

Kansas Youth Soccer

Chapter 3: Rules

1.0. DEFINITIONS.

- 1.0.1. **AFFILIATED MEMBER** -- means any league, club or association that is a structured group of four (4) or more teams joined for the purpose of inter-team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules. Each affiliated member must register every player and coach of every soccer team that is sponsored, financed, coached or administered by its organization.
- 1.0.2. **AMATEUR COUNCIL** -- means the administrative body for all amateur State Associations containing leagues and teams not engaged in youth soccer competitions. It is the coordinating body for all adult amateur soccer in the United States as delegated by the USSF.
- 1.0.3. **ASSOCIATE MEMBER** -- means a local chapter of any multi sport or single sport organization which independently conducts soccer programs in the United States at the national or lesser levels, or a recognized group of soccer coaches or referees formed for the purpose of advancing a particular aspect of soccer, but not responsible for the recruitment, training, fielding, and funding of soccer players, that is affiliated with the USSF and/or USYSA.
- 1.0.4. **AT LARGE PLAYER** means a registered player who is registered as an individual member of KSYSA but is not currently rostered to a team.
- 1.0.5. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** -- means the regulatory board of directors described in Article VII of the KSYSA Constitution.
- 1.0.6. **CLUB** -- an organization, which has an identifiable membership of youth soccer players on whose behalf the organization, conducts or engages in youth soccer activities. A club (sometimes referred to as a "league" or "local association") is the basic administrative unit of the Kansas State Youth Soccer Association.
- 1.0.7. **DISTRICT** -- a geographical subdivision of KSYSA.
- 1.0.8. **FIFA** -- means the Federation Internationale de Football Association, which is the world-wide governing body of soccer.
- 1.0.9. **FREE AGENT** -- means a player that is free to tryout for any soccer team without restrictions.
- 1.0.10. **GUEST PLAYER** -- means a registered player who is participating in a competition for a Club to which the player is not rostered for the purpose of league play.
- 1.0.11. **INVOLUNTARY RELEASE** -- means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of team authorities.
- 1.0.12. **LEAGUE** --means a structured group of four (4) or more teams joined for the purpose of inter-team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules.
- 1.0.13. **MEMBER PASS** -- means the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) Member Pass issued by the State Registrar or his/her representative. The Member Pass must be signed by the player and signed or stamped by the State Registrar or his/her representative. When completed, the Member Pass should have a current picture of the player on the back of

- the pass and be laminated with a clear plastic lamination.
- 1.0.14. NATIONAL COUNCIL** -- means the legislative body of the United States Soccer Federation.
- 1.0.15. POLICY** – the recommendations of KSYSA to assist in governing the administration of Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Teams and their officers, players, coaches and other members. The Policies of KSYSA shall not be binding on all KSYSA Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Teams and their officers, players, coaches and other members and may be modified or changed. In the event an Affiliate's, Association's, Club's, League's, or Team's rules or administrative regulations do not address an issue provided in a KSYSA policy, the KSYSA policy shall be binding on the Affiliate, Association, Club, League, or Team and their officers, players, coaches and other members. When a team enters into any competition outside its home League or when there is a conflict between the rules of Affiliates, Associations and Leagues within KSYSA, the Policies of KSYSA shall supercede any conflicting Affiliate, Association or League rules, and if necessary, the Rules and Policies of KSYSA, USYSA, and USSF will govern a resolution of the conflict.
- 1.0.16. REGION** -- for the purposes of the administration of US Youth Soccer. There are currently four geographical Regions: Region I -- East, Region II -- Midwest, Region III -- South, Region IV -- West.
- 1.0.17. REGISTRATION** -- youth players and coaches are deemed registered for a seasonal year from the moment the coach, player or the player's representative executes the Registration form and pays the appropriate fees.
- 1.0.18. ROSTERING** --means assignment of a registered player to a team. A player is considered first rostered to a team when the player first participates for the team in any sanctioned event (tournament, game or practice) by a National State Association or its member leagues, clubs, or teams.
- 1.0.19. RULE(S)** – the regulations governing the administration of Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Teams and their officers, players, coaches and other members. The Rules of KSYSA shall be binding on all KSYSA Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Teams and their officers, players, coaches and other members and may not be modified or changed. Any rule, regulation or policy of a KSYSA Affiliate, Association, Club, League, or Team that contradicts or differs from a Rule imposed by KSYSA shall be null and void and shall not be enforced in a disciplinary proceeding.
- 1.0.20. SANCTIONED** – shall mean an event, including but not limited to tournaments, league play, friendly game, or practice authorized by KSYSA or its Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, or Leagues and their members. To be “sanctioned” an event must be limited to entities and/or individuals who are members of USSF or FIFA Affiliated organizations. If the event involves two or more teams, there must be a center referee certified by the appropriate USSF or FIFA Affiliate for the event to be “sanctioned.”
- 1.0.21. SUSPENSION** --means the temporary withdrawal of rights and privileges such as, but not limited to, the right to play, coach or otherwise administer or participate (directly or indirectly) in the game of affiliated soccer. Any person or group (team, club, league, Board, etc.) that has been suspended shall be

- in less than good standing for the entire term of the suspension with all rights and privileges withdrawn unless specifically stated otherwise by the suspending authority.
- 1.0.22. TEAM** --means a recognized entity organized for the purpose of playing the sport of soccer.
- 1.0.23. TEAM CLASSIFICATION FOR REGISTRATION**-- Teams are classified by how they were formed and placed in one of the following classifications:
- 1.0.23.1. CLASSIC TEAM** -- A team is classified as a Classic Team if the team participates in a league in which: (a) the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is permitted; and, (b) there are no regulations requiring that the coaches be licensed.
- 1.0.23.2. PREMIER TEAM** -- A team is classified as a Premier Team if the team participates in an interclub league in which no rule restricts the manner in which players may be rostered to participating teams, except for rules which: (a) define and prohibit unethical recruiting behavior; or (b) limit the participation of players previously rostered to another team.
- 1.0.23.3. RECREATIONAL ALL-STAR TEAM** -- An Intra-club Tournament Team whose roster only includes players selected from teams, which participate in the same Recreational League.
- 1.0.23.4. RECREATIONAL TEAM** – A team is classified as Recreational if the team participates in an inter-club or intra-club league in which: (a) the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited, and the coach may not exclude any previously rostered player; (b) the clubs administering the league accept as participants in the league any and all eligible youths (subject to reasonable terms of registration) and will be responsible for assignment of players to teams; (c) there is an established league rule requiring that each player must play at least one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, discipline or reasonable cause; and (d) teams are required to accept player assignments provided there is room on the roster.
- 1.0.23.5. SELECT TEAM** -- The official select (all-star) team of USYSA or any of its regions, affiliated National State Associations or any district or geographical subdivision thereof, or any league.
- 1.0.23.6. TOURNAMENT TEAM** -- A team, which includes guest players and is put together for the sole purpose of playing in a tournament or other sanctioned non-league competition.
- 1.0.24. TRANSFER** -- means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player, and the subsequent addition of the player to the roster of another team.
- 1.0.25. UNITED STATES YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION (USYSA)** -- is a national member of the United States Soccer Federation (USSF). KSYSA is an Affiliate of USYSA.
- 1.0.26. U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE** -- means the corporation created pursuant to the Amateur Sports Act, which oversees all amateur athletic activity in the United States.
- 1.0.27. USSF** -- means the United States Soccer Federation, Inc. USSF is the United

States Affiliate of FIFA.

- 1.0.28. VOLUNTARY RELEASE** -- means the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player.
- 1.0.29. YOUTH COUNCIL** --means the administrative unit of the United States Soccer Federation, which consists of State Associations and National Associations that are members of USSF.

2.0. RULES GOVERNING GAME PLAY.

2.1. RULES OF PLAY.

- 2.1.1.** Except as provided by the USSF or its affiliates, the FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall apply to any and all sanctioned competition conducted by any KSYSA registered Affiliates, Associations, Clubs, Leagues, or Teams.
- 2.1.2.** No League Rule may be adopted which is in violation of these KSYSA Rules or in violation of the spirit and intent of the KSYSA youth soccer program.

2.2. AGE GROUPING.

- 2.2.1.** Leagues shall establish play among teams of specified age grouping(s). Age Divisions shall be comprised of players who are, before the first day of August of the immediately preceding seasonal year: Under 19 years of age. Under 18 years of age. Under 17 years of age. Under 16 years of age. Under 15 years of age. Under 14 years of age. Under 13 years of age. Under 12 years of age. Under 11 years of age. Under 10 years of age. Under 9 years of age. Under 8 years of age. Under 7 years of age. Under 6 years of age. Under 5 years of age. Under 5 years of age and younger shall play no more than five per side. Age division requirements may be waived by the District Commissioner for recreational in-district or in-league play for humanitarian reasons, i.e. mental or physical impairment. Leagues may combine one or more age groups for play. Players shall be allowed to play in older age groups, but absent a waiver from the District Commissioner, no player shall play in a younger age group than their own.

- 2.3. ROSTER LIMITATIONS.** No games involving teams Under 10 or younger will be sanctioned, unless those games are conducted with not more than 8 players on each side. (See, USYSA Rule 301, Section 2). Pursuant to USYSA Rule 105:

2.3.1. MAXIMUM ROSTER SIZES:

U-6 and younger: 6 players
U-7 and U-8: 8 players
U-9 and U-10: 11 players
U-11 and U-12: 13 players
U-13 and older: 18 players

2.3.2. MINIMUM ROSTER SIZES:

Under 13 and older teams: No team shall have fewer than seven (7) players on its roster at any given time during the seasonal year. Under 11 through Under 12 teams: No team shall have fewer than six (6) players on its roster at any

given time during the seasonal year. Under 6 through Under 10 teams: No team shall have fewer than four (4) players on its roster at any given time during the seasonal year.

- 2.3.3. COACHES.** No more than three (3) registered and rostered coaches and no less than one (1) registered and rostered coach shall be on the sideline during any game.

2.4. USE OF INELIGIBLE PLAYERS.

- 2.4.1. PENALTY FOR ANY TEAM USING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER.** A team shall forfeit each game of the team in which - (1) an unregistered player was with the team at the game in a (team) uniform; or (2) a player was improperly entered on the team's roster or if the player's name is listed on the game card, he/she shall be considered as taking part in the game regardless of his/her actual participation on the field of play. (See USYSA Rule 209.)

- 2.4.2. PENALTY FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY WHO INTENTIONALLY REGISTERS AN OTHERWISE INELIGIBLE PLAYER(S).** Falsification of records, documents, player identification passes, or in any other matters or manner, shall be grounds for immediate suspension from further participation and membership in KSYSA or any League, team or club, pending a hearing. After a hearing a person or entity found to have intentionally registered an ineligible player shall be suspended for a period of not less than two years.

- 2.4.3. LEAGUE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.** Each League shall be responsible for insuring the proper registration of players on individual registration forms as designated by the KSYSA State Office and the KSYSA Treasurer.

3.0. REGISTRATION AND ROSTERING.

- 3.1. REGISTRATION MUST BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE RULES.** All registrations will be in accordance with these rules and KSYSA Registration Policies and Procedures. Prior to competing with any team in a sanctioned event, a player must be first registered and be either rostered with the team or accorded guest player as provided in these Rules.

- 3.2. NON-DISCRIMINATION IN REGISTRATION; ALL PLAYERS AND COACHES MUST BE REGISTERED.** All clubs, leagues, associations, and organizations registered with KSYSA must register every individual player, coach, and team (including members of traveling teams, competitive teams, intramural programs, recreation programs, or house players) that is sponsored, financed, coached, organized, or administered by KSYSA with an USSF Affiliate. A player may not be restricted as to the team he/she may play for due to his/her race, religion or national origin.

- 3.3. SEASONAL YEAR.** The seasonal year shall be from September 1, to August 31, of the following year. Youth players registering (in the customary practice and form adopted by the member league/association) with a team between July

15, and August 31, for sanctioned competition which will continue into the subsequent soccer year will, at the time of registration, be deemed registered to the team for the subsequent year. After July 15 in a seasonal year, a player who has submitted registration material for the upcoming seasonal year to a team has the option of playing and rostering with either the team he was rostered with for that current seasonal year or the team he has submitted registration papers with after July 15 of the upcoming seasonal year, and no release is required (Amended June 5, 2005).

- 3.4. YOUTH PLAYERS.** A youth player is one who has not reached the age of nineteen (19) years prior to August 1, immediately preceding the start of any seasonal year. A player who reaches his nineteenth (19th) birthday on or after August 1st of the current seasonal year shall be allowed to complete the seasonal year. A Player must present proof of age to register.
- 3.4.1.** Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate, a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card (DD Form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the United States, a birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency or board of health records, a passport, an alien registration card issued by the United States Government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, a current driver's license, an unexpired federal, state, or local government identification card (if documentation of date of birth is required), or a certification of a United States citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency. Hospital, baptismal, or religious certificates will not be accepted. (See, USYSA Rule 204.)
- 3.5. COACHES.** Coaches are registered as members of an USSF Affiliate. A team may have a maximum of five (5) registered coaches.
- 3.6. WHEN REGISTRATION MAY CEASE FOR A SEASONAL YEAR.** The KSYSA Board of Directors may fix a date in each year when the registrar may cease to register players.
- 3.7. WHERE PLAYERS MUST REGISTER.** A player must register in the state in which he or she resides with his or her parent(s) or guardian(s), or in the case of a student in residence at a boarding school, college or university, the player may register in the state in which the boarding school, college, or division of the college or university is located. Any other questions or residency may be determined by the state in which the player is registered to vote or holds a current driver's license.
- 3.8. WHERE COACHES MUST REGISTER.** A coach must be registered in the state in which he or she resides.
- 3.9. PAYMENT DATES FOR REGISTRATION FEES TO KSYSA BY AFFILIATES.** Membership registration fees shall be determined by the voting membership and such accumulated fees must be paid to this association at the following

intervals during the seasonal year: October 1, December 15, April 1, May 15. Fees may be set by the Board of Directors for certain services or transactions, to include, but not be limited to: transfer of players, multiple rostering of players, and duplicate player cards.

3.10. PERMISSION REQUIRED FOR PLAYERS AND TEAMS REGISTERED WITH ORGANIZATIONS OTHER THAN KSYSA. Any player or team wishing to compete in a league sanctioned by KSYSA who is not registered with KSYSA, must receive written permission from: (1) the KSYSA Registrar or the State Registrar's designated representative; and (2) the other State Association where the player resides or from the USSF Affiliate with whom the player is registered. Such Permission must be obtained each seasonal year (September 1 - August 31). Player registration fees are paid to the USSF Affiliate in which the player is registered.

3.11. INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCES. As required by USSF Policy 601-6, as amended, (See <http://www.ussoccer.com/services/content.sps?iType=4031&icustompageid=6645>) a player who comes to the United States on or after the player is 12 years of age, must request and receive an International Clearance in the manner and form required by the USSF, before he/she is eligible to be registered as a player. A player born within the United States who is registered with a FIFA Affiliated team outside of the United States and returns to the United States after the player is 12 must also obtain an International Clearance. However, an international clearance is not required of a player who is 12, 13, 14, 15, or 16 years of age if the player and the player's parents sign a statement that the player has not signed a professional contract or received money from a professional team for playing soccer. (See, USYSA Rule 207).

3.12. MULTIPLE ROSTERING.

3.12.1. A player may be rostered to two or more teams simultaneously during the seasonal year. Such a player is a "Multiple Roster" player.

3.12.2. A player will be counted as a "transfer" when rostering to any team after the player has first been rostered to another team for that seasonal year.

3.12.3. Any player wishing to be multiple rostered must complete a KSYSA Multiple Roster Request form. This form will designate the player's "primary" and "secondary" teams and must be signed by the player, his/her parent or legal guardian, and a coach from each involved team. There will be no need to complete such a form if the second team the player associates with is the State Select Team. Whenever a player appears on an Official State Roster as a "secondary" player, that player will also be deemed and listed on the Official State Roster as a transfer. The completion of a KSYSA Multiple Roster Request Form shall be deemed to be a rostering event as defined in Rule 1.0.18.

3.12.4. In the event that the coaches of the involved teams disagree on the designation of the primary team, the player may not play until the issue has been resolved.

3.12.5. A player may change his/her "primary" designation at any time during the seasonal year by submitting a revised KSYSA Multiple Roster Request form,

complete with all applicable signatures. A change in designation between the “primary” and “secondary” will result in the player being listed as a transfer player thereafter on both rosters.

- 3.12.6.** In the event of any schedule conflict, the games for the “primary” team will always take precedence. The player must play for the “primary” team if he/she plays. The one exception to this rule would be if there is a schedule conflict with a State Select team event, the player may play for the State Select team.
- 3.12.7.** If both teams enter the same competition (State Cup, tournaments, etc.), the player must play for his/her primary team.
- 3.12.8.** If a player who is multiple rostered wishes to be a “guest player” for another team, the Player Loan Agreement must be approved by the coaches of all teams to which the player is rostered before the form can be officially approved.
- 3.12.9.** A multiple rostered player will be issued a USYSA member pass for each team to which he/she is rostered. Each member pass shall indicate whether the team is primary or secondary.
- 3.12.10.** A copy of each Multiple Roster Request form must be sent to the KSYSA State Office.
- 3.12.11.** No coach, assistant coach, trainer, team representative, registered player, or parent may approach a registered player for the purposes of multiple rostering without first contacting that same player's current coach. Failure to comply with this rule shall result in the offending party serving a three (3) game suspension.

3.13. FREE AGENT PERIOD, TRYOUTS, AND PLAYER RECRUITMENT

- 3.13.1.** Youth players will become “free agents” on June 15. They shall remain free agents until July 15, or until they are registered with KSYSA and rostered with a team, whichever occurs first. After July 15, a player will still be considered a free agent until such time as they register and roster to a team.
- 3.13.2.** Players may register and roster to recreational teams within a member organization prior to July 15 when that entire association has an earlier registration. Any player rostered to a recreational team prior to July 15, will still be considered a “free agent” between the period of June 15, and July 15, under the provisions of these rules, and may try out for a classic or premier team without a written release during that time period.
- 3.13.3.** Unless a player is a free agent, Coaches, teams and/or clubs must have a written release from the player’s coach, playing association or State President if the player is to try out, practice or be placed on a roster.
- 3.13.4.** Once a player has rostered to a classic or premier team, that player shall have thirty (30) days in which to change their mind. If after the thirty (30) day period, a player release is contested, they must submit a request to the state office and then a three-member panel from the district involved shall review the reasons and determine if they are valid. If the panel finds the reasons to be valid, that player is removed from the roster and becomes a transfer to any other team they may roster to.
- 3.13.5.** Clubs and Teams may advertise tryouts and recruit players for the upcoming seasonal year, providing all information is factual. Inaccurate advertising or purveying of information shall result in a three (3) game suspension for each team on whose behalf the advertisement was made.

3.14. PLAYER TRANSFER AND RELEASE.

- 3.14.1.** After the passage of the thirty (30) day period provided in Rule 3.13.4, any player signing a registration form is bound to that team for the entire seasonal year unless he/she requests a transfer. All requests for transfers shall be submitted to the appropriate Registrar in writing, on a form approved by KSYSA, stating the reason for the request of transfer.
- 3.14.2.** A player may be released from a team involuntarily only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons: (1) the player has violated rules of the KSYSA, USSF, FIFA or one of their Affiliates; (2) the player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance; (3) the player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the seasonal year.
- 3.14.3.** When a team disbands and that fact is officially recognized by KSYSA, any player of that team may register at once with another team but shall be considered a previously rostered (transferred) player.

3.15. MEMBER PASSES AND ROSTERS.

- 3.15.1.** USYSA Member Passes (ID cards), complete with current photo, signature and laminated, are required for all teams participating in a USYSA/KSYSA sanctioned tournament.
- 3.15.2.** Teams must carry an official KSYSA computer-generated roster, signed and/or stamped by the appropriate registrar, which includes all players and team officials.

- 3.16. LOANED/GUEST PLAYERS.** Every KSYSA registered player has the right to participate as a loan/guest player for other affiliated teams during non-league play, unless participation as a loan/guest player will: (1) result in the player engaging in a sanctioned event with the host team on the same day as a sanctioned event is scheduled with the player's rostered team; (2) require the player to miss a sanctioned event with the player's rostered team due to travel or a similar event; or, (3) the player is serving a suspension.

- 3.16.1.** Each KSYSA member league shall establish their own rules governing loan/guest players during league play.

3.17. YOUTH PLAYERS AND TEAMS PLAYING IN ADULT GAMES.

- 3.17.1.** A youth player may play an unlimited number of adult games without losing his or her youth eligibility. The youth player must notify his or her youth coach or other authorized team official of the player's intention to play adult games. The youth player shall request, in writing, (1) eligibility clearance from KSYSA, and (2) permission from the appropriate Adult State Association or other United States Adult Soccer Association ("USASA") Affiliate. When the clearance and permission have been granted, the Adult State Association or other USASA Affiliate has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play adult games and will be responsible for establishing the procedures under which the youth player will be allowed to play. In the event of a conflict between an adult game and a youth game, the youth game shall take precedence. A youth player who is required to sign an adult form shall retain youth eligibility. (See, USYSA Rule

208, Section 1.)

- 3.17.2.** A youth team with the written permission and mutual consent of both the KSYSA and Adult State Association may play in an adult-approved league and not lose its youth eligibility to compete in the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. If the youth team's players are required to sign an adult form, the team shall retain its youth eligibility. The youth team will be required to play under the rules of the KSYSA concerning registration, roster rules, transfer rules, and any additional qualifications that are required to be eligible for the US Youth Soccer National Championships competitions. (See, USYSA Rule 208, Section 2.)

4.0. PROTESTS, APPEALS AND DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS.

- 4.1. ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES.** The KSYSA Board of Directors shall establish Protest, Appeal, and Disciplinary Hearing procedures, which are consistent with USSF Bylaw 701 and shall be published in the KSYSA Coaching Manual.

- 4.2. SUPPLYING A COPY OF THE PROCEDURES.** A copy of the KSYSA Coaching Manual defining Protest, Appeal, and Disciplinary Hearing procedures shall be supplied to any affiliated player or administrator upon written request to the KSYSA State Office.

- 4.3. REQUIREMENT TO EXHAUST REMEDIES.** No KSYSA League, club, coach, administrator, team, referee, player, member or their representative may invoke the aid of the Courts of State of Kansas, or of the United States, without first exhausting all available remedies as set forth in USSF Rule. If any person described in this Rule 4.3 invokes the aid of the courts as specified above, then such persons are subject to the penalties cited below.

- 4.4. INTIMIDATION OF HEARING WITNESSES AND REPRESENTATIVES.** Any person who directly or indirectly attempts to, or threatens, dissuades, interferes, influences or impedes any witness, complaining party or KSYSA Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary Hearing representative in connection with any Protest, Appeal and Disciplinary Hearing investigation, hearing or appeal is subject to the sanctions of probation, suspension, and fines.

5.0. MISCONDUCT PENALTIES.

5.1. EXPULSION FROM GAME.

- 5.1.1.** A player or team official who has been ordered from the field of play or from the sidelines by the referee shall automatically incur the penalty or penalties for the given offense or offenses as stipulated in these rules.

- 5.1.2.** The referee's game report shall automatically initiate the action against the ejected individual.
- 5.1.3.** In accordance with the policies and procedures as outlined in the USYSA Travel and Tournament Manual, all disciplinary measures imposed by the host organization in a tournament shall be limited to placing restrictions upon an individual's group participation in the tournament. It is the responsibility of the host organization of the tournament to record the issuance of all red and yellow cards and other matters involving the conduct of a team, its players, coaches or supporters. This information shall be reported immediately to the home state association and the home club/league *except that all matters involving referee assault (or abuse) shall be referred immediately to the host state association.* The home state association and the home club/league shall, except in the case of referee assault, have the responsibility for imposing, should circumstances warrant, additional sanctions within their respective jurisdictions with regard to any matters arising from the tournament.

5.2. SUSPENSIONS

- 5.2.1.** A player, while under suspension, shall not be released by his club until the completion of the team's playing season or the end of the seasonal year, whichever comes first.
- 5.2.2.** A team official, while under suspension, shall not change his team/club affiliation.
- 5.2.3.** Players who are ejected from any U. S. Youth Soccer National Championship series game shall not be allowed to participate in the next immediately following U. S. Youth Soccer National Championship series game played by the player's team. A player may receive more than a one-game suspension. For the purposes of this Rule 5.2.3, the U.S. Youth National Championship shall include the Kansas State Cup and Region II Tournament of the USYSA National Championship games.
- 5.2.4.** All periods of suspension shall run continuously. Game suspensions in effect at the termination of one playing season or seasonal year shall remain in effect, even into the following playing season or seasonal year until the full period of suspension has been served.
- 5.2.5.** The suspension is to be served by the suspended individual at the next previously scheduled game that the player's team is involved in. In the event the player's team disbands or the player leaves the team prior to being able to serve the suspension, the player shall serve his suspension during the first sanctioned game(s) the player's subsequent team plays.
- 5.2.6.** In order for a game to count as a suspension game, it must be a regular duration time game or a USYSA sanctioned tournament game.
- 5.2.7.** Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein, including cautions, ejections and standard suspension. Any other individuals who may be reasonably construed as being associated with a team, such as relatives and spectators, shall also be subject to the jurisdiction and authority of this Association.
- 5.2.8.** Coaches and other team officials shall be held responsible for the actions of any individual(s), at any match that in the opinion of the referee is a supporter

- of that team.
- 5.2.9.** No player or team official, while under suspension, shall participate in any activity under the jurisdiction of KSYSA or any sanctioned activity under USSF or any of its affiliated organizations until the full period of suspension has been served.
- 5.2.10.** A multi-rostered player receiving a Red Card with their Secondary Team that cannot be served prior to State Cup may serve the penalty with the Primary Team.
- 5.2.11. PENALTY FOR FAILING TO EXHAUST REMEDIES.** A violation of Rule 4.3, the offending party shall be subject to the sanctions of suspension and fines and may be liable to USSF and KSYSA for all expenses incurred by USSF and its officers, and KSYSA and its officers, as appropriate, in defending each court action, including but not limited to the following: (1) Court costs; (2) Attorney fees; (3) Reasonable compensation for the time spent by USSF and KSYSA Officers and employees in responding to and defending against allegations in the action, including responses to discovery court appearance; (4) Travel expenses; (5) Expenses for holding special National Youth Council and KSYSA Board of Directors meetings necessitated by Court action.
- 5.3. MISCONDUCT TOWARD GAME OFFICIALS.**
- 5.3.1.** Misconduct against referees may occur before, during and after the match, including travel to and from the match. Misconduct may occur also at later times when directly related to duties of a game official as a referee.
- 5.3.2** As used in this Rule a “Referee” includes the following: (1) all currently registered USSF referees, assistant referees, 4th officials or others duly appointed to assist in officiating in a match; (2) any non-licensed, non-registered person serving in an emergency capacity as a referee; and, (3) any club assistant referee.
- 5.3.3.** Referee assault is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon a referee. Assault includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting at, or on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; head butting; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee’s uniform or personal property, i.e., car, equipment, etc.
- 5.3.4.** Referee abuse is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact, which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee’s property or equipment. Abuse includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee; using foul or abusive language toward a referee; spewing any beverage on a referee’s personal property; or verbally threatening a referee. Verbal threats are remarks that carry the implied or direct threat of physical harm. Such remarks as “I’ll get you after the game” or “You won’t get out of here in one piece,” shall be deemed referee abuse.
- 5.3.5.** When any player, coach, manager, club official or game official assaults or abuses a referee, and the occurrence is related to a game under the jurisdiction of KSYSA, the original jurisdiction to adjudicate the matter shall vest immediately in this Association.
- 5.3.6.** When an allegation of assault is verified by KSYSA, the person is automatically

- suspended from all USSF/USYSA-sanctioned activities until the hearing on the assault.
- 5.3.7.** In the case of an assault, a hearing must be held within thirty (30) days of the assault. If a hearing is not held by KSYSA within that period of time, original jurisdiction shall immediately vest in the USSF National Appeals Committee to adjudicate the matter, to which the same provisions as to the term of suspension shall apply. Failure to hold the initial hearing shall not rescind the automatic suspension.
- 5.3.8.** In cases of referee abuse, a hearing is held only when requested by the alleged assailant or otherwise deemed appropriate by the convening authority.
- 5.3.9.** In the event an assault on or abuse of a referee occurs in an event or tournament outside the alleged offender's home state, the Event/Tournament Chairman shall have the right to immediately convene a hearing at the site of the Event/Tournament, and the following procedure must be followed: (1) The alleged offender, the coach of the alleged offender when the offender is a player, and the game official should be present; (2) Information presented at the hearing, including the referee's report, shall be promptly relayed to the alleged offender's State Association President, both orally and in writing; however, failure to provide written information shall not restrict the offender's home State Association from taking action with regard to any referee abuse or assault; (3) Final jurisdiction shall vest with the alleged offender's home State Association.
- 5.3.10.** The player, coach, manager, or official committing the **referee assault** is automatically suspended from all USSF/USYSA-sanctioned activities for one (1) year from the time of the assault, unless serious injuries are inflicted, then the minimum suspended period will be at least five (5) years. When the player, coach, manager, or official committing the referee assault is an adult and the referee is a minor (17 or younger), then the minimum suspension period is three (3) years. Shorter periods of suspension may not be given, but, if circumstances warrant, KSYSA may provide a longer period of suspension. See KSYSA Policy 2.3(A).
- 5.3.11.** The minimum suspension period for **referee abuse** shall be at least three (3) scheduled matches within the rules of that competition. KSYSA may provide a longer period of suspension when circumstances warrant (e.g., habitual offenders).
- 5.3.12.** A player, coach, manager, or official who is found to have committed the assault or abuse may appeal to the USSF Appeals Committee by following the procedures of USSF Bylaw 705 within ten (10) days from receipt of the decision from KSYSA.
- 5.4. MISCONDUCT OF GAME OFFICIALS.**
- 5.4.1.** When any game official is accused of having committed misconduct toward another game official, participant, or spectator at a match under the jurisdiction of KSYSA, or of having a conflict of interest, the original jurisdiction to adjudicate the matter shall vest immediately with KSYSA.
- 5.4.2.** When any game official, referee, referee assistant or referee development program person is accused of unethical conduct, misuse or abuse of authority,

or conflict of interest in any matter within or as authorized by the USSF, or any member organization of USSF, the matter shall vest immediately in the State Association through which the accused game official is registered or through which the referee development program person is appointed.

5.4.3. Any allegation of misconduct or of conflict of interest by a game official as described in Rule 5.4.1, or any allegation of unethical conduct, misuse or abuse of authority or conflict of interest as described in 5.4.2 of this Rule, shall be made in writing to KSYSA.

5.5. OTHER PENALTIES.

5.5.1. Penalties for improper conduct may include any combination of probation, suspensions or fines. Penalties prescribed herein are minimum penalties. KSYSA and/or its affiliated subordinate organizations may assess penalties greater than those established herein. Severity of the incident, provocation and prior history, including offenses, cautions, suspension and/or probationary status shall be considered in assessing greater penalties. If any penalty established by KSYSA conflicts with any other rule of USYSA or USSF, the more restrictive penalty will prevail.

5.5.2. A team or club who submits false or inaccurate information to affect a player transfer or to prevent an otherwise legitimate player transfer shall be placed on probation for one (1) year.

5.5.3. Any club, team, coach, player or any other person who induces or attempts to induce a registered player to leave his team in order to transfer to another team during the current seasonal year shall be suspended for a minimum of six (6) months. This penalty shall not apply to recruiting efforts that are made in conformity with Rules 3.13.1 through 3.13.5.

6.0. GOVERNANCE OF LEAGUES, TOURNAMENTS, TRAVEL AND OTHER SANCTIONED EVENTS.

6.1. NONDISCRIMINATION. An Affiliate, Association, League or tournament, shall not discriminate against the participation of players or teams on the basis of that player or team's membership in, or affiliation with, another organization affiliated with the USSF, including any team or Club affiliated with KSYSA. (USSF Bylaw 603.2) The only exception to this Rule shall be for Tournaments hosted directly by KSYSA and specifically restricted to teams registered with KSYSA.

6.2. FEES THAT MAY BE CHARGED TO NON-KSYSA OR USYSA TEAMS PARTICPATING IN KSYSA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS. A tournament sponsor may charge each non-KSYSA team an additional fee of not more than \$25 to participate in the tournament. (USSF Bylaw 603.2)

6.3. STATE CUP AND OTHER TOURNAMENTS HOSTED BY KSYSA.

6.3.1. KSYSA hosted tournaments are divided by age group, gender, and division.

6.3.2. Youth teams shall designate the classification of competition that the team will

- participate in at the time of registration with KSYSA (Premier, Classic or Recreational).
- 6.3.3. The classification indicated serves to designate the State Cup that the team may participate in for that seasonal year.
 - 6.3.4. The divisions of competition are: (1) State Cup, exclusively for premier teams, winners advance to the Region II Competition in the USYSA National Championship series; (2) Kansas Classic Cup, open to all classifications; and, (3) Kansas Recreational Cup/Festival, exclusively for recreational teams.
 - 6.3.5. A team may play in only one age division of the State Cup Tournament.
 - 6.3.6. A player may participate on only one team in the State Cup Tournament in a seasonal year.
 - 6.3.7. Teams must declare their intent to advance to all rounds that the team qualifies for of the State Cup Tournament, including to the Region II competition, prior to the team's first preliminary match.
 - 6.3.8. Teams failing to participate in the above-mentioned competitions after entering and being notified of their acceptance, without proper notice, shall be subject to fines and/or other actions deemed appropriate by the KSYSA Board of Directors. Such fines shall be for the purpose of recovering costs incurred by KSYSA and its members as a result of the failure to participate. Teams entering a KSYSA hosted Tournament shall submit a refundable \$500 performance guarantee. The performance bond shall be forfeited unless written notice is received by KSYSA 168 hours (7 days) prior to team check-in for the event.
 - 6.3.9. The KSYSA Board of Directors shall determine the site and entry fee for each cup competition.
 - 6.3.10. Only teams registered with KSYSA are eligible for participation in Cup Tournaments.
 - 6.3.11. Guest players are not allowed in KSYSA cup competitions.
 - 6.3.12. The KSYSA Board of Directors shall determine the format for the State Cup Tournament. The KSYSA State Office may establish the format of recreational tournaments/festivals, such as the former Chevy Cup and the former Tide Cup.
 - 6.3.13. Except as otherwise provided in this Rule 6.3 and its subsections, the USYSA **POLICY ON US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**, shall govern eligibility to play (*Subpart B – Teams and Players, Rules 221 through 226*) and play (*Subpart C – Teams and Players, Rules 241 through 243*) in the State Cup Tournament. (See, <http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/docs/administrators/downloads/nc%202004-2005.pdf>).
 - 6.3.14. Entry form, fee, and performance bond for State Cup entries must be RECEIVED in the KSYSA office no later than the established date and time for entry. If mailed an entry must be received in the State Office no later than the established date and time for entry. It is recommend that all mailed entries be sent registered with return receipt. This deadline is firm and no exceptions will be made.
 - 6.3.15. The KSYSA State Office may establish and modify such Rules as are necessary for the Classic Cup and the Recreational Cup/Festival.

6.4. TRAVEL PROCEDURES.

- 6.4.1. For teams wishing to travel within the United States, Mexico, or Canada, permission of KSYSA, utilizing the appropriate *Application for Travel* form, is all that is required.
- 6.4.2. If travel is being requested outside North America, additional time and fees will be necessary. Applications must be submitted **at least ninety (90) days in advance of your departure date** (must be the original - NO FAXES), **incomplete applications will be returned**. A copy of the official brochure, pamphlet, invitation or other applicable material of the Tournament or Games host. An additional fee of \$25.00 (check made payable to US SOCCER) must be included. If an application is submitted to USYSA less than sixty (60) days in advance of the travel dates, the following non-refundable late fees must be enclosed, made payable to US Youth Soccer: (1) less than sixty (60) days but more than thirty (30) days advance notice - \$25.00; (2) less than thirty (30) days advance notice - \$50.00. KSYSA will forward all copies to USYSA. USYSA will file all applicable fees and documents with US SOCCER, which will then notify the national association in the country or countries to which your team is traveling that your team is properly affiliated and has permission to travel. A copy of the approved application will be returned to KSYSA and also to the traveling team. The permission to travel form must be carried with the team while traveling.
- 6.4.3. Late fees will be waived for all tournaments held prior to October 1 of each year.
- 6.4.4. Forms without the proper processing fees and rosters will be returned.
- 6.4.5. A team, which travels without securing approval of its Application for Travel, shall be subject to penalties imposed by KSYSA and USYSA, including the possible prohibition of future travel or suspension of the parties responsible.
- 6.4.6. USYSA Player Passes, complete with photo, signature and laminated, must be carried when playing in all tournaments.
- 6.4.7. Teams must carry notarized written medical releases from parents in case emergency medical care is required.
- 6.4.8. Teams must carry an official roster, which includes all traveling players and team officials, signed and/or stamped by the appropriate registrar. *KSYSA Guest Player Forms*, are required for all guest players.
- 6.4.9. Travel forms are not necessary for teams traveling to Regional and/or National Cup games. They are mandatory for all other teams (including ODP) traveling out-of-state for tournaments or friendly games.
- 6.5. **HOSTING PROCEDURES.** Only teams, clubs, leagues or associations affiliated with USYSA and in “good standing” with KSYSA may be granted permission to host tournaments. When a private organization provides sponsorship for a tournament, the permission to conduct the tournament is granted only to the USYSA member team, club, league, or association and not to the sponsoring organization.
- 6.6. **PERMISSION TO HOST A TOURNAMENT FOR NORTH AMERICAN TEAMS.** Any affiliated organization desiring to host a tournament shall submit to the appropriate officer of KSYSA the following forms and supporting

documentation no later than ninety (90) days prior to the proposed date(s) of the tournament or games you are requesting permission to host: (1) A completed *Application to Host Tournament or Games* form; (2) A completed and executed *USYSA Tournament Hosting Agreement* with supporting data; (3) A copy of the rules for the tournament or games (NOTE: In any Under 16 or older division which will include more than one (1) foreign team, the Rules of the Tournament or Games MUST specify FIFA limited substitution rules); and, (4) A tournament-hosting fee (check made payable to KSYSA) as per the schedule listed below.

- 6.7. PERMISSION TO HOST TOURNAMENT/GAMES INVOLVING FOREIGN TEAMS.** Any affiliated organization desiring to host a tournament shall submit to the appropriate officer of KSYSA the following forms and supporting documentation no later than one hundred eighty (180) days prior to the tournament you are requesting permission to host, or no later than ninety (90) days prior to the proposed date(s) of the games you are requesting permission to host. A completed Application to Host a Tournament or Games (must be the original-NO FAXES), incomplete applications will be returned. A completed Tournament Hosting Agreement, if you are requesting permission to host a tournament, with appropriate supporting data, signed by the President or Chief Officer of the Host Organization, and by the Tournament Director. A copy of the Rules for the Tournament or Games (NOTE: In any Under 16 or older division which will included more than one (1) foreign team, the Rules of the tournament or Games MUST specify FIFA limited substitution rules); A tournament-hosting fee (check made payable to KSYSA) as per the schedule listed below.

**** FEES **** Tournament Hosting Fee (check made payable to KSYSA):
 Recreational or Small-Sided Tournament (Performance Bond).....\$150.00
 Within 7 days of completion of tournament (per team entered)..... \$2.00
 Competitive/Premier Tournament (Performance Bond).....\$200.00
 Within 7 days of completion of tournament (per team entered)..... \$5.00
 After ensuring that a team or organization is in good standing, KSYSA will forward all documents to US Youth Soccer for approval. US Youth Soccer will then, through US Soccer, submit to FIFA a request for approval. Upon approval, US Youth Soccer will return the approved applications to KSYSA.

FIFA REQUIREMENTS REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

(Excerpted from *FIFA* Circular No 510, dated July 7, 1993) According to Article 49 of the *FIFA* Statutes and Article 10 of the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes, any international tournament involving more than two national teams (first teams, youth or women's teams, etc.) and/or club teams belonging to different national associations is subject to the following requirements:

1. The approval of *FIFA*.
2. The organizing club or regional association shall request approval via its national association. The request for approval shall be submitted to *FIFA*

at least two months before the beginning of the tournament (article 10.2 of the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes).

3. The request for approval shall be accompanied by a list of the teams who are planning to take part in the tournament and the tournament regulations drawn up by the organizing body (article 10.3 of the Regulations governing the Application of the Statutes).
4. All the participating clubs must belong to their country's national association and be in possession of its written permission to compete in the tournament.
5. The participating teams must take out insurance coverage for their players (sickness, accident, injury, etc.).
6. The tournament hosts must take out third part liability insurance coverage.
7. Tournaments may not be organized by non-footballing institutions. The backing of external organizers is however permitted. The responsibility, however, lies with the organizing club or the regional association.

6.8. PROCEDURES FOR INVITING TEAMS. When inviting teams to your approved tournament or games, the invitation must include: a copy of the approved *Application to Host Tournaments or Games* form; rules and regulations governing the tournament or games; a statement that all teams must have current US Youth Soccer or approved organization Player Passes, or the appropriate National Association Passes; a statement that proper US Youth Soccer and, if foreign teams are invited, FIFA travel procedures must be followed; if foreign teams are invited, a statement that written proof of permission to travel from their National Association is required for entry into the tournament; if foreign teams are invited, a statement that written proof of insurance coverage for their players (sickness, accident, injury, etc.) is required for entry into the tournament; and a statement that US Soccer rules regarding the use of USSF registered officials, only, will be followed.

The invitation **should** also include:

1. A list of Tournament Directors, including names, addresses and phone numbers.
2. What costs and expenses are to be paid by the visiting team; i.e., entry fee, referee fee, parking fees, meals, lodging, transportation, etc.
3. Whether a performance bond is required.
4. A description of the awards (if any). Whether patches are to be exchanged.

The official invitation **must** also be sent to the home National State Association of the teams being invited, prior to the starting date of your tournament or games. This information is essential to enable National State Associations, or the Provincial or National Associations to know that the tournament has been sanctioned, and thereby enable them to approve *Applications to Travel* by teams from their association.

6.9. ACCEPTANCE LETTERS TO TEAMS. Once a team has been accepted into the tournament or games, the following should be sent to that team at least

thirty (30) days prior to the starting date of your tournament or games:

1. A complete copy of the rules and regulations of the tournament or games;
2. Dates, times and places of any coaches meetings;
3. If accommodations are not being provided, a list of hotels/motels in the vicinity of the tournament, their phone numbers, fax numbers and rates;
4. If transportation is not being provided, a list of rental car agencies and other transportation providers in the vicinity of the tournament, their phone numbers, fax numbers and rates;
5. What publicity information, if any, is required including pictures, player/coach bios, team accomplishments, etc.

6.10. POST TOURNAMENT REPORTS. A Post Tournament Report must be filed within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the tournament. Failure to file the report on time shall preclude the tournament host from receiving sanction for any tournament for the following seasonal years until the report is filed.

The Post Tournament Report will include the following:

1. The number of teams participating in each age division (boys and girls).
2. If a champion is determined, the name of the champion for each division.
3. The number of teams from each National State Association or foreign country.
4. If Sportsmanship Awards are given, indicate the criteria for the award and to whom they were given.
5. The number of fields used for the tournament.
6. The name of the tournament sponsor(s), if any.
7. The names and teams of all players issued red and yellow cards and details of any other matters involving the improper or unsporting like conduct of a team, its players, coaches, or supporters.

****NOTE:** Any incidents of ejections in a final game, or any incidents of referee abuse or referee assault, or other incidents of a serious nature should be reported to the team's or player's home National State Association immediately, but no later than seven (7) days after the conclusion of the tournament.

6.11. SANCTIONING TOURNAMENTS WITHIN KANSAS TO BE HELD OVER THE SAME WEEKEND. Due to concerns with providing sufficient qualified referees and maintaining an acceptable level of competition, KSYSA will not sanction tournaments that will attract entrants of the same competitive level (i.e., recreational or competitive) on the same dates, unless the tournament committees agree that conflict will not pose a problem. KSYSA sets a standard of a 3-month window to allow existing tournaments to submit an application to reserve tournament dates for the subsequent year. The 3-month window will begin at the conclusion of the tournament.