

Mission Youth Soccer League, Inc. (MYSL)
MYSL Rules – 2023/2024 seasonal year

TEAM FORMATION

Registration responsibilities

- 1.01 The coach of a Mission Youth Soccer League team is responsible for the submission of proper materials for registration of team members. It is the responsibility of the coach to distribute all necessary forms and information needed for registration and to ensure that registration material is submitted according to announced or published deadlines.
- 1.02 The team coach will ensure that the information and documents presented for registration are accurate and conform to California Youth Soccer Association (Cal North), SAY, US Club or any US Soccer affiliate rules as applicable.
- 1.03 If a questionable birth certificate is received by the MYSL Registrar, the MYSL Registrar will prevent the registration of the player. The MYSL Discipline Committee will take action to suspend the player, parents, and/or any team official involved in submitting forged or altered documents.
- 1.04 No adult that is affiliated with a MYSL team (administrator, coach, parent) shall scout or actively recruit, directly or indirectly, a player of another team for any future participation on any team(s) for any reason. Poaching allegations will be heard by the MYSL Disciplinary Committee.
- 1.05 All fees pertaining to the registration of a MYSL team must be paid in full when due. A MYSL team will not be registered if their fiduciary obligations are not complete or if the minimum number of roster players has not been met. The head coach of any team that has committed to play in a league but disbands or fails to finalize registration will be responsible for any fees and fines that are applicable.

Registration materials

2.01 The following items are required to register a player on a MYSL team:

A. Any registration forms, medical consents, liability waivers or other forms required by any governing body or by MYSL, by paper or online as specified by MYSL. Players of age 18 or over must sign their own forms.

B. Copies of proof of age as instructed: Proof of age shall consist of: a birth certificate, birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency, Board of Health records, passport, alien registration card issued by the United States Government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, or a certification of an American citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency, a current driver's license, or a current identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Hospital, baptism, or religious certificates will not be accepted.

C. One photo not more than 6 months old, head and face only, facing forward, passport quality, no hats or sunglasses submitted in a format specified by MYSL.

D. The parent or legal guardian of each player must sign the MYSL Parent Commitment Letter.

E. Proof of Residence: Proof of residence must be in the form acceptable by the San Francisco Rec and Park Department and by MYSL.

F. The parent or legal guardian of each player must sign the Joint League Spectator Code of Conduct.

G. The parent or legal guardian must sign other documents deemed necessary by the league.

2.02 The following items are required to register as an adult (coach/team manager /trainer) with a MYSL team:

- A. Any team administrator (coach, assistant coach and team manager) must register online or by paper as specified by MYSL.
- B. Each adult team official must complete all risk management requirements, including, but not limited to, Live scan and background checks.
- C. Submit one photo, head and face only, facing forward, passport quality, no hats or sunglasses as required in the format requested.
- D. A copy of your coach license. You must have a license by the time the season starts in order to coach a team (see section 4:01).
- E. A completed MYSL Coach Commitment letter.
- F. Proof of completion of concussion and health and safety training as well as SafeSport training.
- G. Complete any other document or training deemed necessary by the league.

Team limits, definitions, and restrictions

3.01 All teams will be registered by the proper grouping determined by the date of birth of the oldest player on the team, except that grade-based teams may be registered for playing leagues that allow them. Age groups are grouped by calendar year. No player may register (“play down”) in an age group that is younger than their proper age group.

3.02 A player must be at least 4 years of age in order to register on a team.

3.03 A player on any MYSL team (recreational or SF Comp now called Upperhouse) is allowed to register to play in the next two older age groups than his own age group (“playing up”) until the player is entering or is in High School. (For example: an U11 player can play in U12, or U13 but not U14). A player on a non-San Francisco competitive team () is allowed to register to play up more than one (1) year with the approval of the League Director.

3.04 Teams may have an unlimited number of players “playing up” in their age division. However, team composition and performance will be considered when determining whether a team may travel to play in a non- San Francisco league. Placement of a team in a league will be determined by the MYSL League Director and/or the MYSL Board of Directors.

EXCEPTION: The playing up rules will not apply to teams playing in the MYSL Summer League.

3.05 The above playing up rules also apply to any guest player on a MYSL team.

3.06 Roster limits for competitive teams will be:

# players on field	team age group	minimum # players to register a team	maximum # of players on roster	maximum # of players on game card	League of play
3 v 3	U4-U6	10	13	13	Microsoccer grade based
4 v 4	U7	10	13	13	Microsoccer grade based
4 v 4	U8	10	13	13	Microsoccer grade based
7 v 7	U9	10	14	14	Travel
7 v 7	U10	10	14	14	CCSL, SF Comp
9 v 9	U11	12	14	14	CCSL, SF Comp
9 v 9	U12	12	18	18	CCSL, SF Comp
11 v 11	U13	14	18	18	CCSL, SF Comp
11 v 11	U14	14	18	18	CCSL, SF Comp
11 v 11	U14-U19	14	22	18	CCSL, CRL

- 3.07 Roster limits for recreational teams will conform to the rules of the league in which they play. MYSL competitive team maximums will match those set by SF Youth Soccer for play in SF Upperhouse.
- 3.08 A registered player is obligated to play with their team for the fall season and will not be allowed to transfer to another team until after December 1.
- 3.09 A MYSL player is committed to play for their team of registration for the entire fall season. Repeated abuses of guest player privileges that violate the player's team commitment may cause the player to be placed in bad standing. Bad standing status may mean a loss of player transfer privileges.

Coaching requirements

- 4.01 In addition to the items specified in Section 2.02, all coaches, assistant coaches and anyone training or coaching the players need to fulfill the following requirements:
- A. Coach training: New coaches must complete a US Soccer Grassroots module (on-line) and the associated field training. Coaches having a previously issued F license or higher from Cal North or US Soccer or a credential that the League Director deems acceptable do not need to complete a Grassroots module.
- 4.02 A head coach or assistant coach of a team must be at least 18 years old. All coaches must be at least FOUR years older than the age group they are coaching.
- 4.03 A team official that does not meet the league requirements will not be issued a pass or be rostered.
- 4.04 Each team must have at least three coaches that meet the requirements in 4.01. If a coach coaches more than three teams, the League may require that those teams have additional coaches.

Adult-Player Interaction

- 5.01 Each MYSL registered team must have no less than two MYSL registered adults (coaches, trainers, team managers, or staff, etc.) present at all team functions such as games, practices, picnics, other team social functions. These adults present with the players must have completed all of the requirements specified in Section 4.01B-D.
- 5.02 INAPPROPRIATE PLAYER INTERACTION: All coaches, assistant coaches, trainers and team officials are required to abide by the concepts and procedures provided by the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Inappropriate physical contact with players is strictly prohibited. Social interactions with players less than 18 years of age (such as dating, parties without parental involvement and private one-on-one situations) are prohibited. Any adult has a duty to report abuse and or suspected abuse regarding a MYSL player within a 24-hour period. Violation of these rules may result in immediate suspension from all Cal North, US Club or SAY- affiliated activities and initiation of disciplinary proceedings.
- 5.03 The head coach and/or program director of a team has the responsibility to ensure that all coaches, trainers and other adults working with players have met all of the MYSL registration requirements and are not serving a suspension.

MYSL PLAYING LEAGUE (the Mission Summer and Winter Leagues)

General

- 6.01 The Mission Playing League welcomes teams of all competition levels. The Mission Playing League will endeavor to create playing divisions within age groups based on competition level. Based on the number and competition level of teams, it may be necessary to combine recreational and competitive teams within a division at the discretion of the League Director.
- 6.02 This league shall strive to divide play among teams of the same age group, but when necessary, age groups may be combined to form brackets.

6.03 All injuries must be properly reported on a claim form obtained from the MYSL Office. Completed injury reports must be submitted to Cal North or SAY and MYSL within 30 days. Any injury requiring medical attention should be reported to the referee to be noted on the game card.

Mission Playing League Registration

7.01 The Mission Playing League is open to any team that is registered for the current season with a US Soccer affiliated organization. Players must be properly registered with a US Soccer affiliated organization and their credentials properly approved by MYSL. Players and coaches of each team must be listed on an official roster, and have laminated passes or game day rosters, as specified by MYSL.

7.02 Roster limits for Mission Summer League teams will be:

	minimum	maximum
A. U6 through U12 teams:	10 players	14 players
B. U13 through U19 teams:	10 players	22 players (a maximum of 18 players may play in a game)

Roster limits for Mission Winter League teams will be:

	minimum	maximum
A. U8 through U11 teams:	10 players	14 players
B. U12 through U13 teams:	10 players	18 players
C. U14 teams:	14 players	22 players (a maximum of 18 players may play in a game)

Team conduct

8.01 At least two properly registered team officials that are listed on the team roster and possessing a validated US Youth Soccer or US Club Coach Pass, or be on a photo roster, must be present at each league game in order for the team to be eligible to play.

8.02 A registered team official that does not have a validated US Youth Soccer or US Club pass cannot be on the team sideline during league games. Each team official must clearly display their US Youth Soccer or US Club Soccer pass during a game. Only players and coaches that have been checked in with the Referee or Field Marshal may be on the sidelines with their team in the designated area.

8.03 Coaching from the side lines, giving direction to one's own team on strategy and positioning, is permitted provided:

- A. The coaching is to be done ONLY by the team's registered coach or assistant coach.
 - B. No mechanical devices are used.
 - C. A coach is restricted to the team's bench area during the game. A team's bench shall only be that area 1 yard from the touch line and extending 10 yards, one way, from the half-line.
 - D. No coach, player or spectator is to make derogatory remarks or gestures to the referees, other players, substitutes or spectators.
 - E. No coach or player is to use profanity.
 - F. No coach, player or spectator is to incite in any manner, or use disruptive behavior of any kind.
- Failure to abide by these rules may result in immediate action by the MYSL Disciplinary Committee.

8.04 Spectators must remain on the sidelines, in an area designated by the referee or MYSL field marshal, at all times. Observing the game from the goal line or behind the goal is expressly prohibited and subject to disciplinary action against the spectator's team at the discretion of the referee.

8.05 No spectator or other observer is allowed on the field at any time during the game. The only non-players allowed on the field are registered team officials (coach/ assistant coach/team manager), and only permitted by the referee.

8.06 The use and/or consumption of any alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and/or controlled substances, on, around or adjacent to, or in the vicinity of the field, immediately before, during or immediately after the playing of any Mission Summer League soccer game, is expressly prohibited. Any player, team official, league official, spectator or other member of

the MYSL, who violates this prohibition, shall be subject to disciplinary action and/or suspension by the Board of Directors of the League.

8.07 Alcohol and tobacco product advertisements are not allowed on uniforms or team equipment.

8.08 It is up to the coach to call or e-mail the MYSL office, leave a message to report the score immediately following the game. Failure to do so will result in a one (1) point deduction. **Rodrigo Hernandez: 415-800-8410 Email: mysloffice@ymail.com**

8.09 Each team is responsible for cleaning up their trash at the game site.

8.10 Teams will ensure that each player will have at least 5 minutes playing time per game.

8.11 A team that uses or attempts to use an ineligible player (a player not properly registered to the team or a suspended player) in a game shall automatically forfeit that game. The team's coaches, team managers and any ineligible player will face further disciplinary action by the MYSL Disciplinary Committee.

8.12 A team official (coach, team manager) that allows participation in a team practice, game or training by a player that has not signed the required documentation, including a medical release and liability waiver, will face disciplinary action by the MYSL Disciplinary Committee.

8.13 Teams will comply with any rules or restrictions issued by the San Francisco Department of Health.

Scheduling

9.01 The Mission Playing League schedule will take precedence over other competitions. Games will be played rain or shine. There will be no make-up games.

9.02 All games will start as scheduled unless there is a delay from the previous game.

9.03 Failure of a team to field the minimum number of eligible players (see 11.05) for a scheduled game will result in a forfeit by that team. Any team falling below the minimum number of players during the game will immediately forfeit the game. There is no waiting period to start a scheduled game. In the event both teams do not field a proper team for a scheduled game, both teams will be assessed a forfeit and a loss in standings.

9.04 A forfeiture fee of \$100.00 IN CASH will be assessed against teams that forfeit. The fee is payable (MYSL, PO Box 411345 San Francisco, CA, 94141) before the forfeiting team's next scheduled game. If forfeit fees are not paid by the time of a team's next scheduled game, the team will not be allowed to play and will be assessed a forfeit.

9.05 A team that forfeits TWO games during one season will be expelled from the league without refund of any forfeiture fees.

Game day procedures

10.00 For all games, the referees will verify player and coach passes with the official team roster prior to the game. A game will not start if the team has not checked in. Only players and coaches that have been checked in with the referee or field marshal may be on the sidelines with their team in the designated area.

10.01 When a send-off (ejection) occurs, the referee shall submit a MYSL Send-off report form.

10.02 Prior to the game, the referee shall make sure that each player's equipment is in proper order.

10.03 In the event of the absence of referees the game cannot be played.

10.04 A player ejected (sent off) from a game shall remain on the sidelines with his or her team and not leave the area without the permission of a team official. When ejected, a player must remove their cleats and game jersey. Any team official ejected (sent off) from a game shall leave the vicinity of the field of play and the area in which the game is being played. In

the event that a team official is ejected (sent off) and there is no other official properly credentialed to that team present, the game shall be terminated and the team will lose by forfeit.

10.05 A player ejected from a game by the referee will be suspended for at least one game. While serving a suspension a player cannot be at a game in uniform and must stay outside of the technical area.

10.06 All referees are required to report coaches who harass them. Coaches are required to cooperate with referees and league appointed officials in keeping games and fans under control.

10.07 Abandoned games: The referee, at his/her discretion, may abandon a game under the following conditions.

A. A team leaves the field of play without the approval of the referee.

B. A team is sent from the field by the referee for frequent and or violent misconduct.

C. Extreme sideline area misconduct (by player, coach, or spectators) that causes interruption of play.

The official score of an abandonment forfeiture will be 3-0.

The Mission Playing League Playing Rules

11.01 Proper dress for all teams and players participating is required. Minimum requirements are team jersey, shorts, socks, soccer shoes and shin guards.

11.02 The team listed first on the schedule will be the home team and any conflict in team colors will be resolved by having the home team change colors for the game. If the home team cannot supply alternate jerseys, the home team will forfeit the game. The home team will provide the ball and the Game Card.

11.03 The length of each game will be two 30-min halves that are separated by a five-minute halftime break. Games start on schedule with no grace period.

11.04 Ball sizes: U6, U8 use a # 3 ball U10, U12 use a # 4 ball U14-U19 use a # 5 ball

11.05 The following modified rules will be used in 7v7 games in the Mission Summer League:

A. Each team will field a team of six players and 1 goalkeeper (clearly delineated with a distinct and different jersey).

B. A team needs a minimum of five (5) players to start the game or a forfeit is declared. Should a team start with five players and lose a player to injury, or a player is sent off, the game will be considered a forfeit. If neither team takes the field within the designated time no points will be awarded to either team and the game will be declared a double forfeit. If one team is playing with less than seven players, the other team can field seven players and is not required to play down in numbers.

C. Off-side penalty will be enforced.

D. Slide tackling will not be permitted. Players must remain on their feet in challenging for a ball (at the referee's discretion).

E. Punts and dropkicks by the goalkeeper are not allowed.

11.06 The number of substitutes shall be unlimited. Substitutions from either team can occur at any stoppage of play after receiving the referee's permission to enter the field of play.

11.07 LEAGUE STANDINGS: League standings will be determined by a point system as follows:

A. Three points will be awarded for a win. Two points for a win if the goal differential exceeds 6.

One point will be awarded for a tie. Zero points will be awarded for a loss.

B. One point will be deducted for a red card.

C. The team with the most accumulated points at the conclusion of league play will be declared the winner.

11.08 TIEBREAKERS: The tie-breakers to determine which teams make the playoffs will be:

A. Head-to-head play.

B. Goal Differential: goals scored minus goals allowed.

C. Records against other common opponents.

11.09 CHAMPIONSHIP GAME / PLAYOFF GAME: If at the end of regulation time in a championship or playoff game the score is tied, two (2) 5 minutes halves of overtime will be played. If the score is tied after overtime, kicks from the penalty spot will be used to determine the winner. FIFA rules will govern penalty kick procedures.

11.10 RAIN-OUT GAME: A game may be cancelled or terminated at the field by the referee, if in their judgement, the field conditions are unsafe due to rain.

11.11 Protests of game outcomes must be submitted in writing to MYSL, PO Box 411345 San Francisco, CA, 94141 and must be postmarked or hand delivered within 72 hours of the date of the game accompanied by \$100.00 IN CASH. Phoning the office will not initiate any action until the protest is submitted in writing. Coaches are directed to instruct parents and interested parties to go through them in protest matters. Although a game may be under protest, it will be played first, and the problem resolved later.

11.12 Individual awards will be awarded to members of the Champions and Finalists teams for divisions U6 through U16.

PROTEST, APPEALS and DISCIPLINE

12.01 Any violation of league rules or the MYSL Coach Commitment letter will be referred to the MYSL Disciplinary Committee.

12.02 The MYSL Disciplinary Committee shall use Cal North Specific Rules, Section 4:05, Disciplinary Rules, as a guideline for suspension penalties in game send-off incidents.

12.03 A coach or assistant coach sent off the field of play for infringement of the "Laws of the Game" shall have two (2) games added to the suspension that would normally be levied against a player for a similar infringement.

12.04 A player ejected twice in a season will be automatically referred to the Disciplinary Committee and sanctions, including immediate suspension for the remainder of the season, may be imposed.

12.05 An adult credentialed member of a team (e.g., coach, assistant coach, manager, or trainer) that accumulates 2 send-offs during league play must appear before a hearing of the MYSL Disciplinary Committee.

12.06 A player, coach or credentialed member of the team (e.g., manager, trainer) sent off for the reason of referee abuse must appear before a hearing of the MYSL Disciplinary Committee.

12.07 A player sent off for fighting or referee abuse will be suspended for five (5) games minimum and their playing status will be reviewed by the MYSL Disciplinary Committee.

12.08 If a player participates in a match without a valid **member pass**, or is not on the official team roster, or such player is otherwise ineligible to play, the player's team shall forfeit the match. Other disciplinary action, including suspension, may be imposed by the MYSL on the player and/or any team official who plays a player that is not properly registered with his or her team.

12.09 A team is required to honor the completion of send-off (ejection) suspensions. Any team or coaching staff member found to be in violation of this rule will be subject to league sanctions.

12.10 A Suspension for a player or coach shall be served in any Cal North, US Club, or SAY sanctioned league play or US Club, Cal North /US Youth Soccer sanctioned tournaments or events. The suspension must be served in games played by the team that was playing when the suspension was received. In addition, a suspended coach is prohibited from participating in competition involving all Cal North, US Club, or SAY teams for which he/her coaches until the suspension has been served. While serving a suspension, a coach must turn in to the league all head coach passes for the teams they coach.

12.11 The MYSL Disciplinary Committee may initiate disciplinary proceedings against any player, coach, manager, team assistant, trainer, league officer, referee or spectator from any member team or any team participating in the MYSL Summer League. The proceedings may be initiated based on information brought to the attention of the MYSL Disciplinary Committee through complaints, reports of incidents, information obtained during protest and/or appeal hearings, and otherwise. The

disciplinary proceedings shall be initiated by notice to the appropriate party containing a brief statement of the reasons for the initiation of the proceedings. Parties against whom such proceedings have been brought may be suspended, barred completely, or otherwise disciplined as a result of decisions from a proper hearing.

12.12 The MYSL Disciplinary Committee shall provide procedures for the hearing of protests and appeals of disciplinary decisions consistent with District 1 and Cal North guidelines. A protest or an appeal is to be submitted in writing with supporting documentation and describe in detail the grounds for the protest or appeal. A protests or appeal filing will be sent to MYSL, PO Box 411345 San Francisco, CA, 94141 and shall be postmarked within seventy-two (72) hours (excluding Sundays and holidays) following receipt of the decision being protested or appealed. The protest and appeal filing fee (\$100) must be included with the filing. The protest or appeal filing fee will be retained by the league if the protest or appeal is denied.

Revised 6/5/2023