

RULE VI - SOCCER

ARTICLE I - ELIGIBILITY

SECTION A - AGE DIVISIONS

- (1) The age control date is on or before July 31st of the current year.
- (2) There are five age divisions for youth. The age divisions for boys and *girls* are:
 - (a) 8 and Under boys (f) 8 and Under girls (k) 19 and Under boys
 - (b) 10 and Under boys (g) 10 and Under girls (l) 19 and Under girls
 - (c) 12 and Under boys (h) 12 and Under girls
 - (d) 14 and Under boys (i) 14 and Under girls
 - (e) 16 and Under boys (j) 16 and Under girls

*Co-ed teams must play in the boys' division
- (3) A participant is allowed to compete in one age division only. Participants may compete in an older age division provided they remain in that same age division for all games and through all levels of soccer competition.
- (4) A participant may compete in the District and state level provided he or she is not in violation of any rules or regulations in this Manual. (REF: RULE 1)
- (5) **Regular season team rosters due September 15 to District Recreational Sports Chair.**

SECTION B - ENTRIES

- (1) At the District level, an affiliate may enter as many teams as it wishes in all divisions provided the District does not establish an entry limit.
- (2) A District not conducting a District level tournament or playoff may allow one affiliate team to represent its District at the State level of competition.
- (3) Only persons whose names are approved on their affiliate team's ARPA Official Roster, who meet all ARPA eligibility requirements, and who are representing an affiliate not on current suspension for soccer may compete in ARPA games.
- (4) The ARPA Official Roster limits
 - (a) 8 and under divisions – 12 Players
 - (b) 10 and under divisions – 12 Players
 - (c) 12 and under divisions - 14 Players
 - (d) 14 and under divisions - 18 Players
 - (e) 16 and under divisions - 18 Players
 - (f) 19 and under divisions – 18 Players
- (5) State Tournament entries for each age group shall consist of up to nine teams, one representative from each District and a host Affiliate. If the entries fall below eight teams, the State Recreational Sports Committee Chairperson may add teams from other cities participating in their district tournament to insure an eight team bracket. A non-first place team's acceptance will be prioritized by their finish in their district tournament.

ARTICLE II - REGULATIONS

SECTION A - GOVERNING RULES

- (1) The current rules governing US Soccer Federation is the official guide for State ARPA games with the exceptions as may be found in this Manual. <https://www.usyouthsoccer.org/>

SECTION B - LENGTH OF GAMES

- (1) Game times will be as follows:
 - (a) 8 and under divisions - 20 minute halves.
 - (b) 10 and under divisions - 25 minute halves.
 - (c) 12 and under divisions - 30 minute halves.
 - (d) 14 and under divisions - 35 minute halves.
 - (e) 16 and under divisions - 40 minute halves.
 - (f) 19 and under divisions – 45 minute halves.

- (2) Half time intervals shall not exceed 10 minutes.
- (3) If the game is tied after regulation time periods, then penalty kicks shall be taken only by those players who are on the field at the conclusion of the regulation period. Each team will select five players who will alternate these kicks. If the game still remains tied after the five penalty kicks, then the teams will take alternate penalty kicks until one team scores and the other does not.

SECTION C- SUBSTITUTIONS

- (1) Either team may substitute an unlimited number of players:
 - (a) Between periods;
 - (b) On a goal kick;
 - (c) When a goal has been scored;
 - (d) When the referee stops the clock for any reason and an injured player(s) is attended to on the field (the injured player must be replaced);
 - (e) When a player is cautioned;

EXCEPTION: During a penalty kick situation:

- 1) The only substitution permitted is for a player that has been injured or cautioned;
- 2) A substitute entering at this time shall not take the penalty kick;
- 3) Only the team gaining possession may substitute 1) on a throw-in; 2) on a corner kick.

ARTICLE III - EQUIPMENT

SECTION A - APPROVED EQUIPMENT

- (1) Shoes with metal cleats are prohibited. Shoes with rubber cleats or tennis shoes are approved for use.
- (2) The approved soccer balls for divisions are as follows:
 - (a) The State Recreational Sports Committee Chairperson must approve all soccer balls.

SECTION B - UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

- (1) Players on a team must wear the same color jerseys, including numbers, with the exception of the goalkeeper. The goalkeeper will wear a jersey of a different color over his team jersey and does not require a number.

SECTION C - FIELD DIMENSIONS

- (a) 8 and under divisions – 35yds/45yds width – 45yds/60yds length
- (b) 10 and under divisions - 35yds/45yds width – 45yds/60yds length
- (c) 12 and under divisions - 45yds/55yds width – 70yds/80yds length
- (d) 14 and under divisions - 50yds/80yds width – 100yds/120yds length
- (e) 16 and under divisions - 50yds/80yds width – 100yds/120yds length
- (f) 19 and under divisions – 50yds/80yds width – 100yds/120yds length

ARTICLE IV - GAMES AND AWARDS

SECTION A - DISTRICT

- (1) Each District shall have the right to conduct its own soccer tournament for each age division in a manner approved by the majority vote of participating District Affiliates and provided any exceptions to the rules in this Manual are approved by a District's State Recreational Sports Committee member. District or Affiliate Hosts are responsible for all District awards.
- (2) District level competition in soccer is to be completed as follows:
 - (a) All divisions by the first Saturday in November.

SECTION B- STATE

- (1) The State Tournament in all divisions of soccer shall be divided into pool play. The teams in each pool will play a round-robin schedule. At the end of pool play the top team in the pools will advance to the final games. All teams will be guaranteed a minimum of two games in their pool play.

The point system that shall be used during round-robin play to determine a winner in a pool shall be three (3) points for a win, and zero (0) points for a loss. If teams are tied at the end of pool play the following tie breaking system will be used:

1. If the game is tied after regulation time periods, then penalty kicks shall be taken only by those players who are on the field at the conclusion of the regulation period. Each team will select five players who will alternate penalty kicks. If the game still remains tied after five penalty kicks, then the teams will take alternate penalty kicks until one team scores and the other does not.
2. Head-to-head competition.
3. Total number of goals scored (maximum of 3).
4. Total number of goals allowed (maximum of 3).

****If there is a three way tie and a team is eliminated then the tie breaker starts over with the remaining two teams****

- (2) Pairings for the State Tournaments will be determined by the State Recreational Sports Committee Chairperson and the Tournament Director.
- (3) Trophies will be awarded to the Affiliates that finish first and second in each division. **A sportsmanship trophy will be awarded in each age division. The Recreational Sports Committee Representatives and the Game Officials will determine the recipients of this award.**
- (4) **Played on the third weekend in November.**

ARTICLE V - OFFICIALS AND PARTICIPANTS

SECTION A- HOST

- (1) The Host Affiliate shall provide a Tournament Director as well as "registered" officials or above, in accordance with Rule I, Article IV, Section C, Paragraph 2; Rule II, Article IV, Section B, Paragraph 1(e).
- (2) The Host Affiliate shall be responsible for proper conduct by spectators.
- (3) The Host Affiliate shall be responsible for the game balls in accordance with ARPA specifications in these rules.
- (4) The Host Affiliate shall be responsible for seeing that the playing field requirements meet ARPA specifications.

SECTION B - GAME OFFICIALS

- (1) Either the two- or three-man referee system is permitted. (a) If the two-man system is employed, both referees have to be "Registered" or above, and has complete charge of the game, while the two linesmen are designated "assistant officials" and aid the referee, indicate when the ball is in or out of play, and which team is offside, entitled to corner kick, goal kick, or throw-in.

SECTION C - PLAYERS AND OTHER TEAM MEMBERS

- (1) Any player, coach, manager, team scorer or assistant disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct, including abusive language is ineligible for further participation in the game in progress and may be dismissed from ARPA competition by a State Recreational Sports Committee Member, Tournament Director, or District Commissioner (at the District level only) subject to appeal by the dismissed person's affiliate.
- (2) The use of ineligible players in accordance with the Rules in the Manual shall result in forfeiture (of game and tournament). Burden of proof rests with the protesting Affiliate representative person. (see Rule II).
- (3) Players who are ejected (red carded) from any game during ARPA State Competition will not be permitted to play in their teams next scheduled competition. Two cautions (2 yellow cards) will have the same penalty as a red card.

ARTICLE VI - PROTESTS AND APPEALS

Protests and appeals are authorized only under the stipulations found in Rule II, Article I, Section A of this Manual.

ARTICLE VII - FEES

- (1) Districts will establish the fee schedule for their District tournaments.
 - (a) In addition to the above fees, there will be a onetime charge of \$10.00 per team to be paid to the State Office. Host will be responsible for collecting.
- (2) Fees from ARPA State Soccer Tournaments are to be set at \$150.00.
 - (b) In addition to the above fees, there will be a onetime charge of \$25.00 per team to be paid to the State Office. Host will be responsible for this fee.

Soccer Guide

Age Group	Goal/ Ball Size	Team/ Match Size	Field Size Width Min/ Max	Field Size Length Min/ Max	Game Duration	Roster Size
8 & Under	6X18 Size 3 ball	7v7	35yds/45yds	45yds/60yds	2 x 20 Min Halves	12 players
10 & Under	6X18 Size 4 ball	7v7	35yds/45yds	45yds/60yds	2 x 25 Min Halves	12 players
12 & Under	6X18 Size 5 ball	9v9	45yds/55yds	70yds/80yds	2 x 30 Min Halves	14 players
14 & Under	8X24 Size 5 ball	11v11	50yds/80yds	100yds/120yds	2 x 35 Min Halves	18 Players
16 & Under	8X24 Size 5 ball	11v11	50yds/80yds	100yds/120yds	2x 40 Min Halves	18 players
19 & Under	8X24 Size 5 ball	11v11	50yds/80yds	100yds/120yds	2 x 45 Min Halves	18 players