

SANCTIONED LEAGUE GUIDELINES/ LEAGUE DEFINITIONS:

A. Recreational League

1. Recreation programs are designated for local community, inter teams can be structured around formal club teams or as an academy-based format. The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to register players selectively to any team on the basis of ability is prohibited; and affiliate member leagues must accept any and all eligible youth players (subject to reasonable terms of registration).
2. Administrators will have a system of rostering players to establish a balanced distribution of playing talent among all teams; and league rules require that each player must play at least one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline.
3. Results and standings should not be recorded for 7v7 and 9v9; events (tournaments, showcases, festivals, etc.) should provide a predetermined number of games with no advancement, placement games or champions.
4. Recreation leagues are formed to provide recreation members with the opportunity to engage in competition with other members. Membership is often formed around AYSA districts, school zones, or club membership.
5. Member passes not required for league play, but league rosters will be required.
6. Deliberate heading is prohibited in 7v7 and 9v9 league games
 - If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense
 - If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred

B. Competitive/Travel League

1. Competitive leagues provide an elevated level of competition for players who are more motivated to train, improve their skills, and compete against like-skilled opponents. Competitive has an associated rise in the cost of participation, training, administrative expectations, and travel distances. Playing time is not guaranteed.
2. Competitive players/teams generally develop from Recreational programs /leagues and league membership is generally based on local zip codes but can also include teams from other clubs and districts.
3. Competitive affiliate teams can compete in competitive competitions, including State League and State Cup.
4. Results and standings should not be recorded for 7v7 and 9v9; events (tournaments, showcases, festivals, etc.) should provide a predetermined number of games with no advancement, placement games or championships.
5. Member passes, and league rosters will be required for players and adults for league play.
6. Deliberate heading is not allowed in 7v7 and 9v9 games.
 - If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense.
 - If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

Player Development Philosophy PDI (7v7 / 9v9) Guidelines; (Refer to the AYSA 10-U and Younger Comp Players Policy)

SANCTIONED LEAGUE DEFINITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:

League: a structured group of 4 or more teams joined for the purpose inter- team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules; and is differentiated from another league by the rules that govern the rostering of affiliate players to each league's teams, and the different terms used to describe each league do not necessarily reflect the level of ability or talent of teams participating in the league.

Intra Club League: A league structured and promoted from within the Club; players are current members of the club, players from outside of the club membership will not be participating.

League Team: means a team that participates in regularly scheduled league play.

Player: means a youth player registered in accordance with USYSA and AYSA policy and guidelines.

Format and Roster Size: means sanctioned tournaments/ leagues will follow the USYS/ AYSA birth year and calendar year matrix along with the AYSA play up, and player allowances guidelines.

Player and Adult Passes: Competitive players and adults participating in competitive league play will use US Youth Soccer player and adult member passes to identify the players and adults listed on the team roster.

Adult Verification: All adults INCLUDING THOSE not registered with an Alaska Affiliated Club or League must submit an AYSA background check application, review the AYSA Code of Conduct, and complete the Abuse Prevention Training prior to interaction with athletes in recreational and competitive programs.

Certificates of Insurance: means sanctioned tournaments/ leagues will have a current certificate for each facility.

League Rules: Club, League and/or Affiliate Association will be in accordance with USYSA and AYSA polices and guidelines. A copy of the League Rules will be included with the Sanctioned Event Annual Application.

Concussions: Club, League and/or Affiliate Association must have a current Concussion Guideline which must be filed with AYSA and follow the USYS Concussion Guidelines and Procedures.

Goal Safety Policy: Club, League or Affiliate must have a current Goal Safety Policy which must be filed with AYSA.