KYSL

KERN YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

RULES & REGULATIONS

Reviewed & Amended March 2026

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

TEAM ELIGIBILITY.....2

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY 3

COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES.....3

FORM OF COMPETITION.....3

PLAYOFFS GAMES.....4

CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES.....4

RE-SCHEDULE REQUEST.....4

PLAYING RULES.....4

FORFEITS.....4

UNIFORMS.....5

EQUIPMENTS.....5

HOME TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES.....5

CALSOUTH / US CLUBS CARD.....5

GAME ROSTER AND MATCH REPORTS.....5

CONDUCT/SUSPENSION/DISCIPLINARY ACTION.....6

FORFEITS.....6

DROPPED / WITHDRAWN TEAMS.....6

PROTEST / APPEALS.....7

MATCH FIXING.....7

CANCELLATION POLICY.....7

PRE SEASON MANDATORY MEETING.....7

RULE CHANGES.....7

RULES AND REGULATIONS`

1. TITLE

1.1 The Kern Youth Soccer League shall be governed by these rules.

2. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

A team entering Kern Youth Soccer League shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

- The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered players, coaches and administrators (as defined by the rules of USYS and Cal South). The team and their affiliate members must be in good standing with Cal South and must be in compliance with, any of the rules of USYS and Cal South.
- A team application may be denied by the Competitions Committee if a similar team or club name is utilized by another accepted team or club.
- Roster Freeze Period will be the 4th week of the season; NO player will be able to be added to the roster after that.
- Every team shall have a maximum Team roster and Game roster

Year/Age Group Team Roster Max Game Roster Max Game Roster Min.

2026-2027 AGE MATRIX

Player's Birth Year	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Players' Birth Months Aug.-Dec.	U3	U4	U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19
Players' Birth Months Jan.-July	U4	U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19	U20

BRACKET	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12
PLAYERS' BIRTH MONTHS (Aug – July)	Aug 2020 – July 2021	Aug 2021 – July 2020	Aug 2020 – July 2021	Aug 2020 – July 2021	Aug 2020 – July 2021	Aug 2020 – July 2021	Aug 2020 – July 2021
	6v6	7v7	7v7	7v7	7v7	7v7	7v7
TIMES PER HALF	20min	20min	25min	25min	25min	25min	25min
BALL SIZE	3	3	4	4	4	5`	5
# REFS	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
BUILD UP LINE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
# PLAYERS PER ROSTER	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
HEADS	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES

7. The team must submit the game roster to the referee crew before the kickoff to check in players and assure player eligibility.
8. Teams must enter Kern Youth Soccer League no later than advertised deadlines.
All entries must be recorded and paid in full. Acceptance of the KYSL after this deadline is at the discretion of the Kern Youth Soccer League Competitions Committee.
10. Team Registration Application will be through GotSoccer.com. An electronic submission will be considered to have been signed, the same as a paper entry, once the electronic entry has been posted to KYSL.

11. All changes to team roster, adds, transfers, etc., including electronically posted changes to circuit entries made via internet must be in prior to the official Competitive League Roster Freeze date.
12. The Kern Youth Soccer League reserves the right to refuse entry to any team/club/ coach or team administrator suspended, or with a history of disciplinary issues.

3. Player Eligibility

1. Players must be properly registered with their team to be eligible to participate in the Kern Youth Soccer League. **No loan players are permitted. Loan players will be considered ineligible players.**
2. A player may play for **only one team** entered in the Kern Youth Soccer League during a seasonal league.
3. A player who has been suspended may play only after the player's suspension has been served.

4. Coaches Responsibilities

1. Coaches are responsible for printing game roster with all updated information from players.
2. Handwritten player names on a game roster are NOT permitted, nor are they considered eligible to play. Any game played with handwritten roster will not count as an official game and will be deemed a forfeit.
3. Coaches are responsible for turning in a roster prior to kickoff for players check in.
4. Coaches are responsible for paying the referee fee prior to kickoff.
5. All Coaches are responsible for their sideline this includes and is not limited to trash and support sections behavior / actions.

5. Form of Competition

1. Kern Youth Soccer League will allow girls to play one (1) year below their birth year.
3. Regular season games may end in a tie.
4. During playoffs and in case of a tie in regular game, teams will go straight to penalty kicks from the mark until there's a winner.
4. Teams will be awarded points for games in regular league competitions:

Win = 3 Points
Tie = 1 Point
Loss = 0 Points

5. If more than two(2) teams are tied at the end of the season, one of these tiebreaker rules will apply:
1. Goal Differential
2. Least Goals Allowed
3. Head-to-Head Competition
4. FIFA Penalty Kicks or coin flip

6. Playoff Games

1. In case there are two brackets, the top 2 teams of each group will advance to the semifinals.
   In case there is only one bracket, the top 2 teams will advance to the final.
2. All Semi-final games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will go straight to penalty kicks. (5 kicks from the mark)
3. In case of a violent altercation from coaches, players, and or support section, both teams will be eliminated from the playoffs and the bond will be revoked to cover game fees. Next tournament participation will be under review by KYSL sanction committee.

7. Championship Games

1.Championship games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will go straight to penalty kicks from the mark. (5 kicks from the mark)
2. If a championship game could not be played or completed due to unforeseeable circumstances (i.e. unsafe weather conditions, acts of good, etc.,), the game will be rescheduled for a later date.

8. Reschedule Requests

1. Reschedule requests must be submitted 14 days before the date of the ordinally scheduled game.
2. Requests must be submitted via email. Kern Youth Soccer League Reschedule Request Form (located on website, under forms.
3. Requests must be approved by the opposing team(s), the KYSL Scheduler Director, and must not affect other scheduled games/teams.

9. Playing Rules

1. IFAB rules of competition 2025-2026 with US Soccer Youth Guidelines.
2. Each team is responsible for paying their referee fees on the field prior kick off.
3. The referee rates will be published two (2) weeks prior to the start of the season.
4. If a referee does not show up within 20-minutes of scheduled start time, the game will be cancelled. The teams will not be required to pay the referee fee if the referee shows up after the 20-minute kick off slot. Game will be rescheduled and KYSL will be responsible for game fees.
5. KYSL is not responsible for referee fee overpayment, change, or any money owed by the referee.

11. Forfeits

1. Forfeiting a game will count as a loss and score 0-1.
2. If a team does not show up for a game and the game is ruled a forfeit, payment for the full amount (Both teams) fee will be the responsibility of the “no-show” or “forfeiting” team. The opposing team that appeared for the game shall not pay any referee fees.
3. Team(s) that forfeit a game will automatically lose their bond and will be required to pay another bond before playing their next match. $175.00
4. In case of a suspended match due to weather and 50% of the game is played, this game will be considered a full completed match. In case it needs to be rescheduled due to weather, match will need to be rescheduled within a 2 week period.

5.Once a forfeit game is official, the referee will not referee a friendly game.
6. Any team with two (2) forfeits will result in immediate disqualification and withdrawal from the competition. In addition, the team shall forfeit all team registration fees and will be placed in bad standing with the league.

12. Uniforms

1. All team and administrator uniforms may feature sponsor logos. Uniforms that Features any logos of adult content or offensive nature are prohibited.
2. Authentic and replica professional (domestic or international) soccer team uniforms featuring team sponsor's logos are permitted.
3. No metal cleats are allowed.
4. Shin guards must be worn and covered by socks. The referee is responsible for rule enforcement and holds the final authority for on-field decisions.

13. External Equipment

1. Knee braces are ALLOWED as long as they have proper padding /support to avoid causing injury to players.
2. Arm Cast are ALLOWED with proper cover. Cast MUST be covered with something padded. For example- bubble wrap, soft foam.
3. Referee of the match has the final authority for on-field decisions regarding external equipment.

14. Home Team Responsibilities

1. Home Team shall change to an alternate color jersey if colors conflict with the visiting Team jersey.
2. Home Team has first pick of which side field they will use. Teams must sit on opposing sides. No sideline "sharing "is allowed.
3. Home Team is responsible of providing game balls, with a minimum of 3 balls.

15. Cal South or US Soccer Club Player/Coach/Administrator Cards

1.**BENCHES**- All players and Administrator Cards must be official Cal South Member Cards with a printed or permanently applied photo. Cards must be stamped, embossed or signed by a certified league registrar and laminated.
2. Players must have a current medical release form with a parent/guardian's signature. Medical and Media Releases forms are required for all age groups and divisions.
3.The licensed coach must have a current Cal South ID Card or a current US Soccer Clubs ID card. A team without a properly licensed coach will forfeit the match. Team managers are allowed to coach meanwhile they are properly licensed.
4. A licensed Coach could replace or substitute head coach meanwhile from the same club.

16. Game Roster/Match Reports and Results

1.Each team will supply at least one (1) copy of the official match report to the referee prior to the game. The match reports shall be downloaded and printed by each team prior to their scheduled match to ensure the most current game rosters.
2.The referee shall turn in both official match rosters.
3.Players with same number cannot participate till number of jersey changes.
4.The head coach or team manager is responsible for final verification of team goal scorers, cards and signing the official match report prior to leaving the field.
5.Game results discrepancies will be resolved by the board of appeals of KYSL based on the official referee match report. Goal scored or cards awarded on the match report will not be changed after the coach or manager has signed the official match report.
6. The Team Roster Freeze date will take place on the 4th week of the season, the final date will posted on the website.
7. ID Cards- Referee must return all ID cards to the respective coaches following the match except when there is a Referee Assault or Violent Conduct violation on the field. In the event this happens, referee will return IDs to KYSL and KYSL will communicate with team coach or manager retrieval information. KYSL and Cal South are not responsible for any lost/stolen ID cards.

17. CONDUCT/SUSPENSIONS/DISCIPLINARY ACTION

1.**COACHES AND TEAM ADMINISTRATORS ARE RESPOSIBLE FOR ALL PLAYER/PARENT/SPECTATOR CONDUCTS ON THEIR SIDELINE. NO EXCUSES**
2. All bench players, team officials and spectators are prohibited from stepping onto the field during a game, UNLESS permitted by referee.
3.Any member, player, administrator or team official promoting violence, enticing team dissent or in general violation may be brought before KYSL for disciplinary action, subject to Cal South and USYS Disciplinary Guidelines and Procedures.
4. It will not be permitted for a parent/admin, to coach or spectate behind the goal.
5.Any member who instigates violence that leads to harming an opponent, spectator, official, referee or teammate, in addition to any action defined above, may be subject to criminal prosecution. This type of conduct will not be tolerated and will be pursued by KYSL.
6. In case of a violent altercation from coaches, players, and or support section both teams will be eliminated from the regular season and bonds will be revoked. Next tournament participation will be under review by KYSL.

18. Teams Dropped or Withdrawn from Competition

1.If a team withdraws once the season has begun, the team will be suspended from future Kern Youth Soccer League competitions. All official games played up to this point will be either scored as 1-0 forfeits or removed (no game), depending on the revised game schedule. The final decision will be made by the KYSL.

19. Protests/Appeals

1. All referee calls are final.
2.If a coach deems it necessary to protest a game because of a non-eligible player, the coach must notify the center referee of the intent to protest, write a brief statement on the match report card and a separate written protest to KYSL via email. Appeals must be sent via email within twenty-four (24) hours of the game. KYSL will review the written protest and make a final decision within 72 hours of submitted protest.

***** No judgment call protests will be accepted. (REFEREE DECISION)**

20. Match Fixing:

Teams failing to compete in the spirit of the competition and/or involved in match fixing a KYSL game is subject to immediate game forfeiture and disqualification from the competition. These reported incidents will be forwarded to the Cal South Protest, Appeals and Disciplinary (PAD) Committee for further review where the head coach and team administrators may be subject to additional disciplinary action.

21. Cancellation Policy

1.Teams that withdraw from their team application will receive a refund, minus a $75.00 application processing fee BEFORE the schedule has been published.
2. Team(s) that withdraw from their team application AFTER schedule has been published shall forfeit their full team registration fees. Bond will be refunded ($175)

22. Pre-Season Mandatory Meeting

1. All participating teams are required to have, a coach or team administrator attend a mandatory pre-season meeting.

23. Rule Changes

1. KYSL may revise the rules and regulations at any time. KYSL will notify teams in writing via email and by publishing rule changes on its website.