

MICHIGAN YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE (MYSL)

ALL TEAMS ARE RESPONSIBLE, THROUGH THEIR COACHES AND MANAGERS, FOR KNOWING THESE **MYSL RULES AND REGULATIONS** AND ALSO **THE MYSL CLUB PASSCARD RULES** AND **THE MYSL PLAYING GRIDS** WHICH COLLECTIVELY ARE THE MYSL PLAYING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

ALL TEAMS MUST HAVE A COPY OF EACH OF THESE THREE AVAILABLE FOR REFERENCE AT ALL MYSL GAMES.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COACH TO DISTRIBUTE COPIES OF THESE RULES TO ALL ASSISTANT COACHES, PARENTS AND PLAYERS.

COACHES: PLEASE VERIFY GAME DATES AND TIMES WITH THE OPPOSING COACH SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE SCHEDULED MATCHES.

WE HAVE TEAMS THAT TRAVEL LONG DISTANCES TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR LEAGUE. PLEASE SHOW SOME COURTESY AND VERIFY FIELD CONDITIONS WHEN THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THE FIELD MAY BE UNPLAYABLE. PLEASE NOTIFY THE OPPOSING COACH AND ALLOW THE COACH AMPLE TIME TO CONTACT HIS/HER TEAM. IF IT IS POSSIBLE, CONTACT THE SCHEDULED REFEREES ABOUT THE FIELD CONDITION. AND DON'T FORGET TO NOTIFY THE MYSL COMMISSIONER PROMPTLY IF THE GAME CANNOT BE PLAYED WHEN IN DOUBT ABOUT THE PLAYING CONDITIONS, BOTH TEAMS MUST SHOW UP AND WAIT FOR THE REFEREE TO MAKE THE DECISION.

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MYSL GAMES/RULES OF PLAY – U-8, U-9, U-10 (6v6)

Rules of Play shall be the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA. All contests sanctioned by this League shall abide by the “Laws of the Game” and the modifications as published by the League.

- I. Coaching is to take place from the sidelines between the center line and the penalty area line. The home team has their choice of sideline, or end of the field in the cases where only one side of a field is available. Infraction of this rule constitutes unsportsmanlike conduct and is subject to disciplinary action.
- II. Giving one’s own team points of strategy and position is permitted, provided:
 - a. No mechanical or electronic devices are used
 - b. Tone of voice is informative and not a harangue
 - c. Only coaches are allowed in the coach’s box during the game
- III. All family, friends, relatives and team officials must remain on the team’s side or end of the field, and the coach is responsible for their unacceptable behavior.
- IV. U-8, U-9, U-10 Youth (6v6) Rules and Regulations

MYSL will use a small-sided format for our younger age groups.

Field Markings: a halfway line across the field; four corner arcs with two-foot radius; the goal area will be sixteen yards wide and six yards into the field of play, joined by a line parallel to the goal line; the penalty box should be 10 yards by 24 yards into the field of play, joined by a line parallel to the goal. The home team and/or club will be responsible for the condition of the grounds, the proper field markings and proper equipment. Nets and corner flags are required. It will be the responsibility of the home team to have a game ball and to see that their fans behave in a proper and respectful manner. All fields should be policed for litter before and after every game by both teams. An improperly marked or unmarked field is grounds for protest, at the discretion of the Commissioner. The game may be cancelled at the discretion of the Referee.

Colors: Where colors of uniform are similar, the home team must effect a change to colors that are distinct from those of the opponent.

- A. Length of Game: 50 minutes (two 25 minute halves)
- B. Overtime Period: Two 10 minute periods (5 minute rest between halves)
- C. Ball Size: 4
- D. The offside rule is NOT enforced.
- E. NO goal kicks – game is restarted with goalkeeper possession and goalkeeper can throw, kick, punt or dribble the ball back into play.
- F. The pass-back rule is NOT enforced.
- G. When the ball crosses a sideline, the game is restarted with a throw-in from the spot where it crossed the sideline.
- H. The goalkeeper, after handling the ball, may not punt the ball over the halfway line. For example, if a goalkeeper kicks the ball, it must bounce at least once before crossing the halfway line. However, the goalkeeper would be permitted to kick the ball across the halfway line if it is not picked up and handled first. NOTE: By definition, ALL drop kicks by the goalkeeper would be considered a violation of this rule. Violation of this rule will result in awarding a throw-in (in order to move the game along) to the opposing team of the offending goalkeeper at the nearest intersection of halfway line and sideline. A goalkeeper may not directly receive and handle a throw-in.
- I. All players must be 8 yards from the player taking any restart.
- J. All free kicks are INDIRECT (except penalty kicks), with opponents at least 8 yards from the ball until it is in play.
- K. The start of play shall be a kick-off from a center mark and all opponent players must be 8 yards from this mark on their side of the field. A goal may be scored directly from the kick-off.
- L. Corner kicks will be taken and, in the absence of field markings, the ball should be placed within 2 feet of the corner. A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.
- M. Penalty kicks may be awarded in accordance with FIFA laws of the game and will be taken 8 yards from the goal line, at a mark or place which is approximately the center of the goal.
- N. **Player substitutions may be made, by either team, on any restart when the ball is out of play.**
- O. An additional player may be added to the game by a team at each negative four-goal differential. For example, a player may be added by a team when it goes down by four goals AND another player may be added if the goal differential increases to eight goals, etc. However, if a team has introduced an additional player under this rule, the number of players on the field for that team must be adjusted downward before the restart of play when the goal differential falls below the level at which is rule permitted the addition of a player.

- P. If the two teams both have at least five (5) players, the game shall start on the scheduled time. Otherwise they shall start when the two teams have reached that number or 15 minutes have elapsed.
- Q. In League play-off games, should the score be tied at the end of regulation play, two (2) overtime periods shall be played. In the event no winner is determined after overtime play, then both teams will take five (5) penalty kicks (Rule 8 , USYSA) alternating one(1) at a time until a winner is determined.
- R. The Referee in all games shall be appointed by the Board or its delegate. The Referee shall comply with the "Youth Soccer Score Reporting Procedure." Referees will officiate the game in accordance with current MYSL Rules and Regulations. The Referees may at any time be called by the League Commissioner to review a game report.

In the event of nonappearance of the appointed Referee, the opposing coaches/managers should agree to a solution, written on the back of the game report and signed by both coaches. In that case, the game is to be played and will be official. If agreement is impossible, then the matter will be referred to the League Commissioner for action.

MYSL GAMES/RULES OF PLAY – U-10, U-11 and U-12 (8v8)

Rules of Play shall be the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA. All contests sanctioned by this League shall abide by the “Laws of the Game” and the modifications as published by the League.

- I. Coaching is to take place from the sidelines between the center line and the penalty area line. The home team has their choice of sideline, or end of the field in the cases where only one side of a field is available. Infraction of this rule constitutes unsportsmanlike conduct and is subject to disciplinary action.
- II. Giving one’s own team points of strategy and position is permitted, provided:
 - a. No mechanical or electronic devices are used
 - b. Tone of voice is informative and not a harangue
 - c. Only coaches are allowed in the coach’s box during the game
- III. All family, friends, relatives and team officials must remain on the team’s side or end of the field, and the coach is responsible for their unacceptable behavior.
- IV. U-10, U-11, U12 Youth (8v8) Rules and Regulations

Field Markings: a halfway line across the field; four corner arcs with two-foot radius; the goal area will be nineteen yards wide and six yards into the field of play, joined by a line parallel to the goal line; the penalty box shall be 14 yards by 35 yards into the field of play, jointed by a line parallel to the goal line. The home team and/or club will be responsible for the condition of the grounds, the proper field markings and proper equipment. Nets and corner flags are required. It will be the responsibility of the home team to have a game ball and to see that their fans behave in a proper and respectful manner. All fields should be policed for litter before and after every game by both teams. An improperly marked or unmarked field is grounds for protest, at the discretion of the Commissioner. The game may be cancelled at the discretion of the Referee.

Colors: Where colors of uniform are similar, the home team must effect a change to colors that are distinct from those of the opponent.

- A. Length of Game: 60 minutes (two 30 minute half’s)
- B. Overtime Periods: Two 10 minute periods (5 minutes rest between periods)
- C. Ball Size: 4
- D. The offside rule IS enforced.
- E. Goal kicks – FIFA rules.
- F. The pass-back rule IS enforced.

- G. When the ball crosses a sideline, the game is restarted with a throw-in from the spot where it crossed the sideline.
- H. All players must be eight yards from the player taking any restart.
- I. Fouls and misconduct restarts may be direct or indirect. FIFA laws apply.
- J. The start of play shall be from a center mark, and all opponent players must be eight yards from this mark on their side of the field. A goal may be scored directly.
- K. Corner kicks will be taken and, in the absence of field markings, the ball will be placed within two feet of the corner. A goal may be scored directly.
- L. Penalty kicks will be taken ten yards from the goal line, at a mark or place that is approximately the center of the goal.
- M. If the two teams both have at least seven (7) players, the game shall start on the scheduled time. Otherwise they shall start when the two teams have reached that number or until 15 minutes have elapsed.
- N. In League play-off games, should the score be tied at the end of regulation play, two (2) overtime periods shall be played. In the event no winner is determined after overtime play, then both teams will take five (5) penalty kicks (Rule 8, USYSA) alternating one(1) at a time until a winner is determined.
- O. Players may be substituted only during a stoppage of the game [Law 3, International Board Decision # 6, and Law # 9, Paragraphs (a) and (b)]. Number of substitutions shall be unlimited unless a competition superseding MYSL jurisdiction specifically determines otherwise. Substitutions may be made:
 - 1. Prior to a throw-in, your favor
 - 2. Prior to a goal kick by either team
 - 3. After a goal by either team
 - 4. After an injury on either team
 - 5. At half time
 - 6. If the opposing team substitutes.
- R. The Referee in all games shall be appointed by the Board or its delegate. The Referee shall comply with the "Youth Soccer Score Reporting Procedure." Referees will officiate the game in accordance with current MYSL Rules and Regulations. The referees may at any time be called by the League Commissioner to review a game report.

In the event of nonappearance of the appointed Referee, the opposing coaches/managers should agree to a solution, written on the back of the game report and signed by both coaches. In that case, the game is to be played and will be official. If agreement is impossible, then the matter will be referred to the League Commissioner for action.

MYSL GAMES/RULES OF PLAY – U-12Y and U-13 through U-19 (11v11)

Rules of Play shall be the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA. All contests sanctioned by this League shall abide by the “Laws of the Game” and the modifications as published by the League.

- I. Coaching is to take place from the sidelines between the center line and the penalty area line. The home team has their choice of sideline, or end of the field in the cases where only one side of a field is available. Infraction of this rule constitutes unsportsmanlike conduct and is subject to disciplinary action.
- II. Giving one’s own team points of strategy and position is permitted, provided:
 - a. No mechanical or electronic devices are used
 - b. Tone of voice is informative and not a harangue
 - c. Only coaches are allowed in the coach’s box during the game
- III. All family, friends, relatives and team officials must remain on the team’s side or end of the field, and the coach is responsible for their unacceptable behavior.
- IV. Rules and Regulations
 - A. U-12Y, U-13, U-14 Youth
 - B. Length of Game: 70 minutes (two 35 minute half’s)
 - C. Overtime Period: Two 10 minute periods (5 minutes rest between periods)
 - D. Ball Size: 5

 - A. U-15, U-16 Youth
 - B. Length of Game: 80 minutes (two 40 minute half’s)
 - C. Overtime Period: Two 15 minute periods (5 minute rest between periods)
 - D. Ball Size: 5

 - A. U-17, U-18, U-19 Youth
 - B. Length of Game: 80 minutes (two 40 minute half’s)
 - C. Overtime Period: Two 15 minute periods (5 minute rest between periods)
 - D. Ball Size: 5

Field Markings: fields must be marked in accordance with FIFA rules, with the addition of a “coach’s box” on both sides of the field. The coach’s box shall extend between the eighteen yard lines, four feet behind the touchline. The home team and/or club will be responsible for the condition of the grounds, the proper field markings and proper equipment. Nets and corner flags are required. It will be the responsibility of the home team to have a game ball and to see that their fans behave in a proper and respectful manner. All fields should be policed for litter before and after every game by both teams. An improperly marked or unmarked field is grounds for protest, at the

discretion of the Commissioner. The game may be cancelled at the discretion of the Referee.

Colors: Where colors of uniform are similar, the home team must effect a change to colors that are distinct from those of the opponent.

- A. Players may be substituted only during a stoppage of the game [Law 3, International Board Decision # 6, and Law # 9, Paragraphs (a) and (b)]. Number of substitutions shall be unlimited unless a competition superseding MYSL jurisdiction specifically determines otherwise. Substitutions may be made:
 - S. Prior to a throw-in, your favor
 - T. Prior to a goal kick by either team
 - U. After a goal by either team
 - V. After an injury on either team
 - W. At half time
 - X. If the opposing team substitutes.
In any case, a substitute may not enter the field of play until they have been given a signal to do so by the Referee.
- B. If the two teams in age groups U-12Y, U-13 and higher both have at least seven (7) players, the game shall start on the scheduled time. Otherwise they shall start when the two teams have reached that number.
- C. In no case shall they start later than fifteen (15) minutes from the scheduled time. After the fifteen (15) minutes have elapsed, the FIFA rule will be applied as to what constitutes a team.
- D. In League play-off games, should the score be tied at the end of regulation play, two (2) overtime periods shall be played. In the event no winner is determined after overtime play, then both teams will take five (5) penalty kicks (Rule 8 , USYSA) alternating one(1) at a time until a winner is determined.
- E. The Referee in all games shall be appointed by the Board or its delegate. The Referee shall comply with the "Youth Soccer Score Reporting Procedure." Referees will officiate the game in accordance with current MYSL Rules and Regulations. The Referees may at any time be called by the League Commissioner to review a game report.

In the event of nonappearance of the appointed Referee, the opposing coaches/managers should agree to a solution, written on the back of the game report and signed by both coaches. In that case, the game is to be played and will be official. If agreement is impossible, then the matter will be referred to the League Commissioner for action.

MYSL GAME CONDUCT, VIOLATIONS AND DISCIPLINARY RULINGS

- I. Disciplinary Rulings and Minimum Punishments
 - A. Players guilty of fighting before, during or after games shall receive a minimum two- (2-) game suspension for the first offense. For a second offense within two (2) seasonal years, the player will appear before the Disciplinary Board and may be suspended for a period up to one (1) year.
 - B. Player guilty of using profanity, either by word or sign, against other players, coaches, spectators, Referees or any League official shall receive a minimum two- (2-) game suspension.
 - C. Players guilty of making threatening gestures against other players, coaches, spectators, Referees, or any League official shall receive a minimum one (1) game suspension.
 - D. Players guilty of pushing or striking any coach or official shall receive a one- (1) year suspension.
 - E. Any player or team official sent off the field by the Referee shall receive a minimum one- (1-) game suspension.
 - F. Any player or team official receiving three (3) cautions, i.e., yellow cards, within a seasonal year shall be dealt with as in Section E above.
 - G. Coaches or team officials who make threatening gestures or use threatening language will be disciplined according to the following:
 - i. First offense: The offender shall appear before the League Disciplinary Panel and shall be suspended for a minimum of two (2) games and a maximum of four (4) game if found guilty.
 - ii. Second offense (within three [3] seasonal years): The offender may be suspended for a period no less than one (1) year.
 - H. Coaches or team officials who fight at any time shall be disciplined according to the following schedule:
 - i. First offense: The offender shall be suspended a minimum of one (1) year.
 - ii. Second offense: Suspended for not less than three (3) years.
 - I. Any player or team official who has been suspended shall not be on or in the vicinity of the field during games from which he is suspended.
 - J. Any club or club official guilty of violating MYSL Rules and Regulations or the laws of the game may be fined or otherwise dealt with by the Commissioner or the Disciplinary Panel.

FIELD PROCEDURES

I. General

- A. Our purpose is to promote, teach and play soccer; to be flexible; to develop the abilities of our players; and above all, to advance good sportsmanship. Enjoy the game and leave it on the field. MYSL teams complete outdoors over two sessions, a Fall and Spring session — combined they make up a seasonal year.
- B. All teams are expected to play their complete schedule unless extenuating circumstances cause a cancellation. In that case, the Commissioner must be informed, and unless approved by the Commissioner, the teams should reschedule. (See below.)
- C. Players in the MYSL should play a minimum of one-half of each game. Coaches are required to inform parents of disciplinary issues prior to sitting the player out and should inform the Commissioner if a problem is anticipated.
- D. The MYSL allows a team unlimited one-for-one substitution of its players in age groups U-11 and above upon the team's possession throw-ins, and the opposing team substitutes upon its possession throw-ins. Either team may substitute on a goal kick, at half-time, when a goal is scored, and for its injuries.

II. Postponements and Forfeits

- A. The Commissioner must be notified by email of all games that are not played as scheduled, specifying the game number and reason for cancellation.
- B. Games scheduled without notification and approval of the Commissioner will not count in the standings and will result in possible disciplinary action.
- C. Request for a game change must be entered on the MYSL website – michigansoccer.com 48 hours in advance of the scheduled match. The coaches must mutually agree to the change and the request will be complete upon electronic payment of \$25 to the MYSL. Rescheduling fee is not required due to weather or field playability cancellations.
- D. Games rescheduled without the approval of the MYSL Commissioner will not count in the final standings and the team responsible for violating the change rules will be fined \$100.
- E. Teams that cause forfeits will not be eligible for trophies or consideration for assignment to the state scheduling league.
- F. Coaches will be equally responsible for Referee fees if the Commissioner and Referee schedulers are not notified of a cancellation.

- G. Referees shall be paid one-half of their fee for matches that are cancelled due to weather or if the field is determined to be unplayable by the Referee prior to the start of the game.
- H. Once a game has been started, the officials receive their full fees. If the first half has been completed, the score will stand. If the match is called prior to the completion of the first half, it must be rescheduled.
- I. Coaches must make every effort to reschedule the game within seven (7) days of the cancellation. If they are unable to reach an agreement, the Home team will provide the Commissioner with three (3) dates and the game will be set by the Commissioner.
- J. Forfeits will be awarded after a review of the facts, and then only by the Commissioner. The Commissioner will notify the coaches, the team causing the forfeit will be fined \$100, and the club affiliating the team will be required to post a \$500 performance bond for the subsequent season. The Club/League will lose their bond for a repeat violation of the same or similar nature as determined by the MYSL Executive Board.
- K. In case of a tornado watch or warning issued by the National Weather Service for the area in which a game is scheduled to be played, all games will be cancelled until the watch or warning is lifted.

III. Red Cards and Yellow Cards

- A. Players and coaches who are issued red cards must sit out the remainder of the game in which the card was issued and the number of additional games indicated on the lineup sheet.
- B. Players or coaches receiving a second red card in same Fall or Spring season must contact the Commissioner. The review with the Commissioner may result in a hearing with the Disciplinary Board.
- C. Coaches may be carded or ejected for failure to control their sidelines or their players.
- D. Players who are cautioned MUST be substituted immediately and MUST sit out until the team's next opportunity to substitute.
- E. Suspensions MUST be served during the team's next MYSL game(s). A player/coach red carded during the last game of the season is required to sit out their suspension the following season.
- F. Players who receive three (3) yellow cards during a seasonal year must sit out the next game. All players/coaches sitting out suspensions must be noted on the front of the lineup sheet of the games they are sitting out.

- G. Players who are suspended at tournaments must sit out the remaining suspension during League play. League suspensions must be served during MYSL league play.
- H. Failure to comply with game suspensions will result in forfeiture of the current game and the player/coach being required to sit out the following game.

IV. Protests and Appeals

- A. Should any person, team or club want to protest or appeal any decision, the line of authority shall be: To the League Commissioner, then to the League Disciplinary Panel, then to the League Executive Board, then to the District Appeals Committee (if one exists), then to the line of authority as specified by the USYSA.
- B. The Commissioner shall deal with all protests and appeals arising out of any league games. Protests and appeals are to be written or typed and sent to the Commissioner, in triplicate by express mail within three (3) calendar days following the date of the match or the disciplinary decision being protested. The protest fee (a \$100.00 check made payable to MYSL) must be enclosed with all protests.
- C. The protest fee will be returned if the protest is upheld. The fee to file an appeal will be returned if the Commissioner is overruled and so on down the line.
- D. The Referee's judgment with regard to the physical condition of the field and its playability, with regard to the actual happenings and occurrences on and off the field from the time he or she arrives until he or she leaves the field, and with regard to those prerogatives granted to him by the "Laws of the Game" published by FIFA SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO CHALLENGE.
- E. Only violations of the Constitution of the League, its By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, and misapplication of the law shall be proper subjects to consider as protests.
- F. Protests will be acted upon by the League Commissioner within six (6) days of his receipt of the protest or before the next regularly scheduled game whichever comes first. His action will be reported to the involved parties within this time limit.
- G. Appeals will be made in the same manner as protests and will be accompanied by a \$100.00 check made payable to MYSL. An appeal will be acted upon by the Disciplinary Panel at a hearing convened within fifteen (15) days of their receipt of said appeal by the chairperson of the Disciplinary Panel. The affected parties will be invited to this hearing. The hearing shall be conducted under these Rules and Regulations and shall comply with USSF By-Law 701 and USSF Policy 701-1, along with the Rules and Regulations of the MYSL.

- H. Disqualification, suspension, other disciplinary action, or dismissal of charges will take effect following the ruling of the Disciplinary Panel.

V. Passcards

- A. The Registrar shall issue, or cause to be issued, a valid registration passcard to eligible players, coaches and assistant coaches.
- B. Player and coach passcards must not be tampered with in any way. Teams/clubs will be assessed a fee of \$100 to replace a set of passcards and individual passcards will be replaced for \$10 each. No replacement cards will be issued until the fee is paid.
- C. All players, coaches and assistant coaches must present their passcards to the opposing team's manager prior to the start of the game if requested. Suspended players must be clearly marked on the lineup sheet and participants not in possession of a passcard must print their name and sign the back of the white copy of the game report sheet.
- D. Check-in should begin approximately 15 minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff and every effort should be made to start the game on time.
- E. It is the responsibility of team managers to check opponents' passcards prior to the start of each game. Players who arrive late must check in with the Referee and present their passcard prior to playing in the match.
- F. If the designated coach and/or assistant I not present, the Referee may inquire as to their whereabouts and take appropriate action where necessary if either is in the vicinity of the field.
- G. Managers who fail to check passcards prior to the start of a game may not challenge the eligibility of any player after the game is started. Player eligibility shall not be grounds for a protest if the manager failed to check passcards.
- H. Should players misplace their passcards, they shall be permitted to play in the game. However, they shall be open to 'challenge' by the opposing team. It shall be the responsibility of the manager/coach to notify the Referee, prior to the game, whether any players or coaches are not in possession of their passcards.
- I. Players who do not have passcards must print their name and birth date and sign the back of the white original lineup sheet. It should be noted next to his name that the player did not have a passcard.
- J. Teams may use Club Passcards in accordance with the rules and regulations set out by the MYSL CLUB PASSCARD RULES (see

the Website or below if we add them to this document), which are incorporated and made part of these rules.

- VI. Challenge of Player Not in Possession of Player Passcard (Procedure and Penalties)
- A. If a player does not present a player passcard to the opposing team's manager/coach prior to the game, they are open to 'challenge' by the coach of the other team.
 - B. If a coach desires to challenge, he shall notify the Referee and the opposing coach that the player is under 'challenge' (not to be confused with Protest) prior to the start of the game.
 - C. The player(s) being challenged shall give their name(s) to the opposing team, and this information will be noted on the referee report in addition to documenting and signing the white copy of the game report sheet (as required and explained above).
 - D. The challenging coach shall then contact the League Registrar for verification that the challenged player(s) is (are) properly registered. If the Registrar's records show the player is properly registered, the matter is finished.
 - E. If the player is not properly registered, their team shall automatically forfeit that game and may face further disciplinary action by the League and/or the MSYSA Board, depending on the nature of the violation.
 - F. If the coach and/or assistant coach are not in possession of either their risk management cards or their passcards, the opposing team must note on the referee report the name, address and telephone number of the person(s) acting as coach or assistant, and each will be required to sign the lineup sheet. Coaches and assistants participating in games when not in possession of their risk management cards or their passcards may be dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee.
 - G. In case of forfeiture, the score shall stand 1-0 against the forfeiting team.
- VII. Risk Management Cards
- A. The Referee MUST CHECK risk management cards for all team officials. Individuals not in possession of a risk management card must provide picture identification, print their name and sign the back of the original white lineup sheet. This failure to have proper certification must be noted on the front of the lineup sheet and the opposing team coach must be notified. Failure to display: first violation is \$25, second violation is \$50 and a one-game suspension; third violation is \$100 and a three-game suspension along with disciplinary action by MYSL.
 - B. If upon investigation, it is found that any individual directly involved with a team is not Risk Management-certified, the

offending team will be immediately suspended, all games in which the ineligible officials were involved will be forfeited, and the individual will be automatically MYSL-disqualified for a period of one year. If properly certified individuals cannot be found to direct the team, the team can no longer participate in the MYSL.

VIII. Reporting and Team Standings

- A. The WINNING TEAM must report the game score within 48 hours of the end of their game. HOME teams will report the score for tied games. Scores should be submitted by accessing the MYSL web site – michigansoccer.com under the Standings and Schedules section. Access is granted through the MYSL number assigned to each team. Include game number, age division, winning team name and score, losing team name and score.
- B. Points will be awarded for games played to determine team standings. Three (3) points will be awarded for a winning game. One (1) point will be awarded for a tied game. The following criteria will be used to resolve first and second place ties:
 - i. Head-to-head competition in League play.
 - ii. Goal differential in head-to-head competition (goals for vs. goals against)
 - iii. Most wins
 - iv. Goal differential in League play (goals for vs. goals against), maximum three (3) per game
 - v. Total goals scored
- C. Divisions with six or more teams will be awarded first and second place trophies. Divisions with five (5) or fewer teams will receive first place trophies only.

IX. Forfeits

- A. A team causing a forfeit will be fined \$100 per forfeit.
- B. The team will not be awarded first or second place trophies.
- C. The team will not be considered for sponsorship to the State Premier League.
- D. The club/league sponsoring the team that cause the forfeit will post a \$500 bond for the following season.
- E. The team causing the forfeit will pay all Referee fees.

REGISTRATION

- I. Age Limit Definition
 - A. The term 'youth' as applied to these Rules & Regulations shall mean any amateur player who has not attained his or her 19th birthday before the first day of August preceding the seasonal year in which he or she applies for registration.
 - B. Players attaining the limiting age for any age group on or after August 1 will be eligible to play for the full seasonal year.
 - C. A reinstated player shall mean a player who has been reinstated to an amateur youth status.
- II. Age Groups
 - A. All teams, unless otherwise sanctioned by the Board shall divide play among teams of equal age groupings. Included age groups are: U-5, U-6, U-7, U-8, U-9, U-10, U-11, U-12, U-12Y, U-13, U-14, U-15, U-16, U-17, U-18, and U-19.
- III. Proof of Age
 - A. Any player can be called upon to prove his or her legal age by the Board, the Registrar or the League Commissioner. A birth certificate, passport, board of health records, certificate of naturalization or alien registration card shall be sufficient for proof of age.
- IV. Registration Procedure
 - A. All players are required to submit a properly completed player registration form, with the required number of pictures. The submittal of such form binds that player to that club or team for the seasonal year unless granted a transfer or release under the following rules.
 - B. Each club or team shall be required to submit to the appropriate League officer various forms as may be required for the operation of the League, including the appropriate number and type of Club Passcard identifications, if participating in the Club Passcard program.
 - C. Prior to each fall and spring season, by dates established by the Executive Board, each team must submit properly completed affiliation, registration and roster form to the age-appropriate Registrar, along with the established fees. Only those properly registered players appearing on the roster form are eligible to play that season. No player may be added to the roster after deadlines have passed, unless granted a hardship ruling by the Executive Board.
 - D. Each team official (i.e., coach, assistant coach, manager) shall be listed on the team affiliation form and roster.
 - E. No player shall be registered to play for more than one team within this League. No player shall play concurrently on any USSF-affiliated league team outside this League without obtaining the approval of the Executive Board. MYSL does permit the use of Club Passcards, whose rules and regulations are incorporated with these Rules and Regulations.

F. Registration for high school age boys and girls shall be for a single season and not the seasonal year.

V. Player Registration

- A. A registered player shall be committed to a team for a seasonal year. Once registered, and in the absence of mitigating circumstances, a player must remain with his/her team in the League in which his/her team participates until the completion of the spring session.
- B. Any attempt to induce a player to change teams for either the current or the following seasonal year during the session(s) in which his/her team is in competition shall be considered poaching and in violation of these Rules and Regulations (see Poaching Section). During the time that a team has suspended League play, players and club or team officers or representatives may freely discuss new affiliation for the following seasonal year.
- C. MYSL-registered players who participate on high school teams and who play only during the one session of a seasonal year are expected to play in tournaments and cup games with the team to which they are rostered through June 30 of the seasonal year or until granted a proper transfer or release.
- D. Registration for high school-aged players' teams shall be for a single session and not the seasonal year.

VI. Player Roster Limits

- A. Teams playing age divisions U-9 and U-10 shall have no more than eleven (11) players registered at any time. Teams playing U-11 and U-12 shall have no more than fourteen (14) players. All other teams shall have no more than eighteen (18) players.

VII. Date of Registration

- A. A player is registered the moment the player and his/her parent or guardian (if the player is under 18 years of age) signs the League Player Registration for submits any fees due at that time and is accepted by a responsible team/club/league official.
- B. The Executive Board will set cut-off dates for each playing or seasonal year for Registration.

VIII. Multiple Rostering

- A. A player may register with more than one team per seasonal year the following restrictions apply to multiple registrations.
 - i. A player cannot play for more than one team in the MYSL.
 - ii. The team with which a multiple-rostered player first registers shall be designated as his/her primary team and the other his secondary team. On days on which both teams have games, the player must play for his/her primary team if he/she plays. If both teams enter the same competition (e.g., State Cup, tournaments, etc.), the player must play for his/her primary team. Any player who registers for a team without informing the

responsible team official that he/she is already registered with another team shall be assumed to be a single rostered player. Should the player subsequently request approval of a multiple rostering form with that team shown as his/her secondary team, the team has the right to insist that it be shown as the primary team. If the coaches of the two teams disagree on the designation of the primary team, the player may not play until the issue has been resolved via the appeals process.

- iii. A multiple-rostered player shall be issued a single USYSA passcard by the league for his/her primary team. The passcard shall indicate the primary team and the secondary team. The League for the secondary team shall not issue a player passcard, but shall allow the player to play in its league using his/her passcard showing both teams.
- iv. Teams may register as many dual-rostered players as they wish, but teams that dual roster more than two players must play in our first division. Failure to comply with this restriction will result in a \$100 fine and the team will not be awarded first- or second-place trophies.

IX. Voluntary and Involuntary Releases

- A. A player's right to a voluntary release is absolute and may not be challenged; no player is required to play for a team he/she no longer wishes to play for. Upon receipt of the proper, complete and approved paperwork, the player will be considered released. It is the coach's responsibility to return a released player's passcard to the appropriate MYSL Registrar to consider the team roster spot available.
- B. Additionally, releases will be granted if:
 - i. The original team suspends operations for the remainder of the seasonal year, OR
 - ii. The player moves to a new address a distance which, in the opinion of the Board or its delegates would make it impractical for him or her to continue with the original team, OR
 - iii. There are mitigating circumstances that, in the opinion of the Board or its delegates, justify a release.
- C. Involuntary releases will be granted if:
 - i. The player has violated rules of this Association or League and has been suspended for a period of time greater than five (5) games, OR
 - ii. The payer is injured in such a manner that the payer will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season, OR
 - iii. The player moves to a new address, a distance that, in the opinion of the Board or its delegates would make it impractical for him/her to continue with the original team.
- D. In any of the above cases, where a player seeks a voluntary release or transfer or a team seeks to involuntarily release a player, a Player

Release/Transfer Form must be completed by the player and/or team. The form, with appropriate fees, must be submitted for approval by MYSL.

- X. Player Transfers
 - A. A player may transfer between MYSL teams between seasons of a seasonal year if the transfer is approved by both coaches, the club or league and the MYSL. The new team must have room on its roster to accept the transfer player. During any seasonal year, a team may have no more than two (2) transfer players on its roster unless granted a hardship ruling by the Executive Board. Any team accepting transferred players or adding players not previously registered, shall be re-evaluated for divisional alignment.
 - B. A team is considered 'hardship' when its roster is legally reduced to 13 players (except U-12, U-11 and U-10(8v8) which shall be ten [10] players and U-9 and U-10 which shall be eight [8] players). Application for player transfer must be made to the MYSL on the required forms.
 - C. The Executive Board will set cut-off dates for each playing or seasonal year for transfers.
- XI. Poaching
 - A. Any club or team which, through its responsible officers or representatives, attempts at any time to induce a registered player of any team under the jurisdiction of this League, during the session the team is in competition or prior to the officially announced tryout date to change teams for either the current seasonal year or the following seasonal year, shall be deemed to have committed the offense of poaching and shall be dealt with by the League Commissioner subject to Executive Board approval and recommendations.

MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATION

- I. Parental Harassment and Bad Language
 - A. Harassment and bad language by parents are unacceptable. Please control your sidelines and make the games more enjoyable for everyone. Leagues/Clubs and coaches will be held responsible for the conduct of their spectators on the sidelines. Leagues/Clubs, teams, coaches, players and/or parents who continue to violate this rule will be observed by the Commissioner or his representative and will face possible ineligibility from future registration, forfeiture of games and/or awards, and other disciplinary actions as deemed necessary.
- II. Field Maintenance
 - A. Field maintenance is the responsibility of the home team. Accurate and clearly marked field with proper cutting are of vital importance. Goal posts should be properly painted. Nets, corner flags, and suitable game ball are also the responsibility of the home team. All

fields should be policed for litter before and after every game by both teams. An improperly marked or unmarked field is grounds for protest, at the discretion of the Commissioner. The game may be canceled at the discretion of the Referee.

- II. Senior Amateur Trial Games
 - A. Any youth player wishing to try out for a senior amateur team must make application through the Registrar. Any youth player who plays for a senior team without obtaining the necessary approvals shall be declared ineligible for youth games.
- III. Professional Status
 - A. Any player signing a 'letter of intent,' a professional contract, or playing with a professional team without the permission of the USSF Affiliate League shall be declared a professional.
 - B. The MSYSA Board, along with the Michigan Interscholastic Association, may grant a youth amateur permission to play in benefit or exhibition game only, where professional players are involved.
 - C. Any player who has signed a 'letter of intent,' a contract, or played in any game where professional players are involved without permission of the MSYSA Board will not be permitted to be reinstated to a youth amateur status.
- IV. Insurance
 - A. All players registered with the League shall be required to have in effect medical insurance coverage through a program specified by the League.
 - B. All injuries to be claimed against the medical insurance shall be complete and on the proper form (obtainable from the person in charge of insurance). All reports of injuries must be submitted to the above-mentioned person within seventy-two (72) hour of the injury.
- V. Trophies
 - A. Trophies will be awarded to the first- and second-place teams (first place only if division of five teams or less), with the exception that all players in the U-9 and younger age divisions shall only receive a participation award.
- VI. Referee Fees
 - A. The MYSL Executive Board shall be responsible for establishing Referee fees for all games played under the jurisdiction of MYSL.
- VII. Affiliated Clubs/Leagues may deem fit to enact rules and regulations more stringent than those included herein, but in no case may their rules and regulations be less stringent than these MYSL Rules and Regulations.
- VIII. A plea of ignorance to these Rules and Regulations is not sufficient, and violators may expect appropriate action by the Executive Board of this League.

- IX. Michigan State Premier Program
 - A. Teams are sponsored for the seasonal year so teams sponsored in the fall need not re-apply in the spring. All teams must apply in the fall.
 - B. Teams sponsored to the State Premier League will pay a \$75 fee in addition to registration fees.
- X. Risk Management Card
 - A. All coaches, trainers, manager and individuals who are involved with team playing in the MYSL must have or be in the process of securing a Risk Management Card. Any team official in violation of this policy will be fined \$500 and suspended indefinitely. The Risk Management Card must be clearly displayed at all games. Any team in violation of this policy will be fined. Failure to display for individuals: first violation if \$50, second violation is \$100 and a one-game suspension; third violation is \$250 and a three-game suspension along with disciplinary action by MYSL. WHICH IS RIGHT? See Referee section too.
- XI. No club or league may register any teams until all fines are paid in full.
- XII. A club/league must have a minimum of three (3) teams, a board of directors with the minimum of three individuals and an odd number of directors. MYSL must first have approved a current set of by-laws for the club/league to be considered for MYSL membership.
- XIII. Each member league/club must have a representative at our scheduled membership meetings. Failure to provide a representative may result in a \$100 fine and/or further disciplinary action by the MYSL Board..

MYSL REFEREE FEES AND COMPETITION RULES

FEES: Fall, 2011*

Game Time	Age Group	Referee Position	
		Center/Line/Line	One Referee Alone
50 Minutes	U-9	\$17 (center only)	\$17
50 Minutes	U-10	\$17 (center only)	\$17
60 Minutes	U-11 and U10(8v8)	\$25/\$15/\$15	\$27
60 Minutes	U-12	\$25/\$15/\$15	\$30
70 Minutes	U-12Y and U-13	\$35/\$25/\$25	\$40
70 Minutes	U-14	\$35/\$25/\$25	\$45
80 Minutes	U-15	\$45/\$30/\$30	\$55
80 Minutes	U-16	\$45/\$30/\$30	\$55
80 Minutes	U-17	\$50/\$35/\$35	\$70
80 Minutes	U-19	\$50/\$35/\$35	\$70

*The HOME TEAM pays the Referee fees.

NOTE: The above fees and MYSL Rules and Regulations are to be used for ALL MYSL competitions, superseding any local league/club rules and regulations. Any questions should be directed to the MYSL Commissioner.

- I. Pay only the officials who report for the game. Do not pay the full fee if only one or two officials report. The fee schedule above is for all MYSL games. Should a local referee association require additional fees, payment of these fees is the HOME team's responsibility.
- II. Assignments for U-12 centers and all officials for U-12Y and U-13 and up will be certified Referees from the local referee association. The HOME team is responsible for the assignment of certified assistant referees (AR) for the U-12 age group and for all officials for U-11 and younger age groups.
- III. ARs are not required for U-8, U-9 or U-10 games, but they are suggested and highly recommended. Every effort should be made to provide ARs for U-11(and U-10 8v8) and up matches and consistent failure to do so may result in moving matches to fields where certified officials are available on a consistent basis.
- IV. Every effort should be made to play all games as scheduled. If the Referee fails to report, the senior AR should whistle the game. If no Referees report, U-8, U-9, U-10 and U-11 games can be officiated by a previously certified parent or sibling, or officiating can be shared by the coaches as a last resort. PLEASE NOTE: These changes should be agreed to beforehand and should be written on the back of the lineup sheet and then signed by both coaches.

- V. The Referee MUST CHECK risk management cards for all team officials. Individuals not in possession of a risk management card must provide picture identification, print their name and sign the back of the original white lineup sheet. This failure to have proper certification must be noted on the front of the lineup sheet and the opposing team coach must be notified. Failure to display: first violation is \$50, second violation is \$1000 and a one-game suspension; third violation is \$100 and a three-game suspension along with disciplinary action by MYSL.
- VI. If upon investigation, it is found that any individual directly involved with a team is not Risk Management-certified, the offending team will be immediately suspended, all games in which the ineligible officials were involved will be forfeited, and the individual will be automatically MYSL-disqualified for a period of one year. If properly certified individuals cannot be found to direct the team, the team can no longer participate in the MYSL.
- VII. Failure of Referee to check that the Team Coach, Manager or Trainer is displaying, by lanyard or similar manner, a valid Risk Management Card will be grounds for discipline. The first occurrence will result in a written warning, the second another written warning along with a \$50 fine, and the third violation will result in suspension from officiating MYSL matches for a seasonal year and the USSF will be notified.
- VIII. All formal Referee complaints must be made in writing with the coach's phone number and his signature or the signature of his designated representative. Complaints should be mailed to the Commissioner who will pass them along to the association responsible for the assignment. ALL formal complaints will be addressed through the following steps: First, the official will be observed and assessed by a senior official. Second, if a problem is found, the official will be trained and their assignments modified to accommodate their level of competence. Finally, if the Referee cannot perform up to an acceptable level, they will no longer be eligible to officiate MYSL games. The coach will be notified by the referee association of the action taken.