

AYSO

Northwest Tucson
Summer 2008

Dated: June 9, 2008

Revised: June 21, 2008

Region 206 Summer Soccer Program:

The AYSO Region 206 summer soccer program is an opportunity to play scrimmage soccer in a low-key "Everyone Plays" format. Please help make this a fun, family orientated experience for everyone involved by adhering to our "Kid Zone" principles by being positive and encouraging. All adults should remember that their actions are seen by the players as actions by their role models in life. No smoking, foul language, or alcoholic products are allowed at or near the soccer field complex. The games are played on short fields with a short time format and open substitutions so that players can improve their skills in a low-pressure environment. The coaching during these games should be minimal and there will be no practices. Because these games are scrimmages, the scores aren't counted except during the game to ensure that the matches do not become too lopsided. Finally, please remind all that everyone involved with AYSO in Tucson is a volunteer. NO ONE receives any money, including referees, for helping AYSO.

Field Setup and Takedown:

Each team for the first game of the night on the field is required to help with getting the equipment from the field box and setting up the field. Each team for the last game of the night on the field is responsible for taking down all field equipment and placing it in the field box and locking the box. Each team is to clean their sidelines at the end of each match and dispose of their trash in the park trash containers.

Summer Rules:

Number of players: U5/U6 will play five players on the field with no goalkeeper. U8 will play six players on the field with no goal keeper. U10 through U14 will play seven on the field including a goal keeper. U19 will play full eleven on eleven games.

Borrowed players: Teams are allowed to borrow players from other teams providing that a) they do not displace players who are legitimately assigned to the team b) the players are legitimately registered AYSO summer league players, and c) if the team that is doing the recruiting is co-ed, the gender of the recruited player must be the same as the missing player. The ratio of the gender of the team must stay the same when players are recruited.

Size of ball: U5, U6 and U8 – Size 3
U10 and U12 – Size 4
U14 and U19 – Size 5

Time of Play: Game duration will be two halves with a 5 minute half time break (U5/U6 will have 5 minute quarter breaks, U8 and up have no quarter breaks – see Substitutions below). U5/U6 and U8 will play 20 minute halves. U10 through U14 will play 25 minute halves. U19 will play 35 minute halves. It is up to the Coaches to insure that each player attending a game plays approximately the same amount of time on the field as the rest of the players. All players must play at least 50% of the entire game.

Substitutions: Players may be substituted any time the ball is out of play for either side (throw-ins, goal kicks, corner kicks, kick-offs, or injuries). Substitutions should be made with the referee's acknowledgement and players coming off the field should exit the field prior to substitutes entering it.

Sportsmanship: This league is for fun ONLY! The coaches will maintain AYSO Good Sportsmanship principles outside the touchlines by providing Positive, Instructive, and Encouraging coaching. The referee will handle all sportsmanship within the touchlines. The referee may ask the coach for assistance in maintaining good sportsmanship on their touch-line if needed. Let's not lose sight of why we play youth soccer.

Postponement/Abandonment: The summer soccer league occasionally encounters monsoon weather. The referees have the authority to postpone or abandon games due to threats from lightning or storms. They will communicate with the coaches to let them know what actions are to be taken. Due to scheduling considerations abandoned or canceled games will probably not be rescheduled.

Start of Game: With the time compressed summer schedule, no coin toss is conducted. The Visiting team kicks off to start the first half. Teams swap ends and the Home team kicks off to start the second half. Teams may not score directly from a kick-off. If a kick-off does go directly into the goal the restart is a goal kick for the opposing team.

Scoring: A goal is scored when there the ball crosses completely across the goal line inside the posts.

Goal Keepers: As mentioned above, goal keepers will not be used for U8 and below this summer. U10 through U14 goal keepers may not punt the ball after fielding it with their hands. They must roll or lob the ball to team mates without throwing the ball past halfway-line on the fly. If a thrown ball lands past the halfway-line on the fly, the restart is an indirect kick for the opposing team at the point where the ball crosses the halfway-line. U19 goal keepers follow normal play.

Ball In and Out of Play: Normal restarts for throw-ins, and corner kicks. Goal kicks will be taken from anywhere inside the goal area. For U10 through U14, all goal kicks must touch the ground or a player before crossing the halfway-line. If a goal kick lands past the halfway-line on the fly, the restart is an indirect kick for the opposing team at the point where the ball crosses the halfway-line.

Fouls: Regular season fouls will be enforced as appropriate for the age divisions with the exception that at all age levels, all Slide Tackling will be considered Dangerous Play with a restart of an indirect free kick for U10 and above. All fouls for U8 and below will result in a Direct Free Kick.

Penalty Kicks: Penalty kicks will be administered only for U10 and above and result in a direct free kick from the penalty area line for U10 through U14 and normal PKs for U19. All players other than the attacker taking the kick and the defending goal keeper must be 10 yards from and behind the ball. The defending goal keeper remains on the goal line until the ball is kicked. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward.

Offside: For U8 and below there will be no offside. For U10 through U14, offside is not very different from the normal Laws of the Game, except we only make the determination inside the opposing team's penalty area. All other elements of offside apply. For U19, the Offside Law follows the normal Laws of the Game. Here's a quick refresher for all: When the ball was played or touched by a teammate, was the player in the offside position (inside the opposing team's penalty area and closer to the goal line than the second to last defender and the ball)? Did the player become involved in play (play the ball, interfere with an opponent) or gain an advantage from being in that position (receive a deflection off a defender, goal keeper, or the goal)? If, in the opinion of the referee, BOTH of these conditions are met, the player will be penalized for offside. The restart will be an indirect free kick awarded to the defending team from the spot where the offending player was at the time the ball was played by their teammate. Please allow the referee some leeway on this call during the summer season. We currently plan on only having a Center referee for most games and this can be a difficult call to make if the positioning is close.

Competitive Balance Rule: Short sided soccer only works when the teams are of equal strength on the field. When a team is 3 goals down from their opponent, they may increase their number on the field by one player. For each additional goal above 3, the down team can add one additional player. Once a team has added all of its available players, the team with more goals will remove one player for every goal scored. When it is obvious there is an opposing team mismatch, coaches should avoid lopsided games by combining teams to make the match a fun, competitive player experience in the spirit of the AYSO Philosophy of Balanced Teams.