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## RYSL Management Policy

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1. The Rainbow Youth Soccer League (RYSL) is a Recreation Youth Soccer League with the core belief that children, who are allowed to play with a minimum amount of coaching & negative criticism and only positive cheering and **NO** direction from the spectators on the sidelines, will ultimately become more creative players and will stay in the Game longer than those who burn out or quit at a younger age due to over coaching and the frustration from the sideline drama.
2. Coaches, please remember that this is a “**FUN**” and “**EXCITING**” experience planned, prepared and carried out for the players enjoyment of the “Game of Soccer”. You are the “mentors” they will remember for the rest of their lives. Make these “**GREAT**” memories. Don’t yell, scream or demean them. Be positive in your instructions.
3. That said, the RYSL has a set of Policies, Procedures, Rules and Guidelines that define and delineate the bounds in which the Coach and Spectators can impact the Game of Soccer played in the RYSL. What is obvious while reading these Policies, Procedures, Rules and Guidelines is that most of them are directed towards the “Adults” (Coaches, Spectators & Referees). It has been a long-held belief in Youth Sports that if the Coaches would be less critical and the spectators would just positively cheer their team on and would let the youth play and enjoy the sport they are involved with, there would be far less problems and fewer youth leaving sports because they are tired of the drama associated with the adults.
4. The following is a list of the most prevalent Policies, Procedures, Rules and Guidelines associated with the “RYSL”. They are **ALL** on the web site.
  - A. **Seasonal overview:**
    1. **Seasonal Outline** - lists every Event for the entire Season.
    2. **RYSL Scheduling Policy** – explanation of how the schedules are put together and how the Coaches can give their input.
    3. **Seasonal Match Schedules** - individual by Age Group - regular season & End of Season (EOS) Tournament schedules.
    4. **Seasonal Picture Schedules** – Rug Rat, regular and makeup picture schedules.
    5. **RYSL Web Site** - [www.ryslsoccer.com](http://www.ryslsoccer.com). Always updated and current. Check it at least before you leave for practice and again before you leave for your match. All “Events” are listed with requirements.
  - B. **Seasonal Procedures:**
    1. **Coaches Code of Conduct** - received at registration – Coach/Team Official responsibilities.
    2. **Parent Code of Conduct** - received at registration – parent/spectator responsibilities. If you get ejected from a match, the Head Coach can be ejected also.
    3. **USSSA Age Group Matrix** – guide on which Age Group team to place players on.
    4. **USSSA Age Group Match Sizes** – the RYSL does **NOT** play small sided Games in the older Age Groups.

5. **RYSL Registration Policy** – complete breakdown of how, when and why players are assigned to teams / poaching / other issues pertinent to registering in the RYSL.
  6. **Player Registration Form** - received at registration – list of player / parent / guardian responsibilities.
  7. **RYSL Incident Report** - fill out for **ALL** accidents, confrontations and problems. Turn it in at the Snack Bar **immediately** after incident takes place.
  8. **USSSA Report of Injury** (USSSA Case Report / K&K Insurance Form) - fill out for **ALL** accidents and turn a copy of it in at the DB Snack Bar and if there are problems that require medical attention, follow the instructions for dissemination.
  9. **RYSL Match Evaluation Form** - fill out after **EVERY** match. Gives the League the information on all Referees, Coaches, Teams and field problems.
  10. **RYSL Disciplinary Policy** – the Policy that is used for all League discipline and how to prepare for “Hearings”.
  11. **RYSL Coaches/Team Official Information** – important information to help the Coaches to get Licensed and apply to Tournament.
  12. **RYSL List of Expectations** – list of items for Coaches, Parents, Spectators and Players to help make their RYSL time a good experience and what to do in the “match”.
  13. **RYSL Chain of Command** – how to contact your Age Group Commissioner, League BOD members and National Organization.
  14. **RYSL Benefits** – can be used as a “Handout” to give to individuals interesting in registering in the RYSL.
  15. **Home Team** - South / West side.
- C. **Seasonal Rules:**
1. **RYSL Team Sideline Policy** - Coach/referee/player/spectator responsibilities. Risk Management issues. Keeping equipment safe and playable. Where to sit and how to act.
  2. **RYSL Age Group Rules** – individual Age Group Rules, in detail.
  3. **RYSL Summary of Rules** - **All** Relevant Rules pertaining to the Game on **one** sheet.
  4. **RYSL Contingency Plan** - what to do during weather problems and emergencies.
  5. **RYSL Practice Policy** - assignment & use of practice “**Grids**” / wearing of Coach & practice permit cards / carrying white copies of registration forms / where to practice / how players assigned to teams / Coaches contact information.
  6. **RYSL U10 & below Safety Policies:**
    - A. **NO Header Policy** - absolutely **NO** intentionally using your head to contact the ball to direct its path for any reason. If player intentionally uses head, they will receive a yellow card and possession will go to the other team. If a goal was scored, it will not be counted. If ball hits the players head and the referee determines it isn’t intentional, NO yellow card and possession will go to the other team.
    - B. **NO Sliding Policy** - absolutely **NO** intentionally leaving your feet for any reason. If player intentionally leaves their feet, they will receive a yellow card and possession will go to the other team. If a goal was scored, it will not be counted. If player leaves feet and the referee determines it isn’t intentional, NO yellow card and possession will go to the other team.
    - C. **Indirect Kick Policy** - absolutely **NO** intentionally blasting the ball in hopes of it bouncing off an opposing player to gain an advantage. If player intentionally blasts the ball, they will receive a yellow card and possession will go to the other team. If a goal was scored, it will not be counted. Player behind the ball must pass the ball to a teammate at least (5) yards away to start play.
  7. **RYSL Match Goal Differential Policy** - **NO** double-digit margins of victory.
    - A. First time it happens, that match is forfeited and Head Coach is suspended for next match.
    - B. Second time it happens, that match is forfeited and Head Coach is suspended for the next (3) matches.

- C. Third time it happens, that match is forfeited and Head Coach is ejected from the RYSL and will not be allowed to Coach in the League ever again.
  - D. This Policy is for U7 and above.
  - E. The RYSL philosophy for U5/6 is to develop the players confidence in their ability to “score the ball”. Therefore, there are **NO** restrictions on the number of goals that a U5/6 team may score in a match. Also, defense is NOT something that should be stressed as ALL players should be taught and worked with on “scoring the ball”.
8. **Additional Player Added to Match Policy** - for every increment of (3) goals a team is behind; an additional player can be added to the field of play. When the score drops below each increment of (3) goals down, (1) of those players that was added must come off the field of play until the team gets back to its normal playing number.
  9. **Unlimited Substitution Policy** - a Coach can make a substitution on **ANY** stoppage of play with referee consent.
  10. **Yellow/Red Card Policy** - Cards given by the referee are cumulative, just like the pros. Penalties become more severe the more cards you accumulate. All cards are tracked on a spread sheet according to Coach / Player / Team on a continuous basis.
    - A. **Yellow Cards:**
      1. Three (3) yellow cards accumulated in a season result in the player being suspended for next match.
      2. Four (4) yellow card, player suspended the next (2) matches.
      3. Five (5) yellow card, player ejected for remainder of season.
      4. These penalties **DO NOT** negate or take the place of the **FIFA yellow card** penalties. They run consecutively.
    - B. **Red Cards/Ejections:**
      1. Two (2) red cards/ejections accumulated in a season result in the coach/player/parent/spectator being suspended for the next match.
      2. Three (3) red card accumulated in a season result in the coach / player / parent / spectator being ejected for the remainder of the season.
      3. These penalties **DO NOT** negate or take the place of the **FIFA red card** penalties. They run consecutively.
5. Please use this “**RYSL Management Policy**” as a “**Guide**” on how the RYSL is managed and what is needed for you to have the best experience possible while you are involved in the League.