



EAYSC RULES AND REGULATIONS



1. s General:

- a. Remember that games and practices are learning experiences and that we are role models for the children. Remember not to lose track of why we are here
- b. All registration fees will be set by the EAYSC Board of Directors.
- c. All references to East Allegheny Youth Sports Corporation/ EA Soccer will indicated as EAYSC.
- d. Any references to parents or guardians will be indicated as “parents.”
- e. All references to a particular season, spring, fall or Indoor will be indicated by “season”.
- f. EAYSC shall follow all the rules of USA Youth Soccer/PA West Soccer except where noted in these rules and regulations. *Available at pawest-soccer.org.*

2. Players

- a. A player’s age on January 1st of the seasonal year determines his/her age group.
- b. All players’ in-house rec or travel will wear the approved uniform at all games.
- c. No player will be permitted to practice or play before becoming a currently registered member of EAYSC.
- d. If a player commits to playing for a particular team or coach (travel) the player cannot renege and play for another team or coach in that playing season. (calendar year)
- e. If a player breaks this commitment for reasons other than health, the player will be prevented for playing for EAYSC for the length of the season (calendar year) including tournaments and indoor league play (i.e. Futsal etc.)
- f. If a player refuses to play for any coach in any age division this will be considered a “No play” to all EAYSC coaches and the player will not play for EAYSC for the entire playing season.
- g. Players may not play up in any division (in-house or travel) without signed permission form from the player’s parent/guardian.
- h. In any circumstances, players are not permitted to skip an entire age division. i.e. U-8 to U-12
- i. All players are to follow the EAYSC Player’s Code of Conduct.
- j. All travel players are required to play in-house soccer. If extenuating circumstances exist, an appeal may be filed with the EAYSC Board of Directors for a possible waiver.

3. Seasons

- a. The soccer season will run from August 1 of the current calendar year through July 31 of the following calendar year, i.e. August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2019.
- b. The three playing season will be
 - i. Fall – August- September- October
 - ii. Winter – January- March
 - iii. Spring – April- May

4. In House Draft

- a. Players shall be assigned to teams through a draft overseen by the General Manager and conducted by the coaches.
- b. The players shall be rated in numerical order - lowest to highest by playing ability
- c. Each Coach shall have their son /daughter assigned to their team.
- d. After this the player’s names will be turned over with only the numerical rating showing.
- e. Each team should draft by numerical rating. If after a numerical order category is done then the next category is begun.
- f. Each drafted Team should be close in the total rating number as the next team.
- g. Once the draft is complete, should a coach request a certain player; then and only if another coach agrees, a “trade may be made” as long as it is for the same number- rated player

5. In House Specific

- a. EAYSC will follow all the approved soccer rules of PA West Soccer and the USA Youth

Soccer association except as noted in these policies.

- b. **Kinderkickers**

- i. one half hour of skills development
- ii. one half hour of game play
- iii. 4 vs 4 on the field

- c. **Under 8**

- i. 5 vs 5 on the field plus a keeper
- ii. Punting not permitted

- d. **Under 10**

- i. No build out line will be in play
- ii. Punting not permitted
- iii. 5 vs 5 on the field plus a keeper

- e. **Under 12/13**

- i. 5 vs 5

- f. **Game Lengths**

- i. U-8 2 – 20 minute halves
- ii. U-10 2 – 25 minute halves
- iii. U-12/13 2 - 25 minute halves
- iv. **Playing time: All players should play ½ of the game.**

6. Indoor Soccer

- a. All Players are required to wear non marking shoes.

7. Travel Teams

- a. No one under the age of 9 shall be eligible to play on a travel team!
- b. All current travel teams that play during the fall PA West travel season are to have annual tryouts, that must be conducted beginning May 15th and be completed by June 15th. These tryouts must be scheduled with EAYSC Secretary and General Manager and publicized on the EAYSC website.
- c. All travel teams shall conduct two tryouts during this time span.
- d. No travel team will FINALIZE roster spots until after June 16th when all tryouts are complete or after all tryouts for a particular age group are completed. However, travel teams may offer roster spots to players during the annual tryout period mentioned in Section a (above)
 - i. If you want to start a travel team you must apply to the Board of Directors and request permission to form a travel team.
 - ii. If there are more than one team proposed in each age group (and soccer enrollment permits) a general tryout shall (may) be held for that age group with neutral party from outside the EAYSC Soccer program ranking the players. (Non EAYSC coaches)
 - iii. If there are enough players to have more than one travel team in an age group, there may be an A and a B team.
- e. The neutral party conducting the tryouts will determine who would be on the A and B team.
- f. 75 % of any travel team must be from the East Allegheny Geographical Area as determined by PA West Soccer association. (Address must be in an East Allegheny Schools District Community)
- g. If both coaches want to coach the A Team, the coach with the higher level of certification and/or longest coaching tenure will coach the A team.
- h. If a travel team is allowing players to play up from a lower age group only 2 players may be permitted to be added to the older travel team.(dual rostered) under the following guidelines:

- i. With parents and E.A.Y.S.C. Board of Directors permission to play up.
- ii. Must complete the play up request form.
- iii. All travel team should develop a set of team rules that clearly define not only the rules of the team but the expectations of both the players and their parents. These rules shall be on file with the E.A.Y.S.C. Secretary
- iv. For older travel teams that generally play during the winter and spring months and do not fall into the in house age groups(U-6 through U-12) these playing rules shall include:
 - a. A non-discrimination clause.
 - b. A reference that the team is following all the EAYSC guidelines and conduct policies along with US Youth Soccer rules and regulations as applicable.
 - c. **If you move up to play in an older age group (in example if you are a u-8 player and move up to you 10 you must stay in that age group for the entire soccer calendar year.**
 - d. Adopting the official uniform colors of blue and yellow.
 - e. Since these travel teams are only playing under the organizational umbrella of the EAYSC they should police themselves additionally by adhering to each team's individual policies.
 - f. Generally, there will be no travel teams over the age of U-12 playing in the Fall PA West Season.
 - g. In house travel teams (and indoor league teams) ages U-8 through U- 12 will follow all E.A.Y.S.C. policies and Code of Conduct

8. **Travel Team Financial Responsibilities**

- a. All travel teams are required to have an EIN (Employment Identification Number) and a bank account and must register these with the Secretary of EAYSC.
- b. For travel teams to receive funds from any EAYSC sponsored fund raiser the following:
 - i. Be an approved travel team with EAYSC
 - ii. Have the required EIN and bank information on file
 - iii. Have a Pa West stickered roster on file with EAYSC
- c. In an effort to avoid duplication of fund raising between travel teams and to help publicize these fundraising events, they should be scheduled through EAYSC and the Secretary.

9. **Tournament teams**

- a. Teams wishing to play in tournaments will be the designated EA travel team in the age group of competition
- b. No more than 2 guest players shall be permitted to be added to a team playing in a tournament.
- c. In age groups (U-6 and U-8), where there are no travel teams in the age group, the teams must be comprised of 75% players residing in the EA geographical designated area as defined by PA West
- d. If a team is requesting to play in a tournament where there is no EA team in that age classification or want to have an additional team in an age group, a team can be entered as long as 75% of that teams players reside in the EA designated geographical area as defined by PA West.

10. **Basherboard specific**

- a. If an EA Team wins a basherboard division they shall receive a jacket or hoodie supplied by EAYSC.
- b. **Basherboards**
 - i. The annual basherboards tournament will be a fund raiser for our travel teams.
 - ii. The profit sharing of monies raised at the basherboards will be split evenly between the travel teams participating in the yearly basherboard tournament by the formula set by the E.A.Y.S.C.

- c. For a travel teams to receive their share of the monies raised they must participate fully in:
 - i. Setup
 - ii. Tear down
 - iii. Concession stand work and donations
 - iv. Any other needs determined by the E.A.Y.S.C. Board of Directors

11. Uniforms

- a. Travel uniform's prominent colors shall be blue and gold with the letters EA on the uniform.
- b. In house uniforms will be the assigned color t-shirt
- c. Tournament teams (although recommended) do not have to follow the same uniform standards (blue and gold) as regular travel especially in the cases of U-6, U-8 and all girls teams. "EA" must be visible on the uniform.

12. Fund Raising

- a. All fund raising by any EAYSC Team must be approved by the EAYSC Board of Directors.
- b. From time to time EAYSC will have mandatory fund raisers and all players in the EAYSC will be required to participate.

13. Coaches Conduct (Travel)

- a. If a report is filed by a referees with PA West regarding the behavior of an EA Travel Coach the following sanctions will be followed:
 - i. **Review of coaches offenses/suspensions**
 - 1. **1st offense** – 1 game suspension team \$25.00 fine.
 - 2. **2nd offense** – 2 game suspension team \$50.00 fine and anger management class for the offender
 - 3. **3rd offense** – removal as coach and team \$100.00 fine.
 - ii. In house and travel coaches must abide by the EAYSC Coaches Code of Conduct guidelines
 - iii. The EAYSC Coaches Code of Conduct disciplinary policy will be followed for any complaints filed against a coach.

14. Coaching Credentials

- a. All Coaches and or parents/guardians and any person interacting with the players must have the following clearances:
 - i. PA State Police Clearances (every 5 years) Free for volunteers <https://epatch.state.pa.us>
 - ii. PA ChildLine Clearances (every 5 years) Free for Volunteers
<https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home>
 - iii. If you have not lived in Pennsylvania for 10 consecutive years FBI Clearances
<https://uenroll.identogo.com/> Access Code : 1KGF6ZJ (this is the type of clearance)
 - 1. Additionally all coaches must have the following certifications and the necessary USA Youth Soccer Coaching Diploma for the age of the players they are coaching:
 - I. Introduction to Grass Roots coaching
 - II. Under 6 and Under 8 4 vs 4 Coaching Diploma or current F License
 - III. U-10 7 vs 7 Coaching Diploma or Current E License
 - IV. U-12 9 vs 9 Coaching Diploma or Current E License
 - V. U-14 and above 11 vs 11 Coaching Diploma or Current E or D License
 - VI. Concussion Wise Certificate (yearly)<https://www.safetyinternational.org> (Free)
 - VII. Cardiac Wise (yearly) <https://www.safetyinternational.org> (Free)
 - VIII. CPR training and AED usage Recommended but not mandatory

15. E.A.Y.S.C. Zero Tolerance Policy

- a. *All individuals responsible for a team and all spectators shall support the referees. Failure to do so will undermine the referees authority and has the potential of creating a hostile environment for the players, the referees, and all of other participants and spectators.*
- b. E.A.Y.S.C. has adopted the following rules:
 - i. No one, except the players, should speak to the referees during or after the game..
Exceptions: Coaches may ask questions prior to the start of the game, call for substitutions, point out emergencies during the game, or respond to the referees if addressed.
 - ii. Absolutely no disputing calls, during or after the game, no remarks to referees to watch certain players or attend to rough play.
 - iii. **NO YELLING** at the referees, **EVER**, and no criticism, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation or feedback of any kind before or after the game.
 - iv. Violators may be ejected and are subject to disciplinary action by the E.A.Y.S.C. Board of Directors.

16. Parents/Spectator Code of Conduct

- a. The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these Pillars of Character. I therefore agree:
 - i. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
 - ii. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
 - iii. I will communicate with my child's coach about any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others. I will make every effort to have my child attend practices and games and will communicate with my child's coach if my child will be late or absent. Good communication between parents and coaches leads to a more positive experience for all involved.
 - 1. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league. Knowing the rules of the game will help with development and will help to minimize disagreements.
 - 2. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players (on both teams), coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
 - 3. I or a family member will be available during practice or game in case of injury or illness.
 - 4. I will explain to my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
 - 5. I will explain to my child to treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
 - 6. I will explain to my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.

7. I will not ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
8. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
9. I will respect the referees and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place. I have read the E.A.Y.S.C. Zero Tolerance Policy and agree to live it.
10. I will demand a playing environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at E.A.Y.S.C. games.
11. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
12. I acknowledge that the coach of my child's team is responsible for my behavior and I will therefore respect the coach's authority. I also acknowledge that the coach is a volunteer.

17. Coaches Code of Conduct

- a. A coach plays an important role in youth soccer. Coaches are role models for not only their team members but for all participants involved in soccer. The term "Coach" shall include but not be limited to Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, Manager or any person in a team leadership role. As a coach I agree to abide by the following:
 - i. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
 - ii. I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of differences in emotional and physical development for the same age group.
 - iii. I will provide a safe playing environment for my players.
 - iv. I will ensure that my players' experience in practices and games is one of fun, enjoyment and improvement in skill. I understand that the three top reasons kids play sports are
 1. to have fun
 2. to make new friends
 3. to learn new skills.
 - v. I will remember that I am a youth sports coach and that the game is for the children and not the adults.
 - vi. Head Coaches are responsible for effectively communicating game and practice schedules, changes to games and practice schedules and any E.A.Y.S.C. news to the team.
 - vii. I will abide by E.A.Y.S.C rules regarding minimum playing time.
 - viii. I will be knowledgeable of the Laws of the Game and E.A.Y.S.C Soccer rules and regulations, and will teach these rules to all players on my team.
 - ix. I will encourage my team members to play by the rules and respect the rights of other players, coaches, spectators and officials.
 - x. I will meet and greet officials and opposing coaches prior to the match to set the proper tone of the game.

- xi. **I UNDERSTAND THAT E.A.Y.S.C. SOCCER HAS A ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY TOWARD REFEREES ABUSE, AND THAT ANY VERBAL ABUSE AND/OR PHYSICAL ASSAULT BY ME TO AN OFFICIAL WILL RESULT IN SEVERE PUNISHMENT.**
- xii. I understand that as coach, I am responsible for not only my own behavior but also the behavior of my team members and their parents, other team coaches and personnel, and spectators at E.A.Y.S.C. Soccer games.
- xiii. I will only permit properly registered and approved adults who have passed a background check and were approved by E.A.Y.S.C. to assist me at practices and/or games including any interaction with players..
- xiv. I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and abusive language and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events
- xv. I will do my best to attend all coach meetings and coaching education clinics offered by E.A.Y.S.C. and will seek additional education through US Youth Soccer and PA West and other promoted opportunities and programs.
- xvi. **I UNDERSTAND THAT (UPON REVIEW) E.A.Y.S.C. CAN AND WILL, IF NECESSARY, SUSPEND MY COACHING PRIVILEGES SHOULD I BEHAVE IN A MANNER THAT IS CONTRARY TO THIS CODE OF CONDUCT.**

18. **Players Code of Conduct**

- a. Play for fun!
- b. Always give your best effort.
- c. Be a team player and get along with your teammates. Cheer all good plays, whether your teams or your opponents
- d. Learn teamwork, sportsmanship and discipline.
- e. Control your emotions and most of all resist the temptation to retaliate when fouled. Let the referees do their job!
- f. Be fully dressed and on time for all practices and games.
- g. Work hard at practice and games to improve your skills and have fun.
- h. Learn the rules, and play by them. Always be a good sport!
- i. Never argue with the referees. Learn the E.A.Y.S.C. Zero tolerance policy.
- j. Enjoy every game whether you win or lose!

19. **Disciplinary Procedures**

- a. Any person witnessing misconduct from any EAYSC parent, coach, board member or spectator during any EAYSC event, should report the incident directly to a Member of the Board of Directors.
- b. If any adult associated with EAYSC is found guilty of misconduct in any way, such as fighting, intoxication, using abusive language, etc. at games or practice sites, the Board of Directors will take immediate action. The Board of Directors for EAYSC will not tolerate any violation of these guidelines.
- c. Any coach failing to fulfill their duties as coach, failing to support the goals of EAYSC, or conduct themselves in a manner detrimental to the welfare of the kids they coach or conducting themselves in a manner that is detrimental to the image of EAYSC will be subject up to but not limited to probation, suspension and/or termination.
- d. The Board of directors reserves the right on a case by case basis to determine the punishment for any violation outlined above or any conduct deemed unsportsmanlike.
- e. Any punishment given for any violation will be voted on by the Board of directors and notification of the results in writing will be provided.
- f. If an individual wishes to appeal their punishment, they will do so in front of the entire Board of directors at the next scheduled monthly meeting of the Board of directors.

- g. If after this appeal, the Board of directors cannot reach a consensus they may assign a Discipline Committee to hear any appeals on their decision. This committee will submit their findings and suggestions to the Board of directors for approval by vote.

20. Disciplinary Committee

- a. Shall be comprised of the E.A.Y.S.C. Vice President, (who will chair the committee) and 4 other voting members of the general membership appointed by the E.A.Y.S.C.
- b. Members of the committee may be removed and replaced during their term if first agreed upon by the E.A.Y.S.C. Board of Directors.
- c. The purpose of the disciplinary committee is to have a unified discipline procedure as to provide all parties a fair hearing to prepare and contest any disciplinary action handed down by the E.A.Y.S.C. Board

These EAYSC Rules and Regulations may be changed by the EAYSC Board of Directors from time to time as needed due to changes in USA Youth Soccer Policies and Procedures and changes necessitated in our organization.