary team must be met by the player with dual registration. Playing commitments for ODP must also be met by all players.

**5.4.9** Teams may not participate in sanctioned play without meeting the registration requirements, and the minimum roster requirements of seven (7) players. (11v11)

Complete registration consists of properly completed and validated US YOUTH SOCCER Membership form, Player Pass, and an Official OSYSA Team Roster.

**5.4.10** If the registration material is not properly completed, it shall be rejected. Registration will be completed only when the material has been corrected and re-submitted. Only after the total team's registration materials are complete and correct, may the team roster and player cards be validated. Complete registration requires that both halves of the Player Pass be filled out and available for checking at registration.

**5.4.11** Proof of birth shall consist of a birth certificate or birth registration issued by the governing body within the State of birth, board of health records, state drivers license, passports, alien registration card issued by the United States government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, or a certification of birth abroad issued by the appropriate governmental agency, or a Certificate of Naturalization issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Hospital, religious or baptismal certificates are NOT acceptable as proof of birth. US Youth Soccer registration cards stamped INDOOR are NOT acceptable as proof of birth. The previous seasonal year US Youth Soccer Player Pass with picture attached is acceptable as proof of birth if used as outlined.

**5.4.12** Each OSYSA member Association or League will be responsible for checking and validating each player Registration Form and Card and team roster to insure that it has been properly completed. This will include all information, signatures, photos, validated birth dates, etc. in its proper location.

**5.4.13** Teams or players will not be allowed to compete in any games if all registration requirements are not met.

**5.4.14** Properly registered US Youth Soccer teams playing in a sanctioned league are not permitted to play in non-sanctioned leagues, tournaments or against teams that are not registered with US Soccer, another US Youth Soccer affiliated state association, or OSYSA, unless notification is made to OSYSA.

**5.4.15** The Player Membership and Registration form has a section where the players must report their status as it relates to participating on a OSYSA team in the Fall or Spring season. Every player that registers for the Summer season must complete this section. If the player did not register in either

the Spring or Fall seasons, a comment to that fact must be included. Every player must sign this section of the form if they register for the Summer season.

**5.4.16** U-7 and younger players shall not be permitted to participate on competitive teams.

**5.4.17** U-8 players may not play on U-10 or older competitive teams

## **5.5 PREPARATION OF REGISTRATION CARDS**

**5.5.1** The following procedures will be required in entering the information on the US Youth Soccer Membership and Registration Form and Card.

**5.5.1.1** Cards must be printed in ink or typed. Cards in pencil will be rejected.

**5.5.1.2** The Player Pass portion {section with the picture on it) and the Membership Card (the half with no picture on it) of the US Youth Soccer Registration Cards should not be separated prior to the submission to the League.

If only the Player half of the US Youth Soccer Player pass is completed, the team is not to be rostered until both halves of the player pass is completed. The membership half of the US Youth Soccer player pass is to be given to the players on the team after rostering is completed.

**5.5.1.3** Pictures must be glued to the registration cards. Staples or tape will not be acceptable.

**5.5.1.4** Pictures must be current. Photos cannot be more than six months old when the registration card is issued. No photocopies or xerographic copies of pictures will be permitted. Only original photos will be acceptable. (Suggestion: Each team take a photo with four players in each picture (2 kneeling and two standing. Develop the pictures and cut into individual pictures of the proper size and glue to the card.) Registration forms and cards will not be approved if pictures have been removed from old registration cards and attached to new registration cards.

**5.5.1.5** If in the referee's opinion, the player's photo was over six months old at the time the registration card was issued, the referee will reject the photo on the field by crossing out the picture. The player will be permitted to participate in that game, but anew card with the fee charged must be issued prior to that player being able to compete in any future games.

**5.5.1.6** If the age of any player is challenged, the League Registrar may request additional proof of birth. This proof must be of an official nature such as an original or certified birth certificate. Old registration cards, copies of otherwise acceptable forms, and drivers license will not be accepted.

**5.5.1.7** Previous year's registration cards will not be accepted for proof of birth if the picture has been removed.

**5.5.1.8** Previous year's registration cards will be picked up and destroyed by the League Registrar when the team's registration is completed.

Old Registration Cards will not be returned. Registration Cards issued before the past seasonal year cannot be used for proof of birth.

**5.5.1.9** Damaged cards (including those incorrectly filled out) may be returned (both sections) for another card issued without charge. League Registrars are to keep the damaged cards and they will be returned to OSYSA for credit. (must be returned prior to validation of the card)

**5.5.1.10** It is required that the US Youth Soccer Membership Card be returned to each player and the US Youth Soccer Player Pass be returned to each coach after the registration process is complete.

**5.5.1.11** Every Player Pass will contain a OSYSA specified registration number.

## **5.6 LEAGUE ASSIGNED NUMBERS**

**5.6.1** All affiliated Leagues are assigned a single digit league identification number for their use assigning player numbers on the registration cards. The league number is listed in the List of Leagues and Associations printed on the inside front cover of this manual. The League or Association number is used as part of the Player Registration number placed on the US Youth Soccer Player Pass.

## **5.7 PLAYER NUMBER**

**5.7.1** Leagues will use this procedure for each player. Each player will be assigned an individual player number on his/her registration cards.

**5.7.2** Leagues will have their teams assign each player an individual number. This number will be composed of the affiliated league number, sex, team number, and an unique two-digit number. Each player will be assigned an unique, two digit number starting at 01 and going up to 18, (22 if U-17 or older team). A different number will be assigned each player. The number will be entered on both halves of the registration card.

**5.7.3** The coach will enter the player number on both halves of each individual registration card.

**5.7.4** A sample number would be 1 G930405:

1 League Number  
G In this case a girls team  
93 Year of birth of oldest player (before 8/1)  
04 Fourth team registered in that age group  
05 Fifth player registered on this team.

## **5.8 LEAGUE TEAM ROSTER**

**5.8.1** Each team in every League will be required to have a OSYSA team roster listing all the players registered to that team.

**5.8.2** Primary or secondary registration status is to be listed on all rosters.

**5.8.3** All additions, deletions (if deletion, - see Team Registration), and transfers to a team's roster must be handled by completing a Roster Change Form. New team rosters are not necessary, the Roster Change form is simply attached to the Team Roster form.

**5.8.3.1** Addition of new players to a roster requires the Roster Change Form be submitted to the League Registrar for validation. A Player Membership and Registration form with validation of birth also must be submitted.

**5.8.3.2** Deletion of players requires that the Roster Change Form must be completed and provided to the League Registrar.

**5.8.3.3** Transfer of players between teams rostered in the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association requires the Roster Change Form and the old player pass issued to the player while on the previous team, both of which must be submitted to the League Registrar. In addition, the coach must submit a completed OSYSA Player Transfer Form. Note: Rostered players who are changing teams between the Fall and Spring Sessions must be transferred.

**5.8.5** Players who were primary players in the Spring that re-register as secondary players in the Summer season are not transfers but re-registration as a dual player .

**5.8.6** The league registrar will validate the Roster Change Form and one copy will be returned to the coach. This validated Roster Change Form must be attached to the original team roster and will become a part of the original Team Roster form. Whenever a roster is required, the Team Roster and all Roster Change Forms must be submitted.

**5.8.7** Transferred players will not be allowed to play for the new team until approval has been granted by the member League or Association. If the coach of the previous team approves the transfer, the player may play as soon as the Transfer Form has been approved. If the coach of the team from which the player is transferring disapproves of the transfer, the OSYSA Player Transfer Form will not be approved for a period of two weeks after its receipt by the league or association to which the player is transferring, if the transfer is approved by that member league or association. . The effective date of the transfer is the date that the coach of the transferring team signs the OSYSA Player Transfer Form or the date that it is signed by a representative of the league to which the players is transferring, (which ever is earliest). For purposes of US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup competition, the two-week requirement begins with the date the transfer form is signed by coach, or team representative if the coach is unavailable, of the team the player is rostered with. The coach is required to immediately and promptly sign the form indicating his approval or disapproval and return it to the player.

If the form is not promptly signed by the coach, the player is to promptly notify the league to which the player is transferring submit a copy of the OSYSA Player Transfer Form and a representative of the league to which the player is transferring will date the form as of the date it is received. This is the effective date of transfer and if it falls within the player's member League or Association authorized transfer date, the player will have met the transfer date established by his/her member League or Association and the League/Association must approve the transfer once it is submitted after it is released by OSYSA.

A transfer is the right of the player under US Youth Soccer rules. If the coach of the team from whom the player is transferring refuses to sign the form, or delays signing the form when asked, or does not give the player his/her player pass for use in the transfer process, the player may report the coach to the OSYSA Conduct Committee and the coach could be placed in bad standing for failure to follow OSYSA Rules and Regulations. When the OSYSA Player Transfer Form is submitted to OSYSA for approval, all required member League or Association forms must be attached. Players that transfer must purchase a new US Youth Soccer player pass at the OSYSA established registration fee.

**5.8.8** Transferred players will not be allowed to play for the new team until approval has been granted by OSYSA. If the coach of the previous team approves the transfer, the player may play as soon as the Transfer Form has been approved. If the coach of the team from which the player is

transferring disapproves of the transfer, the Transfer Form will not be approved for a period of two weeks after its receipt by the OSYSA Registrar. For purposes of US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup competition, the two-week requirement begins with the date the transfer form is signed by coach, or team representative if the coach is unavailable, of the team the player is registered too. The coach is required to promptly sign the form indicating his approval or disapproval and return it to the player.

If the form is not promptly returned by the coach, the player is to notify his/her Association/League of the delay and the date of the submission of the transfer request.

**5.8.9** If transfer is approved, a new registration card with the proper revised player number will be issued for the transferred player. The new registration card will include the new assigned player number and team name.

**5.8.10** Each team in every League will be required to have a OSYSA team roster listing all the players registered to that team.

**5.8.10.1** All additions and transfers to a team's roster must be handled by completing a Roster Change Form. New team Rosters are not necessary, the Roster Change form is simply attached to the Team Roster. (see proper section to determine if player can be deleted)

**5.8.10.2** Addition of new players to a roster requires the Roster Change Form be submitted to the League Registrar for validation. A Player Membership and Registration form with validation of birth also must be submitted. Once the Roster has been approved by the League Registrar, new players cannot be added by writing in the required material on the roster. Such an addition revokes the validation of the roster.

**5.8.10.3** Transfer of players requires that the Roster Change Form must be completed and provided to the League Registrar .

**5.8.10.4** Players may quit and be removed from roster (if qualifying under the rules - see Team Registration Rules and Regulations). The Voluntarily Quit Form and a Roster Change Form must be completed and provided to the League Registrar in order for a player who has quit can be removed from the roster.

**5.8.10.5** Transfer of players between teams registered in the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association requires the Roster Change Form and the old Player Pass issued to the player while on the previous team to be submitted to the League Registrar. In addition, the coach of the transferring team must submit a completed OSYSA Player Transfer Form. Players can be transferred between Fall, and Spring seasons subject to the five previously rostered player rule for each team. The coach of the team that the player is transferring from must sign the OSYSA Inter Team Transfer form.

**5.8.10.6** Any player signing a player registration card will be bound to that team for the entire seasonal year unless he/she requests a transfer. All requests for transfer will be submitted in writing on the OSYSA Transfer Form to the OSYSA District Commissioner, OSYSA State Registrar or OSYSA Executive Director for approval. All requests must state the reason for the requested transfer and include (1) the OSYSA Player Transfer Form, (2) the League transfer form (if applicable), (3) the player's old US Youth Soccer registration card, and (4) the new player registration form and card. Once approved by OSYSA, the material is to be submitted to the member League or Association for completion of the transfer.

## **5.9 STATE COMMISSIONER VALIDATION STAMPS**

**5.9.1** All US Youth Soccer registration cards must be validated by a signature stamp of the OSYSA State Commissioner. Registration cards will not be valid until they are stamped by the League Registrar with the proper signature stamp.

**5.9.2** The OSYSA Registrar will provide the number of needed signature stamps for each League prior to the start of the seasonal year or the start of the League's season.

**5.9.3** Each member Association or League will be responsible for the stamp(s) assigned to its care. Each League will be required to sign a receipt for the registration stamp(s). Each League will be required to collect all validation stamp(s) at the end of the registration period and return them to OSYSA.

**5.9.4** The League Registrar will be responsible for returning its signature stamp(s) to OSYSA when requested or at the time the league rosters are frozen.

**5.9.5** The signature stamp for each League will include the expiration date and name of the League. Leagues will not be allowed to validate cards for players and/or teams from other Leagues.

**5.9.6** Registration cards from one league are not acceptable within another league. Players cannot use player registration cards from one league and play with that card within another league unless the registration stamp from both leagues is marked on the players pass. Teams may play in multiple leagues during the same season (Fall, Spring or Summer) all Player Passes must be stamped by the League Registrar of all leagues in which they participate. Teams cannot be issued different player cards from different leagues.

## **5.10 LEAGUE GUEST PLAYERS**

**5.10.10** OSYSA competitive leagues may establish their own procedures which would allow, during league play only, properly rostered players from within an individual club to play for another team from within the same club, provided all US Youth Soccer and OSYSA age guidelines are met. Such players when they are participating with a team from the same club as the team that they are rostered to are known as Club Guest Players.

## **5.11 TOURNAMENT GUEST PLAYERS**

**5.11.1** Due to the fact that tournaments need to insure that teams who have entered into their tournaments will have sufficient players to participate, they may authorize teams to bring Tournament Guest Players to their event. Tournament Guest Players can only participate in tournaments that have authorized Tournament Guest Players in writing in advance of the tournament. This is normally done on the US Youth Soccer Application to Host Agreement.

**5.11.2** If the tournament permits guest players, coaches may contact other coaches of US Youth Soccer teams to see if registered players of that team wish to participate as a Tournament Guest Player.

**5.11.3** In order for any player to play in a tournament with another team they must not have a playing commitment at the same time as the tournament. If the team that they are registered on has a playing commitment that conflicts with the tournament, that player may not participate as a Tournament Guest Player.

**5.11.4** Teams are not to contact players directly about becoming Tournament Guest Players. The coach of the tournament team is to contact the coach of the team that the player is registered with and determine if the team has a playing commitment. If no playing commitment exists, the coach of the player's team is to contact the player and determine if he/she wishes to participate as a Tournament Guest Player. It is the right of the player to elect to participate as a guest player if their team has no game commitment at the time the request is made and agreed upon.

**5.11.5** The coach of the team with whom the player is registered cannot refuse permission to play and stop the right of the player to become a Tournament Guest Player unless the team has a playing commitment. If no playing commitment exists, permission must be given. If the coach refuses to contact the players, the Tournament Team Coach may then (after discussion with the team coach) contact the player directly.

**5.11.6** If the player is registered on a OSYSA team and (1) is available to become a Tournament Guest Player, and (2) elects to participate, the coach of his/her team is to provide the player card to the tournament team coach. The player's pass is to be returned to the coach of the player's team immediately after the end of the tournament.

**5.11.7** Coaches may ask a non-registered player to become a Tournament Guest Player. OSYSA will register any non-registered player (at the established registration fee) and issue them a Tournament Guest Player Pass. This pass is only good during the seasonal year and is for play in tournaments that AUTHORIZE Tournament Guest Players. Players in bad standing cannot be Guest Players and have a Guest Players Pass issued. Only OSYSA can issue Tournament Guest Player Passes. Leagues and Associations are not to validate US Youth Soccer player passes for Tournament Guest Players.

**5.11.8** All players who participate as a guest player on a OSYSA team must have a US Youth Soccer Player Pass. All players who participate on a team who is an affiliate member of US Youth Soccer must have a player pass issued by that organization. No player is to participate without a player pass issued by the organization to which they belong.

**5.11.9** Guest Players on OSYSA teams cannot use as a Player Pass a pass issued by any other soccer organization.

## **5.12 PLAYERS THAT HAVE PLAYED HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER**

**5.12.1** The Ohio High School Athletic Association has established Rules and Regulations concerning the playing of soccer by High School players outside of their High School season.

Ohio High School Athletic Association only permits five (5) players who played high school soccer in the previous Fall from the same high school to be on the same roster up until May 31 of the year. On and after June 1 through July 31, teams may have as many players from the same high school on their roster as they wish.

For member programs with a Spring season, the effect of the Ohio High School Athletic Association rule is to limit the teams to no more than five (5) players from each high school on their roster. (Roster changes not permitted after June 1).

After June 1 through August 31 teams may use as guest players in tournaments and exceed the five (5) player rule (if the tournament accepts guest players).

Any member program that offers a Summer season (season play starts on or after June 1), under Ohio High School Athletic Association rules, the team is not limited to any set number of number of players on their roster from the same high school.

It is the coach's responsibility to insure that they do not violate the Ohio High School Athletic Association rule. The Ohio High School Athletic Association establishes the penalty for high school soccer players who violate their rules. While no one can predict the penalty, it most likely shall include suspension for some or all of the high school soccer season.

To meet these regulations and not create problems for players who play high school soccer, both the Players Membership and Registration forms reflect the necessary information needed to insure that the Rules of OSYSA are not violated by any team or player.

## **5.50 PLAYERS REGISTRATION – REGISTRAR INSTRUCTIONS**

### **5.50.1 PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of the Players Registration Rules and Registration to insure that every team in each Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. sanctioned competitive League/Association has its players properly registered with US Youth Soccer. All League Registrars are to insure that each team properly completes the necessary US Youth Soccer Membership Registration form for each individual player on the team. This will provide a current mailing list of players to the State Association. In addition, the League Registrar is to insure that the League Team Roster is completed properly.

All League Registrars and Assistant League Registrars should thoroughly understand these instructions. This will permit Registrars to enforce the requirements of the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. as it relates to all coaches/managers under the Players Registration Rules and Regulations (also see Player Registration Examples) and Membership Rules and Regulations. If the requirements of the OSYSA Players Registration Rules and Regulations and Membership Rules and Regulations are not met, the registrar must refuse to complete the registration procedure.

Any questions concerning the Registration of players should be directed to the State Registrar for the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

### **5.50.2. US YOUTH SOCCER PLAYER PASS**

The US Youth Soccer Player Pass is issued by the US Youth Soccer for registration of players in the various State Associations such as the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc.. The Player Pass is in two parts. The first half (the left side of the Player Pass) is the Players Pass and is used by the coach to provide proof that his team meets the requirements of playing and that the players have been approved for his team.

The second half (right side) is the Membership half of the card. This half is to be completed by the coach and given to the player upon completion of the registration process. It is the receipt and proof to the player of his membership in the United States Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

The League Registrars responsibility is to properly enforce the Player Registration Rules and Regulations. Each League Registrar and Assistant League Registrar is to read the Player Registration Rules and Regulations that are provided to the Coach.

In addition, examples of how to properly complete the Player Pass and Membership Registration form should be studied. These Regulations and examples are to be enforced by the Registrars. No exceptions are to be made. Several extremely important requirements of the Player Rules and Regulations are listed below.

**5.50.2.1** The League Registrar is to check the proof of birth versus the players pass.

**5.50.2.2** Player Passes from the previous seasonal year with photo attached are acceptable as proof of birth for validating new player passes. Player passes from other than the last seasonal year are not acceptable as proof of birth for new player passes. League Rosters are not acceptable proof of birth. Please review the Player Rules and Regulations for what is acceptable as proof of birth.

**5.50.2.3** After the teams' old player passes are used for validation of date of birth for the new player passes, the old player passes are to be retained by the Registrar and destroyed. Under no circumstances are the old player passes to be returned to the coaches after the new player passes are approved.

**5.50.2.4** Pictures cannot be taken off of old player passes and used on new player passes. If this occurs, the new player pass is not to be validated until a new picture is provided. If the picture was removed from the old player pass it is no longer valid for proof of birth. The coach must provide separate proof of birth for any player whose old picture has been removed.

**5.50.2.5** If any coach presents the right hand side of the Player Pass (this is the players membership card) as proof of birth, it is to be rejected. The right hand side of the card is not proof of birth and cannot be used.

**5.50.2.6** Current or old league rosters are not proof of birth.

**5.50.2.7** It is the responsibility of the League Registrar to insure that a validated player pass is issued to each player on each team. Your league should provide you with a list of teams that you will be responsible for registering. You are to insure that each team's player passes are completed prior to the season or to the date established by your league. If a team does not complete his registration requirements by the deadline, you are to report this to your league administrator so that the team cannot attempt to play without player passes.

**5.50.2.8** Pictures are not to be over six (6) months old at the time the player pass is validated. While it is difficult for any Registrar to know if a picture is too old, the Registrar should stress to the coach that pictures that are too young are not acceptable on player passes.

**5.50.2.9** League Registrars must NEVER validate and/or put a picture on the right hand side of the Player Pass (the membership half). The right hand side is the player's membership card and it is to be given to the player as proof of his membership in US Youth Soccer. In addition, the player pays his fee for the Player Pass half of the card. There is no payment for the membership half of the card.

**5.50.2.10** Do not validate any player passes unless both halves of the player cards are completed. The right side of the player pass must be reviewed at the registration process and be completed at the time that the Player Pass is validated and the coach is to be instructed to give this half to the player.

**5.50.2.11** Once you have completed the Registration process, draw a series of vertical parallel lines through the unused lines on the Team Roster (also Tournament Guest, Roster Change) so that no additional players can be added to that Roster form.

**5.50.2.12** Once a League Roster has been validated, new add a player to the roster by permitting the coach to write the players onto a blank line. If players are added in this fashion, the validation is revoked that roster is not acceptable for play in US Youth Soccer sanctioned events.

### **5.50.3 US YOUTH SOCCER PLAYER MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM**

Each competitive member League or Association will be issued sufficient number of US Youth Soccer Player Membership Registration forms for each player in the league to register each year with US Youth Soccer/OSYSA. All players participating in OSYSA sanctioned leagues must be registered as a requirement of US Youth Soccer.

The US Youth Soccer Player Membership Registration form is a two part carbon less set. The two part set is to be separated into two different groups by color. The disposition of the copies by color is described on the Form itself. Based on the instructions contained on the Form, each copy of the Form is to be provided to the proper group or individual as outlined.

In lieu of using the pre-printed two part form, a copy of the player form can also be downloaded from the OSYSA or member league or association website. If this format is used, a photocopy of the form must be made prior to its submission when the player is registered.

The League/Association copy of the Players Membership Registration form will be used by the League/Association to build and maintain the Players Data Base by each member League or Association in the State provided computer system. This database will be the source of mailing addresses for the State Newspaper, as well as be provided to the league for their use and used to print team rosters. It is critical that each League Registrar promptly forward membership registration forms to their leagues computer operator. Delay in providing the Players US Youth Soccer Registration Membership forms could result in failure of the players to receive the State Newsletter.

**5.50.3.1** The US Youth Soccer Player Membership Registration form is to be properly completed for each player registered following the instructions outlined in the Player Registration Rules and Regulations. If the player registering as primary/secondary player during the Summer season, this information must be entered on the Player Membership Registration form and signed by the player.

**5.50.3.2** The League Registrar should insure that all the information required on the Player Membership Registration form is entered and the information on the roster, player card, and the form all match. In addition, the information must be legible, so that the information contained on the form (both copies) can be read. If the form is incomplete, illegible, or improperly completed, the team is not to be registered. The materials to be sent back to the coach to be corrected.

**5.50.3.3** After it has been approved by the registrar, the copy designated by color on the Form is to be given to the Coach. The copy designated by color on the Form is to be set aside to be given to the league. After the League Registrar completes the team registration for the team, he/she is to clip the forms of the same color together.

**5.50.3.4** The member Association or Leagues are to forward a computer disk containing all of the US Youth Soccer Players Membership Registration information to:

Jim Martella  
Executive Director  
Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

25 Whitney Dr Suite 104  
Milford, Ohio 45150

The member Leagues or Associations are to collect all of Registration Membership copies and enter the data in the computer as soon as possible after the beginning of the season.

As additional players are registered to teams during the period authorized by the League, the member Association or League are to enter the new data in the computer for submission to OSYSA.

The league copy of the coach's form belongs to the league.

#### **5.50.4 SIGNATURES**

There are requirements that the Player Pass and the US Youth Soccer Registration Form be signed.

**5.50.4.1** The reverse side of the US Youth Soccer Player Pass has a location for the player's signature. The US Youth Soccer Player Pass is never to be validated until the player's signature is on the US Youth Soccer Player Pass.

**5.50.4.2** If the player is registering as a primary or secondary player for the Summer season, the section of the Registration Membership that records the fact that a player has been or has not been previously registered as a member of an OSYSA team in the Fall or Spring season must be completed and signed by the player. This section must be completed even if the player did not register in either of the two seasons. The section should stand no prior registration and it must be signed by the player. If this section is not completed and signed, the player is not to be registered and the US Youth Soccer Player Pass is not to be validated.

**5.50.4.3** The US Youth Soccer Player Registration also contains a Consent For Medical Treatment section. It is recommended that the parent(s) of the player sign this section. However, it is not a requirement and the player can be registered and his/her player pass validated if this section is not signed.

**5.50.4.4** The US Youth Soccer Player Registration Form also contains a waiver section where the parents agree to hold harmless all soccer organizations and coaches. It is a requirement of the program that this section be signed by the parent(s) of the players. If this section is not signed the player pass for this player is not to be validated and the player cannot be registered until this section is signed by the parent(s).

#### **5.50.5 TEAM'S LEAGUE ROSTER**

Each league will provide each team with a League Team Roster for use in listing the players on the team roster .

The League Roster is a two part carbonless set. The two part set is to be separated into two sections after the League Registrar has completed the validation of the roster. The disposition of the League Roster is established by color on the League Roster. The Team's copy is to be given to the team, and the League's copy is to be provided to the League.

**5.50.5.1** Each league roster is to be completed in duplicate. The Team Roster is to be printed in ink or typed. Rosters that don't meet this requirement are to be rejected and must be re-completed prior to

be being approved by the League Registrar. It is required that players be listed on the Team Roster in alphabetical order.

**5.50.5.2** All copies of the league roster are to be presented to the League Registrar at the time of player registration.

**5.50.5.3** All league rosters are to be marked to show if the player is a secondary registration or primary registration.

**5.50.5.4** The League Registrar is to validate and approved the team roster after if has been verified as correct versus the US Youth Soccer Registration Cards (i.e., birth date, name, all players on roster, etc).

**5.50.5.5** All unused lines on the Team Roster are to be marked off so that no additional players can be written onto the Team Roster. Any changes to the Team Roster after the Team Roster has been validated by the League Roster are to be done via the Roster Change Form.

**5.50.5.6** The League Registrar is to stamp all copies of the League Team Roster with the OSYSA validation stamp and sign and date the League Team Roster.

**5.50.5.7** The League Registrar should insure that all the information required on the League Team Roster is entered and the information on the roster, player card, and the form all match. In addition, the information must be legible, so that the information contained on the form (both copies) can be read. If the form is incomplete, illegible, or improperly completed, the team is not to be registered. The material is to be sent back to the coach to be corrected.

**5.50.5.8** The league copy of this League Team Roster is to be given to the league following the instructions they have established.

#### **5.50.6 STATE COMMISSIONERS VALIDATION STAMP**

Each competitive member League or Association will be issued State Commissioner validation stamp(s). Each stamp will carry the name (or initials) of the member League or Association. Each League Registrar will be responsible for maintaining control over this Validation Stamp during the seasonal year. The stamp will require replacement each year since the State Commissioners Validation Stamp carries the seasonal year date.

**5.50.6.1** League Registrars must register players to authorized teams entered into their league. League Registrars are NEVER to register or approve a US Youth Soccer Player Pass for any team in another league.

**5.50.6.2** League Registrars must register players and approve Players Passes only during the period of time authorized by their league. League Registrars must NEVER register players or issue Player Passes before or after the authorized period set by their league.

**5.50.6.3** League Registrar's must not register or approve Player Passes for players that want to go to tournaments. In other words, teams cannot have Player Passes approved unless they are playing in the League Registrar's league in the current season.

**5.50.6.4** League Registrars must not approve a player pass for a team to take an additional player to a tournament. Teams cannot register players just for the purpose of taking a player to a tournament. League Registrars MUST NEVER register Tournament Guest Players for any team.

**5.50.6.5** Tournament Guest Players must be reported to the tournament. See the Permission to Travel Section. Only the OSYSA STATE REGISTRAR, the OSYSA STATE COMMISSIONER, or the OSYSA DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS, or the OSYSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CAN approve Tournament Guest Player Cards. For your information, these cards must be stamped in red ink TOURNAMENT GUEST PLAYER and can only be used in conjunction with the Tournament Guest Player Roster as approved by the District Commissioner. See the section on Tournament Travel.

**5.50.6.6** During the Fall season, League Registrars may approve player passes for a team that will play in their league during the subsequent spring season (for example, a team of high school players for a Fall tournament after the high school season is over). If a player is issued a pass pursuant to this rule, the player shall remain registered with the team for which they were issued a pass, unless they are transferred from that team or otherwise removed from the roster of that team as provided elsewhere in this manual.

**5.50.6.7** If a team registers for League Play and then drops from play, the teams players passes must be picked up so that the team does not attempt to use them in tournament(s). Any such teams are to be reported both to the District Commissioner and the Executive Director of the OSYSA.

**5.50.6.9** At the start of each season, assistant League Registrars are to return their State Commissioner Validation stamp to their League Registrar.

**5.50.6.10** All Player and Coaches Passes are to have the State Commissioner's Validation signature stamped on the rear of the Player Pass after the birth date and all other information have been verified by the Registrar.

**5.50.6.11** Coaches should be encouraged to register their players as early as possible before the season starts.

**5.50.6.12** Each member League/Association is to establish a date after which no transfers are permitted. This date must comply with the OSYSA date, but may be sooner. Your League/Association can notify you of this date.

## **5.50.7 REGISTRAR RESPONSIBILITY PLAYER PASSES**

It is the responsibility of the League Registrar to insure that all players register for each team. The Leagues also must control Player Passes so that proper payment can be made for them,

**5.50.7.1** Before the end of each season, the League Registrar is to report to the OSYSA Registrar the number of player passes their league has on hand.

**5.50.7.2** Payment to the State Association for all registered players is required before the start of the league season. However, payment for cards already issued must be sent to the State Office 30 days after billing.

## **5.50.8 REGISTRAR RESPONSIBILITY COACHES PASS**

It is the responsibility of the League Registrar to insure that at least two and no more than three coaches register for each team. The Leagues also must control Coaches Passes so that proper payment can be made for them.

**5.50.8.1** Before the end of each season, the League Registrar is to report to the OSYSA Registrar the number of coaches passes their league has on hand.

**5.50.8.2** Payment to the State Association for all registered coaches is required within thirty days of billing.

## **6.0 US YOUTH SOCCER COACH REGISTRATION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **6.1 PURPOSE**

A minimum of two coaches for every team entered into any Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. competitive member Association or League are required to complete the US Youth Soccer Membership and Registration form and coaches pass. The membership card is also to be issued to the coaches. The registration fee for coaches with teams playing in competitive programs is established by the Board of Directors.

The basic requirement for registration of coaches is established by OSYSA. Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. is responsible for validating all US Youth Soccer Registration Forms and passes for coaches. This responsibility is delegated by OSYSA to each league as long as the full procedures for registering coaches are followed by each league. Leagues are to refuse to register coaches and teams if all the regulations are not properly completed when the forms and cards are presented for validation.

### **6.2 COACHES PASS**

**6.2.1** Each team must register at least two coaches (and no more than three coaches) per team.

**6.2.2** Each coach, assistant coach and/or team manager listed on the Team Roster is required to be registered and to have a Coaches Pass. NO more than three Coaches Passes may be issued per team.

**6.2.3** The US Youth Soccer Coaches Membership and Registration form and coaches passes are to be completed following the procedures outlined in the Player Registration Rules and Regulation section. Each coach must have his/her picture attached to the pass in the same manner as the player pass.

**6.2.4** The coach's passes are to be given to the referee at each game along with the player passes.

**6.2.6** Only coaches holding a coaches pass may coach in a game. All of the coach's passes must be at the game for the coach to take an active part in the game.

**6.2.6** If a coach is sent off from a match, his/her card is to be submitted by the referee to the proper league official. If the coach is given an additional suspension, the league is to hold the coaches card until the suspension is served.

**6.2.7** If all registered coaches of any team are sent off from a game, the game is to be suspended. The league will then evaluate the circumstances and determine the outcome of the game. Only coaches with coach's passes can continue a game. If all registered coaches are given additional suspensions and cannot be at the next game, the League will determine what action will be taken.

**6.2.8** In the event that one or more of the coaches for the team cannot be at the game, a replacement may be selected. The referee must be notified of the change before the game begins and the replacement(s) must be properly identified. Only one replacement is permitted per coach's card.

**6.2.9** In the event that a replacement coach is sent off from a game (red carded), the registered coach is to serve any suspension issued by the league for the actions of the replacement coach.

**6.2.10** No replacement is permitted for a coach that has been sent off and is serving his/her suspension.

**6.1.11** If a team wishes to have a coach's pass issued for an additional coach, this may be done if the team does not have three coaches already registered. In the event that the team has three coaches registered, they may turn in one card and have an additional coaches Pass issued.

**6.2.12** To replace or to add coaches from the previous fall or to add coaches in the current season, the coach's pass must be turned in to the League Registrar and the validated League Roster form must be presented to show the number of coaches that have been already registered.

**6.2.13** New coaches may be added or currently registered coaches may be dropped from the team roster at any time during the season.

**6.2.14** Individuals may register as a coach on more than one team, but must have a separate coaches pass for each team. Any red card issued only applies against the coach's pass for the team where the red card occurred. However, if the coach is suspended by his/her member League or Association or by OSYSA, the suspension is for all coach's passes.

**6.2.15** In addition to having a minimum of at least 2 coaches and a maximum of 3 coaches registered for each team as required above, any club of 3 or more teams may apply for one or more Director of Coaching, (D.O.C.) pass(es) for their club.

**6.2.15.1** A maximum of 4 coaches, either coaches registered to the team that is participating in the game or coaches using a D.O.C. pass may be on the team's/coach's sideline during a game.

**6.2.15.2** If a club has between 3 and 10 teams, inclusively, the club may apply for one D.O.C. pass. If a club has between 11 and 15 teams, inclusively, the club may apply for 2 D.O.C. passes. If a club has between 16 and 20 teams, inclusively, the club may apply for 3 D.O.C. passes. If a club has more than 20 teams, the club may apply for a maximum of 4 D.O.C. passes

All D.O.C. passes are only valid in the seasonal year in which they are issued.

D.O.C. passes, as developed by the OSYSA office, will only be issued by the OSYSA office and only after receipt of all the following items:

- a)** A payment of \$35.00 per pass to be issued
- b)** Confirmation from the OSYSA member league(s) that the Club is a member in good standing of that league
- c)** Confirmation from the Club Secretary that the coach is approved by the Club to receive a Director of Coaching Pass
- d)** Verification that the Club has an updated listing on the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association Web Page under league and club directory
- e)** A current full color 2" x 3" passport style photograph of the coach
- f)** Confirmation that the coach has at least a USSF "D" license or an NSCAA National license
- g)** Confirmation of the submission of a Risk Management Form.

**6.2.15.4** The D.O.C. pass is valid only for the person to whom it was issued and is not transferable to any other person, at any time, for any reason. No person may be substituted for the person to whom the D.O.C. pass was issued.

**6.2.15.5** Any person to whom a Director of Coaching pass has been issued and who is wearing the pass on a neck lanyard visible to the outside may be in the team area during any league or OSYSA State Cup game and is permitted to act as a third or fourth coach for that team.

**6.2.15.6** Any person to whom a Director of Coaching pass has been issued and who is in the team area as a Director of Coaching during any league, OSYSA State Cup or tournament game and is sent off, then that person shall be required to immediately leave the area of the field as directed by the referee. In addition, that person shall be prohibited from attending, in any capacity, (either as a coach or as a Director of Coaching), the next game of the team in which the person was sent off. Furthermore, the Director of Coaching pass shall be turned over to the referee or other event official and sent to the OSYSA for further handling and disposition. The person to whom the Director of Coaching pass was issued, shall upon confirmation by the member league, OSYSA State Cup Chairperson or tournament director that the D.O.C. was sent off, shall be fined by OSYSA the amount of \$100.00.

**6.2.15.7** Any person to whom a D.O.C. pass has been issued and who is sent off from 3 or more games that have been organized by OSYSA and/or any of its member leagues, counted accumulatively, while at those games as a Director of Coaching, shall be ineligible to receive a D.O.C. pass for the following seasonal year.

**6.2.15.8** The use of the D.O.C. pass is specifically permitted at the State Cup tournament and all OSYSA sanctioned tournaments. Any OSYSA league may choose not to recognize the D.O.C. pass and any rights and privileges that are associated with the D.O.C. pass.

### **6.3. US YOUTH SOCCER MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION FORM**

**6.3.1** Coaches should register as soon as possible (not necessarily waiting for team registration) so that a coaches' address will be available to OSYSA for early mailing of information regarding US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup and other State Association matters.

**6.3.2** For teams that may have secondary players on the roster, the section of the Coach Membership form listing the roster of the team must be completed using the data on primary/secondary registration found on the Player Membership and Registration form. Assistant coaches do not need to complete this section, but they must sign the form. All players on the team must be included on the Coaches Membership and Registration form in the roster section if any player has been registered as a primary player during this seasonal year.

**6.3.3** The registration form for coaches is to be kept separate from the players registration form and sent to the State Association as soon as possible and no later than the start of the season.

## **6.4 US YOUTH SOCCER MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM AND COACHES PASS EXAMPLES**

**6.4.1** This US Youth Soccer/OSYSA Coaches Membership and Registration form is used to register all coaches for OSYSA.

The OSYSA Membership and Registration Form is constructed as a two-part form. The distribution of the form is shown by color on the form itself. One copy is for the league and is to be collected and kept. One copy belongs to Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. and is to be promptly forwarded to the State Association.

In lieu of using the pre-printed two part form, a copy of the player form can also be downloaded from the OSYSA website. If this format is used, a photocopy of the form must be made prior to its submission when the player is registered.

If a team has one or more players that participated on a high school or middle school team during the current or preceding school year and that high school or middle school team was organized under the rules of OHSAA, the coach must complete the bottom half of the coach registration form and list the name of every player on his/her team and the name of the high school or middle school that the players attended.

All sections of the Membership and Registration form and Coaches Pass are to be completed.

PLEASE PRINT IN INK OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION FORM AND CARDS.

## **6.50 COACH REGISTRATION – REGISTRAR INSTRUCTIONS**

### **6.50.1 PURPOSE**

It is the purpose of the Coaches' Registration Rules and Regulations to assure that each US Youth Soccer / OSYSA team in each sanctioned competitive league has at least two coaches and a maximum of three coaches registered and issued a COACHES PASS. All League Registrars are to insure that each team registers the required coaches. Registration of Coaches will permit Referees to help control the game and at the same time provide an up to date mailing list of coaches to the State Association.

All League Registrars and Assistant League Registrars should read, understand, and enforce the requirements of the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. Coaches Registration Rules and Regulations (see Coaches Registration, Examples for requirements for Coaches). If the requirements of the OSYSA Coaches Registration Rules and Regulations are not met, the registrar is to refuse to complete the registration procedure until the registration is properly completed.

All questions concerning registration of coaches should be addressed to the STATE OSYSA REGISTRAR.

### **6.50.2 US YOUTH SOCCER COACHES PASS FORM**

The US Youth Soccer/OSYSA Coaches Pass (a separate pass modified from the pass used for players) is issued by the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association for registration of OSYSA coaches.

The front side is the Coaches Pass and is used by the coach to provide referees proof that he/she meets the registration requirements of coaching.

The reverse side contains the picture of the coach and his/her signature. This coach's pass is to be completed by the coach. It is the proof and receipt to the coach of his membership in the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc.

The League Registrars responsibility is to properly enforce the Coaches Registration Rules and Regulations. Each League Registrar and Assistant League Registrar is to read the Coaches Registration Rules and Regulations. In addition, examples of how to properly complete the Coach Pass should be studied. These Regulations and examples are to be enforced by the Registrars. No exceptions are to be made. The Coaches Registration Rules and Regulations are important requirements.

**6.50.2.1** League Registrars are not to register any players for any team until at least the two required coaches are registered and Coaches Passes issued for that team.

**6.50.2.2** The Player pass for the COACH is to be completed in the format outlined in the layer Registration Rules and Regulations. All COACHES passes must include a current photo of the coach on the reverse side of the COACHES pass.

**6.50.2.3** The US Youth Soccer Membership Registration form is to be properly completed for each coach registered following the instructions outlined in the Player Registration Rules and Regulations.

**6.50.2.4** The reverse side of the US Youth Soccer Coaches card is to be stamped with the OSYSA State Commissioner's validation stamp.

**6.50.2.5** All coach's cards expire on the same basis as players' cards, which is August 31 of each seasonal year.

**6.50.2.6** When coaches are re-registered each year, the old coaches cards are to be collected and destroyed.

**6.50.2.7** Coaches passes are required for OSYSA competitive league games and US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup games. Coach's passes are not required at tournament games.

### **6.50.3 COACH REGISTRATION FORM**

Each member competitive league or Association will be issued sufficient number of OSYSA Coaches Membership Registration forms for each coach in the competitive member league or Association to register each year with OSYSA. At least two but not more than three coaches participating in OSYSA sanctioned leagues must be registered as a requirement of OSYSA.

The OSYSA Coaches Membership Registration form is a two part carbonless set. The two part set is to be separated into two different groups by color. The disposition of the copies by color is described on the Form itself. Based on the instructions contained on the Form, each copy of the Form is to be provided to the proper group or individual as outlined.

The league/Association copy of the Coaches Membership Registration form will be used by the league/Association to build and maintain the coaches database by each member league or Association in the State provided computer system. This database will be the source of mailing addresses for the

State Newspaper, as well as be provided to the league for their use and used to print team rosters. It is critical that each league Registrar promptly forward membership registration forms to their leagues computer operator. Delay in providing the Coaches OSYSA Registration Membership forms could result in failure of the coaches to receive the State Newsletter and notification of the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup.

**6.50.3.1** The OSYSA Coaches Membership Registration form is to be properly completed for each coach registered following the instructions outlined in the Coaches Registration Rules and Regulations.

**6.50.3.2** The league Registrar should insure that all the information required on the Coaches Membership Registration form is entered and the information on the roster, player card, and the form all match. In addition, the information must be legible, so that the information contained on the form (both copies) can be read. If the form is incomplete, illegible, or improperly completed, the team is not to be registered. The material is to be sent back to the coach to be corrected.

**6.50.3.3** After it has been approved by the registrar, the copy designated by color on the Form is to be given to the Coach. The copy designated by color on the Form is to be set aside to be given to the league. After the league Registrar completes the team registration for the team, he/she is to clip the forms of the same color together.

**6.50.3.4** The member Association or leagues are to forward a computer disk containing all of the OSYSA Coaches Membership Registration information to:

Jim Martella  
Executive Director  
Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc.  
25 Whitney Dr Suite 104  
Milford, Ohio 45150

#### **6.50.4 SIGNATURES**

There are requirements that the Coaches Pass and the US Youth Soccer Coach Registration Form be signed.

**6.50.4.1** The reverse side of the OSYSA Coaches Pass has a location for the coach's signature. The OSYSA Coaches Pass never is to be validated until the coach's signature is on the OSYSA Coaches Pass.

**6.50.4.2** If the Coach Registration and Membership Form is for an assistant coach, the section recording the status of players as it relates to primary or secondary players does not need to be completed; however the section must be signed.

#### **6.50.5 REGISTRAR RESPONSIBILITY FOR COACHES**

Each team is required to register at least two coaches for each team. The team ~ at their option register three coaches. However, in no case may a team register more than three coaches per team.

**6.50.5.1** OSYSA Coaches Registration Forms are to be used to register coaches.

**6.50.5.2** A Coach Pass must be issued for each coach and/or manager listed on the Team Roster for that team.

**6.50.5.3** League Registrars may register coaches prior to doing the registration for players. However, the Registrar must not register the players on the team until at least two coaches are registered.

**6.50.5.4** The team must register each and every coach or manager (limit three per team) listed on the Official Team Roster. If the team only registers two coaches and three coaches are shown on the Team Roster form, the league registrar must draw a heavy line through the name of the coach that is not registered.

**6.50.5.5** If during the season a team wishes to register an additional coach, the Registrar is to assure that the team has not registered three coaches already for this season by checking the Team Roster for the team. In the event that the team has already registered three coaches, a fourth cannot be registered. If an additional coach is to be registered, a Roster Change form, a Coach Registration form and a coach pass is to be completed. The completion process shall be the same as if the coach was originally registered with the team.

**6.50.5.6** If a team already has three coaches registered, they may turn in one Coaches Pass from a current coach and have a replacement Coaches Pass issued. The coach that is dropped from the team is to be marked out on the team's roster copy.

**6.50.5.7** For the spring registration, the Coaches Pass issued for the fall season are to be presented to the League Registrar. Additional Coaches Passes will not be issued for the team for the spring season until the Team Roster for the previous fall is provided to show how many coaches were registered in the previous fall season.

**6.50.5.8** Coaches may be added to the team's roster at any point in the season as long as no more than three coaches are registered or a coach is dropped from the roster.

## **6.50.6 LEAGUE REGISTRAR RESPONSIBILITY**

It is the responsibility of the League Registrar to report to the OSYSA Registrar the number of teams and coaches registered for their league. This is necessary to insure accurate control of the US YOUTH SOCCER Player Pass and OSYSA Coaches Passes.

**6.50.6.1** At the beginning of each season in conjunction with the invoice for US YOUTH SOCCER Player Passes and OSYSA Coaches passes, the League Registrar is to report to the OSYSA Registrar;

1) the number of teams in their league in that season, and (2) the number of coaches registered in their league during that season. Coaches registered in the fall season are to be counted and reported in the fall season. Coaches registered in the spring season are to be counted and reported in the spring season .

2) Payment for registered coaches will be handled as part of the billing by the State Association for Player Passes. However, like payment for players, the league should make payment by May 1 for the spring season and Oct 1 for the fall season.

## **7.0 TRAVEL PROCEDURES**

### **7.1 PURPOSE**

Participation in all soccer competitions (tournaments or friendly games) played by OSYSA/US Youth Soccer players and teams outside the boundaries of Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. against teams who are members of other US Youth Soccer State Associations must be reported on the OSYSA website ([WWW.OSYSA.COM](http://WWW.OSYSA.COM)). Each team is responsible for reporting the details of their travel to tournaments or friendly games outside of the OSYSA boundaries. Once all of the required information has been recorded on the OSYSA website, a Permission to Travel can be printed.

In addition, in order to participate in all soccer competitions (tournaments, friendly games, but not league games see 7.4.3) played by OSYSA/US Youth Soccer players and teams against teams who are members of organizations who are affiliate members of US Soccer (AYSO, SAY, US Soccer Clubs, Super Y League) INSIDE or OUTSIDE of the boundaries of OSYSA must provide Notification of Participation. Failure to provide this notification may have impact of your OSYSA insurance coverage. All teams that are going to participate in events sponsored by affiliate US Soccer Members should review the insurance section of this manual.

**7.1.1** Permission to Travel will only be authorized for participation in US Youth Soccer sanctioned tournaments, friendly games or exhibition games.

**7.1.2** Notification of Participation for all tournaments or games, inside or outside of the boundaries of OSYSA, operated by organizations, which are affiliate members of US Soccer (AYSO, SAY, US Soccer Clubs or Super Y League) is required of all teams that belong to OSYSA member Leagues or Associations.

**7.1.3** All participation, outside of play in OSYSA sanctioned programs, is under the jurisdiction of the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. Teams that travel/participate and do not record their plans on the OSYSA website and print out a Permission to Travel form or a Notification of Participation may lose their insurance coverage (see Insurance Section)

**7.1.4** Permission to Travel is not required for a team's regularly scheduled league games that are located outside of OSYSA. Permission to Travel is required for all other games (except US Youth

Soccer Ohio South National Championship Competition) that a team may play outside of the boundaries of OSYSA against teams who are members of other US Youth Soccer State Associations.

**7.1.5** Notification of Participation is required for all tournament or friendly games played against teams who are affiliate members of US Soccer inside or outside of the boundaries of OSYSA.

## **7.2. PERMISSION TO TRAVEL/NOTIFICATION OF PARTICIPATION**

**7.2.1** The following procedures must be followed in all cases when an OSYSA/US Youth Soccer registered team is going to participate in competition (games or tournaments) outside of the boundaries of Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. against teams who are members of other US Youth Soccer State Associations or inside or outside of the boundaries of OSYSA against teams who belong to organizations who are affiliate members of US Soccer (AYSO, SAY, US Soccer Clubs, Super Y League).

**7.2.2** The OSYSA Website ([WWW.OSYSA.COM](http://WWW.OSYSA.COM)) is to be used to report the team's plans (Permission to Travel or Notification of Participation). Once all of the information requested on the website is to be provided and a Permission to Travel or Notification of Participation can then be printed out.

**7.2.3** If Guest Players are authorized for the event they are to be recorded on the OSYSA website ([WWW.OSYSA.COM](http://WWW.OSYSA.COM)) on a Tournament Guest Player Roster. Once the guest players are registered a copy of the validated Tournament Guest Player Roster can be printed. As an alternative, the Coach may complete a manual Tournament Guest Player Roster, sign it and it is acceptable for reporting tournament guest players. However, the coach must maintain a copy to use in the event of an insurance claim by any of the guest players who participated on the team. Insurance coverage may be lost for any guest players if they are not recorded on the OSYSA website or the coach and tournament cannot provide a copy of a Guest Player Roster submitted prior to play.

All guest players must have a US Youth Soccer Player Pass (issued for the players team or by OSYSA as a Guest Player) in order to be covered by the insurance. Teams that used players who are not registered with US Youth Soccer/OSYSA are subject to disciplinary action by OSYSA.

**7.2.4** Once the team has received the "Permission to Travel" they are to forward a copy to the tournament, or the host of the friendly game. They are to include a copy of their validated League Roster and a copy of the team Tournament Guest player roster if guests are scheduled to attend at the time the application is submitted (and if the tournament accepts guest players).

**7.2.5** The Permission to Travel form and supporting material must be submitted and received at by the Tournament at least 30 days prior to competition in any state. The submission date for the Permission to Travel for friendly games is established by the host.

**7.2.6** Guest players must be listed on OSYSA Website or on the manual Tournament Guest Player Roster. These players are authorized to travel only if the request for event authorizes guest players in writing in their tournament material. This authorization on the approved US Youth Soccer "Application to Host" application is sufficient.

**7.2.7** Additional Guest players (if authorized by the tournament) may be added to the team for the tournament any time prior to the start of the tournament. If a team wishes to add guest players they are to be recorded on the OSYSA website or an additional Tournament Guest Player Roster is to be completed, signed by the coach. The additional Guest Player roster is to be forwarded to the

tournament. OSYSA players can only be guest players if their team does not have a playing commitment conflicting with the tournament.

**7.2.8** No more than 18 players, (22 players if U-17 or older team), may be listed on any roster. If guest players are being added using the Tournament Guest Player Roster, the team must indicate on the roster completed for the tournament and their validated League Roster the players not playing in the tournament. On the team's league roster, those players not attending the tournament are to be marked off.

**7.2.10** Tournaments require Permission to Travel 30 days in advance.

### **7.3 INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**

Travel to international locations is the responsibility of the United States Soccer Federation. The following are the requirements that they have established that apply to all members of US Soccer and all affiliate members. (US Youth Soccer, SAY, AYSO, US Soccer Clubs, Super Y League).

**7.3.1** Travel to foreign countries requires submission of the application to travel to the District Commissioner or the OSYSA office at least 120 days prior to the start of play. Team applying for travel outside of the United States must also include a check for \$25.00 payable to the United State Soccer Federation, a completed copy of the US Youth Soccer Application for Travel form and a completed Ted Stevens & Amateur Sports Act form. This material must be submitted at least 120 days in advance of the event to the District Commissioner (recommend 150 days). Four (4) copies of the sanctioning form for the event, the team's validated league roster and guest player roster must be submitted along with the Application for Travel.

If the application is submitted less than 120 days in advance of play in foreign countries, the application for travel will then be submitted to US Soccer who will make the determination if they will approve any application. SPECIAL NOTE: For Requests for Travel for travel outside of the US submitted to the Executive Director to the State Office, in lieu of four copies of the material requested and the stamped envelope, you may include one (1) copy of each and a check or money order for \$2.50 to cover the cost of stamps and copy expenses.

### **7.4 LEAGUE RESPONSIBILITIES**

The League is responsible for forwarding a computer disk listing all players on all league rosters to the State Office. The Executive Director, if necessary, will use this data about the team's official league roster to validate all travel permits.

It is the Leagues' responsibility to promptly provide their computerized data on all team rosters to the state association's state office. Travel permits may be delayed until the state association has received the league/association computerized league roster data.

The state office may call upon the league to verify league rosters if necessary.

### **7.5 OSYSA RESPONSIBILITIES**

**7.5.1** It is the responsibility of Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. to ensure that only US Youth Soccer teams in good standing participate in US Youth Soccer sanctioned tournaments (or games) or events sanctioned by or sponsored affiliate members of US Soccer. OSYSA teams that elect to participate in events sanctioned or sponsored by affiliate members of US Soccer must provide

notification on the OSYSA website even if the tournament/event does not require any of the information. Teams participating in events sponsored by or operated by organizations, which are affiliate members of US Soccer are to check the Insurance Section of this Manual. All OSYSA teams that participate in tournaments (or games) and must have certified rosters, Guest Player Rosters (if authorized and used) and Permission to Travel or Notification of Participation.

**7.5.2** Once all the information requested has been submitted, the Permission to Travel or Notification of Participation can be printed. Manual permission to travel can also be obtained from the OSYSA office.

**7.5.3** OSYSA/US Youth Soccer teams cannot participate in league play of affiliate US Soccer Members (AYSO, SAY, US Soccer Clubs, or Super Y League) using their US Youth Soccer issued player passes. OSYSA teams that participate in leagues games of affiliate members of US Soccer using the US Youth Soccer player pass or the pass of the affiliate organization are not covered under the OSYSA insurance program for those related and connected games.

## **7.6. EARLY SPRING - EARLY SEPTEMBER TOURNAMENTS**

**7.6.1** Teams that elect to travel to tournaments held in early spring or September, may due to the time that member league or association validate both rosters and US Youth Soccer player passes, have difficulty getting their US Youth Soccer player passes and authorized roster more than 30 days prior to the date of the tournament.

**7.6.2** In this event, the team is to submit or enter the required information to the OSYSA website and a Permission to Travel or Notification of Participation can be printed. The Permission to Travel should be sent immediately to the event. The coach should forward the roster as soon as it is validated.

## **7.7 UNAUTHORIZED TRAVEL**

**7.7.1** Since US Youth Soccer / OSYSA require that all teams must have Permission to Travel or provide Notification of Participation. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken if a team travels without obtaining the required permission to travel or making the notification of participation. In addition, the OSYSA insurance benefits available to players, teams, coaches, etc. may not be applicable.

## **7.8 MEDICAL RELEASE AND INSURANCE**

It is a recommendation of OSYSA that all teams that travel carry with them medical forms providing authority for the coach or manager to arrange for medical treatment in the event of injury. While the OSYSA insurance plan provides secondary medical coverage, coaches are also responsible to recommend that all players on the team carry their own medical insurance

## **7.9 TYPES OF TEAMS**

**7.9.1** There are five different types of US YOUTH SOCCER teams. Under normal circumstances, these different types of teams do not compete against one another. Normally, every team in Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. that requires a Permission to Travel is a Club Team. Club Teams should only compete in competition, which is composed of other club teams. The term select used with each type of team in effect means All Star. Each type of team is defined below.

### **7.9.1.1 State Select Teams**

The official "State Select Team" is the State Team of The Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. whose players are chosen on a statewide basis from club teams. These teams do not compete as teams in US YOUTH SOCCER sanctioned leagues. These teams represent Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. in the regional and national Olympic Development Program.

### **7.9.1.2 League Select Team**

The official "Select Team" of a league whose players are chosen on a league wide basis from club teams within that league.

### **7.9.1.3 Tournament Team**

A travel or competitive team put together for the sole purpose of playing in a tournament or other sanctioned competition. The roster for this type of team includes guest players from one or more club teams. This team can play only in tournaments, which accept guest players.

### **7.9.1.4 Club Team**

A travel or competitive team composed of players who are listed on the team's league roster and does not include guest players. These teams must be entered into and play in a US Youth Soccer sanctioned league to qualify as a club team and to be eligible to play in US Youth Soccer competition. This type of team constitutes the largest number of teams registered and playing in OSYSA. If guest players are added to this type of team for play in a tournament, this team becomes a tournament team.

### **7.9.1.5 Recreational All Star Team**

A team composed of players selected from more than one team which participates in a recreational, house or intramural program for a club, league, or association.

## **7.10 TEAM RESPONSIBILITY**

**7.10.1** Participation in all soccer competitions (tournaments or games) played by OSYSA/US Youth Soccer players and teams outside the boundaries of Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc., requires that the teams meet the requirements of US Youth Soccer/OSYSA, and the tournament. Any team that does not meet the requirements set by US Youth Soccer, OSYSA, and the tournament are subject to sanction and/or penalty from OSYSA.

## **7.11 TOURNAMENT RESPONSIBILITY**

**7.11.1** All OSYSA sanctioned tournaments must follow all of the rules of US Youth Soccer and OSYSA.

## **8.0 TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **8.1 PURPOSE**

The basic requirement for sanctioning of tournaments is established by US Youth Soccer/OSYSA. OSYSA is responsible for sanctioning all US Youth Soccer tournaments in Central and Southern Ohio. OSYSA is responsible to insure that US Youth Soccer established standards are complied with by all sanctioned tournaments conducted within the OSYSA boundaries. The intent of the US Youth Soccer/OSYSA sanctioned tournament procedure is to set a standard of tournament play which all teams entering can expect in terms of age eligibility, match play and rules and procedures.

US Soccer regulation 601 states that teams of affiliate members of US Soccer, such as AYSO, SAY, US Club Soccer and Super Y Leagues, ***MAY*** play against each other. Regulation 601 does not state that we ***MUST*** play against any teams of these organizations. The decision to invite teams from these affiliate member programs of US Soccer is a decision of each individual tournament. If tournaments are going to invite teams from affiliate members, they must comply with the requirements established for the teams of these affiliate member organizations as outlined in this section. Tournaments are required to review the Insurance section of this manual.

All games outside of sanctioned league play are under the direct jurisdiction of the OSYSA, Inc. The State Commissioner shall insure that all Tournament Sanctioning Rules and Regulations are adhered to and enforced.

### **8.2 REQUIRED PROCEDURES**

**8.2.1** Only OSYSA affiliated leagues in good standing can be considered as hosts for tournaments. Only US Youth Soccer registered teams, teams registered with other US Soccer members or foreign teams registered with their own national association are permitted (if specified on the sanctioning form) to participate in OSYSA sanctioned tournaments.

**8.2.2** All proposed tournaments must have approval in advance from OSYSA and from their hosting league or association. Tournaments conducted within the boundaries of OSYSA must complete US Youth Soccer Y-09 Application to Host Tournaments or Games. Supporting materials as outlined in these rules and regulations must be submitted to OSYSA State Commissioner at least 120 days before the tournament.

Based on the affiliation of the teams that will be accepted there are two separate types of tournaments, Restricted Tournaments and Unrestricted Tournaments.

Restricted Tournaments are tournaments which only accept teams that are registered with Ohio South and/or other US Youth Soccer National State Associations.

Unrestricted Tournaments are tournaments which accept teams from any US Soccer youth affiliate, including but not limited to; AYSO, SAY, US Club Soccer, and Super Y-League. If a tournament accepts teams from a US Soccer affiliate other than from a US Youth Soccer National State affiliate, then the tournament must accept all teams regardless of their affiliation with US Soccer and must do so on an equal basis.

In addition, there are other requirements for affiliate members of US Soccer outlined in these Rules and Regulations that must be followed if they are invited.

The US Youth Soccer Tournament Hosting Agreement is to be completed by each sanctioned Member organization of OSYSA who is requesting sanctioning of a tournament. Only sanctioned member Associations and Leagues who are, direct members of OSYSA, may submit an application. Any teams, or clubs that are a member of a sanctioned member of OSYSA must have their sanction request approved by their Member League or Association before it can be approved by OSYSA. If the member League or Association approves a team or club to operate a sanctioned tournament, the member Association or League must provide a written statement to the State Commissioner, confirming the member Association's or League's agreement to host the tournament. The member Association or League is responsible for the conduct of the event by their member Club and/or Team. This responsibility includes, but is not limited to, proper compliance with all rules and regulations and financial responsibility in the event of some type of failure by the Association or League's team or club.

**8.2.3** The Application to Host Tournaments or Games must include any exceptions to US Youth Soccer Rules, such as length of game and authorization of guest players. This information is to be listed in the Rules Modification Section. Once this information has been provided to the potential visiting teams, it cannot be changed by the tournament except in the case of emergencies such as bad weather. The OSYSA State Commissioner must approve all other changes.

**8.2.4** The following must be attached to the Application to Host Tournaments or Games when it is submitted to OSYSA:

- a) Proposed letter of invitation
- b) Number of divisions and number of teams per division;
- c) Maximum number of teams that will be accepted for play;
- d) Maximum number of games per team per day;
- e) Number of fields including contingency fields;
- f) Set of tournament playing rules;
- g) Letter of agreement and commitment from Referee Assignor;
- h) Letter of agreement from the OSYSA Youth Referee Administer;
- i) US Youth Soccer Tournament Hosting Agreement.
- j) If other affiliate members of US Soccer will be invited (by name of organization).
- k) If you elect to invite affiliate members of US Soccer, a letter stating that you are compliant with all requirements and a statement confirming your review of the insurance section of this manual.

**8.2.5** All Applications to Host Tournaments or Games are to specify club teams and/or tournament teams with a number of specified guest players. If guest players are not authorized on the application to host and distributed with the invitation to submit an application, guest players are not to be permitted to play in the tournament. "Select teams," means state, regional, or national select teams.

**8.2.6** The rules of the tournament must specify that the roster for all teams entering the event cannot be changed after the start of the tournament.

**8.2.7** Only teams with US Youth Soccer player passes or whose players are registered in a league that is a part of a state or national association that is member of US SOCCER are to be permitted to play in any OSYSA tournament. Players with affiliate US Soccer members must have a player pass from their association.

**8.2.8** OSYSA sanctioned competitive tournaments may not accept U-7 and younger teams.

**8.2.9** OSYSA sanctioned tournament shall be organized so that:

- a) U-10 and younger teams can play a maximum of 100 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- b) U-11 and U-12 teams can play a maximum of 120 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- c) U-13 and U-14 teams can play a maximum of 140 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- d) U-15 and U-16 teams can play a maximum of 160 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- e) U-17, U-18, and U-19 teams can play a maximum of 180 minutes of scheduled play per day.

### **8.3 NUMBER OF TEAMS**

**8.3.1** Due to the shortage of referees to cover games in tournaments, it may be necessary to restrict the number of teams that will be permitted to enter any tournament.

**8.3.2** If in the opinion of the State Youth Referee Administrator, the number of referees available to support the number of teams in tournament(s) on any date is not sufficient, the tournament(s) may be restricted to the number of teams that it may accept.

**8.3.3** If the State Youth Referee Administrator determines that the total need for referees exceeds those available, he is authorized to establish the total number of teams that the tournament(s) may accept. This limit may be in total or in any single age group.

**8.3.4** If two or more tournaments are scheduled for the same time period and the number of teams must be restricted, each tournament must be reduced by the same percentage. The percentage reduction is to be determined based on the total number of teams that can be supported by referees. The percentage reduction is to be based on the number of teams that can be supported and applied equally to each tournament based on the number of teams entered in the tournament(s) last year. This percentage reduction does not apply to a new tournament. But OSYSA may limit the number of teams in a new tournament.

### **8.4 STATE ACTION**

**8.4.1** OSYSA will take the following action concerning all applications to host tournaments or games.

**8.4.1.1** Upon review, the State Commissioner will grant approval to hold the tournament if all of the material is properly submitted within the authorized time and if the SYRA agrees has approved. The application, if approved, will be returned to the hosting organization for distribution with the letter of invitation. If the number of teams is to be restricted, the tournament will be notified by the State Commissioner as well as the notice contained in the agreement letter from the SYRA.

**8.4.1.2** Team play is restricted to a maximum of 2 games per day by any team.

**8.4.1.3** If the tournament intends to invite foreign teams, including teams from Canada and Mexico, OSYSA will forward all required documentation provided by the hosting organization to U.S. Soccer for approval.

## **8.5 TOURNAMENT ACTION**

**8.5.1** The Tournament is required to take certain actions in conjunction with providing information about their tournament to other affiliated organizations.

**8.5.1.1** No invitations may be distributed until OSYSA has approved the tournament application form. The fully approved application must accompany all invitations.

**8.5.1.2** The tournament must require that an approved league and tournament roster and Permission to Travel forms (applicable for all out of state/country teams), be submitted prior to the start of the tournament. In addition, if teams of affiliate member US Soccer organizations are invited they ***MUST*** also provide a roster, which cannot be changed after the start of their first game of the tournament and a letter signed by their US Soccer affiliate member that they are in good standing with their organization.

**8.5.1.3** If the tournament is going to allow guest players, they must also require that the accepted team submit a Tournament Guest Player Roster to properly identify guest players. This roster may be the Tournament Guest Player Roster sent by the tournament to accepted teams or it may be a separate guest player roster developed by the tournament or authorized by another state association. No matter which guest player roster is used, it must clearly show which players are guest players. Once the tournament's first game begins, rosters (either 18 or 22 player rosters), cannot be changed. Teams are not permitted to have more than 18 players (11 v 11 games) or 14 players (8 v 8 games) or 12 players (6 v 6 games) on their roster during the event. Although rosters for U-16 and older teams may have up to 22 players on the roster, only 18 of those players may dress and participate in any one game during the tournament.

**8.5.1.4** The purpose of these two rosters is to assure that guest players, (if authorized), are properly identified by the team.

**8.5.1.5** Teams cannot be allowed to play in the tournament if they are not properly registered with their state or national association and/or do not have permission to travel.

**8.5.2** If a tournament accepts teams that have a combination of U-14 and U-15 players, then the tournament must show the division on the tournament sanctioning form as a U-15 division.

**8.5.3** A tournament may require teams to present an "Authorization to Treat" form, (a.k.a. Medical Release), as a condition of participation in the tournament.

**8.5.4** All tournaments should include in their tournament rules the procedures for dealing with weather delays and field closures. All tournaments should to have a working lightning detector available at all tournament sites.

**8.5.5** Medical personnel or athletic trainers should be available at all tournament sites. If a player receives treatment from the tournament's medical personnel or athletic trainer, the medical personnel or athletic trainer should complete a form indicating their recommendation if the player should not return to participation in the tournament.

**8.5.6** The game report and any supplemental referee reports detailing the red card are to be sent to the league that registered the player or coach with a copy to OSYSA, or if the player or coach is registered by a different state association or is registered by an affiliate member of US Soccer, to that other state association or affiliate member of US Soccer with a copy to OSYSA, so all appropriate suspensions may be reported and served.

## **8.6 REFEREES**

**8.6.1** The appointment of a US SOCCER certified Referee Assignor must be approved by the OSYSA Youth Referee Administrator. In addition, the OSYSA and the SYRA must agree with the Tournament Referee Assignor that a sufficient number of referees are available to cover all tournament games. If there is a conflict as to the sufficiency of the number of referees, the SYRA shall make the final determination.

**8.6.2** A US SOCCER certified Referee Assignor is responsible for ensuring that US Youth Soccer rules are followed. This includes ensuring modifications noted in the Application to Host Tournament and Games are followed.

**8.6.3** The tournament is to assign only currently licensed US Soccer officials. No exceptions to this rule will be permitted.

**8.6.4** Within 30 days after the conclusion of the tournament the Tournament Referee Assignor shall submit an Ohio South Referee Assignor's Post Tournament Report form to the SYRA. This form, when submitted to the SYRA shall contain the following information:

- a) The number of teams in each age/gender group that the tournament was approved to accept
- b) The number of teams in each age/gender group that the tournament accepted
- c) The number of games in each age/gender group that were officiated with only 2 USSF certified referees, (used 1 club Assistant Referee)
- d) The number of games in each age/gender group that were officiated with only 1 USSF certified referee(used 2 club Assistant Referees).

All Tournament Referee Assignors, as a representative of the tournament, are required to submit the above information prior to this the tournament being sanctioned for the following year.

The Ohio South Referee Assignor's Post Tournament Report form shall not be required from assignors for league tournaments and league games.

## **8.7 TOURNAMENT PROBLEMS**

**8.7.1** Teams traveling from other state or national associations are under the jurisdiction of their registering state association. Tournaments sanctioned in the geographic boundaries of OSYSA are under the jurisdiction of OSYSA.

**8.7.2** All players sent off or coaches dismissed from tournament games must be reported by the referee to the Tournament Committee. The Tournament Committee is responsible for reporting all ejections, or any other irregularities to the OSYSA State Commissioner.

**8.7.3** All players and coaches sent off the field (red card) are to sit out at least their next game. In the event of serious issues, the tournament is to hold a conduct hearing to determine if additional penalties should be assessed.

**8.7.4** Players who are sent off or coaches dismissed from the last game of a tournament are prohibited from participating in their next league or tournament game. Passes of players sent off and coaches dismissed shall be returned to the team, unless the send-off is the result of violent conduct or assault, in which case the card and an Official Conduct Report will be sent directly to OSYSA for distribution to their State Association.

**8.7.5** Tournaments are required to submit to the State Commissioner the "Tournament Report" immediately following the tournament. Failure to provide this report and the required information may result in the tournament not being sanctioned for the next year

## **8.8 SMALL SIDED TOURNAMENT SANCTIONING RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**8.8.1** The basic requirement for sanctioning of tournaments is established by US Youth Soccer/OSYSA. OSYSA is responsible for sanctioning all US Youth Soccer small-sided (less than 11 a side for U-11 and older teams and less than 8 a side for U-10 and younger teams) tournaments in Central and Southern Ohio.

**8.8.2** All the regulations regarding the sanctioning of regular tournaments also apply to the sanctioning, organization and operation of small-sided tournaments, except as follows:

**8.8.2.1** Small-sided tournaments may schedule more than two (2) games per day for any team, provided that;

- a) U-10 and younger teams can play a maximum of 100 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- b) U-11 and U-12 teams can play a maximum of 120 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- c) U-13 and U-14 teams can play a maximum of 140 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- d) U-15 and U-16 teams can play a maximum of 160 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- e) U-17, U-18, and U-19 can teams play a maximum of 180 minutes of scheduled play per day.

**8.8.2.2** Players of U-8 and younger may participate in 3 v 3 events.

**8.8.2.3** All requirements and restrictions outlined in the tournament sanction section also apply to small-sided events.

## **8.9 FRIENDLY GAMES**

**8.9.1** All proposed friendly games with teams from other state or national associations must have advance approval from OSYSA. For such games conducted within the boundaries of OSYSA, the sponsoring team must register and report the friendly games on the OSYSA website ([www.osysa.com](http://www.osysa.com)) and print out the approval form. No other supporting material as outlined in these rules and regulations is required for friendly games. For friendly games, the request is to be entered in the website at least 7 days before the friendly game(s).

**8.9.1.1** Teams who belong to organizations who are affiliate members of US Soccer, such as AYSO, SAY, US Club Soccer and Super Y League, may be invited to participate in friendly games.

**8.9.1.2** Permission to Travel is required for all teams that travel from outside the boundaries of OSYSA or from teams who are affiliate members of US Soccer and a letter from their National, State or Local organization authorizing their participation in any friendly game that is hosted by any sanctioned member organization within OSYSA.

**8.9.1.5** Permission to Travel is required for OSYSA teams that travel to play in any friendly game outside the boundaries of OSYSA. This requirement applies even if the OSYSA team is going to play against a team that belongs to a affiliate member of US Soccer. If a Permission to Travel is needed, it can be printed from the OSYSA Website ([WWW.OSYSA.COM](http://WWW.OSYSA.COM))

**8.9.1.6** Friendly games between a team of OSYSA member associations/league and teams from another US Youth Soccer member state associations must be sanctioned as outlined in section 8.9.1.

## **8.9.2 FRIENDLY GAMES DEFINITION**

**8.9.2.1** Friendly games meeting the following criteria will be exempt from the tournament sanctioning procedures described in the OSYSA State Manual. Teams cannot play more than two equivalent games on the one-day of competition.

- a) The friendly games must not generate funds exceeding the amount needed to cover the expenses of the games.
- b) The purpose of the games must be to provide practice games for participants.
- c) A friendly game competition cannot take place on more than two consecutive days. All of the games during the two days of the competition must be against the same teams.
- d) No awards, trophies, medals, ribbons etc. may be given. No programs may be printed for the games. No advertising or sponsorships may be obtained for the games. No t-shirts, medallions or gifts may be sold or distributed at the games.
- e) A maximum of 5 teams per age group per gender may participate in friendly games.

**8.9.2.2** Games failing to meet any of the criteria outlined above must conform to US Youth Soccer/OSYSA regulations for hosting tournaments as specified in the OSYSA State Manual.

## **8.9.3 FRIENDLY GAMES AUTHORIZATION**

**8.9.3.1** Approval to host friendly games must be obtained, as outlined in section 8.10.1, prior to the mailing of invitations to the invited teams and a copy of the approval must be provided to the teams prior to the first game of the event.

**8.9.3.2** Player passes and authorized Permission to Travel must be verified by the host of the games.

**8.9.3.3** Fees charged to the teams in the friendly games must be used for the benefit of the participants (i.e. referee reimbursement, food and/or drinks provided to the participants). Any excess funds must be returned at the end of the friendly games on an equal basis to the participating teams.

**8.9.3.4** OSYSA sanctioned friendly games shall be organized so that:

- a) U-10 and younger teams can play a maximum of 100 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- b) U-11 and U-12 teams can play a maximum of 120 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- c) U-13 and U-14 teams can play a maximum of 140 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- d) U-15 and U-16 teams can play a maximum of 160 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- e) U-17, U-18, and U-19 teams can play a maximum of 180 minutes of scheduled play per day.

**8.9.3.5** Teams are not permitted to playoff ties in overtime in friendly games. Teams are not permitted to play in “championship” games to determine an age group winner during friendly game competitions. Clubs/teams hosting and/or participating in unauthorized competitions, or allowing participation by unregistered players or by teams not authorized to travel may be declared "not in good standing" and precluded from travel and from US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup competition for a time determined by the state association.

**8.10** To permit OSYSA member leagues and associations and their associated clubs, to better plan their tournaments, OSYSA will establish an online process by which existing tournaments can post information regarding their tournament to an OSYSA tournament calendar of planned tournaments up to three calendar years in advance. The type of information that would be included in the calendar is:

- a) The name of the tournament
- b) The tentative dates that the tournament is planned to be held.
- c) The ages and genders of teams that will be invited to the tournament
- d) The approximate number of teams in each individual age and gender group that will be invited to the tournament

## **9.0 REFEREE PROCEDURES**

### **9.1 PURPOSE**

The basic rules of play for OSYSA member Leagues and Associations are covered under US YOUTH SOCCER /US SOCCER /FIFA rules of play. Any modifications to FIFA/US SOCCER /US YOUTH SOCCER rules as approved by OSYSA will be included in the Playing Rules for each Association and League. The following are the general instructions, procedures, and guidelines for all referees to follow in administering OSYSA games.

### **9.2 GENERAL**

**9.2.1** All OSYSA competitive games will be officiated by the diagonal system of control/three man US SOCCER referee system. All assigned referee/linesman are to be US SOCCER licensed officials.

**9.2.2** The assigned referee is to be older than the players of the assigned game. Since all games are to be officiated by referees with current US SOCCER licenses, referees may be asked to show their current US SOCCER license card.

**9.2.3** It is not acceptable to officiate games by any system other than the three-person system.

a. Recreational programs may elect to officiate with the two people or 1 person system based on their determination.

**9.2.4** In the event that one or more assigned linesman do not show up for the assigned game, the referee must approve or appoint club linesman.

**9.2.5** Club linesman, (linesman not currently registered with US SOCCER as a Referee or Assistant Referee), shall not receive the linesman fee for any games worked.

### **9.3 PLAYER, REFEREE AND SPECTATOR SAFETY**

**9.3.1** Safety of the participants is one of the most important functions of a referee. He/she must take all the actions necessary to protect the safety of everyone on the field.

**9.3.2** When lightning is sighted by the Referee, he/she is to suspend the game and have the players, coaches, and spectators leave the field and take cover in cars or other proper structures.

**9.3.3** Games that have been suspended for lightning are not to be re-started until all of the lightning has left the area.

**9.3.4** For any other dangerous weather the game must be suspended and everyone moved to safety.

**9.3.5** The referee must not start games, or must stop the game, if field conditions would result in danger to the players. The referee may stop the game if continued play would result in damage to the playing field; however, closing of a field also may be done by the Field Coordinator or other club/team officials responsible for the field.

## **9.4 GAME PREPARATION**

**9.4.1** It is the responsibility of the referee to check the field of play prior to the start of the game.

**9.4.2** The officials must determine that the goals are properly anchored and they must check the condition of the field, nets, corner flags, and line markings prior to the start of the game.

**9.4.3** The officials must check the US YOUTH SOCCER player passes prior to the game. The pass is to be checked for the following: (1) age of players is correct for age of game, (2) current picture of player, (3) current expiration date of US YOUTH SOCCER player pass, (4) includes validation signature of OSYSA Commissioner, (5) validation signature includes the proper league identification. In tournament games, player passes may be from another US YOUTH SOCCER State Association, other USSF affiliate or a FIFA member national soccer association.

**9.4.4** The officials must check the OSYSA coaches pass prior to the game. The pass is to be checked for the following: (1) which individuals are authorized coaches, (2) the pass is for the team playing the game, (3) includes validation signature of OSYSA Commissioner, (4) validation signature includes the proper league initials. In tournament games, coaches' passes may be from another US YOUTH SOCCER State Association.

**9.4.5** The US YOUTH SOCCER player pass and the OSYSA coach pass shall remain in the officials' possession until the end of the game. The referee is not to return the US YOUTH SOCCER player pass or OSYSA coach pass for any player or coach who is red carded or found to be in violation of any rules or regulations of US YOUTH SOCCER /OSYSA, and/or the member Association or League.

**9.4.6** No team is permitted to dress more than 18 players at any game. This limit shall also apply to any U-17 or older teams that may have a roster of up to 22 players. No more than 18 different players may play for a team in any one game. If more than 18 different players take part in the game, the game is to be suspended and the details reported to the appropriate Association or League official.

**9.4.7** No team is permitted to have more than 3 coaches with coaches passes plus a person holding a Director of Coaching Pass as provided in section 6.2.15. In the event that all registered coaches are sent off from the game, the game is to be suspended and the details reported to the proper league/association official. The game cannot continue without a registered coach on the sideline. Substitute coaches are not permitted to replace a coach sent off during a game. If a carded coach is not at the game for any reason (except for a red card in the previous game), a substitute may use the OSYSA coaches pass for the missing coach. The registered coach is responsible for the actions of the substitute and must serve any penalty given to the person acting in his/her behalf.

## **9.5 GAME PAYMENT**

**9.5.1** All officials can expect to be paid for their services unless they have waived this fee and are donating their services.

**9.5.2** Payment for fees will be by the method approved by the League or Association. For example, the League or Association may require each team to present the game fee to the referee prior to the start of the game. In this case, the fee is to be paid in the exact dollar amount due by each team. The center referee is responsible for paying his associates at the rates established by the member League or Association. Another example would be payment by the League or Association by check for all games done by the game officials during a specific period of time.

**9.5.3** Payment for the OSYSA US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup games may be made by check after conclusion of the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup play. Some tournaments may also issue payment after the tournament is concluded.

## **9.6 REFEREE RESPONSIBILITIES - GAME ACTIONS**

**9.6.1** If problems occur during a game, it is the Referees' responsibility to promptly provide documentation of actions that occurred during the game:

**9.6.2** The referee is to promptly (within 5 days) submit a written report detailing the circumstances of all red cards issued and the US YOUTH SOCCER player's pass is to be retained by the referee. The report and the US YOUTH SOCCER player's pass are to be forwarded to the appropriate individual for the member Association or League as established by the member Association or League. If established by the member Association or League, copies of the report can be sent to other proper individuals.

**9.6.3** The referee must submit a written report directly to the appropriate member Association or League official detailing the circumstances of all games that are suspended for reasons other than weather.

**9.6.4** The referee is to submit a written report to the SYRA within 24-48 hours detailing any assault or abuse. A copy is to be forwarded to the OSYSA State Office.

## **9.7 US YOUTH SOCCER PLAYER PASSES**

**9.7.1** Play of the game by proper individuals is a key function of the referee. The referee must understand the function and use of the US YOUTH SOCCER Player Pass as it relates to each member Association and League.

**9.7.2** To participate in member League or Association play, a player must be registered with OSYSA, must have a US YOUTH SOCCER player pass, and must be listed on the official team roster. Any player or Players who show up at the game without a player pass are to be allowed to play if they are listed on the official team roster.

Each player of any team listed on the team's official roster, but at the field without a valid US YOUTH SOCCER player pass is required to sign a sheet of paper and include his/her phone number, address, birth date, and birth location in the presence of the referee. Any further ineligible players discovered during this game will result in an automatic suspension of the Association.

**9.7.3** The validation signature on the picture side of the US YOUTH SOCCER player pass must contain the initials of the member Association or League. For example the initials MVYSA appears for Miami Valley Youth Soccer Association. These initials indicated that the player pass has been validated for play in that specific member League or Association. If these initials are not present from the member Association or League for whom you are refereeing, the player is not to be allowed to play. Only players with US YOUTH SOCCER players passes validated by the member League or Association are permitted to play in that League or Association. In some cases, a team may play in two or more different leagues. In this case, the US YOUTH SOCCER player pass will contain the initials of all leagues that have approved this player's pass.

**9.7.4** It is the responsibility of each team to bring their US YOUTH SOCCER player passes and a copy of their League Roster to every game. Rosters must be made available to the referee upon request.

**9.7.5** If the referee determines that a picture of a player was over six months old at the beginning of the current seasonal year {seasonal year runs from Sept. 1 to August 31), the picture should be marked out in ink with a "X". The player is to be permitted to complete the game.

If a player presents a card with the picture already "X"ed out, a referee in a prior game has determined that the picture is over the authorized age and that player is not to be permitted to play in the game.

**9.7.6** If the age of the player shown on the card is older than the age group playing, the player is not to be allowed to play in the game. The card is to be returned to the appropriate League or Association Official. The circumstances of the older age player is to be reported in writing along with the Player Pass.

**9.7.7** If the US YOUTH SOCCER player does not have a validation signature on the picture side of the card, the player is to be allowed to play in the game as long as he/she is listed on the League Roster. If the player is not listed on the roster, he/she is not to be permitted to play. The pass is to be picked up and sent to the League or Association official.

**9.7.8** If the US YOUTH SOCCER player pass is stamped "TOURNAMENT GUEST PLAYER" or "INDOOR ONLY", the player is not to be allowed to play in the league game. These cards are for tournaments or for indoor soccer play and are not valid for league games.

**9.7.11** OSYSA sanctioned tournaments may permit the use of Tournament Guest Players during their tournament games. If the tournament rules permit guest players, US YOUTH SOCCER player passes stamped TOURNAMENT GUEST PLAYERS are authorized for use only during the tournament. In addition, US YOUTH SOCCER players passes from other teams may be used for players who are guest players for that tournament. All player passes (either Tournament Guest passes or passes from other teams) must be current and valid for the year and authorized by the home state association / US YOUTH SOCCER.

**9.7.12** For US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup games, only players with US YOUTH SOCCER player passes for those teams are permitted to play. Tournament guest players or league guest players are not permitted to play in US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup games.

**9.7.13** If the US YOUTH SOCCER player pass has an expired date, the card is to be retained and forwarded to the League or Association Official. The player is not to be allowed to play in the game.

**9.7.14** Teams that play in two or more different leagues may have and use cards validated by the other league. These cards may be used if they are counter stamped and approved by both member Leagues or Associations.

## **9.8 PROTESTS**

**9.8.1** Problems and errors do happen on a soccer field. When such problems occur the referee is responsible for providing an accurate and true picture of exactly what happened without regard to whether he/she is wrong or right. Protest procedures exist to provide for the correct application of the Laws of Soccer in every situation. Protests are not to prove the referee right or wrong.

**9.8.2** Coaches wishing to file protests must notify the referee of this intention. The notification shall be made in a courteous manner, on the field, during, or by the conclusion of the game. The referee is to notify the opposing coach.

**9.8.3** The referee is to file a written report to the member League or Association official outlining all the appropriate details concerning the protest. This information is to include the time of game when the problem occurred, the score at that time and the score at the conclusion of the game.

**9.8.4** Protests are accepted on misapplication of the Laws of Soccer and rules of the member Association or League. Judgment calls are not a basis for protests.

## **9.9 GAME ENFORCEMENT**

Referees are to enforce the laws and regulations of the game as outlined by FIFA, US SOCCER and US YOUTH SOCCER including playing rules that are modified in writing by the member League or Association.

## **9.10 MISCONDUCT BY A GAME OFFICIAL OR AN OHIO SOUTH REFEREE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PARTICIPANT**

**9.10.1** In conjunction with USSF Policy 531-10 “Misconduct by Game Officials”, OSYSA may delegate jurisdiction of an allegation of misconduct by a game official or an Ohio South Referee Development Program participant, as defined in USSF Policy 531-10, Sections (A) and (B), to the Ohio South State Referee Committee (OSSRC). Jurisdiction shall include the imposition of appropriate penalties.

Implementation of this process does not in anyway supercede OSYSA’s authority to hold its own independent hearing on the alleged misconduct by a game official or Ohio South Referee Development Program participant, which shall be conducted in accordance with USSF Policy 531-10.

In lieu of appearing before a hearing of the OSSRC, the game official or Ohio South Referee Development Program participant, may request that the OSYSA Conduct Committee hear the matter, if such a request is made at least 5 days prior to the hearing by the OSSRC.

Any game official or Referee Development Program participant who is found guilty of misconduct by OSYSA’s hearing committee may appeal said decision in accordance with the stated criteria of USSF Policy 531-10, Section 4.

**9.11.1** In conjunction with the USSF Policy 531-11 “Misconduct Toward Game Officials”, OSYSA may conduct a hearing for acts pertaining to any alleged assault or abuse upon any game official or referee development program participant pursuant to the defined criteria set forth in the USSF policy. Any appeal of an adverse decision under this section shall be handled by the USSF Appeals Committee.

**9.11.2** In addition, the OSYSA has the authority to hold its own independent hearing on any alleged “Excessive Misconduct” toward any game official or referee development program participant by a registered OSYSA player or coach which shall be conducted pursuant to the guidelines established by OSYSA. Any appeal of an adverse decision under this section 9.11.2 shall be handled by the OSYSA Appeals Committee.

## **10.0 US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE CUP/PRESIDENT'S CUP RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **10.1 PURPOSE OF US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE CUP/PRESIDENT'S CUP**

The US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup (hereafter referred to as State Cup) and the US Youth Soccer Ohio South President's Cup (hereafter referred to as President's Cup) are the most important team competitions conducted by the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. (OSYSA) or by any Member within OSYSA. As such, this competition requires that each member team, League and Association shall support the State Cup and President's Cup as their first priority.

The US Youth Soccer policy on Players and Playing Rules describes the requirements of Players and Playing Rules. These rules and regulations are designed to supplement the US Youth Soccer National Championship rules and establish the procedures followed by OSYSA.

Each year the State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson will appoint a volunteer Association, League, Club, or teams to host the one or more age groups at their home location that year.

The State Cup and President's Cup will offer primary competition in the following age groups for both boys and girls, U19, U18, U17, U16, U15, U14, U13, U12, U11, and U10.

As determined by the OSYSA Board of Directors, the State Cup and President's Cup may be run simultaneously.

Team competition in the State Cup and President's Cup will be a one loss and out format.

### **10.2 TEAM ENTRY**

**10.2.1** Only a registered US Youth Soccer team that is in good standing, the majority of whose players are domiciled within the boundaries of OSYSA and plays in a sanctioned league, may enter either the State Cup or President's Cup, but not both. All teams that submit an application will be accepted if they are in good standing with OSYSA. Teams that are qualified as outlined above may not participate, if the OSYSA sanctioned league in which the team participated was not the last league competition (or concurrent with State Cup) that they participated in prior to State Cup or President's Cup. (In the event that an ineligible team enters and participates anyway, their State Cup games will be forfeited.)

Teams must compete in a four team OSYSA League or Association and must be scheduled for and play at least a five game league schedule against teams domiciled inside the OSYSA boundaries. These games must be played by the conclusion of the league determined season. No more than 40% of the teams in their age group in the OSYSA sanctioned program can be domiciled in an out of State US Youth Soccer Association. Teams that don't compete as outlined in 10.2.1 cannot enter into the State Cup or President's Cup.

**10.2.1.1** OSYSA teams that comply with these rules and play in the US Youth Soccer National League or the Region II Midwest Regional League may enter and play in the State Cup or President's Cup. OSYSA teams participating in the US Youth Soccer National League or the Region II Midwest Regional League will not have to comply with the 40% rule regarding the teams being domiciled outside of the OSYSA boundaries. The State Cup Chairperson may grant an exception to the 5 game requirement for OSYSA teams participating in the US Youth Soccer National League or the Region II Midwest Regional League in the event of extenuating circumstances. At no time may the exception go below the US Youth Soccer National Championships requirement.

**10.2.1.2** Teams must play State Cup or the President's Cup in their home state. This is determined by where at least 50% of their players reside and register. (Players must always first register in their home state before rostering to any another state).

**10.2.2** Each team that enters the State Cup or President's Cup must submit a copy of their validated roster from their USYS sanctioned Member League or Association along with their entry form. Secondary registered players cannot play in the State Cup or President's Cup. Teams must have at least seven (7) primary registered players on their roster to enter the State cup or President's Cup (5 players for teams U12 and below). The team must demonstrate continuity of rosters between league and National Championships competitions by maintaining a minimum of 9 players common to the rosters of both competitions (7 players for teams U12 and below).

**10.2.3** All rosters must meet the standards outlined in the State Manual. For example a new player has been added to the roster by writing the player on the roster rather than use of a Roster Change form, the validation on the roster is revoked and the team will not be permitted to participate until a new roster with roster change form is validated by the team's league and it is submitted to the State Cup Chairperson.

**10.2.4** The State Cup or President's Cup roster is frozen at the moment of kick off at the team's first State Cup or President's Cup game. This includes any District level games that may be played.

A player may only play for one team in State Cup or President's Cup in any seasonal year. If a player is on the roster of a team when the roster is frozen, the player may not be on the roster of any other team for the National Championships.

**10.2.5** The State Cup and President's Cup entry fees will be established by the OSYSA Board of Directors.

**10.2.6** Teams must submit their entries by the deadline established by the State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson.

**10.2.7** Teams may withdraw from the State Cup or President's Cup up to 30 days prior to the start of play without penalty, however the entry fee will not be returned. Teams that withdraw after that period may be fined.

**10.2.8** If any team forfeits any game in State Cup or President's Cup play, the team may be fined and shall be prohibited from entering the following year's State Cup or President's Cup.

**10.2.9** Any team that does not pay the fine(s) will be considered in bad standing and the team will not be permitted to play in any future State Cup, President's Cup, League or Association games until fines are paid.

**10.2.10** Teams that have forfeited two or more games in any US Youth Soccer game since the previous State Cup or President's Cup or have forfeited a game in the previous year's State Cup or President's Cup may not be eligible to enter the current year's competition. Teams that withdraw shall be considered a forfeit.

**10.2.11** Players who are not in good standing are not permitted to participate in the State Cup or President's Cup.

**10.2.12** For teams competing in the U-14 and U-15 age groups, each player on the team must be:

a) of the age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year, or

b) of the age in either of the next 2 younger age groups of that age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year.

For the teams competing in the U-16, U-17, U-18, and U-19 age groups, each player on the team must be:

a) of the age of the age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year, or

b) of the age of any younger age group, through the U-14 age group, of that age group competition in which the team is participating in that seasonal year

### **10.3 REFEREES**

**10.3.1** OSYSA is responsible for assignment of referees to State Cup and President's Cup games.

**10.3.2** OSYSA is responsible for payment of referee fees for all State Cup or President's Cup games beyond the preliminary level. Participating teams are responsible for payment of referee fees for all preliminary district games.

### **10.4 SCHEDULING**

**10.4.1** It shall be the intent of the State Cup/President's Cup Committees to create a schedule that presents the best opportunity for the best teams to advance through the tournament.

It is the intention of OSYSA to attempt to schedule all finals of all Age Groups except U-19 at the same location on the same day.

**10.4.2** State Cup and President's Cup games take precedence over all scheduled League and Association games. All games scheduled by member Leagues and Associations are required to be re-scheduled to permit all teams to compete in State Cup or President's Cup play. No member League or Association can forfeit any game of any team for the day that the team is playing in the State Cup or President's Cup.

**10.4.3** Teams shall not be scheduled to play any more than two games on anyone day.

**10.4.4** The State Cup/President's Cup Committee shall determine the seeds for both of the tournaments with all other participating teams' opponents to be decided by a double blind draw. The number of pre-play games within a specific OSYSA district will be determined as a percentage of teams from that district compared to the overall number of teams that have entered from a particular age group from all districts.

**10.4.5** No games will be scheduled on the last day for district play in games. The last day will be used as a rain date. Any games not played as a result of weather or field conditions on the rain date will be scheduled to play the next day and will continue to be scheduled by day until completed.

**10.4.6** The draw meeting will be held as scheduled by the State Cup/President's Cup committee. Any games that have not been played will have their position in the bracket drawn for the game winners in their age group and gender. Teams that have not finished their district play in games will not be a seeded team for the competition. The State Cup/President's Cup Committee will determine the seeded teams from the winning teams that have completed their necessary district play in game(s).

**10.4.7** The round of 16 will consist of no more than 16 teams. If for any reason there are more than 16 teams, additional pre-play games will be scheduled and played prior to the round of 16 play date. Teams for the additional pre-play games will be chosen by double blind draw from those districts that have too many teams advancing after the seeding of teams for that age group.

**10.4.8** All State Cup and President's Cup games will be scheduled or re-scheduled as needed to keep the games on track. Protests, weather, field conditions, or any other reason that would cause a variance in the playing schedule will require that teams must play those matches prior to the next round.

### **10.5 US YOUTH SOCCER STATE CUP/PRESIDENT'S CUP PROCEDURES**

**10.5.1** Any protest must be presented in writing to the State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson or his/her representative within one (1) hour of the completion of the game in protest, except as noted in section 10.5.1.1.

If the Chairperson or his/her representative is not available at the site of the game, protests must be submitted, via e-mail to the OSYSA office at OFFICE@OSYSA.COM within four (4) hours of the completion of the game that is being protested. All protests must be accompanied by an \$175.00 bond that will be returned only if the protest is upheld. If the protest is being submitted via e-mail to the OSYSA office, the protest must include a statement acknowledging that the required \$175.00 bond will be submitted to the Chairperson or the OSYSA office within 24 hours of the submission of the protest. Protests based upon the judgment of referees will not be entertained. Misapplication of Laws of the Games may be a valid basis for a protest.

**10.5.1.1** A protest regarding the use of an ineligible player may be made by anyone at any time during the current year's Ohio South State Cup or President's Cup, US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championship or US Youth Soccer National Championship. Any protest against any team that has already been eliminated from the current year's Ohio South State Cup or President's Cup, US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championship or US Youth Soccer National Championship shall not be entertained. Although a protest may not be entertained by the State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson due to the lateness of the filing of the protest, the Chairperson may report any misconduct by any OSYSA player, coach or team, including the use of an ineligible player, during any portion of the Ohio South State Cup or President's Cup, US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championship or US Youth Soccer National Championship to the OSYSA Conduct Committee for their consideration. .

Upon receipt of any protest, the State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson may, at his/her sole discretion, make his/her own determination as to the protest or may alternately refer the matter to the State Cup/President's Cup Committee for a hearing in the matter. If the Chairperson determines that the State Cup/President's Cup Committee shall hold a hearing, the Cup Committee, after holding an open and fair hearing in which all parties to the protest shall be provided an opportunity to be heard, shall make a determination as to the validity of the protest. If the Cup Committee determines that an ineligible player participated in a State Cup or President's Cup game, the Cup Committee shall prohibit the team involved in using the ineligible player from participating in the balance of the current year's State Cup or President's Cup and shall refer the matter to the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Cup Committee or US Youth Soccer National Championship Competition Committee.

Any decision made by the Chairperson or the Cup Committee as to the validity of any protest may be appealed to the OSYSA Appeals Committee as outlined in Section of 14.0 of this manual.

If the determination by the Chairperson or the Cup Committee requires the forfeit of the protested game, the winner as determined by their decision will advance in the State Cup or President's Cup. If the team that was determined to have lost the game upon which the protest was based has already participated in the next game of the competition, their opponent in the last game in the competition played by the team shall be declared the winner and shall be allowed to proceed in the competition.

**10.5.2** Any team where it has been proved that they used an ineligible player in District, State or Regional and National competition is not eligible to compete further in the competition in the current seasonal year and shall not be allowed to compete in the following year's State Cup or President's Cup.

**10.5.3** All teams must have their Player Passes with photographs attached and duly authorized by OSYSA. Teams without US Youth Soccer player passes cannot play in the State Cup or President's Cup. All players must be properly registered as primary players to the team prior to the start of the tournament.

**10.5.4** Any roster that has had a player added to his roster by entry onto a blank line will not be permitted to participate in the State Cup or President's Cup until a properly validated roster and roster change form has been submitted.

**10.5.5** Any player who is red carded in his/her last league game prior to his/her next State Cup or President's Cup game is not required to serve his/her red card penalty in the next Cup game that his/her team participates. However, he/she must sit out their next game in the league in which they received the red card.

**10.5.6** If a player receives a red card in a US Youth Soccer National Championships game, he/she is required to serve the penalty in his/her next US Youth Soccer National Championships match. If the team is eliminated from US Youth Soccer National Championships competition the penalty must be served in his/her teams' next US Youth Soccer National Championships Competition match.

**10.5.7** All issues or conflicts are to be referred to the State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson for review and consideration under the Rules and Regulations of OSYSA.

## **10.6 US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE CUP/PRESIDENT'S CUP PLAYING RULES**

**10.6.1** All games will be played under FIFA laws of the game as modified US Youth Soccer and/or OSYSA.

**10.6.2** If a player or coach is sent off from a US Youth Soccer National Championships game, that player or coach will be ineligible to participate in the team's next US Youth Soccer National Championships game. No substitution will be permitted for a sent off player during the game that the player was sent off.

If all of the carded coaches of a team are sent off, the game will be suspended and the details reported to the State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson. The US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson shall record the game as a forfeit by the team whose coaches were all sent off.

**10.6.3** If a participant is sent off for fighting as described in the referees report (throwing of punches and hitting by either individual), an automatic two game suspension is to be awarded and served by the individual(s) that actually hit the other individual(s).

**10.6.4** In the event that any ejection occurs in the teams last State Cup or President's Cup game, the official game report for the sent off player/coach will be held and forwarded to the OSYSA office.

**10.6.5** If any player or coach is penalized additional games by the Conduct Committee of his/her member Association/league, the player or coach will not be permitted to participate in the US Youth Soccer State Cup matches until the penalty has been served.

**10.6.6** If in the opinion of the State Cup/President's Cup Chairperson the reason for the ejection is of such a nature that the one or two (for fighting) game suspension is not a sufficient penalty, the incident is to be reported to the Chairperson of the Conduct Committee for consideration of further penalties. The player or coach should be notified that the complaint was forwarded. The player or coach's card is to be returned after the automatic penalty assigned under the rules is served in Cup or league games. If the Conduct Committee awards additional penalties, the player or coach's card must be surrendered at that time. The Chairperson's report to the Conduct Committee must be forwarded within two weeks of the alleged incident.

**10.6.7** If any game has been started and then is suspended due to weather or other conditions, and cannot be completed that day, the game will be re-scheduled and replayed in its entirety.

**10.6.8** A minimum of seven players constitute a team. A (10) minute grace period will be extended beyond the scheduled kick off time if seven players are not available. A team with seven players must start the game as soon as seven (7) players are at the field. If at the end of the 10-minute grace period the team does not have seven (7) players, the referee will not start the game and will report the failure of the team to show to the Cup Chairperson or his/her representative, in which he/she will declare a forfeit by the team short players. (For all U12 and below teams, 5 players constitute a team and will follow all of the same procedures as stated above using the 5-player rule.)

**10.6.9** Each player must wear an official uniform with a number on the back of the player's jersey. The number is to be affixed to the back of the jersey and shall be clearly visible. Goalkeeper's are not required to have a number on his/her uniform. Each number must be different. In the event of a color conflict, the home team will change to an alternate set of jerseys. All players must wear shin guards, socks covering the shin guards, appropriate footwear, shorts, and a jersey. All teams must wear uniforms that conform to acceptable

standards for State Cup or President's Cup play. Games will be suspended by the referee, if in his/her judgment, the uniforms worn by the team are not acceptable for competition. The Cup Chairperson will forfeit the game if he/she supports the referee's opinion regarding the unsuitability of the uniforms.

**10.6.10** All games must end with a winner. If a game is tied at the end of the regulation play, overtime periods, as shown below, will be played.

**10.6.10.1**

Age Group	Players on Field	Game Length	Overtime Periods	Ball Size
U10	6 v 6	Two 25 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	4
U11/12	8 v 8	Two 30 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	4
U13/14	11 v 11	Two 35 minute halves	Two 10 minute periods	5
U15/16	11 v 11	Two 40 minute halves	Two 15 minute periods	5
U17-U19	11 v 11	Two 45 minute halves	Two 15 minute periods	5

**10.6.10.2** If at the conclusion of the overtime periods, the game remains tied, kicks from the mark (as defined in USSF/FIFA Law book) must be used to determine a winner of the game.

The following format will be as follows:

- a) Each team will select five (5) players to kick - only players on the field at the conclusion of the 2nd overtime period are eligible to kick.
- b) Teams will alternate kicks - first team to kick will be determined by a referee's coin toss, with the captain of the team that wins the coin toss deciding whether their team kicks first or second.
- c) If the score remains tied after five (5) kicks, teams will alternate players to take one kick at a time until a winner is determined.
- d) All eligible players must kick before any eligible player can repeat.
- e) Goalies may be changed after any kick..

**10.7 US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE CUP/PRESIDENT'S CUP TROPHIES**

**10.7.1** The players of first and second place teams in the State Cup and President's Cup shall receive individual awards. The team coach or manager will receive a team award for first or second place.

**10.8 US YOUTH SOCCER MIDWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS ROSTERS**

**10.8.1** All OSYSA State Cup Champions and wild card teams advancing to the Midwest Regional Championships must have their Blue Roster validated by the OSYSA Executive Director and all US Youth Soccer player passes must be laminated.

**10.8.2** US Youth Soccer Player Passes and League Rosters are required at all US Youth Soccer Regional Championship games.

**10.8.3** Region II provides a US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships manual. All State Championship teams and other teams attending the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships are to receive a copy of this manual. All teams are to study and understand all of their requirements at the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships.

**10.9 US YOUTH SOCCER MIDWEST REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**10.9.1** OSYSA State Cup Champions (U-19, U-18, U-17, U-16, U-15, U-14 and U-13) will be scheduled to play in the Region II US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships. These games are scheduled each

year in a different member US Youth Soccer State Association belonging to Region II (the Midwest area). This competition features the State Cup Champion from each of the 14 Midwest State Associations that make up the membership of the US Youth Soccer Region II.

**10.9.2** All US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup champions are required to play in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships. If a State Cup Champion (or wild card team(s)) does not participate, the team will be placed in bad standing and will be fined. Teams that refuse to participate in Regional Competition may not enter the State Cup the following year. Teams that cannot participate in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships should not enter the State Cup.

**10.9.3** Each year each member State Association may be placed in a blind drawing to have the right to enter a wild card team(s) into an age group that has an odd number of entries. The second teams may be dropped from the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships if more than 60 days prior to the start of the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships any other State Association team withdraws making the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships an even number of teams (not counting the extra team entered from the State Association).

**10.9.4** If OSYSA is the host State for the Region II US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships and if less than 30 days from the start of the competition a State Association withdraws a team from any Age Group making that Age Group an uneven number (counting any second team from any State Association), the OSYSA will have the right to enter a second team in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Championships to make the tournament even numbers.

## **10.10 US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S CUP COMPETITION**

**10.10.1** President's Cup Champions (U-17, U-16, U-15, U-14) will be scheduled to play the Region II US Youth Soccer President's Cup. These games are scheduled each year in a different member US Youth Soccer State Association belonging to Region II (the Midwest area). This competition features the US Youth Soccer National President's State Cup Champions from each of the 14 Midwest State Associations that make up the membership of the US Youth Soccer Region II.

**10.10.2** All President's Cup Champions are required to enter and play in the US Youth Soccer National President's Cup. If a OSYSA President's Cup Champion does not participate, the team will be placed in bad standing and will be fined. Teams that refuse to participate in Regional Competition may not enter the OSYSA State Cup or President's Cup the following year. Teams that cannot participate in the Regional Competition, should not enter the President's Cup competition..

**10.10.3** Each year each member State Association may be placed in a blind drawing to have the right to enter a wild card team(s) into an age group that has an odd number of entries. The second teams may be dropped from the President's Cup competition if more than 60 days prior to the start of the US Youth Soccer Regional Cup any other State Association team withdraws making the US Youth Soccer President's Cup an even number of teams (not counting the extra team entered from the State Association).

**10.10.4** If OSYSA is the host State for the Region II US Youth Soccer National President's Cup and if less than 30 days from the start of the competition a State Association withdraws a team from any Age Group making that Age Group an uneven number (counting any second team from any State Association), then OSYSA will have the right to enter a second team in the US Youth Soccer National President's Cup competition to make the tournament even numbers.

## **10.11 FIELD STATUS**

**10.11.1** Determination of field status as to its playing condition first rests with the organization providing the fields. Prior to any decision to close the field, they should consult with the OSYSA representative. Their decision is final. If the host organization approves the fields for play, the field may be canceled at a later time

if the host organization deems the conditions to have changed. The referee may suspend games when he/she considers the field unsafe or unplayable.

**10.11.2** In the event of inclement weather, everything possible will be done to provide games to teams that travel. However, games cannot be guaranteed. Teams that travel to US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup or Presidents Cup locations do so at their own risk of games being canceled due to weather or other circumstances.

## **11.0 KOHL'S AMERICAN CUP RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **11.1 PURPOSE**

The Kohl's American Cup Competition is the most important team competition conducted by the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. or by any Associations within OSYSA for teams in our recreational Leagues and Associations. As such, this competition requires that each member recreational team, League and Association shall support the American Cup as a priority.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: OSYSA MAY CHANGE THE RULES OF THE COMPETITION AS NECESSARY TO ENHANCE THE PLAYING OF THIS EVENT. THE RULES SHALL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL TEAMS ENTERING THE COMPETITION.**

Each year the Kohl's American Cup Chairperson will appoint a volunteer Association, League, Club, or teams to host the one or more American Cup age groups within their home location that year.

The Kohl's American Cup may offer competition in the following age groups for both boys and girls; U-18, U-17, U-16, U-15, U-14, U-13, U-12, U-11, U-10, U-9, U-8.

Team competition in the Kohl's American Cup may be a one loss and out format.

### **11.2 TEAM ENTRY**

**11.2.1** Each recreational member League and Association in OSYSA may enter up to 4 teams in each age group in the American Cup.

**11.2.2** Teams from competitive member Leagues and Associations cannot enter into the American Cup.

**11.2.3** Teams entered into the Kohl's American Cup will play within their District until a winner is determined for each age group.

**11.2.4** The winner in each District for each age group will play in the Kohl's American Finals of the Kohl's American Cup against other District winners.

**11.2.5** Each team that enters the Kohl's American Cup must submit a copy of their validated and certified League Roster .

**11.2.6** If any team forfeits any game, for any reason, (including but not limited to: having an ineligible player participate in the competition, failure to participate in a scheduled game of the competition), in the Kohl's American Cup play, the team may be fined, in amount to be determined by the Kohl's American Cup chairperson. .

**11.2.7** Any team that does not pay the fine(s) will be considered in bad standing and the team will not be permitted to play in any future OSYSA Cup, League or Association games until fines are paid.

**11.2.8** Only duly registered players on the roster of the team prior to the start of play can compete in the Kohl's American Cup. Guest players are not permitted in the American Cup competition.

### **11.3 REFEREE FEES**

**11.3.1** The State Association is responsible for payment of all referee fees for the American Cup games in the finals. Member leagues and Associations are responsible for the referee fee of their teams in the District Competition.

## **11.4 SCHEDULING**

**11.4.1** It is the intention of the State Association to attempt to schedule all finals of all Age Groups at the same location on the same day.

**11.4.2** Kohl's American Cup games take precedence over all scheduled League and Association games. All games scheduled by member Leagues and Associations are required to be re-scheduled to permit all teams to compete in American Cup play. No member League or Association can forfeit any game of any team for the day that the team is playing in American Cup competition.

**11.4.3** Teams cannot be scheduled to play any more than two games on any one day and shall not exceed the following maximum standards.

- a) U-10 and younger teams shall play a maximum of 100 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- b) U-11 and U-12 teams shall play a maximum of 120 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- c) U-13 and U-14 teams shall play a maximum of 140 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- d) U-15 and U-16 teams shall play a maximum of 160 minutes of scheduled play per day.
- e) U-17 and U-18 teams shall play a maximum of 180 minutes of scheduled play per day.

**11.4.4** Teams will be scheduled in both District and State level play of the American Cup by blind draw.

**11.4.5** Member Recreational Leagues and Associations must have determined their entry / entries for the American Cup by the end of the third week in October. These teams must be available to compete in Kohl's American Cup play.

## **11.5 AMERICAN CUP PROCEDURES**

**11.5.1** Any protest must be presented in writing to the Kohl's American Cup Chairman or his/her representative within one ( 1) hour of the completion of the game in protest. All protests must be accompanied by a \$100.00 bond, which will be returned only if the protest is upheld. Referees judgment cannot be a basis for a protest.

**11.5.1.1** **Protests involving the participation of an ineligible player the Kohl's American Cup will follow the same procedures as found in section 10.0**

**11.5.2** All players must be properly registered to the team prior to the start of the Kohl's American Cup.

## **11.6 AMERICAN CUP PLAYING RULES**

**11.6.1** Games will be played under FIFA Laws of the game as modified by USSF/USYS.

**11.6.2** Any player or coach sent off from a game will be ineligible to participate in the team's next game. At the discretion of the Kohl's American Cup Chairperson, the suspension may be increased and could result in ineligibility for more than one game. No substitution will be permitted for an ejected player during the game that the player was ejected.

In the event that any ejection occurs in the team's last game, the information on the ejected player will be held and forwarded to the team's league. The ejected player will be required to serve his/her one game (or more depending up the circumstances) suspension in his/her next league game(s).

**11.6.3** If a game has been started and then is suspended due to weather or other conditions, and cannot be completed that day, the game will be rescheduled and replayed in its entirety.

**11.6.4** A ten (10) minute grace period will be extended beyond the scheduled kickoff time if a team fails to field the minimum number of players as outlined in this section 11.6.4. A team with the described minimum must start the game as soon as the described minimum number of players are at the field. If at the end of the ten (10) minute grace period, a team does not have the described minimum number of players, the referee will not start the game and will report the failure of the team to show up with the described minimum number of players to the Kohl's American Cup Chairperson. The Kohl's American CUP Chairperson shall declare the game forfeited.

**11.6.4.1** For teams that will be playing either 11 v 11 or 10 v 10, the minimum number of players shall be 7.

**11.6.4.2** For teams that will be playing either 9 v 9 or 8 v 8, the minimum number of players shall be 6.

**11.6.4.3** For teams that will be playing either 7 v 7 or 6 v 6, the minimum number of players shall be 5.

**11.6.4.4** For teams that will be playing 5 v 5, the minimum number of players shall be 4.

**11.6.4.5** For teams that will be playing 4 v 4, the minimum number of players shall be 3.

**11.6.5** Each player must wear an official uniform with a number on the back of the shirt. Each number must be different. The goalkeeper's are not required to have a number on the jersey. In the event of a color conflict, one of the teams will change to an alternate set of jerseys. If both teams have an alternate set, the team to switch will be determined by a toss of a coin.

**11.6.6** All games must end with a winner. If the games are tied at the end of the regulation play, a single overtime period, consisting of two, (2), 5 minute halves for U-12 and younger teams and two, (2), 10 minutes halves for U-13 and older teams, will be played to conclusion as outlined in the FIFA rulebook. In the event that penalty kicks (as defined in FIFA rule book0) must be used to determine a winner in any game after the overtime period has been played, the following format will be as follows:

a) Each team will select five (5) players to kick -only players on the field at the conclusion of the 2nd overtime period may be selected to kick.

b) Teams will alternate kicks -first team to kick will be determined by a referees coin toss.

- c) If the score remains tied after five (5) kicks, teams will alternate players to take one kick at a time until a winner is determined.
- d) All eligible players must kick before any player can repeat.
- e) Goalies may be changed after any shot.

If all of the players on the field have taken a kick without determining a winner, the players not playing on the field will kick one at a time until a winner is determined. If a player has been injured during the game and has not returned to the game, he/she will not be required to kick. If a winner has not been determined by the time that all players on the team have kicked, the process will start over and continue until a winner has been determined.

## **12.0 RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

### **12.1 PURPOSE**

To protect and provide a safe and healthful environment for children participating in OSYSA's sanctioned soccer clubs, associations, leagues, programs, and tournaments.

### **12.2 BACKGROUND**

As our society's awareness increases about the risks associated with individuals working with children who abuse their authority by committing sexual, physical, mental, and emotional abuse, there is a need to provide a means of protection. In August of 1994 the United States Youth Soccer Association approved the Kidsafe Program and placed it into effect immediately. As a part of this program, each State organization is to develop a written program outlining safety guidelines and procedures.

### **12.3 APPLICABILITY**

This policy is applicable to all OSYSA Board members, as well as all coaches, assistant coaches, trainers, adult referees, and any other individual who is expected to have regular contact with children, as identified by the President of each club, association, or league and verified by the OSYSA Board.

The United States Soccer Federation has determined that each member association must comply with USSF organizational rules, however, each member, including OSYSA, has the right to establish their own membership requirements. In addition, the United States Federal court has ruled that a private non-profit educational organization, such as OSYSA, has the right to set eligibility requirements for their membership. Consistent with the above, OSYSA shall restrict its membership to only those persons who have not been convicted of one or more of the crimes as listed in Section 12.7.2 or who have not committed a crime of violence, a crime against a person, or a crime involving a child, or who is not listed on any sexual offender registry.

### **12.4 RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **12.4.1 Local Club/Association/League President will:**

- a) designate a local Risk Management Coordinator (RMC) and an alternate to serve as a liaison to the OSYSA Risk Management Coordinator.
- b) ensure all affected individuals, as identified in Section 12.3, who are associated with their organization, comply with this policy.
- c) ensure complaints of abuse are investigated and reported to the OSYSA RMC.

#### **12.4.2 Local Risk Management Coordinator will:**

- a) serve as a liaison to the OSYSA RMC.
- b) distribute and collect disclosure forms and return them sealed in the envelope provided by OSYSA to the OSYSA RMC office.
- c) ensure that disclosure forms from all individuals, as defined in Section III, associated with their club, association or league have been received and forwarded the OSYSA RMC office.
- d) refer for investigation all complaints of abuse and report findings to their Club/Association President and to the OSYSA RMC, if action is needed.

#### **12.4.3 OSYSA President and the OSYSA Board of Directors will:**

- a) ensure this policy is complied with by all clubs, leagues and associations.
- b) appoint the OSYSA RMC and the alternate OSYSA RMC.

**12.4.4 OSYSA Risk Management Coordinator will:**

- a) ensure all disclosure forms are received from each program, filed, and kept confidential.
- b) ensure all background checks are completed.
- c) ensure all individuals chosen to have a background check are selected randomly.
- e) periodically review and make recommendations to the OSYSA Board of Directors to update this policy as needed.
- f) provide an executive summary, as needed, of the Risk Management Program at the OSYSA Annual General Meeting.
- g) ensure that the completed disclosure forms are kept on file for a minimum of three (3) years and a maximum of four (4) years. All matters involving a disqualification shall be kept on file for a minimum of twenty (20) years and a maximum of 99 years.
- h) distribute on a periodic basis appropriate educational material regarding the OSYSA Risk Management Program.
- i) be responsible for any media contacts involving the OSYSA Risk Management Program.

**12.4.5 The OSYSA RMC Office will:**

- a) maintain a secure filing system and a separate computer database of all current disclosure forms.
- b) maintain a stock of blank disclosure forms and other forms as needed.

**12.4.6 The State Youth Referee Administrator will:**

- a) ensure disclosure forms are distributed and completed by all adult referees registered in OSYSA and returned to the RMC office.
- b) serve as a liaison to the OSYSA RMC for the referees.
- c) perform the functions as listed as the responsibilities of the Local RMC.

**12.4.7 The OSYSA Director of Coaching will:**

- a) ensure disclosure forms are distributed and completed by all OSYSA ODP coaches and administrators and returned to the OSYSA RMC office.
- b) serve as a liaison to the OSYSA RMC for the ODP coaches and administrators.
- c) perform the functions as listed as the responsibilities of the local RMC.

**12.5 GENERAL PROCEDURES**

**12.5.1** Disclosure forms and the designated return envelope will be distributed annually and as needed.

**12.5.2** Volunteers / staff, as defined in Section 12.3, must complete a disclosure form upon initial appointment and every two years thereafter. The completion of the disclosure form shall be considered part of the appointment process. OSYSA member leagues may require volunteers or staff members in their own leagues to complete the disclosure more frequently.

The OSYSA RMC shall be authorized to designate members of the OSYSA office staff to review each form for completeness and to report to the OSYSA RMC if an applicant has not completed the form or has indicated that they have been involved in a disqualifying event.

**12.5.2.1** If the information on the RM form that is provided by the volunteer / staff person, as defined in Section 12.3, is incomplete, that volunteer / staff person is disqualified from all OSYSA

and member activities. This disqualification will be in effect until a properly completed RM form has been received and a background check on the individual has been completed.

If the information on the RM form that is provided by the volunteer / staff person, as defined in Section 12.3, has not been completed truthfully, either knowingly or not knowingly, that volunteer / staff person is disqualified from all OSYSA and member activities for a period of not less than 1 year

**12.5.3** Background checks will be made randomly on a periodic basis of those individuals required to complete a disclosure form. The timing and sample size is to be determined by the Board of Directors. In addition, background checks will be performed during February of each year for all OSYSA Board Members, Executive Director, Director of Coaching, all State and local RMC's and their respective alternates and all individuals who would travel outside the State of Ohio with OSYSA players as representatives of OSYSA, (i.e. coaches and administrators attending ODP Regional Camp).

**12.5.4** Where an individual indicates on their RM Volunteer / Employee that they have been convicted of a violent crime or a crime against a person, or a crime involving a child, the OSYSA RMC will verify the information by contacting the applicant and/or conducting a background check..

**12.5.5** All information provided to OSYSA on a disclosure form, complaint, investigation, or background check will be held in strict confidence. Persons who violate this confidence shall be removed from their position as either OSYSA RMC, local RMC, or their respective alternates. The information gathered as part of this program shall not be disseminated, for any purpose, except:

- a) pursuant to an order from a court of law.
- b) upon a specific written request from a public law enforcement agency.
- c) upon a specific written request from a youth sports organization.

**12.5.6** Background checks may include one or more of the following; a statewide or multi-state arrest and/or criminal conviction record check; a sexual offender registry check in the county or state in which the individual resides, a check of a clerk of courts records and/or by using the services of a third party provider. In order that a background check be properly completed, all individuals who are covered under this program may be required to provide a set of impressions of their fingerprints.

**12.5.7** In lieu of the procedures outlined above, OSYSA may establish the following alternate methods of submitting information required for the administration of the OSYSA Risk Management Program:

**12.5.7.1** An internet based process that would allow the registrations of coaches, referees, administrators, and other covered persons, for the OSYSA Risk Management program. This process shall collect the same information as the paper form and envelope process described above and shall be established in a manner to maintain the integrity of the process and to maintain the security of all information that is collected. The use of the internet based process for registering for the OSYSA Risk Management Program shall be voluntary. Individuals shall have the right to continue to use the paper form and envelope process as described above.

**12.5.7.2** The electronic submission of fingerprints through the Ohio Attorney General's office of the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation. Individuals desiring to use this option shall be responsible for paying the entire cost of the electronic submission of their fingerprints. When using this option, an individual shall not be required to provide his/her social security number to OSYSA. All other information required by the OSYSA RM policy shall be submitted to OSYSA. When the

individual submits his/her fingerprints, they shall direct that a copy of the results be sent directly to the OSYSA office at the following address:

Ohio South Youth Soccer Association  
25 Whitney Drive, Suite 104  
Milford, Ohio 45150

Individuals shall have the right to continue to use the paper form and envelope process as described above.

## **12.6 BACKGROUND CHECKS**

**12.6.1** When required by the OSYSA RM policy or when otherwise prudent to do so in the best interest of the youth players and referees of OSYSA, the OSYSA RMC may conduct or cause to be conducted, background checks on those individuals as described in Section 12.3.

All costs of background checks will be paid by OSYSA.

The following types of background checks may be conducted as necessary to fulfill the requirements of the OSYSA RM program:

**12.6.1.1** Check for criminal convictions

**12.6.1.2** Check of sexual offender registries.

## **12.7 DISQUALIFICATIONS**

**12.7.1** Any one or more of the reasons listed in Sections 12.7.2, 12.7.3, 12.7.4, or 12.7.5 or 12.7.6, shall be cause to permanently disqualify any individual, as defined in Section 12.3.

**12.7.2** A conviction for any of the following offenses shall be sufficient cause to permanently disqualify a person from service with OSYSA: aggravated murder, murder, voluntary manslaughter, involuntary manslaughter, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, failing to provide for functionally impaired person, aggravated menacing, patient abuse or neglect, kidnapping, abduction, criminal child enticement, rape, sexual battery, corruption of a minor, gross sexual imposition, importuning, voyeurism, public indecency, compelling prostitution, promoting prostitution, procuring prostitution, disseminating matter harmful to juveniles, pandering obscenity, pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, illegal use of a minor in nudity-oriented material or performance, aggravated robbery, robbery, aggravated burglary, burglary, abortion without informed consent, endangering children, contributing to unruliness or delinquency, domestic violence, carrying concealed weapons, having weapons while under disability, improperly discharging firearms at or into habitation or school, corrupting another with drugs, trafficking offenses, illegal manufacturing of drugs or cultivation of marihuana, funding of drug or marijuana trafficking, illegal administration or distribution of anabolic steroids, adulteration of food, felonious sexual penetration, child stealing, drug possession offenses that are not minor offenses.

**12.7.3** A conviction of a crime that occurred outside the State of Ohio, similar in nature to those listed in Section 12.7.2, shall also be cause to permanently disqualify a person from service with OSYSA.

**12.7.4** In addition to the crimes listed in Section 12.7.2, a conviction for any crime of violence, or any crime against a person, or any crime involving a child shall also be cause to permanently disqualify a person from service with OSYSA.

**12.7.5** Individuals who are listed on any sexual offender registry shall be permanently disqualified from service with OSYSA.

**12.7.6** In addition to, but not necessarily in conjunction with, any of the above listed causes for mandatory disqualification, a person shall be disqualified pursuant to this policy if by an act of omission or commission, they cause serious physical and/or emotional harm to an OSYSA registered player or youth referee or they put an OSYSA registered player or youth referee in grave peril of physical and/or emotional harm or trauma. To be considered a violation of this Section 12.7.6, the action by the individual, as defined in Section 12.3, must shock the conscience of a reasonable, knowledgeable and otherwise disinterested person.

Any appeal of a disqualification under this Section 12.7.6, shall not be heard as outlined in Section 12.8 but shall be heard by the OSYSA Board of Directors at it's next scheduled meeting. The disqualified individual shall remain disqualified until such time as the OSYSA Board of Directors meets and overturns the disqualification.

When an appeal, as outlined in this section 12.7.6 is heard by the OSYSA Board of Directors, the decision, as determined by a majority vote of the OSYSA Board of Directors, shall be final and binding on all parties to this matter. Following such a decision, there shall be no further appeal of the disqualification.

**12.7.7** The OSYSA RMC shall notify any individual disqualified from service under this Risk Management program in writing via certified mail. In addition, the OSYSA RMC shall notify the local President and the local RMC for the individual of the disqualification, in writing, by means of the following statement;

"Pursuant to the policy established by the OSYSA Risk Management Program, (name of individual) is disqualified from any and all service with your organization that would allow (name of individual) to have contact with OSYSA players or youth referees."

No other information shall be given to the local President or to the local RMC regarding the disqualification of the individual.

## **12.8 APPEAL OF DISQUALIFICATION FROM SERVICE WITH OSYSA**

**12.8.1** Any individual who is disqualified from service under the OSYSA Risk Management program shall have the right to a hearing before the OSYSA Conduct Committee. Such a request must be submitted in writing and sent to the OSYSA Executive Director, via certified mail with a return receipt requested, within 21 calendar days of the date that the notification of disqualification was sent to the individual who was disqualified. When a request for a hearing is made, that hearing shall be held within 30 calendar days of the date that the request was sent to the OSYSA Executive Director. The individual who was disqualified from service shall remain disqualified from service until such time as the appeal has been resolved in the favor of the disqualified individual.

This section 12.8.1 shall not be applicable to those individuals who have been disqualified under the provisions of Section 12.7.6.

**12.8.1.1** The OSYSA Conduct Committee in hearing the appeal of the disqualification pursuant to the OSYSA RM policy shall only consider whether or not the individual who was disqualified and who is appealing that disqualification had in fact:

- been convicted of one or more of the crimes listed in Section 12.7.2, or
- been convicted of a crime outside the State of Ohio that is similar to the crimes listed in Section 12.7.2, or
- been convicted of a crime of violence, or
- been convicted of a crime against a person, or
- been convicted of a crime involving a child, or
- is listed on any sexual offender registry, or
- provided information that was not truthful on his / her Risk Management Disclosure form.

**12.8.1.2** If any of the conditions as shown in Section 12.8.1.1, exists, the OSYSA Conduct Committee shall determine that the individual who is appealing the disqualification shall be permanently disqualified from service with OSYSA. The OSYSA Conduct Committee shall not consider any other factors, such as the nature of the crime, the length of time since the crime occurred, testimonials of good character, length of service in the community, etc. in determining whether or not the individual should be disqualified from service with OSYSA.

**12.8.1.3** By this section, the OSYSA Board of Directors directs that the sole purpose in establishing a process by which a disqualified individual may request a hearing before the Conduct Committee is to ensure that the disqualified individual has been removed from service within OSYSA by the OSYSA RMC pursuant to this policy.

The Conduct Committee shall only consider whether or not one or more of the conditions as specified in Section 12.7 exists. If the Conduct Committee determines that one or more of the conditions listed in Section 12.7 exists for the disqualified individual, the Conduct Committee shall uphold the disqualification and shall determine that the individual shall remain disqualified from service within OSYSA.

Only if the Conduct Committee determines that none of the conditions listed in Section 12.7 exists, shall the Conduct Committee determine that the decision to disqualify the individual should be overturned and that the individual is no longer disqualified from service from within OSYSA.

**12.8.1.4** For the purposes of this section 12.8 only, all correspondence between the parties in this matter shall be sent via certified mail with a return receipt and the date sent shall be considered as the postmark date of the letter.

**12.8.2** If the OSYSA Conduct Committee upholds the disqualification, the individual who has been disqualified has the right to appeal the disqualification to the OSYSA Appeals Committee.

**12.8.3** If the OSYSA Conduct overturns the disqualification of the individual, then the OSYSA RMC shall be authorized to appeal that decision to the OSYSA Appeals Committee as provided in

Section 14.0. When the OSYSA RMC submits an appeal of the decision of the OSYSA Conduct Committee to overturn a Risk Management disqualification, the requirement to submit a \$50.00 appeal bond shall be waived.

**12.8.4** The members of the OSYSA Conduct Committee and the OSYSA Appeals Committee shall respect the confidentiality of their respective proceedings.

## **12.9 ABUSE COMPLAINT PROCEDURES**

**12.9.1** Complaints against individuals who are alleged to have abused their authority by committing sexual, physical, mental or emotional abuse are to be reported to the local Club/Association/League President and/or local RMC. If complaints are substantiated at the local level and action is required, a written report is to be made to the OSYSA RMC within 10 days.

**12.9.2** The complainant should also report the matter to the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or child protection agency. The OSYSA RMC shall follow up within 10 days to ascertain if a police report or other appropriate report has been filed.

**12.9.3** Upon receipt of a complaint, the OSYSA RMC will conduct a background check if there has not been one obtained within the last 12 months.

**12.9.4** If an abuse charge is formally lodged against an individual, as defined in Section 12.3 with the Police, a criminal background check may also be conducted. If an abuse charge is formally lodged against an individual, the individual may be suspended until the case is resolved (USSF/USYS Rule 4043). At this point, the OSYSA RMC must inform the individual of their status and rights in writing.

**12.9.5** Each complaint will be reviewed by the OSYSA RMC to determine the appropriate action. Upon reaching a decision, the individual must be informed and provided information on the appeal process in writing.

## **12.10 DATA AND INFORMATION SECURITY**

**12.10.1** All paper copies of completed disclosure forms and all paper and electronic reports or storage media generated as part of the OSYSA Risk Management program which contains personally identifiable information shall be maintained in locked file cabinets or safes in the OSYSA office. Access to those copies, reports and storage media shall be limited to the OSYSA RM coordinator, the Alternate OSYSA RM coordinator and those members of the OSYSA staff who have been delegated to assist in the administration of the OSYSA RM program.

**12.10.2** All information, except as noted in 12.10.3, obtained pursuant to the OSYSA RM policy shall be maintained in a stand alone computer that is not connected to the Internet. This computer shall be maintained in a secure location in the OSYSA office with access to the computer limited to the OSYSA RM coordinator, the Alternate OSYSA RM coordinator and those members of the OSYSA staff who have been delegated to assist in the administration of the OSYSA RM program. Any information that is obtained via the Internet and held on a server connected to the Internet shall be removed from the server at frequency of not less than on a once a week basis and transferred, (swept), to the stand alone computer described in the first sentence of this paragraph. .

**12.10.3** A searchable online database of persons registered under the OSYSA RM program during

the preceding 4 years may be created provided all of the following conditions are met:

- a) The database access is limited via a username / password that would limit access to OSYSA member leagues and associations only.
- b) There is no direct connection between the database stored in the stand alone computer described in 12.10.2 and the online database described in 12.10.3.
- c) The online database consists only the OSYSA RM participant's last name, first name, home address, city and state.

**12.10.4** If it becomes known to OSYSA, that the integrity of personally identifiable data collected as part of the OSYSA RM program has become compromised, (either the data temporarily stored on the server or in the stand alone computer as described in 12.10.2), OSYSA shall immediately take all available steps to identify the degree by which the data was compromised. OSYSA shall within seven, (7), days notify all persons whose data may have been compromised via e-mail, letter or by contacting the media as deemed appropriate by the OSYSA RM coordinator and/or the OSYSA President.

**12.10.5** When personally identifiable information is no longer needed to further the aims of the OSYSA RM program, as provided in 12.4.4 (g), that information whether it is in paper form or electronic form shall be destroyed by shredding or by other means as to make the information indecipherable.

## **12.11 FORMS NEEDED FOR THE OSYSA RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

**12.11.1** The OSYSA Risk Management Disclosure form shall be similar to the sample form provided by US Youth Soccer.

**12.11.2** The envelope in which the OSYSA Risk Management Disclosure form is to be returned to the local RMC in shall be blue in color. On the front of the envelope there shall be space for the sender to indicate the individual's last name, first name, the last 4 digits of the social security number, for use as a control number, and the date the form was submitted.

## PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING INDEPENDENT CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK

The Ohio Attorney General's civilian background check system is known as **WebCheck**. The submission of fingerprints through WebCheck does not require the disclosure of any individual's social security number. However, you will be required to go to a WebCheck company and make a digital impression of your fingerprints. The cost of the WebCheck ranges from \$30.00 to \$65.00. OSYSA applicants who procure their own records check are required to pay for this themselves.

Anyone required to obtain risk management clearance for OSYSA participation may follow these steps to obtain their own criminal records check verification.

1. Locate a company with WebCheck capacity. Current WebCheck companies can be found at [www.ag.state.oh.us/business/fingerprint/data/index.asp](http://www.ag.state.oh.us/business/fingerprint/data/index.asp). Call the company to obtain information about cost and what identification must be presented in order to obtain a civilian criminal background check.
2. Request that a copy of the criminal records check be sent to you and that **an additional copy be sent to directly to the OSYSA office** at the following address:

Ohio South Youth Soccer Association  
25 Whitney Drive – Suite 104  
Milford, Ohio 45150

3. Complete the standard OSYSA Application for Risk Management Clearance. On the form, in the space where the social security number is requested, write the phrase; "WebCheck Submitted". Place the form in the standard RM envelope and submit the form inside the sealed envelope to your league or local referee association.
4. When the form from the Attorney General's office is received in the OSYSA office, it will be matched up with the RM Clearance form that has been submitted.

If the results of the WebCheck are not received in the OSYSA office directly from the Attorney General's office, the submission will not be considered to be valid. The OSYSA will not accept the results of the WebCheck except from the WebCheck company selected by the applicant.

## **13.0 CONDUCT COMMITTEE RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **13.1 PURPOSE**

The Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. has control, authority and responsibility to handle misconduct of players and coaches in ODP events, US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup games and play in sanctioned Tournaments, friendly games and other related soccer activities of OSYSA.

The authority to take action for misconduct in any of these games shall be exercised by the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. through the OSYSA Conduct Committee. Member Associations or Leagues may also take action for misconduct in these games, if the OSYSA Conduct Committee does not do so within 30 days of the incident. However, tournaments shall establish a Conduct committee that is authorized to penalize players, coaches or teams for any misconduct at their event. Such penalties are to be served during remaining tournament games. If the player, coach or team being penalized is a member of any OSYSA member league or association the penalties may carry over into league games. If the coach or player players, coaches or teams are a member of an OSYSA member league or association other than the one that sponsored the tournament or games, or is a member of another State/National Association or affiliate member of US Soccer, the alleged incident is to be reported to the OSYSA office for distribution to the OSYSA Conduct Committee, or other appropriate parties, to assign penalties that would go beyond any tournament games.

Any penalties awarded by the OSYSA Conduct Committee against OSYSA players, coaches or teams, shall be served in games of the member association or league or any other US Youth Soccer sanctioned games

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Any penalties awarded by the OSYSA Conduct Committee against OSYSA players, coaches or teams, shall be served in games of the member association or league or any other US Youth Soccer sanctioned games.

### **13.2 US YOUTH SOCCER OHIO SOUTH STATE CUP, TOURNAMENT AND FRIENDLY GAME RESPONSIBILITY**

**13.2.1** Operating authorities are to hold head coaches responsible for the actions of the players, assistant coaches, and spectators associated with their team and head coaches are required to take all precautions to prevent spectators and/or players and/or assistant coaches, associated with their team, from threatening, assaulting or harassing the officials and opposing players before, during or at the conclusion of the game.

**13.2.2** Operating authorities must establish rules dictating that players and/or coaches that receive a red card during a game are required to sit out the team's next league game(s). Coaches may not be at the field, in any capacity, during the game(s) that they are required to sit out. Players who are required to sit out a game(s) due to a red card suspension may attend the game(s), but cannot be in uniform.

**13.2.3** If a red card is awarded for violent conduct as described in the referees report, the operating authority is to require that a minimum two game suspension served by the party(ies) that actually struck the other party(ies). This suspension must be served in the next two games in which the player or coach is scheduled to participate, whether it is a US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup game, tournament game or league game. If the penalty cannot be served in the remaining games of the tournament or State Cup and the player or coach is from an Ohio South member association or league then the player or coach must serve the minimum two game suspension in the next league games of the league that initially registered the player during the current seasonal year.

**13.2.4** All Tournament Directors, US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup Chairperson, or the Host Game official must refer any penalties that cannot be served, or any other breach of conduct of a serious nature by any player or coach, to the OSYSA office. Written reports from the referee and from the operating authority or responsible tournament official must be provided to the OSYSA office within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of the incident for distribution to the SYRA and / or other appropriate parties.

**13.2.5** If the party(ies) involved in the alleged incident is from a National State Association other than Ohio South Youth Soccer Association Inc., the OSYSA office shall forward all written material received regarding the alleged incident to the home National State Association or affiliate member of US Soccer within fourteen (14) calendar days of its receipt from the operating authority or other party. A copy of this report will be sent by the OSYSA office to the SYRA and the OSYSA State Commissioner.

**13.2.6** All reports of misconduct made to the Conduct Committee shall be in the format as required by OSYSA. These reports must include the name of the teams, of the players, of the coaches and of all other persons involved in the alleged incident, as well as their addresses, if known. In addition, the report to the Conduct Committee must contain sufficient details to allow the Conduct Committee to ascertain the facts of the alleged incident.

### **13.3 SYRA AUTHORITY**

**13.3.1** If the ejection is awarded for fighting, the SYRA is authorized to establish a minimum of a two game suspension to any party(ies).

**13.3.2** The SYRA may convene a hearing before the Conduct Committee for further consideration of additional penalties.

**13.3.3** The SYRA shall notify any player or coach of the two game suspension and if the report is being forwarded to the Conduct Committee for further consideration. The player's or coach's passes shall be returned after the two game suspension is served and prior to the time that the Conduct Committee has reviewed the alleged incident.

**13.3.4** Upon receipt of any report from any referee for an alleged assault of the referee, the SYRA shall convene a hearing before the Conduct Committee.

#### **13.4 REPORTS**

**13.4.1** If an incident is to reported to have occurred outside the boundaries of OSYSA, the report must be received within ninety (90) calendar days of the reported incident.

**13.4.2** The OSYSA office shall forward copies of all material to the Chairperson of the Conduct Committee, to the members of the Conduct Committee and to all other appropriate parties, including the president of the OSYSA league or association that registered the player, coach or team in OSYSA, who is the subject of the complaint to be heard by the OSYSA Conduct Committee, as soon as it is received and prior to the date that the filed report must be heard

**13.4.3** If a report of misconduct is not received within the deadlines specified within this Section 13.0, the reported offense will not be heard.

#### **13.5 CONDUCT COMMITTEE**

**13.5.1** The SYRA, or his designate, shall be the non-voting Chairperson of the Conduct Committee and be responsible for providing interpretation of the FIFA Laws of the Game, US Soccer rules, US Youth Soccer rules and OSYSA rules as they are applicable.

**13.5.2** The Chairperson of the Conduct Committee shall appoint the members of the Conduct Committee. This committee shall consist of three (3) voting members. The Conduct Committee shall be responsible for investigating and hearing any reported breaches of conduct by players, coaches, or others.

**13.5.3** No member of the Conduct Committee may be directly affiliated with any member of any organization directly involved in the issue brought before the Conduct Committee. The Chairperson of the Conduct Committee shall appoint alternate members who will serve in the event of conflict of interest or if a member is unavailable. The members of the Conduct Committee may be re-appointed as necessary.

The Conduct Committee should be comprised of parties of different primary backgrounds, such as referee, coach, and administrator. In the event the SYRA is directly involved in the alleged incident, the OSYSA President will appoint an Alternate Conduct Committee Chairperson for that hearing.

**13.5.4** Other players, coaches, club officials, member association or league officers or directors or , tournament directors may file written complaints with the Chairperson of the Conduct Committee against any party involved in OSYSA games or other soccer related activities as outlined. Such complaints must be filed within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of the incident in question by submitting a written report to the OSYSA office.

If the party(ies) involved in the incident does not file the written complaint within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of the game in question, the complaint will not be accepted and no further action shall be taken.

**13.5.5** The SYRA, as Chairperson of the Conduct Committee, shall notify, in writing, via certified U.S. Mail, the party(ies) involved in the conduct hearing of the complaint that was filed. The involved parties shall be given a copy of the referees (or other party(ies) written report(s). The involved party(ies) may respond in writing to the reported incident. Such response must be received within fourteen (14) calendar days of the receipt of the notice of the Conduct Committee investigations. If the responding party(ies) do not respond within the time limit to the Conduct Committee, the hearing will be conducted and the involved party(ies) will have forfeited their right to provide information on the incident to the Conduct Committee .

The Conduct Committee shall report to any member league or association, in writing, the names of the parties involved in the alleged incident that are members of their league or association..

During the time that the Conduct Committee is conducting their investigation and hearing, the red card penalties shall be served by the involved party(ies).

**13.5.6** All reports and information to the Conduct Committee shall be in writing. The Conduct Committee may require written reports from any other party(ies) involved in the reported incident. All party(ies) affiliated with OSYSA are required to submit written reports if they receive a written request for the Chairperson of the Conduct Committee to do so. Failure of any party(ies) to comply with this request shall result in immediate suspension from all OSYSA activities or other disciplinary sanctions.

**13.5.7** The Conduct Committee must hear the complaint within twenty-eight (28) calendar days of the date that the material was due from the responding party(ies). The responding party may elect to either file all of his/her response to the alleged incident in writing, or may at his/her option elect to personally appear. If the responding party desires a personal appearance with the Conduct Committee, he/she must request this option within seven (7) calendar days of the notification from the Conduct Committee. The Conduct Committee hearing may be tape recorded or video recorded by any party to the hearing, but the minutes of the hearing as reported by the Conduct Committee shall be considered by all parties to be the official record of the proceedings.

**13.5.8** Conduct Committee hearings on matters of misconduct are administrative proceedings only and should not be construed to be a legal hearing as found in a state or federal court.

**13.5.9** Only evidence submitted prior to or at the hearing pursuant to Rules and Regulations of OSYSA may be taken into consideration in deciding the matter before the Conduct Committee.

**13.5.10** The Conduct Committee may issue additional penalties, beyond those that may have already been imposed by the SYRA, singularly or in combination as follows:

a) Additional suspension for up to 30 years. If the decision of the OSYSA Conduct Committee is to suspend an individual for more than 5 years, the decision to suspend the person for a term of more than 5 years, (but not the actual determination made by the Conduct Committee), the OSYSA Board of Directors must either concur with the term of the suspension as imposed by the Conduct Committee or alternately the OSYSA Board of Directors may reduce the term of the suspension. The vote to either concur with the term of the suspension or to reduce the term of the suspension shall be

by an affirmative vote of the majority of the OSYSA Board of Directors at the next meeting of the OSYSA Board of Directors following the decision of the Conduct Committee.

b) Probation not to exceed five years.

c) Issue written reprimands.

d) Make recommendations for further penalties to the OSYSA Board of Directors.

e) For referee assault, the Conduct Committee shall suspend the party(ies) for at least one year from USSF/USYS activities pursuant to USSF Rule 3.2.8.3, if the referee that was assaulted is an adult and for a minimum of 3 years if the referee that was assaulted is a youth.

**13.5.11** The involved party(ies) shall be notified of the action of the Conduct Committee within fourteen (14) calendar days after complaint is heard.

**13.5.12** If the Conduct Committee awards additional game(s) penalties, **the penalties** shall be served during next US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup, Tournament or member league or association game(s) of the involved party(ies).

**13.5.13** Any action taken by the Conduct Committee can be appealed to the OSYSA Appeals Committee as provided in Section 14.0 of this manual. If an appeal is filed, the Conduct Committee must provide a copy of its report and all supporting written reports to the OSYSA Appeals Committee and the involved party(ies) within fourteen (14) calendar days of the notice of appeal being submitted to the OSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson.

**13.5.14** Based on the notice of a proper appeal to the OSYSA Appeals Committee being submitted in a timely fashion, any penalty imposed by the Conduct Committee (other than the red card penalties) shall be stayed pending the appeal.

**13.5.15** The OSYSA Appeals Committee shall hear the appeal based on the rules and regulations contained in the Section 14.0 of this manual.

**13.5.16** If a party(ies) is suspended for assault of a referee, all appeals from the players, coaches and teams from that incident shall go directly to the Secretary General of US Soccer. Details of the incident and the Conduct Committee's report shall be provided by the Conduct Committee to the Secretary General of US Soccer.

## **14.0 APPEALS PROCEDURE - RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **14.1 PURPOSE**

The Amateur Sports act requires that OSYSA must provide, with fair notice, the opportunity for a hearing to any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator or official before declaring such individual ineligible to participate. To meet these requirements, the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, Inc. has the authority and responsibility to handle appeals of adverse action against players, coaches, managers, officials, officers, teams and members by their member leagues and associations or organizations or committees of the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association.

Every member league and association of the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association shall be responsible for taking action for any misconduct by any member of their organization for matters that occurred within the control of its organization. All member leagues and associations and Ohio South Youth Soccer Association organizations and committees must provide a procedure to provide for the due process of its members.

It is the policy of OSYSA to provide due process to all members of OSYSA. All involved individual(s), that are subject to the provision of this Section 14, in any appeal process shall be entitled to have copies of all materials involving the incident, to have the process conducted within the time lines established by the entity (OSYSA member league or association) that held the initial hearing in the matter under appeal, and to have the right within the designated time limits established to provide comment and/or evidence concerning the incident. In addition, if any member league, association, or OSYSA Committee, pursuant to their own rules or procedures, holds a hearing on a person, team or club not listed above, then that person, team or club has a right to appeal any adverse decision reached by the member league, association or OSYSA Committee using the procedures as outlined in this Section 14.

Failure to comply with any procedural requirements as outlined in this Section 14 may result in a reversal of any adverse decision that is reached by the entity that held the initial hearing and / or in any disciplinary sanctions being imposed.

For the purposes of this Section 14, the Appealing Party in a dispute shall be the person(s) or entity(ies) which is the subject of disciplinary or procedural action and the Responding Party is the entity which took the disciplinary or procedural action that is the subject of the appeal.

If the Responding Party does not meet the required time deadlines in handling the reported incident, then the matter will be decided in favor of the appealing party. If the Appealing Party does not meet the required time deadlines, the appeal will be dismissed.

## **14.2 APPEALS COMMITTEE**

**14.2.1** The Chairperson of the Appeals Committee shall appoint, as needed, an Appeals Committee consisting of at least three (3) individuals. The Appeals Committee shall be responsible for investigating and hearing any accepted appeal of actions taken by member leagues and associations or other committees or organization of Ohio South Youth Soccer Association.

**14.2.2** No member of the Appeals Committee may be connected with any member of an organization involved in an issue brought before the Appeals Committee.

**14.2.3** The Appeals Committee should be comprised of individuals of different primary backgrounds, such as referee, coach, and administrator and, if possible, should be from different OSYSA Districts.

**14.2.4** The Appeals Committee Chairperson shall be a non-voting position responsible for providing interpretation of the rules and regulations for organizations involved in the appeal. In the event that the Appeals Committee Chairperson is directly involved in the matter that is before the Appeals Committee, the OSYSA President shall appoint an alternate Chairperson for the appeal that is before the Appeals Committee.

**14.2.5** The Appeals Committee shall conduct the appeals only through a review of the documents and statements submitted by the Appealing and Responding parties to the appeal. No “in person” hearing(s) with the Appealing and /or Responding Party(ies) will be held by the Appeal Committee except as provided in Section 14.3.13. No additional testimony beyond that was gathered at the initial hearing will be reviewed by the Appeals Committee.

## **14.3 MANNER OF APPEAL**

**14.3.1** Appeals beyond the level of the club, league or association shall be made by filing a notice of appeal (see sample form), in a form designed by OSYSA. The Appealing Party shall send the Notice of Intent to Appeal to the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the OSYSA Office.

**14.3.2** The Notice of Intent to Appeal shall be complete and shall be signed by the appealing party. The Appealing Party(ies) shall file his/her Notice of Intent to Appeal, in writing, with the Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the OSYSA office within seven (7) calendar days of the date of receipt of written notification of adverse action from his/her member Association or League or Ohio South committee or organization. A \$50.00 fee is to accompany the Notice of Intent to Appeal when it is submitted, except as provided in Section 12.8.4. The fee will be returned if the appeal is upheld. At the same time, a copy of the Notice of Intent to Appeal shall be sent by the Appealing Party to the other (Responding) party in the matter under appeal.

**14.3.3** The Notice of Intent to Appeal shall also include a list of documents placed in evidence at the original hearing, using the form (Appeal Document Directory) as prescribed by OSYSA. The directory shall indicate what documents are held by the Appealing Party and what documents are held by of the Responding Party. The documents shall be numbered sequentially starting with document #1 as the original appeal and document #2 as the decision rendered following the initial hearing. Additional documents that are relevant to the matter under appeal are also to be listed on the Appeal Document List and numbered in the order that they were received by the Appealing Party.

**14.3.4** The Appealing Party(ies) may request copies of all material held by the Responding Party that is connected to the appeal. The Responding Party must furnish copies of the material requested by the Appealing Party(ies) at the same time that the material is submitted to the Appeals Committee. If the Responding Party does not furnish the Appealing Party(ies) the material within the time specified below, a decision shall be entered in favor of the Appealing Party(ies).

**14.3.5** Failure of the Appealing Party(ies) to provide copies of all material to the Responding Party within the time period specified will result in dismissal of the appeal.

**14.3.6** The Responding Party shall mail all relevant material to the Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the OSYSA office, within fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of the submission by the Appealing Party(ies). Copies of this submission and requested material held by the Responding Party that was requested by the Appealing Party(ies) must be given to the Appealing Party(ies) within this same time limit.

If the Appealing Party(ies)'s requested material is held by the Responding Party, the Appealing Party(ies) has fourteen (14) calendar days following the receipt of the material held by the Responding Party to submit material based on the new information provided by the Responding Party.

**14.3.7** The actual appeal, which may be in letter or memorandum form, must be sent by the Appealing Party to the OSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson, in care of the OSYSA office, within fourteen (14) calendar days after the Notice of Intent to Appeal was first sent to the OSYSA Appeals Chairman. A copy of the actual appeal must also be sent to the Responding Party at the same time.

The appeal must include a statement of errors that have been made in the case which provide the basis for the appeal, including the specific rule of the OSYSA member league or association, or the rule of the OSYSA organization or committee, or the rule of OSYSA, or the rule of US Youth Soccer, or the rule of USSF that was not followed, if any, in rendering the decision that is under appeal. The statement must specifically include all grounds for the appeal and must refer to the documents listed in the Appeals Document Directory.

**14.3.8** Either Appealing or Responding Parties may submit additional written material (other than the opportunities to submit materials as outlined above) concerning the appeal or material submitted by either party. However, all material must be received by the Appeals Committee prior to the Appeals Committee's review of the appeal. Copies of any such material submitted to the Appeal Committee Chairperson must be provided to the other party to the dispute within the same time limits.

**14.3.9** All reports to the Appeals Committee Chairperson shall be in writing. All correspondence sent to the Appealing Party, the Responding Party and to the OSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson or OSYSA office in all matters concerning an appeal shall be sent via certified U.S. Mail with a return receipt.

**14.3.10** The Appeals Committee must review the appeal within sixty (60) calendar days from the time the Notice of Intent to Appeal was first sent to the OSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the OSYSA office.

**14.3.11** All parties to this appeal shall be notified of the action of the Appeals Committee within fourteen (14) calendar days after the appeal is reviewed by the Appeals Committee. The names of

the Appeals Committee will be listed. The chairperson, by written notification, notify all parties of the decision of the Committee.

**14.3.12** Any penalty assessed by the member league or association or OSYSA organization or committee shall be stayed until the Appeals Committee notifies the Appealing Party and the Responding Party of its decision. If the decision of the Appeals Committee upholds or modifies in part the determination by the OSYSA member league or association or OSYSA organization or committee that held the initial hearing, then the penalty assessed following the initial hearing or as modified by the Appeals Committee shall be imposed, effective immediately. If the Appeals Committee completely overturns the penalty that was imposed following the initial hearing then no penalty may be imposed by the Responding Party against the Appealing Party for the matter under consideration in the appeal. The Appeals Committee may also remand the matter for a rehearing by the entity which took the disciplinary or procedural action that is the subject of the appeal.

**14.3.13** In any matter that is brought to the OSYSA Appeals Committee involving the current year's US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup in which either the Appealing Party or the Responding Party has not been eliminated from the competition, the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee shall be empowered to hold an expedited "document only" review or at the discretion of the Appeal Committee Chairperson an "in-person" hearing to resolve the issue in a timely manner as to have a minimal impact on the US Youth Soccer Ohio South State Cup Championship.

In order to hold the expedited hearing, the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee is authorized to call a meeting of the OSYSA Appeals Committee within 72 hours of receipt of the Notice of Intent to Appeal. The appeal and all relevant documentation may be delivered to the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee in care of the OSYSA office either by certified U.S. Mail with a return receipt or by hand delivery. Any person having an interest in the appeal may present any relevant documentation to the Appeals Committee for their consideration.

The Appeals Committee shall render its decision within 48 hours of the conclusion of the expedited hearing.

#### **14.4 FURTHER APPEAL RIGHTS**

**14.4.1** The decision of the Appeals Committee may be appealed to the USSF Appeals Committee. Written appeal must be filed within five (5) calendar days of the receipt of the decision as rendered by the OSYSA Appeals Committee. The Notice of Intent to appeal must be given to the Responding Party(ies) (both the original party and OSYSA) at the same time. The Appeal to the USSF Appeals Committee must follow the procedure established by the USSF Administrative Rules Book. Copies of these procedures are available upon request from the Ohio South State Office.

#### **14.5 APPEALING PARTY OBLIGATION AND APPEAL DOCUMENTATION**

**14.5.1** Within fourteen (14) calendar days after the mailing of the Notice of Intent to Appeal, the Appealing Party shall send the actual appeal in the form as described in Section 14.3.4 to the Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the OSYSA office and to the Responding party.

**14.5.2** Appeal documentation shall include the following:

a) Copies of all documents stated on the Notice of Intent to Appeal to be in the hands of the appealing party. No additional evidence, not listed in the Notice of Intent to Appeal, may be submitted without the advance permission of the Chairperson of the Appeals Committee.

b) Arguments supporting the appealing party's position on each of the issues.

c) Statement that a copy of the appeal documentation has been mailed or delivered to the Responding party.

## **14.6 RESPONDING PARTY OBLIGATIONS**

**14.6.1** Within fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of the Notice of Intent to Appeal the Responding Party shall send the Appeals Committee and the appealing party(ies) copies of the documents stated in the Notice of Intent to Appeal to be held by Responding Party or an explanation of the absence of the documentation.

**14.6.2** Within fourteen (14) calendar days after receipt of the actual appeal in the form as described in Section 14.3.4 the Responding Party shall send its arguments of the issues to the Appeals Committee Chairperson in care of the OSYSA office and the appealing party(ies).

## **14.7 POWERS OF THE OSYSA APPEALS COMMITTEE**

**14.7.1** The Appeals Committee is not empowered to require any member league, association, or OSYSA organization or committee to change any of their procedures for handling disputes that would be subject to the OSYSA Appeals Procedures. The OSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson may make such recommendations on behalf of the Appeals Committee to the member league, association, or OSYSA organization or committee and/or to the OSYSA Board of Directors.

**14.7.2** The Appeals Committee is not empowered to rule on the credibility of the testimony provided at the initial hearing. The determination as to the credibility of the witnesses and of written documentation presented at the initial hearing shall be the sole province of the entity that held the initial hearing.

**14.7.3** Questions regarding OSYSA appeals procedures must be submitted, in writing, to the OSYSA Appeals Committee Chairperson.

**14.7.4** Consideration of appeals will be limited to the specific facts, rules and procedures at issue. Matters not relevant to the appeal will not be considered by the OSYSA Appeals Committee.

## **14.8 Mediation**

**14.8.1** At the same time the Appealing Party submits the Notice of Intent to Appeal, the Appealing Party may also submit a Request for Mediation Form. If a properly completed Request for Mediation is submitted concurrently with the Notice of the Intent to Appeal, all of the subsequent time limits contained within this Section 14 are held in abeyance until such time as either the mediation process makes the further processing of the appeal moot or the mediation process does not bring about a mutually successful resolution of the appeal.

**14.8.2** The Request for Mediation form will be addressed to the OSYSA Executive Director in care of the OSYSA office and shall be mailed via US Certified mail.

**14.8.3** Upon receipt of the Request for Mediation form, the OSYSA Executive Director shall contact the Responding Party within 48 hours of the receipt of the form to determine if the Responding Party is willing to accept mediation in the matter that is being appealed.

If the Responding Party does not agree to mediation in the matter, the OSYSA Executive Director shall notify the Appealing Party of such notification within 48 hours that mediation will not take place and shall notify the Appealing Party that all of the time limits relating to the appeals are as if the Request for Mediation had never been submitted.

If the Responding Party agrees to accept mediation of the matter under appeal, the OSYSA President shall, within 7 calendar days of the mutual agreement to accept mediation, appoint a neutral party as a mediator. The mediator using the mediation process as established by US Youth Soccer shall attempt to resolve the matter under appeal within 30 days of their appointment as a mediator.

**14.8.4** If the mediation was successful, then the Appealing Party shall withdraw the appeal and the matter will be settled as mutually agreed to by the Appealing and Responding Parties. In addition, if the mediation is successful the appeal fee that was submitted with the appeal by the Appealing Party shall be returned to the Appealing Party.

**14.8.5** If the mediation was unsuccessful, then the upon notification by the appointed mediator to the OSYSA President that the mediation was unsuccessful, the time limits of the original appeal will be restarted. For purposes of the time limits within this Section 14, the date of the notification by the mediator to the OSYSA President shall be considered as if that was the date that the appeal was originally submitted and the appeals process will be restarted as outlined above.

**14.8.6** The request for mediation, the lack of acceptance of mediation or the failure to agree to a mediated resolution of the matter under appeal shall not be considered during the appeals process either for or against either the Appealing or Responding Party.

# OHIO SOUTH YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPEAL

Submitted to the OSYSA Appeals Chairperson in care of the OSYSA office, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

A. Individual / Organization Filing The Appeal:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Principal Officer or Organization Rendering Original Decision:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK: \_\_\_\_\_

C. This Is An Appeal Of The Decision Of:

\_\_\_\_\_

D. Date Of Decision Being Appealed: \_\_\_\_\_

E. Date Decision Was Received by Party Filing Appeal:

\_\_\_\_\_

F. Specific Grounds For Appeal:

- Failure to comply with or arbitrary application of any Local, State Association, US Youth Soccer or USSF Bylaw, rule, Regulation or Law of the Game. Must state and list rule violated.
- Failure of the organization whose decision is being appealed to provide the party appealing of proper notice or the opportunity to be heard.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that all information that in this appeal is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have read all parts of this form. I have sent a copy of this notice to the organization named in paragraph B and to my state association. I have included the following items. This information is to be sent by certified mail.

The appropriate OSYSA Appeal fee of \$50.00.

Document Directory

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Person Requesting Mediation



# **OHIO SOUTH YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION REQUEST FOR MEDIATION**

Submitted to the OSYSA President, in care of the OSYSA office, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

**A. Individual / Organization Requesting Mediation:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Principal Officer or Organization With Whom Mediation is Requested:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City / State / Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: HOME: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK: \_\_\_\_\_

C. This Is a Request for Mediation following the decision of: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

D. Date Decision Was Rendered: \_\_\_\_\_

It is understood that participation in the OSYSA Mediation process is entirely voluntary by all involved parties. To successfully conclude the mediation process, both the Appealing Party and the Responding party must agree to the proposed resolution of the appeal. If the mediation process is successful, the appeal that was filed concurrently with the request shall be dismissed. If the mediation process is unsuccessful, the original appeal, with its corresponding time limits, will be restarted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Person Requesting Mediation TEAMS**

## **15.1 PURPOSE**

Member Associations, Leagues, Clubs and Teams are covered by general liability and secondary medical insurance subscribed to by OSYSA for all US Youth Soccer games. The purpose of this policy is to give background of the insurance coverage that you receive as a member of OSYSA Member Association and/or League. Further this policy provides the details of the coverage for member Associations, Leagues, Clubs and/or their team(s). In addition, Directors and Officers Insurance is available for OSYSA member Association and Leagues, plus it may be available (as outlined below) for Clubs who enter teams into the programs of OSYSA member Associations and Leagues.

## **15.2 ACTUAL COVERAGE**

**15.2.1** The plan provides a total general liability limit of \$1 million per occurrence, with a total aggregate limit of \$3 million per location. The policy covers the State Association, its affiliated Associations/leagues, clubs teams, coaches, assistant coaches, referees, volunteers, directors and officers (see below for clubs) for the coverage shown below.

**15.2.2** Liability for Bodily Injury and Property Damage is provided for spectators and OSYSA member participants arising out of all sponsored activities, premises and operations of the OSYSA and its members.

**15.2.3** Coverage provided of OSYSA member Association/League for liability is for Personal or Advertising Injury, including false arrest, detention or malicious prosecution, libel, slander, and defamation or violation of right to privacy.

**15.2.4** The Accident portion of the policy covers: all OSYSA registered players and players participating in try-outs conducted by clubs and/or teams who are members of OSYSA member Associations and/or Leagues before registration, coaches, managers, volunteers and other participants affiliated with the Association while participating in OSYSA functions as specified.

**15.2.5** The medical and dental expense coverage is secondary insurance. This means that this insurance only comes into use once the benefits of the covered individual's own medical and dental insurance is exhausted or the covered individual has no medical and/or dental insurance). For qualifying medical and dental expense coverage, the plan pays up to \$50,000 maximum per claim to an Insured Person for medical costs incurred as a direct result of participation in a Covered Activity. This policy is excess over any other valid Insurance or Health Care Plan, and all claims will be paid on a Usual & Customary basis. Each claim is subject to a \$100 Deductible. A completed claim form must be submitted as soon as is practicable after the date of injury.

**15.2.6** An additional benefit for the members of OSYSA under the provided policy is a \$10,000 limit for Accidental Death and Dismemberment claims.

**15.2.7** What is Covered?

- Medical care includes necessary 1) stays in a hospital; 2) medical or surgical treatment by a doctor; and 3) services of a licensed or graduate nurse.
- Usual & Customary payment means fees for services, which do not exceed those generally charged for similar Medical Care in your local area.

### **15.2.8 What is not Covered?**

- Some of the losses that are not covered by the Accident Insurance are: self-inflicted injuries; suicide; war; illness; travel in any aircraft except as a fare-paying passenger on a commercial aircraft; being under the influence of drugs or narcotics; being intoxicated; hernia; pre-existing conditions; and expenses for treatment to the teeth, except for treatment resulting from injury to natural teeth. See the policy for a complete list of exclusions and limitations.

## **15.3 REQUIRED FOR ASSOCIATION, LEAGUE AND TEAM COVERAGE**

**15.3.1** Total Insurance coverage (to the limit provided by the policy entered into on your behalf by OSYSA as outlined above) is in full effect in the following circumstances:

- a. Games played between teams that are members of OSYSA if played within the boundaries of OSYSA (or home fields of OSYSA members who have fields located in another State Association).
- b. Games played between teams from two different US Youth Soccer State Associations if they games are part of a sanctioned league play where the teams from the other US Youth Soccer State Association has permission from their home State Association and OSYSA to participate in that league. Games can be played in OSYSA or in the other State Association.
- c. Friendly games between a team(s) of OSYSA member associations/league and team(s) from another US Youth Soccer member state associations if permission to host friendly games and permission to travel has been granted by the OSYSA and the proper other State Associations.
- d. Friendly games between teams who are members of OSYSA sanctioned member Association or Leagues if the games are played inside of the boundaries of OSYSA.
- e. Games played in OSYSA sanctioned tournaments.
- f. Games played outside of the boundaries of OSYSA in tournaments sanctioned by a State Association that is a member of US Youth Soccer if the team has OSYSA Permission To Travel.
- g. Insurance coverage is provided for all State, Regional and National Cup games and all ODP activities and matches authorized by OSYSA.
- h. General Liability and medical coverage is provided for OSYSA member teams playing games against teams who are members of other US Soccer programs where these games are played in a tournament sanctioned/approved by a US Soccer member and the OSYSA member Association/League team has Permission To Travel. The teams from the other US Soccer program(s) are not covered under the insurance plan provided by OSYSA. To insure this coverage, teams that are members of OSYSA member Association and/or leagues must file a notification to play against teams who are members of organizations who are member of US Soccer. This notification is filed via the OSYSA website at [WWW.OSYSA.COM](http://WWW.OSYSA.COM).
- i. Member Association and Leagues will have general liability coverage for tournaments sanctioned by OSYSA as long as the tournament complies will all requirements for sanctioning. This general liability coverage for the tournament is extended to sanctioned tournament can include other members of other US Soccer programs if all of the established OSYSA tournament requirements are followed.

- j. OSYSA teams upon prior notification of their intent to participate in an event sanctioned by US Soccer or their affiliates will be provided their OSYSA insurance coverage. Under no circumstances is any insurance coverage provided for the games, events or tournament operated by other members of US Soccer.

## **15.4 CIRCUMSTANCES OF LIMITED OR NO COVERAGE**

**15.4.1** Total Insurance coverage (to the limit provided by the policy entered into on your behalf by OSYSA as outlined above) is limited or not in effect for team members of OSYSA member Association and/or Leagues in the following circumstances:

If teams that are members of OSYSA member Association and/or league and have also elected to have dual membership in another US Soccer program. All games by that team as part of that other program are not covered by the OSYSA insurance.

If a team has dual membership and elects to play in the tournament with their membership in the other US Soccer program, the insurance coverage of OSYSA does not apply to these games as the team is participating as a member of the other US Soccer program.

OSYSA sanctioned tournaments that invite and accept teams who are members of another US Soccer program will have coverage under the general liability insurance policy. However, in order to implement this insurance coverage, they must have followed the established OSYSA tournament sanctioning rules. The general liability insurance will not provide the tournament any coverage if any the OSYSA tournament sanctioning rules are not followed.

Under no circumstances will teams who are members of other US Soccer programs or independent of US Soccer be covered under the secondary medical or accidental insurance coverage of the OSYSA policy.

## **15.5 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS INSURANCE**

**15.5.1** D & O Coverage is provided for the Board of Directors of all OSYSA member Association and Leagues. In addition, it can be made available to all Boards of Directors of Clubs who enter teams into OSYSA member Association and Leagues as outlined below. The D&O coverage is only for actions taken on behalf of OSYSA and/or US Youth Soccer Activities. Non-soccer activities or soccer activities related to other soccer programs are not covered.

**15.5.2** This plan provides protection for lawsuits against the directors and officers of OSYSA member Associations and Leagues, for actual or alleged wrongful acts and errors and omissions. The policy provides protection for individuals, league officials and volunteers in their collective capacity as officers of the Association/League. The policy also provides coverage for suits brought against the league entity itself.

**15.5.3** The D&O Policy Limits per Policy Year; \$1,000,000.00 per claim, \$1,000,000.00 total payments and a \$1,000 per claim deductible.

**15.5.4** Examples of Claims covered by this policy: Lawsuits seeking damages for claims of discrimination, wrongful suspension of players, acts beyond the authority of the league, wrongful dismissal of coaches, or failure to provide adequate insurance.

**15.5.5** This plan does not provide coverage for lawsuits involving bodily injury or property damage. Those are covered under the team or league's general liability policy.

**15.5.6** This coverage is written on a "claims made basis." All claims under this policy must be reported to the insurance company within the policy term.

## **15.6 CLUB COVERAGE - OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

**15.6.1** Subject to the regulations and policies of the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, D&O insurance will be available to any soccer club that is affiliated with an OSYSA member Association and/or League and registers all (100%) of their soccer players and soccer coaches through their sanctioned member League/Association with OSYSA.

**15.6.2** The roster of names, addresses, telephone numbers and positions held of the board of directors members for their soccer club and name of their member League/Association shall be submitted to OSYSA by the soccer club upon the designated or OSYSA form (or any form acceptable to OSYSA). Only those persons whose names, address, telephone numbers and position held that are submitted to OSYSA are covered under this policy. The D&O policy goes into effect on September 1 or if after September 1 when the roster is received.

**15.6.3** In order to implement coverage, the Club who enters all it's teams in OSYSA Member Associations and/or Leagues is to complete the Annual Registration Form that can be acquired from the OSYSA website at [WWW.OSYSA.COM](http://WWW.OSYSA.COM). This completed Agreement form is to be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$25.00 and sent to the OSYSA office.

**15.6.4** The term of the D&O coverage shall be from September 1st of each calendar year through August 31st of the following year. In order to keep continuous D&O coverage from year to year, the soccer club must submit their roster and payment before September 1 of each year.

**15.6.5** The registration of the board of directors of a soccer club does not give or provide that soccer club or the members of its board of directors any unique, additional rights or privileges in OSYSA except for the D&O insurance coverage authorized by the OSYSA policy.

**15.6.6** Updated rosters indicating changes in the names, addresses, telephone numbers, or positions held on the board of directors of a soccer club may be submitted to OSYSA at any time after September 1 of each year. Only Directors/Officers included on the list or revised list provided to OSYSA are covered under the OSYSA policy. Newly listed members of the Board of Directors of the Soccer Club are only covered effective with the date that they revised list is received at OSYSA.

**15.6.7** The terms, coverage and limits as outlined in the **15.5** are the same and apply equally to the D&O coverage provided to the Clubs that are members of Associations and/or Leagues that are sanctioned members of OSYSA.

**15.6.8** This coverage is applicable only for the registered club and its Board of Directors for actions related to OSYSA and/or US Youth Soccer activities.

## **SECTION 16 Zero Tolerance Policy Against Abuse**

The Ohio South Youth Soccer Association is committed to providing a safe environment for its members and participants, and to preventing abusive conduct in any form. Every member of this organization is responsible for protecting our participants and ensuring their safety and well being while involved in sponsored activities.

To this end, we have established the following guidelines of behavior and procedures for our staff, volunteers and participants. All members of this organization, as well as parents, spectators and other invitees are expected to observe and adhere to these guidelines.

1. Abuse of any kind is not permitted within our organization. This means we do not tolerate physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse or misconduct from our players, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents or spectators.

2. Physical and sexual abuse, including, but not limited to, striking, hitting, kicking, biting, indecent or wanton gesturing, lewd remarks, indecent exposure, unwanted physical contact, any form of sexual contact or inappropriate touching, are strictly prohibited within our organization.

3. Emotional abuse or verbal abuse is also prohibited. These include, but are not limited to such forms of abuse as: yelling, insulting, threatening, mocking, demeaning behavior, or making abusive statements in regard to a person's race, gender, religion, nationality/ethnicity, sex or age.

4. We are committed to providing a safe environment for our players, participants and staff. We do so by appointing all coaches, officials and volunteers and anyone else affiliated with our organization as protection advocates. Every member of this organization is responsible for reporting any cases of questionable conduct or alleged mistreatment toward our members by any coach, official, volunteer, player, parent, sibling or spectator.

5. Buddy System: We recommend that every activity sponsored by our program put a Buddy System in place. Each youth participant should be assigned a buddy during sponsored activities. No child should go anywhere -to the bathrooms, locker rooms, or other location without his or her buddy.

6. To further protect our youth participants, as well as our coaches, officials and volunteers, we strongly advise that no adult person allow him/herself to be alone with a child or with any group of children during sponsored activities. In particular, we recommend that coaches or other adult members of this organization:

- Do not drive alone with a child participant in the car.
- Do not take a child alone to the locker room, bathrooms or any other any other private room.
- Provide one-on-one training or individual coaching with the assistance of another adult or the child's Buddy.
- If you must have a private conversation with a youth participant, do it within view of others, in the gym or on the field, instead of in a private office.
- Coaches and other adult members of this organization should not socialize individually with the participants outside of sponsored activities

7. Supervision/Chaperone ratio: We recommend that for any sponsored activity, the ratio of adults to youth participants be 1:8, one (or more) adults for every eight children, with a minimum of two adults for every activity.
8. When traveling overnight with youth participants, children should be paired up with other children of same gender and similar age group, with chaperones in separate but nearby rooms.
9. We want to empower our children to trust their feelings and let them know that their concerns, fears and hopes are important by listening to them. Open communication between children and parents, or between children and other adults in the organization may help early warning signs of abuse to surface.
10. We encourage parents to become as active as possible in sponsored activities, games, practices and other events. The more the parents are involved, the less likely it is for abusive situations to develop.
11. We will respond quickly to any and all allegations of abuse within this organization. This information will be communicated to the authorities for investigation and will be reviewed by the organization's directors. The alleged offender will be notified of such allegations promptly.
12. Any person accused of sexual or physical abuse may be asked to resign voluntarily or may be suspended by the board until the matter is resolved. Regardless of criminal or civil guilt in the alleged abuse, the continued presence of the person could be detrimental to the reputation of the organization and could be harmful to the participants. A person who is accused but later cleared of charges, may apply to be reinstated within the organization. Reinstatement is not a right, and no guarantee is made that he or she will be reinstated to his/her former position.
13. We promote good sportsmanship throughout the organization and encourage qualities of mutual respect, courtesy and tolerance in all participants, coaches, officials and volunteers. We advocate building strong self-images among the youth participants. Children with a strong self-image may be less likely targets for abuse; similarly, they may be less likely to abuse or bully others around them.

## **SECTION 17.0**

### **OHIO SOUTH GUIDELINES FOR LIGHTNING AND HAZARDOUS WEATHER CONDITIONS**

The protection of Ohio South members and participants is of paramount importance. Every member should recognize the danger presented by lightning, tornados and other hazardous weather. The following items represent generally accepted principles regarding the dangers involved with lightning and tornados.

#### **LIGHTNING:**

- All thunderstorms produce lightning and are dangerous.
- Lightning often strikes as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall. You are in danger from lightning if you can hear thunder. You are in danger if you can see lightning.
- Lightning injuries can lead to permanent disabilities or death. Look for dark cloud bases and increasing wind.
- Lightning can travel sideways for up to 10 miles and strike when skies are blue.
- Soccer fields are a dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. When lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or when dark threatening clouds are observed, quickly suspend the game and/or practice and move to a safe location.
- Avoid standing in an open area, near soccer goals, under a tent, near trees or in water. The safest place during a thunderstorm with or without visible lightning is in a car, but not a convertible.

#### **TORNADOS:**

- Watch for rapidly darkening skies.
- The sound of an approaching tornado is often described as that of an approaching train.
- The funnel of a tornado does not have to touch down to cause extensive damage and injuries.
- Tornados can produce winds of 300 miles per hour or more.
- Most people who are hurt during a tornado are hurt when they are struck by flying debris.
- Seek safety in a solid structure, preferably in a basement or in an interior room. If no building is available, lay down in a ditch.

#### **GAME SUSPENSION REQUIREMENTS:**

In any of the circumstances outlined below occurs, the referee should immediately suspend the game.

1. If thunder is heard, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
2. If lightning is seen, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
3. If a thunderstorm is heard or seen coming or your hair stands on end, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter. Do not wait until it rains.
4. If an audible tornado warning is heard, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.

If the game official does not immediately suspend the game when any one of the points above have occurred, the head coach from each team can agree that one of the four criteria listed above have occurred they are to withdraw their teams from the field. If this action is taken, then both coaches must submit a written report to their league outlining the circumstances, the facts concerning the weather conditions at that time, the fact that the two coaches were in agreement and the name of the officials at the game.

If an official and one of the coaches do not reach the conclusion to suspend the game and any one of the four points listed above are believed to have occurred, the coach that supported the suspension of the game is to send a written report to their league outlining the facts and the names of the officials.

No one should retake the field or re-start the game until all of the lightning and thunder or other hazardous weather has left the area. Specifically, no one should retake the field for a minimum of 30 minutes after the last lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or the dangerously high winds have passed.

Each league should establish their own procedures for replaying of any games suspended due to lightning or tornados.

## **Section 18.0          A Player's Right To Choose**

**18.1** All players have the right and opportunity to choose which team, club or association of teams tryouts they wish to attend. No team, club, association of teams, or OSYSA member league may violate, infringe or restrict this basic right for players in any manner. Players, parents and coaches must also recognize that players are bound to the team for the entire seasonal year once they sign a player registration form, subject the rules of OSYSA and their member leagues regarding player transfers and voluntary quits.

**18.1.1** This entire Section **18.0** is applicable only within those competitive leagues that do not have established rules that are substantially similar in scope to the ideals and concepts put forth in this Section **18.0**. A competitive league's rules shall be deemed to be in compliance with the requirements of this Section **18.1.1** unless the OSYSA Board of Directors determines that the competitive league's rules are not substantially similar in scope to the ideals and concepts put forth in this Section **18.0**

**18.2** All teams, clubs and association of teams are required to provide written notification of the "Player's Right To Choose" to all players when they elect to tryout and/or are made an offer without a tryout for a team, club or association of teams.

**18.3** Paragraphs **18.3.1** through **18.3.6** are examples of actions that would restrict, violate and/or infringe upon the "Player's Right To Choose" and are prohibited under this section.

**18.3.1** Inform a player that if he/she elects to attend tryouts of other teams, clubs or associations of teams that he/she would not be offered a position with that team, club or association of teams.

**18.3.2** If a team, club or association of teams, hold tryouts on more than one occasion, require a player to attend all tryouts of a team, club or association of teams in order to be offered a position with that team, club or association of teams.

**18.3.3** Require a fee, charge or payment in advance of, during or immediately after tryouts, as a basis of trying out for that team, club or association of teams.

**18.3.4** Require that a player commit to the team, club or association of teams as a condition to attend tryouts.

**18.3.5** Require that a player immediately commit to join that team, club or association of teams at the conclusion of the tryouts.

**18.3.6** Make any offer to join a team, club or association of teams prior to the tryout date(s) of the team, club or association of teams. This section is not applicable to a player's current team, club or association of teams.

**18.4** Players have the right to transfer during the seasonal year (subject to league and OSYSA transfers rules and OSYSA State Cup roster requirements). Clubs, teams or association of teams may not initiate contact with a player concerning a transfer. A player, if he/she has an interest, may

elect to contact another team. Once contact has been made by a player, the team may have contact with that player.

**18.5** If a player submits an OSYSA Voluntary Quit form or if a player transfers prior to the first game of the seasonal year for that team, the team is strongly encouraged to make a fair and appropriate pro-rata return of any fees paid based on expenses already incurred or paid by the team for the benefit of the team.

**18.6** Players, parents, other teams, clubs, association of teams or OSYSA member leagues may bring complaints against any team, club or association of teams. Any officer, board member, State Commissioner or District Commissioner of Ohio South may also directly bring such complaints against any team, club or association of teams for infringement, violation or restriction of the “Player’s Right to Choose”.

**18.6.1** Alleged violations of this Section **18.0** are to be considered non-concurrently. For example, if a club were to handout an information sheet that spelled out players must attend all tryouts that the club is holding, (a violation of section **18.3.2**), to 40 players, then that would be considered as 40 separate violations of this Section **18.0**.

**18.7** Any complaint concerning an alleged violation of this Section 18 shall first be directed to the OSYSA member league for whom the team, club or association of teams, is a member, except as provided in Section **18.9**. If the OSYSA member league finds in favor of the complainant then the only sanction that may be imposed by the member league against the team, club or association of teams that was found to have violated one or more of the above listed player rights is a maximum fine of \$400.00 for a first offense and a maximum fine of \$800.00 for a second or subsequent offense by that team, club or association of teams, within a three year period. All fines levied following a decision by the member league, pursuant to this Section **18.0**, shall be paid to the member league.

**18.8** If the OSYSA member league does not handle the complaint within 30 days of its filing with the OSYSA member league or if the team, club or association of teams is not currently a member of an OSYSA member league or if the complaint is made against an OSYSA member league, then the complainant may file the complaint with the OSYSA Conduct Committee.

**18.9** In addition, if the complainant is a member of a league different from that of the league of which the team, club or association of teams is a member of that is alleged to have infringed or violated the provisions of this Section 18.0, then that complaint shall be heard by the OSYSA Conduct Committee.

**18.10** If the OSYSA Conduct Committee finds in favor of the complainant then the only sanction that may be imposed by the OSYSA Conduct Committee against the team, club, association of teams or OSYSA member league that was found to have violated one or more of the above listed player rights is a maximum fine of \$400.00 for a first offense and a maximum fine of \$800.00 for a second or subsequent offense by that team, club, association of teams or OSYSA member league, within a three year period. All fines levied following a decision by the OSYSA Conduct Committee, pursuant to this Section 18.0, shall be paid to OSYSA.

**18.11** Leagues may establish additional restrictions and requirements regarding the method and timing of tryouts that are held for teams that have or that will participate in that league.