

**CORAL SPRINGS YOUTH SOCCER, INC.**

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**2025-2026 SEASON**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SECTION 1 - GENERAL RULES OF ORDER</u> .....	3
<u>SECTION 2 – RULE CHANGES LOG</u> .....	3
<u>SECTION 3 - PLAYERS</u> .....	5
<u>SECTION 4 - COACHES</u> .....	6
<u>SECTION 5 - REFEREES</u> .....	9
<u>SECTION 6 – PRACTICES</u> .....	10
<u>SECTION 7 – GAMES</u> .....	10
<u>SECTION 8 - “U6” and “U8” PROGRAMS</u> .....	15
<u>SECTION 9 - FOULS, MISCONDUCTS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS</u> .....	20
<u>SECTION 10 - ASSAULT AND/OR BATTERY AGAINST A REFEREE</u> .....	25
<u>SECTION 11 - PROTESTS</u> .....	27
<u>SECTION 12 - INSURANCE AND LIABILITY</u> .....	28
<u>SECTION 13 - CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY</u> .....	28
<u>SECTION 14 - TEAM MAKEUP POLICY</u> .....	29

# CORAL SPRINGS YOUTH SOCCER RULES AND REGULATIONS

## SECTION 1 - GENERAL RULES OF ORDER

- A. The seasonal year is defined as the period of time between August 1st of each year and July 31st of the following year.
- B. The rules and regulations contained herein shall govern members of Coral Springs Youth Soccer, Inc. (CSYS) in all cases in which the rules are applicable and consistent with the Articles of Incorporation and By-laws of CSYS. The Board of Directors of CSYS reserves the right to amend, change or modify the applicability of these rules and regulations at any time. All competition shall be governed by the rules stated herein, unless the rules of a specific competition dictate otherwise.

## SECTION 2 – RULE CHANGES LOG

The following FIFA rule amendments will or have been adopted by CSYS as of the season of note:

Law Number	Topic	New Rule	Season Adopted
Law 3	Substitutes	On free substitute games, players can leave at any sideline and do not have to leave near the 50 yard line.	2019-2020
Law 5	Team Officials	A team official (coach) guilty of misconduct can be shown a yellow or red card	2019-2020
Law 7	Medical Breaks	Cooling breaks of 90 secs to 2 mins or drink breaks up to 1 min are now allowed Water breaks - if it's hot enough we need to do them. <b>That should be determined by a board member at the beginning of each day of play, and then it applies to all games.</b> Even when it's not so hot, the turf is REALLY hot.	2019-2020
Law 8	Kick Off	The team that wins the toss can now choose to either have the ball or chose the side to defend.	2019-2020

<b>Law Number</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>New Rule</b>	<b>Season Adopted</b>
Law 8 and 9	Dropped Ball	<p>If play is stopped inside the penalty area the ball will be dropped to the Goal Keeper</p> <p>If play is stopped outside of the penalty area, the ball will be dropped to 1 player of the team in possession. All other players should be 4-5yds from the dropped ball in any direction</p> <p>If ball touches a referee and goes in the goal, team possession changes or a promising attack starts, a dropped ball is given and goes back to the team in possession.</p>	2019-2020
Law 8	Restarting Play	<p>A free kick/penalty kick can only be awarded for an offense against someone on the team lists (players, subs, sent-off players, team officials) or a match official</p> <p>If play is stopped because of an incident involving any other person, animal, object etc. (outside agent), play restarts with a dropped ball, except where a free kick is awarded for leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.</p>	2020-2021
Law 11	Offside	<p>For the purposes of determining an offside position, the hands and arms of all players (including goalkeepers) are not considered. Instead, the upper boundary of the arm is considered to be in line with the bottom of the armpit.</p> <p>This change is made because the shoulder is not considered part of the arm for a handball, and therefore it's a part of the body with which a goal can be scored and must be considered when judging offside.</p> <p>Remember, the bottom of the armpit isn't the same as the bottom of the shirt sleeve!</p>	2020-2021
Law 12	Fouls & Misconduct	<p>The send-off offense of "Offensive, insulting or abusive language/action(s)" is now defined as "Verbal or physical behavior which is rude, hurtful, disrespectful; punishable by a sending-off (red card)"</p>	2020-2021

<b>Law Number</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>New Rule</b>	<b>Season Adopted</b>
Law 12	Quick Free Kick when yellow or red card	A non-offending team is now allowed to take a quick free kick and the referee does not have to hold up play. The card will be issued at the next stoppage of play.	2019-2020
Law 12	Celebrations	If a goal is disallowed and the player removes his shirt the caution is still issued	2019-2020
Law 12	Handball	<p>Accidental handball by a team-mate before a goal is scored and accidental handball creating a goal-scoring opportunity have been removed as offences.</p> <p>It is still a handball if the player puts themselves in an unnatural position, moves toward the ball with their arms/hands, or makes themselves unnaturally larger using their arms/hands.</p> <p>This hereby rescinds the rule in the row above this one (marked with strikethrough).</p>	2020-2021
Law 12	Handball	<p>Not every contact of handball is an offense. A player's hand/arm position must be judged relative to their body movement in that situation.</p> <p>It is an offence if a player:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Deliberately touches the ball with their hand/arm by moving it toward the ball or by making their body unnaturally bigger (and thus risked having their hand/arm struck and being penalized for it).</li> <li>■ Scores in the opponent's goal directly from their hand/arm, even if accidental</li> <li>■ Scores in the opponent's goal immediately after the ball has touched their hand/arm, even if accidental.</li> </ul>	2020-2021

<b>Law Number</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>New Rule</b>	<b>Season Adopted</b>
Law 13	Free Kicks	If the wall has 3 or more defending players, the attacking team is not allowed within 1yd of the wall. If this happens an Indirect free kick to defending team will be awarded	2019-2020
Law 13	Free Kicks	All free kicks in the penalty area. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves and no longer needs to leave the penalty area before it is in play. All opponent players must be outside the penalty area unless a quick kick is taken and they do not have time to leave the area	2019-2020
Law 14	Penalty Kick	The player taking the kick may receive treatment/assessment and then take the kick The Goal Keeper must not be touching the posts/crossbar or net and must not be moving The Goal Keeper must have at least part of 1 foot on the goal line when the kick is taken	2019-2020
Law 16	Goal Kick	The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves and does not need to leave the penalty area. All opponent players must be outside the penalty area unless a quick kick is taken and they do not have time to leave the penalty area If an opponent who is in the penalty area when the goal kick is taken, or enters the penalty area before the ball is in play, touches or challenges for the ball before it is in play, the goal kick is retaken.	2019-2020

**Yellow Card criteria.** Players who receive 3 yellow cards, during the season, will be penalized with a 1 game suspension. Another 3 yellow cards in season will be penalized with a 2 game suspension.

### **SECTION 3 - PLAYERS**

- A. All children participating in the CSYS program will be registered by age according to the guidelines set by the Registrar and Board of Directors.
- B. A Wait List will be activated when an age group is full. The cut-off date to be added to the Wait List is February 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the start of the Soccer Bowl Tournament. Furthermore, no player will be added to a team during the Soccer Bowl Playoffs unless that player has been on the Wait List as of February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- C. A player will be assigned to an age group for the entire seasonal year based on his/her age on the day before the seasonal year begins. Thus, a player will be assigned to an age group

for the seasonal year beginning August 1st based on his/her age as of the preceding July 31st. Players attaining the limiting age for any age group on or after August 1st will continue to play in the age group to which they were originally assigned for the remainder of that seasonal year.

- D. All divisions unless otherwise sanctioned by the Board of Directors shall divide play among teams of equal age groupings as follows:

"20U" - has not exceeded 20 years of age on (Soccer Bowl Day) of the seasonal year.

"U16" - has not reached 16 years of age before August 1st of the seasonal year.

"U15" - has not reached 15 years of age before January 31st of the seasonal year.

"U14" - has not reached 14 years of age before August 1st of the seasonal year.

"U12" - has not reached 12 years of age before August 1st of the seasonal year.

"U10" - has not reached 10 years of age before August 1st of the seasonal year.

"U8" - has not reached 8 years of age before August 1st of the seasonal year.

"U6" - has not reached 6 years of age before August 1st of the seasonal year, but has reached his/her 4th birthday by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the seasonal year.

- E. Under special circumstances and with the advanced approval of the Board of Directors, children will be permitted to **play up** one age group. **Play down** is not permitted for any player for any reason.

- F. Roster size for "U10" teams shall be no more than 13 players with no more than 10 players on the field at one time. Final roster numbers and number of players on the field during play will be finalized subsequent to registration for the U10 age groups. Roster size for "U12 to 19U" teams shall be approximately 14 players per team, at the discretion of the registrar, with 11 players on the field at one time. \*player counts and age group breakdowns for teams may vary in a particular season based on extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the board of directors. All significant changes will be enacted as soon as reasonably possible in order to ensure coaches, parents and players are aware.

- G. Any player may be called upon to prove his/her age by CSYS. Only a United States birth certificate, United States Passport, United States Certificate of Naturalization, or Alien Registration card issued by the United States Government shall be acceptable for proof of age.

- H. All players should attend all scheduled practices and games. Persistent failure to attend practices or games without a valid excuse shall be cause for total or partial suspension from the next regularly scheduled game but only with advance notification to the Age-Group Director and the approval of the Vice President. (See SECTION III COACHES, Para. "G")

- I. The Board of Directors takes extraordinary efforts to balance the teams to foster a more even level of competition and to make soccer more fun for the players. With over 2,000 players in the program, this is a massive and time intensive undertaking. Because of the complexity and difficulty involved with making changes after team assignments have been made, as a general rule, the Board discourages changes in team assignments initiated by

the player or parent.

We will only change a player's team assignment, at the request of the parent, for the following reason: Both nights of the practice time for the team to which the player was originally assigned conflict with religious training. These participants who have a conflict will be placed at the end of the wait-list for their age-group and assigned to a new team as an opening occurs. Placement of players on teams from the waitlist is at the sole discretion of the Registrar. Placing a player on a specific team via player or parent request is not allowed under any circumstance once teams have been officially created, and only before this time if coaching or sponsor slot rules are followed. (See Section 14)

The Board of Directors may also change a player's team assignment for other extraordinary reasons. However, conflicts with other athletic commitments, personality conflicts (with a coach, other player, or other parent) and similar reasons will generally not be considered by the Board as sufficient reason to make a team assignment change.

- J. Players shall abide by the Rules and Regulations at all times. Failure to comply with the Rules and Regulations may result in disciplinary action determined by the Director of Arbitration.

## SECTION 4 - COACHES

- A. The Coach is responsible for maintaining his/her own coaching skills.

- 1. All Coaches in CSYS will be required to attend an introductory coaching course (required for all coaches) and an advanced coaching course (required for coaches with two or more years of experience in CSYS), in order to be certified as a CSYS Coach. CSYS will honor current, valid coaching certificates and licenses obtained from other soccer organizations within or outside the State of Florida, but reserves the right to require that individual to obtain certification from CSYS.

- B. The Coach is responsible for developing the individual and team skills of the players on his/her team, and for ensuring that the players, parents and spectators of his/her team conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner while participating in any CSYS related activity. The following rules of conduct shall be observed:

- 1. Coaches shall support the Referee's decisions and refrain from engaging any referee directly. Issues with game decisions should be entered onto the scorecard that is to be turned into the league. Coaches may engage league directors directly in a calm manner to note any issues that they have observed. **Under no circumstances will a director change a decision that has been finalized by a referee regardless of perceived severity or importance.** The Referee shall have discretionary power to discuss or not to discuss his/her decision.

- 2. Coaching is limited to providing directions to the coach's own team for encouragement and instructional purposes.

3. Coaches and/or Assistant Coaches shall not, by either their remarks or gestures, in any manner, incite or be guilty of disruptive behavior, which includes verbal criticism of the referees. They may be ejected from the field at the Referee's discretion. Such ejection shall result in a minimum of a one game suspension along with further disciplinary action as specified in Section VIII or as determined by the Director of Arbitration. Furthermore, significant disruptive behavior by either a coach, player or parent may lead to, at the discretion of a board member, a game being stopped, and in a addition, a team may be disqualified for that game with the other team recording a 2-0 victory, regardless of what the current score of the game was. Disqualification decisions will be reviewed by the Director of Arbitration.

4. At the conclusion of the game, all the coaches and their teams will line up on the halfway line to congratulate the other team; win, lose or draw. Coaches are responsible for instructing their players in sportsmanship in this ceremony. Hitting, kicking, punching, spitting on the hands or filling ones' hand with dirt all constitute unsportsmanlike conduct and the Referee may issue a **caution or ejection** depending upon the severity of the offense. As per rule 3 above, significant disruptive behavior by either a coach, player or parent may lead to, at the discretion of a board member, a team being disqualified for that game with the other team recording a 2-0 victory, regardless of what the final outcome of the game was. Disqualification decisions will be reviewed by the Director of Arbitration.

5. For the U06 and U08 age groups, both teams will be positioned on the same side of the field. Teams will each take the same half of the side of the field for the entirety of the game. Parents will be allowed to sit near their children on the same side of the field. The side of the fields that will be occupied by the players / teams will be determined by the referee prior to the beginning of the game. "Home" teams and their spectators will take the southern half or eastern half of the field, while the "Away" team teams and their spectators will that the northern half or western half of the field.

Starting with the U10 age group, teams will both be positioned on the same side of the field with spectators positioned on the opposite side. Teams will each take the same half of the side of the field for the entirety of the game. Spectators are asked to be across the field from their respective teams in separate halves of the field. The side of the fields that will be occupied by the players / teams will be determined by the referee prior to the beginning of the game. "Home" teams and their spectators will take the southern half or eastern half of the field, while the "Away" team teams and their spectators will that the northern half or western half of the field.

6. The Head Coach will be responsible for the actions and language of his spectators and Assistant Coach. All spectators must remain in the bleachers or a reasonable distance back from the touch line (as determined by the referee) during the game, and shall maintain proper decorum at all times. All tents, awnings, etc with solid poles or supporting devices must be placed at least 5 yards away from the field. Failure to keep control of parents will result in a **caution or ejection** and possible further disciplinary action by the Director of Arbitration as per rules 3 and 4 above.

7. Coaches are not allowed to smoke, vape or chew during all CSYS games and practices and it is prohibited in the turf area – per Coral Springs Parks and Rec. It is strongly recommended that spectators follow the same policy. City of Coral Springs regulations prohibit smoking, vaping or chewing by anyone on or near playing fields, benches and spectator areas.

- C. With the exception of the U06 age groups, coaches must, at all times during play, remain within the "technical area", whether or not this area is marked on the field. The "technical area" is defined as being one (1) yard back from the touchline and within ten (10) yards either side of the halfway line. Coaching from outside the "technical area" will be considered an encroachment by the referee and is a cautionable offense. Head Coaches and/or Assistant Coaches will not come onto the field, unless motioned to do so by the Referee. No one will be permitted to remain behind the goal or near the goal line during play.

U06 Age Groups Only: There are no assigned referees for the U06 age groups. One head coach from each team will be on the field with the players acting as both coach and referee. The head coach from the home team will be the “referee” for the first half, and the head coach for the visiting team will be the “referee” for the second half. **Coaches are to work together to support the development of both teams in all soccer related areas such as rules, strategy and most importantly sportsmanship.**

- D. The Head Coach is responsible for ensuring that each player participates in at least the required amount of playing time for each game (see section VI.B.4).
- E. The Head Coach is responsible for attending practices and games during the scheduled time. If the Coach cannot be present, the coach must make arrangements for the approved Assistant Coach to oversee the practice or game.
- F. Only the Head Coach may protest a game.
- G. Discipline:
1. Persistent unexcused absences from practices and/or games and conduct unbecoming a member of the team are valid reasons for disciplinary action against a player.
  2. **Before** a player is restricted from playing the minimum required time, the disciplinary action requested **must be from the Age-Group Director and approved in advance** by the Vice President. Coaches must make their request to the Age-Group Director at least 3 days prior to the scheduled game time.
  3. Failure to comply with paragraph G.2. shall result in forfeiture of the game and appearance of the Coach before the Board or its appointed Committee.
- H. During league scheduled games coaches may only field players who have been properly

registered to their team by the CSYS Registrar. Violation of this rule may result in forfeiture of the game results and in addition will result in suspension of the coach for a period of time as determined by the Director of Coaches and the Director of Arbitration.

- I. The Head Coach is responsible for classifying each player on his/her team according to skill level, and to submit this classification to his/her Age-Group Representative no later than the last regular seasonal game. Coaches who do not submit this classification may be restricted from future coaching assignments and/or be subject to other disciplinary action as determined by the Board of Directors.

Classification is designed as a measure of each player's skill level in relationship to the level of the entire Age-Group.

Classification is used to by the Board of Directors to help balance team skill levels for the next season.

Classification should take into account each player's individual technical skills but should be heavily weighted by the player's team play and match performance. When submitting the players' classifications, the coach must indicate all Goal-keepers.

**The following are the classifications to be used:**

- 1. exceptional-** has thorough understanding of game and consistently performs at standout level across the entire age group. Has ability to single-handedly influence outcome of games. Very few player should be rated as (1)'s. It is not necessary that the best player on a team is automatically rated a "1".
- 2. above average-** understands game, can perform most skills well and contributes such that they have an impact of the game outcome.
- 3. average-** your everyday dependable player who for the most part has the basic skills and is improving as season progresses. Most players fall into this category.
- 4. below average-** this player has limited skills and needs more coaching and guidance. Weaknesses outnumber strengths.
- 5. developmental-** this player has limited physical capabilities and skills along with minimal effort applied on their part. Very few players should likewise be rated as (5)'s. It is not necessary that the worst player on a team is automatically rated a "5".

- J. Coaches who have completed the required training and who have met all other CSYS criteria for coaches shall be issued Passcards for the current season. Each coach must openly display his/her Passcard. Coaches shall not be permitted to coach during a practice or game unless they display their Passcard. CSYS Board of Directors has final rule

implementation if there are any extenuating circumstances.

- K. All coaches shall submit to a criminal background check to be provided by C.S.Y.S prior to the start of each seasonal year. Such background check may be used to determine eligibility to coach during that season.

## **SECTION 5 - REFEREES**

- A. All referees shall be properly trained, currently active and in good standing to be eligible to referee matches of the Club. The referee may be a U.S.S.F. licensed referee or be certified by CSYS. The referee shall act in accordance with the "Laws of the Game" as published by U.S.S.F., and/or modified by CSYS.
- B. The Referee is responsible for notifying the Assignor of Referees as soon as possible but at least 24 hours prior to game time if he/she cannot referee a game as scheduled, in order that a replacement may be found. Any referee failing to do so shall be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Director of Referees.
- C. Upon completion of the Game, the referee will complete and submit a game card. All unusual incidents must be reported to the Director of Coaches, Director of Referees and the Director of Arbitration via a separate game report within 24 hours of the game. All ejections issued by the Referee must be reported in writing on The Ejection Report Form within 24 hours.
- D. In the event that a Referee also serves as a Coach, or participates as a player, that individual shall not be assigned to officiate a game in his/her division. Further, no Referee shall referee a game in which any relative is involved.
- E. Referees who are also coaches may not coach their team while dressed in their Referee uniform. If referees are spectators at a game they must be in the stands and either cover their uniform or change out of it.
- F. Specific referee procedures, not covered in the Rules and Regulations, are outlined in the Coral Springs Youth Soccer Referee Manual.
- G. All referees who have reached 18 years of age shall submit to a criminal background check to be provided by C.S.Y.S prior to the start of each seasonal year. Such background check may be used to determine eligibility to referee during that season.

## **SECTION 6 – PRACTICES**

- A. Practice schedules, times and fields for teams, as set by the Director of Fields and Scheduling shall be strictly adhered to. Coaches found to be holding non-scheduled practices will be suspended for a minimum of two games or as determined by the Director of Coaches and the Director of Arbitration.
- B. Practice facilities (including goals) shall be shared equally by teams engaging in simultaneous practice.

- C. There shall be no more than **two** (2) practices per team per week (however, special rules will apply for practices for the U6 program). Length of practices will be determined by the Director of Fields and Scheduling.

## SECTION 7 – GAMES

- A. Except where modified herein, rules of play shall be the currently effective F.I.F.A. "Laws of the Game". Competition sanctioned by CSYS shall abide by the rules of play unless further modified by CSYS

B. **Modifications:**

1. Players wearing a hard cast (e.g. plaster, hard plastic or soft cast with metal inserts) shall not be eligible to participate in any game. Shoes that have metal cleats or hard toe plates are not permitted. Players shall not be permitted to wear hats (other than goalies) or headgear of any kind during a game, unless it is protective in nature and is approved by CSYS Board of Directors. **The Referee's decision is this matter is final.**

2. No player will be allowed to wear any jewelry. This includes, but is not limited to, necklaces, bracelets, rings, earrings, hair barrettes, watches or anything that is, in the opinion of the Referee, dangerous. A medical alert or religious bracelet maybe worn if, in the Referee's opinion, it is taped sufficiently to preclude causing injury. **The Referee's decision in this matter is final.**

3. Each player is **required to wear appropriately sized and approved shin guards** inside his/her socks during all practices, scrimmages, and all sanctioned games while under the jurisdiction of CSYS Each player shall commence the game with his/her shirt tucked into shorts. The Referee will check each player's uniform and equipment before play begins and will assure that each player on the playing field is fitted with the proper uniform, shin guards and playing shoes. Soccer cleats are recommended for age groups U10 and above. **The Referee's decision in this matter is final.**

4. Each coach in the CSYS program shall ensure that every player on his/her team plays for the **minimum required time (Equal Playing Time [EPT])** in each game unless the referee and opposing coach are notified prior to the game that the player is sick, injured, or is being disciplined (disciplinary action must be approved in advance by the Age-Group Director or Vice President - See also Section III). **The minimum required time** shall be **two-thirds** of the game for "19U", "U16". For all other age groups, each player shall play a minimum of  $\frac{3}{4}$  game, and in addition, no player may play 4 quarters unless all other players have played 3 quarters of the game. A player who arrives after the start of the game shall be considered as having been out during the quarter in which he arrives and normally must play the remainder of the game. The free substitution described in Paragraph 10 below will permit compliance with this rule. Coaches who do not adhere to this equal playing time rule may be suspended by the Board of Directors for one or more games, and games where there is an EPT violation may result in that game's forfeiture at the discretion of the board

of directors.

5. Prior to each game, opposing coaches shall exchange team rosters. Rosters shall include all player's names and uniform numbers, whether the player is participating in the match or not. If a rostered player is not participating in the match, the coach must indicate the reason on the roster card (e.g., absent, illness, etc.). If a player indicated as absent arrives after the start of the match, the coach can insert the player into the lineup when the referee calls for substitutes. In this instance, the coach must notify the referee and the opposing coach of the situation. The opposing coach and referee shall be notified prior to each game if a player will not play the minimum required time in the game. The referee shall record such information and make it a part of the official report.

6. Coaching from the technical area (giving direction to one's own team on points of strategy and position) is permitted provided no mechanical devices are used and the tone of voice is informative and not harassing. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of the team spectators and may receive a caution or ejection at the referee's discretion. Significant disruptive behavior by either a coach, player or parent may lead to, at the discretion of a board member, a team being disqualified for that game with the other team recording a 2-0 victory, regardless of what the final outcome of the game was. Disqualification decisions will be reviewed by the Director of Arbitration.

7. Any player, coach or assistant coach who is ejected during the course of the game may remain in the immediate vicinity of the field of play, in the capacity of a spectator, **at the discretion of the referee**, provided that further misconduct is not displayed. Any further misconduct on the part of the player, coach or assistant coach, shall be considered a second offense and the offending individual will be directed to leave the park by the referee. Any spectator who displays misconduct will be requested by the referee to leave the park. Failure to comply with the referee's direction or request will result in abandonment of the game by the referee and shall be ruled as a break-off of the game by the Director of Arbitration.

8. Any player, coach or assistant coach serving a game suspension(s) shall not be permitted at any time to offer any form of aid, direction or encouragement while the team is on the playing field. Failure to comply with the above may result in further disciplinary action to be taken by the Director of Arbitration.

9. Noisemakers are not allowed at games. This shall include, but is not limited to, air horns, drums or other musical instruments or loudly played musical devices, shakers (including containers filled with rocks or similar material), fireworks, etc. Coaches are responsible for their spectators in this regard as discussed in Section III.B.6

10. **Substitution guidelines:**

a. Players in age groups "U6" through and including "U15" may be substituted only during a stoppage of the game at the quarter, half-time and three-quarter mark. An injured player may be substituted for at any time the referee deems necessary.

b. Substitutions for "U16" and "19U" shall be unlimited except where specified

otherwise in the Rules and Regulations for a special competition. Substitutions may be made, only with the permission of the Referee, at the following times:

- i. Prior to a throw-in, in your favor
- ii. Prior to a goal kick by either team
- iii. After a goal by either team
- iv. After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play.
- v. After the issue of a caution, in age groups U16 and 19U, for the cautioned player(s) only. The opposing team may also substitute a like number of players.

c. In all age groups, if a team is playing 'short', i.e. with less than the designated number of field players, when an additional player arrives that player may be substituted into the game at the next stoppage of play with the permission of the referee.

d. Any player on the field may change places with the Goalkeeper, provided the referee has been informed of and has acknowledged and agreed to the proposed Goalkeeper substitution before it is made, and only after the referee has signaled a stoppage of the play. Excessive exchange of goalkeepers is not allowed, and is at the sole discretion of the referee.

**11. Both teams are responsible for notifying CSYS Admin of the game score immediately following the game. \*\*\* NOTE: Please text a picture of both sides of your card to (802) 448-2897**

12. In the event that one team does not show up for a scheduled game after 15 minutes from the scheduled start time of the game has elapsed, and the referee rules the field playable, then that team shall be assessed with a loss. In the event both teams do not show up, then both teams shall be assessed with a loss. In order to be considered present, a team must have the required minimum number of players on the field - ready to play - at the required time.

The minimum number of players is as follows:

- U6/U8 - no minimum - teams share players to play the game.
- U10 - 6 players.
- U12 and higher - 7 players.

13. The referee's judgment with regard the actual happenings and occurrences related to the conduct of the game, and to those prerogatives granted to him by the "Official Rules" as published by CSYS, shall not be challenged and are not subject to protest.

**14. Duration of play by age group is as follows:**

- "U6" and "U8" Divisions: Four ten-minute quarters with a five minute half time (See paragraph below "f"). There will be a maximum 2-minute break between the 1<sup>st</sup>

and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarters and again between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters.

- "U10" and "U12" Divisions: Two thirty-minute halves with a substitution at approximately 15 minutes into each half and a ten minute half time.
- "U14" and "U15" Divisions: Two thirty-minute halves with a ten-minute half time.
- "U16" Divisions: Two forty-minute halves with a ten-minute half time.
- "U19" Divisions: Two forty-minute halves with a ten-minute half time.

- No time out is permitted for substitutions, except for U6 and U8 age groups. U6 and U8 age groups shall have a stoppage of time at the "quarter" in order to substitute players. Any delay by a coach shall be considered a cautionable offense by the referee. Play will resume when all substitutions are confirmed by the referee. The match will be restarted by the appropriate action (throw-in, goal kick, drop ball) depending on when the match was halted. For age groups of U10 thru U15 mid-half substitution breaks shall be no more than 2 minutes. After 2 minutes, the referee shall have the discretion to re-start the game regardless of the readiness of either team.

15. Game ball size for each division is as follows:-

- a. Size #5 ball - "U14" age group and older
- b. Size #4 ball - "U10" and "U12" age groups
- c. Size #3 ball - "U6" and "U8" age groups.

16. For purposes of determining team standings within a division, the winning team shall be awarded five (5) points and the losing team zero (0). In the event of a tie, each team will be awarded two (2) points.

17. At season's end, should two or more teams from the same division be tied for first place in point standings, then first place shall be determined from prior head-to-head games. If still tied, then both teams shall be co-champions.

18. Each team within each division shall play an equal number of games subject to Section VI, C below.

19. Any player may protect their head or upper body without incurring a penalty for a "hand-ball" as long as the referee deems that the player's hands or arms were within that player's head / torso region, and thus the player was not making themselves "bigger" by use of their hands or arms.

## C. RAIN-OUT POLICY

1. A game which has reached the half-time whistle and is then stopped due to weather shall be considered a completed game and is **not** a canceled game, and will not be rescheduled or replayed. A game which is stopped prior to half-time due to weather shall be considered as canceled. The CSYS Board of Directors will attempt to re-schedule all games which have been canceled due to rain or foul weather. However, it may become impractical to re-schedule rain-out games due to field and/or referee availability. The problems encountered in re-scheduling rain-out games become even more difficult late in

the season or when inclement weather has caused games to be canceled on more than one day.

2. As discussed elsewhere in the Rules and Regulations, season standings are determined based upon points earned for wins and ties. Standings for a particular age group may be inequitably determined unless all teams play the same number of games. Thus, an advantage in the season standings may occasionally result for a team in a particular age group unless **all** games that have been canceled due to rain are re-scheduled.

3. In view of the preceding two paragraphs, the Board will usually apply the following general rule in determining standings:

Unless all games canceled due to rain-out for a particular weekend/series and age group have been re-scheduled, then none of the games that were able to be played for that age group for that particular weekend/series will be counted in determining the standings.

4. There may be instances in which application of the above general rule is not appropriate. For example, some of the older age groups play regular season games during the week and/or an equal number of games are not played during a particular week. Unless all games are re-scheduled, the Board recognizes that it is not possible to anticipate all inequities in the final standings resulting from game cancellations due to rain-outs. Unless all games canceled due to rain-outs have been re-scheduled or the Board determines that the general rule discussed in paragraph 3. above should be applied, then the Board reserves the right to schedule head-to-head competition, selectively re-schedule games that were rained out or take other appropriate action to correct inequities resulting in the final season standings due to games rained out.

RAINOUTS and FIELD CONDITIONS – please check front page of CSYS.org website.

#### D. GAME RESCHEDULING POLICY

All coaches experience the difficulty of juggling their schedules to accommodate their careers, family responsibilities and other commitments. Games will not be re-scheduled to accommodate conflicts for the head coach as long as the assistant coach is available to coach the game or a substitute coach provided by the Board of Directors is available.

### **SECTION 8 - “U6” and “U8” PROGRAMS**

#### A. PHILOSOPHY

It is the philosophy of CSYS that the game be modified to fit the needs of younger children to ensure safety and to facilitate interest in soccer, sportsmanship and learning the game. It is the children's right to be taught the fundamentals by a qualified teacher/coach and to play on adequate fields scaled to the children.

## B. OBJECTIVES

1. TEACH the basics of the game to all players with emphasis on LEARNING soccer skills.
2. Have all children enjoy the game without an inappropriate level of competition or pressure.

## C. RULES

Rules for the “U6” and “U8” will conform to FIFA Laws of the Game except as modified below.

### **LAW I: THE FIELD OF PLAY**

A. Dimensions: The field of play shall be 50 yards by 30 yards.

B. Markings: There is no goal area.

There is no penalty area.

A goal arc will be drawn which has a radius of 6 yards.

A dashed line will be drawn parallel to the end lines, 12 yards from each end.

The center circle shall have a radius of 6 yards.

**LAW II: THE BALL:** A size three (3) ball shall be used.

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

In the “U8” program:

1. Roster size shall be eleven (11) or twelve (12) players, depending upon the decision of the Board of Directors prior to the start of the season.
2. Nine (9) players shall be on the field including the goalkeeper.

In the "U6" program:

1. Roster size shall be nine or ten (10) players, depending upon the decision of the Board of Directors prior to the start of the season.
  2. Seven (7) players shall be on the field including the goalkeeper.
3. In the event that one team does not have 7 players at match time and the opposing team has 8 or more players, the coach of the larger team shall select player(s) to switch to the opposing team so that each team can field 7 players.

Substitutions: Shall be done only at the end of each quarter or at half-time.

#### **LAW IV: THE PLAYERS EQUIPMENT:**

Footwear: All players are encouraged to wear appropriate soccer shoes, although soft-soled shoes acceptable to the referee are permitted.

Shin-guards are MANDATORY at all practices and games.

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

- A. The game shall be divided into four (4) equal ten (10) minute quarters.
- B. There shall be a two (2) minute break between quarter one (1) and quarter two (2), and another two (2) minute break between quarters (3) and four (4).
- C. There shall be a half-time break of five (5) minutes between quarters two (2) and three (3).

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

- A. All opponents must be six (6) yards from the center mark while kick-offs are in progress.
- B. A goal may be scored directly from the kick-off.
- C. Drop balls used to restart play shall be done no closer to the goal than the 12-yard dashed line.

**LAW IX: THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY:** FIFA rules apply

#### **LAW X: THE METHOD OF SCORING:**

- A. No attacking player is permitted to touch the ball within the 6-yard arc.
- B. In order for a goal to be scored, the shot must be taken from outside the 6-yard arc, **which includes the line**. If the shot is taken from inside the arc, including the line, an indirect free kick will be awarded to the defending team.

**LAW XI: OFFSIDE:** There shall be no offside.

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

- A. All fouls shall result in an indirect free kick with the opponents six (6) yards away.
- B. None of the 'Offences Committed by Goal Keepers' apply to U6/U8 goal-keepers. This means that pass-backs to the goal-keeper, delay of game by the goal-keeper and touching the ball a second time after putting the ball into play infractions do not apply.
- C.

D. The referee should explain all infractions to the offending player.

**LAW XIII: FREE KICKS:**

A. All kicks shall be classified under one heading: INDIRECT.

B. A goal may not be scored until the ball has been played or touched by a second player of either team.

C. If a foul is committed by a defending player within the 12-yard dashed area, the free kick awarded to the attacking team shall be taken with the ball placed at the nearest point on the 12-yard dashed line.

D. If a foul is committed by an attacking player within the 12-yard dashed area, a free kick is awarded to the defending team. The attacking team must be at least six (6) yards from the ball.

**LAW XIV: THE PENALTY KICK:**

No penalty kicks are to be taken during these games.

**LAW XV: THE THROW-IN:**

When a throw-in is awarded, a second throw-in is allowed if the player commits a foul on the initial attempt. The referee shall explain the proper method before allowing the player to rethrow.

**LAW XVI: THE GOAL-KICK:**

A. Players taking the goal kick shall place the ball anywhere on or behind the 6-yard arc.

B. Opponents at the time of the kick must be on or beyond the 12-yard hash line at that end of the field.

D. The ball shall be considered in play immediately when it is kicked. The player taking the initial kick cannot kick the ball a second time immediately thereafter. However, a teammate may kick the ball prior to the ball clearing the 12-yard hash line. Opposing players may not cross the 12-yard hash line before the ball has cleared that line. If it is touched by any opposing player prior to crossing the 12-yard hash line the goal-kick must be retaken.

**LAW XVII: THE CORNER KICK:**

Opponents must remain at least six (6) yards from the ball.

## D. COACHING

Coaches are to refrain from playing their forwards in front of, or around the 6-yard arc. This practice, commonly referred to as “goal-hanging” is an effort to gain an unfair advantage in violation of the spirit of the game. While there is no offside for this age group, coaches should work to develop an understanding of this conduct by their players. Persistent infringement of this rule, and at the sole discretion of the referee, shall result in caution.

Except as noted below, coaches are to remain in the “technical area” at all times. For the “U6” and “U8” programs, this is the area between the dashed lines and at least one yard back from the touch line.

**U06 Age Groups Only: There are no assigned referees for the U06 age groups. One head coach from each team will be on the field with the players acting as both coach and referee. The head coach from the home team will be the “referee” for the first half, and the head coach for the visiting team will be the “referee” for the second half. Coaches are to work together to support the development of both teams in all soccer related areas such as rules, strategy and most importantly sportsmanship.**

## SECTION 9 - FOULS, MISCONDUCTS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

### A. DEFINITIONS:

1. Fouls shall be defined and determined as per the "Laws of the Game".
2. Misconduct shall be defined and determined as per the "Laws of the Game".
3. The phrase "during the course of a game" shall be defined as that period of time before, during or after the playing of a game. This shall include that period of time under jurisdiction of the Referee as granted to the Referee under Law V of the "Laws of the Game".
4. A "caution" shall be defined as an instance in which a player, coach or assistant coach is officially cautioned or yellow-carded by the Referee.
5. An "ejection" shall be defined as an instance in which a player, coach or spectator has been officially ejected, sent off the field of play or red-carded by the Referee.

NOTE: Normally, a referee shall show either the yellow or red card when issuing a caution or ejection to a player. However, if the referee believes that by showing a card to a player

that action may result in a personal attack, he may elect not to show that card. He must inform the coaches of both teams that a player has been ejected if a red card is not shown. If a head coach or assistant coach is cautioned or ejected, he/she shall only be informed by the referee that they have been cautioned or ejected (i.e., no yellow or red card needs to be shown) and the reason for it.

6. An "offense" shall be defined as an instance in which a player, coach or spectator, team official or official of C.S.Y.S is found to be guilty of one or more of the items stated in the above subsections. An individual shall be declared guilty of multiple offenses (more than one) whether these offenses took place during the course of one event or over the course of several events.

## B. CONDUCT:

1. It is the responsibility of each player, coach and spectator to conduct themselves in a proper manner at all times, on or off the field. There may be times, however, when a player, coach or spectator may be guilty of a foul or misconduct and will be penalized according to the seriousness of the infraction.

2. **CSYS Policies on Fouls, Misconducts and Disciplinary Actions** are set forth in tabular form as "Exhibit A", at the end of this section and are incorporated herein by reference. Outlined below are some specific misconducts and the associated disciplinary actions. In the case of any discrepancy between the items below and the tabular form, the tabular form shall govern:

a. Coaches and assistant coaches who accumulate a total of two **cautions** during the course of a seasonal year shall receive a **one-game suspension**. If an additional caution(s) is issued, the penalty shall be an additional one-game suspension for each additional caution.

i. If during the course of a game a caution is issued and subsequently an ejection issued, then the caution shall not be counted in the accumulation.

ii. If a coach or assistant coach is cautioned once during the course of the seasonal year and is later ejected during the course of a game not associated with the prior cautions, the caution(s) accumulated shall remain on record and will be counted toward the maximum accumulation.

b. Misconduct: Players, coaches and spectators who are ejected during the course of the game because of **persistent misconduct after having received a caution**, shall receive a **minimum of a one-game suspension**.

c. Foul and/or abusive language: Players, coaches and spectators who are found

guilty of or are ejected during the course of a game for **use of foul and/or abusive language**, either by word or sign against other players, coaches, referees, spectators or any club official, shall receive a **minimum of a one-game suspension**.

d. Violent Conduct or Serious Foul Play:

i. Players who are ejected during the course of a game (and are found guilty by the Director of Arbitration after reviewing the game reports) for **making threatening remarks and/or gestures** against other players, coaches, spectators or any club official shall receive a **minimum of a two-game suspension**.

ii. Players who are ejected during the course of a game (and are found guilty by the Director of Arbitration after reviewing the game reports) for **violent conduct or serious foul play** against a player or coach shall receive a **minimum of a two- game suspension**.

iii. Players who are ejected during the course of a game (and are found guilty by the Director of Arbitration after reviewing the game reports) for **fighting** shall receive a **minimum of a four-game suspension**.

iv. Players who are ejected during the course of a game (and are found guilty by the Director of Arbitration after reviewing the game reports) for **violent conduct and/or serious foul play in retaliation**, shall receive a minimum of a **two-game suspension**.

v. Players who are found guilty of **pushing or striking** any coach or CSYS Official shall receive a **two-year suspension and a two-year probation**.

vi. Coaches or spectators who are found guilty of, or who are ejected during the course of a game, or while under the sponsorship of CSYS, for **fighting** shall be suspended for a number of seasons as determined by the Board of Directors. The Directors may elect to make the suspension **permanent**.

vii. Coaches or spectators who are found guilty of **violent conduct or pushing or striking** any opposing coach, player, spectator or CSYS Official shall be suspended for a number of seasons as determined by the Board of Directors. The Directors may elect to make the suspension **permanent**.

viii. Coaches or spectators who are found guilty of **making threatening remarks and/or gestures** shall receive a **one-season or-greater suspension**.

**NOTE:** ALL seasonal suspensions are subject to carry over into the next seasonal year, if not fulfilled in the current seasonal year, subject to review by the Director of Arbitration and/or the Board of Directors.

### C. FURTHER DISCIPLINARY RULINGS

1. The President of the Board of Directors shall have the authority to take further disciplinary measures against any player or coach including and not limited to suspension for the remainder of the season.
2. Written notification shall be sent to the appropriate head coach when any player, coach or spectator is found guilty of any offense warranting a suspension. In addition, the Director of Arbitration shall notify the President and Vice-President.
3. Any offender guilty of a previous offense(s) culminating in a season's suspension and who has re-established membership in CSYS under the terms of probation and is subsequently found guilty of an offense(s) punishable by a term of suspension of not less than a season, shall be recommended for **permanent suspension**, subject to review by the Board of Directors prior to enforcement. In this instance, written notification shall be made to the appropriate parties

### D. PROBATION

1. In such cases where it is determined that the degree of the offense (or the specific circumstances associated with an offense) is such that a suspension is not appropriate, the offender may be placed on probation, under the conditions specified by a Probation Committee of three directors who shall be appointed by the Director of Arbitration. Probation shall be defined as that period of time during which any player, coach, spectator, team official or official of CSYS is no longer a member in good standing.

### E. REFEREES

1. A referee, who is also a player in CSYS, will not be allowed to referee games in CSYS while under suspension.
2. A referee, who is also a player in a league other than CSYS, will not be allowed to referee games in CSYS while he/she is under suspension.
3. As suspensions are calculated in terms of games, the time that a referee may not be allowed to serve as a CSYS referee is calculated as follows:
  - a. A one game suspension from playing shall mean the referee may not referee for one Saturday/Sunday combination or one full week of evening games, whichever is appropriate to the referee's normal game assignments.
  - b. A two game suspension from playing shall mean the referee shall not be allowed to referee games for a period of one calendar week.

4. The Director of Referees will be responsible for informing the Assignor of any suspensions.

**F. COACHES.**

1. A coach, who is also a player in CSYS, will not be allowed to coach games in CSYS while under suspension for receiving a red card, as stipulated in Section VIII B, paragraphs 1 and 2.

2. A coach of one team, who is also a coach of another team in CSYS, will not be allowed to coach any games in CSYS while under suspension for receiving a red card.

**"EXHIBIT A"**

**CSYS POLICIES ON FOULS, MISCONDUCTS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

<b>FOUL OR MISCONDUCT</b>	<b>PENALTY (Minimum)</b>
ENTER OR LEAVE FIELD WITHOUT PERMISSION	CAUTIONED & SHOWN YELLOW CARD
PERSISTENT INFRINGEMENT OF LAWS OF THE GAME	CAUTIONED & SHOWN YELLOW CARD
DISSENT BY WORD OR GESTURE	CAUTIONED & SHOWN YELLOW CARD
UNGENTLEMANLY CONDUCT	CAUTIONED & SHOWN YELLOW CARD
FOUL AND/OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE	SENT OFF & SHOWN RED CARD + 1 GAME SUSPENSION
CONTINUED MISCONDUCT AFTER CAUTION	SENT OFF & SHOWN SECOND YELLOW CARD THEN RED CARD + 1 GAME SUSPENSION
VIOLENT CONDUCT	SENT OFF & SHOWN RED CARD - + 2 GAME SUSPENSION
SERIOUS FOUL PLAY	SENT OFF & SHOWN RED CARD - + 2 GAME SUSPENSION
HANDBALL IN PENALTY AREA TO PREVENT A GOAL SCORING OPPORTUNITY	SENT OFF & SHOWN RED CARD + 1 GAME SUSPENSION

A yellow card in the “U16” through “19U” programs requires the player to immediately leave the field and be substituted for. The player may return to the field at the next regular substitution. If no substitute is available, the player will await permission from the center referee to return to the field. The timing of the return is entirely at the discretion of the referee.

A red card will result in immediate ejection from game with no replacement permitted

Two red cards during a season may result in suspension for the remainder of the current season. The decision of the president, vice president and director of arbitration is final.

In addition to the above game-related disciplines, certain incidents of unacceptable conduct and behavior by coaches and/or players will carry the following more severe penalties:

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>MINIMUM DISCIPLINE+</b>
THREATENING REMARKS AND/OR GESTURES TO ANOTHER PLAYER, COACH OR SPECTATOR	2 GAMES SUSPENSION
VIOLENT CONDUCT AND/OR SERIOUS FOUL PLAY by a PLAYER	2 GAMES SUSPENSION
FIGHTING by a PLAYER	4 GAMES SUSPENSION
PUSHING/STRIKING COACH OR CSYS OFFICIAL by a PLAYER	Up to PERMANENT SUSPENSION as determined by the Board of Directors.
THREATENING REMARKS AND/OR GESTURES TO A PLAYER, COACH, CSYS OFFICAL OR SPECTATOR by a COACH	1 YEAR SUSPENSION + 1 YEAR PROBATION
VIOLENT CONDUCT by a COACH	2 YEARS SUSPENSION + 2 YEARS PROBATION
FIGHTING by a COACH	Up to PERMANENT SUSPENSION as determined by the Board of Directors
PUSHING/STRIKING COACH OR CSYS OFFICIAL by a COACH	Up to PERMANENT SUSPENSION as determined by the Board of Directors
<b>ASSAULT AGAINST REF by PLAYER OR COACH</b>	<b>PERMANENT SUSPENSION</b>
<b>BATTERY AGAINST REFEREE by PLAYER OR COACH</b>	<b>PERMANENT SUSPENSION</b>
<b>ASSAULT AGAINST A REFEREE by a SPECTATOR***</b>	<b>BARRED FROM CSYS, and COACH GET 2 GAME SUSPENSION</b>
<b>FIELDING PLAYERS NOT ON THE CSYS ROSTER</b>	<b>1 YEAR SUSPENSION + 1 YEAR PROBATION</b>

\*\* ALL PENALTIES APPLY IF THE SPECTATOR IS A PARENT, RELATIVE, GUARDIAN, AND SIBLING TO ANY PLAYER OR COACH.

+ NOTE: THE CSYS DIRECTOR OF ARBITRATION MAINTAINS DISCRETIONARY AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF ALL DISCIPLINARY MEASURES.

## **SECTION 10 - ASSAULT AND/OR BATTERY AGAINST A REFEREE**

### **A. DEFINITIONS**

1. **Assault** is defined as an intentional threat by word or act to do violence to the person of a referee, coupled with an apparent ability to do so, and doing some act which creates a well-founded fear in such referee that such violence is imminent.
2. **Battery** is committed when a person (a) actually and intentionally touches or strikes a referee against the will of the referee; or, (b) intentionally causes bodily harm to a referee.

### **B. DURING THE COURSE OF THE GAME:**

1. If such an assault and/or battery should occur during the course of the game, the referee along with the assistant referee shall immediately abandon the game and leave the field of play.
2. The referee who is the victim of the assault and/or battery shall file with CSYS a written report concerning the action taken against the referee within forty-eight (48) hours of the

incident. A hearing with the Director of Arbitration shall be held within five (5) days of the receipt of the referee's written report.

#### C. ARBITRATION HEARING:

1. Upon the convening of the Arbitration hearing, the referee's written report shall be prima facie evidence that the accused player, coach or spectator committed the assault and/or battery against a referee. The burden of proof at this hearing shall be borne by the accused to rebut the prima facie case through presentation of competent evidence. If the accused shall rebut the prima facie case, then the burden of evidence shall shift to the referee and the referee shall present evidence supporting the allegations made in the report.

2. If the accused does not appear for the Arbitration hearing or if the accused does not rebut the prima facie case against them or is determined after the presentation of such rebuttal to have committed an assault and/or battery against a referee, then the accused shall be suspended from participation in CSYS for a period of not less than **one nor more than ten years**.

3. Any incidents involving players in the "U6" or "U8" divisions will be handled as an exception to the above. The Director of Arbitration will conduct a review with the parties concerned and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for appropriate disciplinary action.

#### D. SPECTATORS:

1. In the event that a spectator is involved in an assault and/or battery against a Referee, and said spectator is a parent, guardian, sibling or relative of a player, coach or assistant coach then the disciplinary action will carry the following penalties:

a. The coach will receive a two game suspension and be placed on probation for the remainder of the seasonal year unless the spectator was a relative of the coach, in which case the penalties for accused coaches, as stated above, are applicable.

b. The player will be suspended in accordance with Section C. as discussed above. In addition, the spectator who was involved in the assault/battery will be barred from membership in any capacity with CSYS

c. If the assistant coach is the acting head coach during that assault/battery, he/she would receive the penalty as stated for the coach.

#### E. REINSTATEMENT

1. Upon conclusion of the aforementioned suspensions, the individual serving the suspension must apply for reinstatement and permission to participate again. Said renewed participation is subject to a vote by the Board of Directors.

## SECTION 11 - PROTESTS

A. There are two types of protests which are permitted by CSYS - those involving disciplinary action and those which are game related.

1. Protests involving disciplinary action can only be filed after the Director of Arbitration has issued a ruling and the corresponding disciplinary action.

2. Protests involving games may only be filed for reasons of player eligibility.

B. Protests must be presented as follows:

1. Protests are to be presented in writing to the President of the Board of Directors within two calendar days (Sundays and Holidays included) after notification of the disciplinary action by the Director of Arbitration, if protest involves disciplinary action; or within two calendar days after the date of the game in which the protested action occurred if protest is game related, relating to reasons of player eligibility.

2. The judgment of the referee with regard to any game, the administration of the laws and rules of the game and those prerogatives granted the referee by the laws and rules of the game shall not be challenged. Protests of this nature will not be considered further by the President or the Board of Directors.

C. Within five (5) days after receiving a valid written protest, the President will arrange for a protest hearing. A minimum of three Directors (to include the Director of Arbitration, the Head of Referees and additional Directors assigned by the President) will conduct the hearing. It is mandatory that the coach requesting the hearing be in attendance.

D. No youth player from any team will be allowed to attend the protest hearing, except when requested, at the discretion of the President and/or the assigned committee.

E. None of the details of the protest will be discussed with any of the participants prior to the hearing.

F. The age of the participants to the protest shall not be taken into consideration during the hearing except that the tone of any questioning of participants and/or witness shall be done with the age of the individual taken into consideration.

G. The Committee shall arrive at a decision in complete privacy and inform the participants to the protest promptly.

## SECTION 12 - INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

CSYS shall require a **Release of Liability** form to be signed by each child's parent or

guardian before participating in any CSYS activity.

CSYS may provide secondary accident insurance for participants in its activities.

## **SECTION 13 - CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

The proper governance of Coral Springs Youth Soccer, Inc. (CSYS) depends upon governing board members who give of their time for the benefit of CSYS. This service carries with it a requirement of loyalty and fidelity to CSYS. It is the responsibility of the members of the Board of Directors to govern the affairs of CSYS with honesty and integrity, exercising their best care, skill and judgment for the benefit of CSYS. The giving of this service, because of the varied interests and backgrounds of the members of the Board of Directors may, on occasion, result in an actual or perceived conflict of interest. It is recognized that the appearance of self-interest can be as damaging as actually permitting self-interest to guide board actions.

The Board of Directors also recognizes that a conflict of interest may exist when a Director is employed by, has control of or has a material interest in an organization which is engaged to provide a product or service which could be provided or performed by other qualified individuals or organizations.

To ensure that decisions that are made by the Board of Directors are in the best interest of CSYS and to avoid conflicts of interest or the appearance of self interest, the Board of Directors adopts the following conflict of interest policy:

A. Members of the Board of Directors and organizations which they own or in which they are directly or indirectly employed, have control of or have a material interest in shall not be employed by or engaged to provide products or services to CSYS in exchange for compensation (compensation is intended to have a broad interpretation and includes salaries, wages and commissions). This provision shall also apply to the immediate family of members of the Board of Directors, and to organizations in which such immediate family are employed, have control of or have a material interest in. This provision shall not prohibit Directors or their family members from serving in the CSYS referee program and receiving compensation for such services.

B. Members of the Board of Directors may not accept any gifts, favors or hospitality that might influence their decision making or actions affecting CSYS. This shall not, however, restrict the accepting of gifts or favors of nominal value which are given as tokens of friendship or recognition.

C. Each member of the Board of Directors shall, upon becoming aware of an actual or potential conflict of interest, make full disclosure to the Board of Directors of all facts pertaining to the actual or potential conflict of interest. In the event it is determined by the Board of Directors that a member does have a conflict, the member shall take such action as is necessary to eliminate the conflict.

D. Each member of the Board of Directors shall submit an annual written declaration

stating that, to the best of the member's knowledge, there are no actual or potential conflicts of interest or any instances in which there may be an appearance of conflict with regard to CSYS. If any actual, potential or apparent conflict does exist, it shall be disclosed in the written declaration and considered by the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

E. A copy of this policy shall be provided to each member of the Board of Directors annually and to each new Director upon his or her appointment to the Board.

## **SECTION 14 - TEAM MAKEUP POLICY**

In order to promote fair and balanced teams in the Recreational Program, it is the policy of CSYS that teams will, in general, be randomly generated and numerically balanced by computer. However, we do allow certain combinations of coaches, assistant coaches and sponsors to be set prior to randomly generating the teams. This policy may be amended by majority vote of the Board of Directors of CSYS and is as follows:

A. There will be AT MOST three (3) pre-arranged adult volunteers associated with each team. These are normally the Head Coach, the Assistant Coach and possibly the Sponsor. Head Coaches must be at least 21 years of age.

B. In order for a Coach and Sponsor to be paired together, the coach must specifically request that sponsor on the coach registration form. Sponsors may NOT request a particular coach without that coach requesting the sponsor. In general, the requests of the Head Coach will be given priority over those of the Assistant.

C. The Sponsor may also be a listed coach if he/she so wishes, providing he/she fills out a coach application in addition to the sponsor form and completes the required training courses. In this case there may be a Head Coach and two (2) Assistant Coaches, although this arrangement is discouraged.

D. Each Sponsor, Head Coach and Assistant Coach may bring one child to the team roster, normally his/her son or daughter. If this son/daughter has a brother or sister in the same age group, then that sibling will also be placed on the team. In the case where a Sponsor is also a listed Coach, he/she may only bring one (1) child to the team, except in the case of siblings.

E. If a Coach or Sponsor has one child on the team, and another son or daughter who is close to, but below the age group of the team, he/she may request that this second child play up to the age group of the team being coached or sponsored. This is done by written request to the Board of Directors prior to October 1st just as is done with any other request to play out of an age group. These requests will frequently be granted.

F. However, requests to move a child up to a higher age group when there is NOT a sibling in that age group, which is often requested so that certain Coaches/Sponsors may be together, are discouraged and will usually be denied.

G. Coaches and Sponsors who do not have a son/daughter (including step son/daughter) on the team being coached may request that another child be placed on the roster in lieu of their having a son/daughter. This requested child should be a relative of the Coach/Sponsor.

H. The parent of any child who is not an immediate relative of the coach or sponsor must have given written approval before the child is brought to the team by that coach or sponsor.

I. Under no circumstances will there be more than four (4) players preassigned (“frozen”) to any team in any age group under the above guidelines. (This subsection “I” takes precedence over provisions A through H in this Section.)

All requests for exceptions to this policy must be received by the Board of Directors of CSYS prior to October 1st of the seasonal year. These requests must be in writing, not on any of the standard CSYS registration forms. Requests will be discussed.