

Summer 2004 PYSA Referee Rules

Special Rules:

U8 - No off-sides. No Penalty Kicks. Throw ins replaced by kick ins. Restarts after goal will consist of goal kick and defenders must remain on their side of the field until ball crossed midfield. Restarts on goal kicks will consist of goal kick with defenders on their side of the field until goal kick is made. On-field coaching allowed.

U10 - No off-sides. No Penalty Kicks. All start/restart play kicks are indirect ("center" kick-off must be touched by 2 **offensive** players). On-field coaching allowed during July only.

4x2 Rule -In U8, U10 & U12 divisions if a team goes up by 4 goals, opposing team will play one player up (unless numbers do not permit-. then up team will play down 1 player) until goal differential is 2.
In Senior division team up by 4 goals will play down 1 player until goal differential is 2.

Heading - No "heading" instruction/encouragement for PYSA.

Playing time:

Required- Each child will play at least half of every game attended. (Except for discipline situations, yellow/red card, injury).

Recommended - Each child should get the same (approx.) amount of playing time.

Players who exhibit good sportsmanship, try hard, have good attendance (prior notification when they can't come) should be rewarded with playing time opportunities.

Injuries:

When the referee has deemed a player has been injured, play shall be stopped **within 3 seconds.** Substitution required (including goalie). The play is re-started with a drop ball. The only exception is when the play was stopped for another reason (out of bounds, etc.)

Restricted areas:

The area behind the end lines and a three foot strip along each touch line shall be kept clear of spectators, players and coaches at all times during the game. Coaches/teams must stay on their own end of the sidelines. **Coaches/teams and parents/spectators will occupy opposite sidelines during matches.**

I. Field of Play:

The following divisions will play in the following size fields (yards);

U8 - 30 x 50, U10 - 40 x 60, U12 - 50 x 70, and U14 - 75 x 100

II. **The Ball:**

The following divisions will play with the following size balls;

U8 - Size 3, U10 - Size 4, U12 - Size 4, and U14 - Size 5

III. **Number of Players:**

U14 - 6 v 6 minimum 5 or forfeit

U12 - 7v7 minimum 6 or forfeit

U10 - 6v6 minimum 5 or forfeit

U8 (3 forwards and 1 “back”) - 4v4 minimum 3 or forfeit

Forfeit will occur after referee gives three minute notice to start play. Play your required formats (4v4, 6v6, 7v7, 6v6). Do not alter format except for shortage of players, 4x2 rule, shortage of players, or for Red card ejection's. Recommend minimum plus 1 or 2 substitutes. **Coaches coordinate!**

***Only players rostered to a team by PYSA may play on that team. No exceptions** (except short manned team with players from opposing team) .

To minimize unnecessary delays and to insure maximum playing time for each child, substitutions are allowed only between periods except for Injuries, and Rule 12, Caution. A substitution may/must be made for fatigue or health reasons.

IV. **Player Equipment:**

Sneakers or soft rubber cleats are the only allowable footwear. Players wearing items that the referee considers dangerous to other players must remove the items prior to entering the field. If play has already started, the referee must stop play and have items removed or order the offending player off the field. The player may be substituted and the opposing team allowed a like number of substitutions. Shin-guards are MANDATORY and no player shall be allowed to play without them. Mouth-guards are optional. Goalkeeper must wear distinguishing colors.

V. **Referee:**

Referee shall be in charge of the game from the time he/she steps on the field. **No disagreement with a referees' decision will be tolerated**, on or off the field, by players, coaches, parents or other spectators. Team coach is responsible for the conduct of players, assistant coaches, parents and team supporters. If a team refuses to play after being instructed to do so by the referee and, after three minute warning, the game shall be forfeited.

In the U8 and U10 Division PYSA will provide one(1) FIFA Certified referee, who will handle the entire game with help from a parent linesman. See section VI.

In the U12 and U14 Division, the PYSA shall provide two (2) FIFA Certified Referees. Each referee shall be positioned in one half of the field. The two referees shall position

themselves opposite each other half way between the touchline and center kick-off spot, and at a diagonal. The trailing referee shall not cross the midfield line. The referee with the ball in their side of the field shall be positioned goal-side, near the play, and in a position to call off-sides. The other referee shall be at the midfield line and move with the play to be better able to call off-sides and any infractions. Both referees shall call infractions at any point in the game, however, let the referee closer to the play make the call first. If the referee (with the ball on their side) crosses to the other side of the field during play, the second referee shall move to the opposite touchline. At no time should the two referees be on the same side of the field. This usually happens when the play moves from one side to another and the referee closest to the ball follows the play. In this case, the referee at the midfield line notices that the closer referee is "on their touchline" and consequently moves to the other side while watching the play.

VI. Assistant Referee/Linesman:

In the U10 and U8 Divisions each team shall provide one linesman (**Duty Parent-Coach**) for each game. The referee will provide assistant Referee/Linesman flags. Linesman calls will be limited as to whether the ball is in or out of bounds, and as to who shall inbound the ball. Referee may overrule any linesman call.

VII. Duration of Play:

U8	-	4	10 minute periods (running time)
U10	-	4	10 minute periods (running time)
U12	-	4	12 minute periods (running time)
U14	-	4	15 minute periods (running time)

Two minute break between 1st & 2nd and 3rd & 4th periods. Five minute break between 1st & 2nd half. Referee shall be in charge of time-keeping.

VIII. Start of Play:

As per laws of the game.

IX. Ball In and Out of Play:

As per laws of the game.

X. Scoring:

As per laws of the game.

XI. Offside:

As per laws of the game (**No offside for U8 or U10.**)

XII. Fouls and Misconduct:

As per laws of the game and:

Holding, shirt grabbing, excessive pushing will not be allowed. **Swearing will not be tolerated from anyone (coaches, players, parents, spectators).** A yellow card will be given for the above infractions. The **COACH** is responsible for players, assistant coaches, parents and other team supporters.

Caution (Yellow card):

Players receiving a Yellow card will sit out for five minutes. The team may substitute for the player. Yellow cards may be given to players, players on the bench and/or coaches. Coaches/teams may be given yellow cards for inappropriate parent/spectator behavior.

Ejection (Red card):

Players or coaches receiving a red card are ejected from the game and MUST leave the field area. The team may not substitute for the ejected player and must play shorthanded for the remainder of the game. Player or coach receiving the Red card will also not participate in the next game. A second red card will mean the same as above and the child will be suspended pending notification of the parents and a review by the P.Y.S.A. Board of Directors. Coaches will be suspended pending review by the P.Y.S.A. board. A third Red card will automatically mean suspension for the remainder of the season.

Coach Misconduct:

If a coach becomes unruly or acts in an unsporting manner the referee may eject the Coach from the field. If the coach will not leave the field the referee will suspend the game. Coach will be subject to suspension by the PYSA Board.

Other Comments About Misconduct:

Cards should be given sparingly during the PYSA Season. Many of the players are just learning the game of soccer and it is part of your job to help them learn. You are to instruct them on the rules of play and guide them in playing correctly within the rules.

Yellow and red cards are to be used to control flow of the game. Use good judgement when issuing cards. Do not issue cards to coaches or spectators. The cards are for players. If you have a problem with a coach and you have asked him/her to calm down; then ask him/her to assign an assistant to coach the game and tell them to leave the field. If spectators get out of control then ask the coach to tell them to calm down. If they do not you ask the spectator to leave the field.

XIII. Free Kick:

As per laws of the game. All U8 & U10 kicks are indirect.

XIV. Penalty Kick:

As per laws of the game (No penalty kicks for U8 or U10).

XV. Throw-In:

As per laws of the game.

XVI. Goal Kick:

As per laws of the game.

XVII. Corner Kick:

As per laws of the game.

XVIII. Forfeiture of games:

Should you need to cancel a game for any reason (inclement weather, team doesn't have enough players, fighting etc.) it is your decision, make the call on the field. We do not make-up PYSA games due to cancellations. Even if it is raining etc. unless you hear from me you must go to the field.

Referee be sure you always:

1. The referee should always move with play of the ball. NO STANDING IN CENTERS. Sprint when player is running with ball.
2. Make a lot of calls. The kids are learning at the younger levels and need to learn to play correctly. The older kids need to play fairly.
3. Use hand signals. This allows the coaches to coach the team and saves the side line conversations about what call was made.
4. Blow the whistle loud. The coaches need to know when the play has stopped.
5. Always focus on the game. Most games are only 1 hour. Even if your friends are around you must do the game. ***This is your job.***
6. If there is a shirt color problem the home team changes shirts or puts on different colored pinnies.
6. All referees will be paid by submitting their signed game receipts to Meg Duckett, 470 Sandy Point Ave., Portsmouth, RI 02871. **No payment will be made at the field during the PYSA season.** Do not ask the coaches for money.
7. Coaches and spectators are not allowed on the field of play at anytime. Exceptions at the U8 level the coaches may be on the field with the players. If a player is injured you invite the coach to come on the field to attend to his/her injured player. Otherwise no one but the players and referee are allowed on the field.
8. Before start of game:
 - a. Check all players' equipment. Be sure they have proper uniforms, shin guards with socks covering them, and cleats or sneakers.
 - b. Check game ball for proper size and be sure it is properly inflated.

- c. Be sure that the field is properly marked and that the corner flags are up and safe.
 - d. Make sure that the soccer net is free of debris. The net should be free of large holes and properly secured to soccer poles.
 - e. THINK SAFETY OF ALL INVOLVED. PLAYERS, YOUR SELF, COACHES AND SPECTATORS.
9. It is your responsibility to find a substitute if you are unable to work one of your assigned games.
10. All referees will be in full uniform before taking the field. Including socks pulled up.