

Appleseed Youth Soccer Association League Manual

Adopted February 19th, 2008 by the AYSA Board of Representatives
Revised February 17, 2017

Disclaimer

Any and all information contained within this Club Manual, as well as any information and / or rules distributed verbally or written is subject to change, alteration or deletion by the Appleseed Youth Soccer Association (AYSA) Executive Board at any time with or without notice. ***This manual is intended for the use of Appleseed Youth Soccer Association's clubs, coaches, players, parents and / or referees. This manual may be reproduced for distribution. Rules, policies and all documentation contained within this manual will take precedence over all member club manuals.***

Introduction

AYSA Club Manual is intended for information and guidance for all member clubs' coaches and administrators. The information contained herein recaps the rules under which we play soccer matches in this league. Each item of information is a procedure, rule or group of rules. This Club Manual is not the AYSA Rule Book. The wording of this Manual is not always the precise wording of the applicable rule as it appears in Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Laws of the Game, United States Soccer Federation (USSF) Administrative Hand Book, Ohio Youth Soccer Association North (OYSAN) Constitution, and / or the AYSA Constitution, By-laws, Rules of Play and Resolutions. Furthermore, all information and rules in this Coaches Manual are subject to change without notice.

AYSA plays matches under the rules of FIFA and United States Youth Soccer, Association (USYSA) The first rule in the FIFA rule book allows for modification of the Laws of the Game, for various age groups and to suit local conditions. AYSA has chosen to modify many rules of the game as outlined in this publication, to suit youth players. Only the rules so modified and published may be changed.

AYSA is affiliated in good standing with OYSAN. OYSAN is affiliated with USYSA and through it, with USSF, it is the duty and obligation of each member club in this league to follow the rules which will preserve the good standing of AYSA with OYSAN

Registration

Registering players in the first step all clubs must do to form teams. The AYSA Executive Board will set registration deadline at the Board of Representatives (BOR) meeting spring and fall in the months of September and April. Member Clubs may have their own deadline; however, it may not extend beyond that of the AYSA deadline.

- All member clubs will have a registrar that will handle this process.
- Club registrars' will contact the AYSA registrar with any questions concerning registration.

Requirements for Club Registrars

- Concussion Training <http://www.aysasoccer.org/coaches-corner>
- OYSAN Background Check <http://www.aysasoccer.org/coaches-corner>

Registration Requirements

- Computer access to Affinity <http://www.affinity-sports.com/wp-login.php>
- Registration Form (online or paper copy)
- Birth Certificate is required for each player per OYSAN, any documents other than a birth certificate

will not be accepted. Any questions contact AYSA registrar.

Note: Any players added after the AYSA deadline will be subject to AYSA Executive Board approval and a \$100.00 fee will be assessed to the club upon approval to be paid to AYSA.

Forming Teams

All players and coaches must be properly registered with their club, AYSA, the state association and the national association by following our standard registration procedures and paying their fees.

- Player and coach registration: is the act of signing up to participate and paying fees to a member club of AYSA.
- Team registration: is the act of turning in Team Registration Forms and Waivers, Team Rosters, Field Availability Form and paying fees to AYSA each fall and spring at AYSA registration.
- Coaches registered to must be updated immediately if changed at any time, contact AYSA Registrar.
- Team registration can only occur at AYSA registration no late registration of teams is permitted.
- Players register once a year, with the registration in the fall season.
 - New players in the spring are defined as those who did not play on an AYSA registered team in the fall.
 - All new players are to be denoted on the spring roster.

Roster Size

Players may be registered and added to a team's roster up through the deadline, set and announced each season by the Executive Board. Maximum roster size is determined by the AYSA Board through Affinity. Affinity is the online program used by your club registrar to roster players onto your team. If you have any questions, contact your club registrar.

Players may be rostered on multiple (up to 2) teams if the teams are in different divisions. Players will not be rostered to multiple teams in AYSA if he/she is on a competitive team outside AYSA. **Players may only play for the team on which he/she is rostered.** No athlete will be allowed to be double rostered to more than one club within AYSA. In case of a violation, the player must return or remain with their originally rostered team, and both clubs will be fined \$100.

An accurate listing of names and addresses of all coaches must be registered and updated throughout the season as needed.

Competitive Players

A Competitive Player is defined as a player carded to play competitive soccer through OYSAN (Ohio Youth Soccer Association North) or OYSAS (Ohio Youth Soccer Association South). This includes, but is not limited to players from NOGSL, AASL, State League, Pennine, etc. U9 - U12 there may only be 3 competitive players rostered to any one team, U13 and up 5 competitive players may be rostered to one team. Any violation will result in an immediate suspension of the offending head coach for one calendar year; the remainder of the current season and the following season.

- Teams with Competitive players will be placed in the A division.
- Carded players will be considered carded for one calendar year even if they are no longer playing for a competitive team.

List of Age / Gender Divisions Offered by AYSA

U6 (girls, boys, co-ed) Players must be 4 years of age to register

U7 (girls, boys, co-ed) Player must not be 7 before Jan 1st of the year they are playing

U8 (girls, boys, co-ed) Player must not be 8 before Jan 1st of the year they are playing

U9 (girls, boys, co-ed) Player must not be 9 before Jan 1st of the year they are playing

U10 (girls, boys, co-ed) Player must not be 10 before Jan 1st of the year they are playing

U11 (girls, boys, co-ed) Player must not be 11 before Jan 1st of the year they are playing

U12 (girls, boys, co-ed) Player must not be 12 before Jan 1st of the year they are playing

U13 (girls, boys, co-ed) Player must not be 13 before Jan 1st of the year they are playing

U14-U15 (girls, boys, co-ed)

- This is considered a Jr High Division high school students will not be permitted to play in this division.
- AYSA may authorize players that are 15 years of age to play provided they are not in high school.
- U13 teams may be placed into this division if there are not enough U13 teams to make a separate division.
- Playing up more than two years is only allowed in this division AYSA board approval and a waiver will be required.

The BOR's has the power to approve special needs players according to the rules and regulations set forth and in accordance with OYSAN and/or USSF Constitution, By-laws, Rules, and Policies. Special needs players and defined as mentally or physically challenged players who need special provisions for playing outside their age group. The Executive Board will investigate and determine on a case by case basis any athlete seeking special needs status which will result in the player playing outside their age group. The Executive Board will then present the case before the BOR and a determination will be made by a majority vote from the BOR.

Note: Contact AYSA Registrar medical documentation by a health provider will be required per OYSAN if approved.

Divisions/Alignment

AYSA has many divisions available for teams at all levels of ability. For youth teams, there are competitive divisions available if there are at least 4 teams in a division. Youth girls may play on youth boy's teams. These divisions are Co-ed and considered to be boy's teams. Youth girls may play on youth girls only teams and this is considered a girls' team. Youth boys may only play youth boy's teams.

Each level of play offered increases in difficulty, and/or the level of skill of the players. Divisions are named A, B, C, etc. A is considered the highest division. The number of divisions offered depends solely on the number of teams entered. Teams with players that are carded or play for a competitive soccer club will be placed in the A division.

AYSA considers your request to place a team in a given division, based on our estimate of the team's ability and our past experiences with the team and/or coach. AYSA has the final say on which division a team is placed in, and reserves the right to move any team up or down in order to balance the level of play and number of teams in each division.

- The team movement policy allows coaches and/or clubs to request placement in specific divisions to meet their own team development goals, but also allows the Executive Board to preserve the balance of each division and smooth out scheduling.
- AYSA assumes every team is the same from one season to the next, especially within a seasonal year.
- Coaches should note that it is illegal, under the national rules, to force a player off a recreation team roster unless the player:
 - Moves too far away to participate with that team
 - Is injured to such an extent that he can no longer participate

- Disciplinary reasons

AYSA will take this into consideration disbanded teams if you let AYSA know at registration. If a team is roughly 65% the same from season to season, AYSA will treat this as an unchanged team regardless of the ability of the players who have come or gone. Standings are used for alignment of teams for the following season, not to establish a playoff seed. The decision of the AYSA Board in placing your team is final and may not be appealed or challenged.

Note: AYSA is permitted to make rules governing its age groups, divisions and team eligibility, which may differ substantially from those of OYSAN. Most of these differences govern level of play and player movement between teams.

Insurance

By virtue of affiliation and registration with Ohio Youth Soccer Association-North and through them, US Youth Soccer and USSF, AYSA had both liability and secondary coverage medical insurance for every player, coach, club officer, and league official as long as they are properly registered. There are certain rules, used to monitor and control coverage and/or claims, which pertain to insurance. To file a claim, contact your club officials so this can be routed through the proper channels.

Certificate of Insurance for Fields

Many entities that own or control your fields (park boards, school boards, etc.) may require a certificate of insurance before they will allow you to play or practice. The purpose of this document is to prove that you belong to an organization that carries sufficient liability insurance, and to add the name of the entity that owns the field to the coverage. Any AYSA club may obtain a certificate of insurance by directly contacting OYSAN.

Scheduling

Forms are available to list conflicts and every effort will be made to accommodate reasonable requests. These forms are due to AYSA (available through your club registrar and due at the alignment meeting). School and religious functions will be honored, if it is all possible. Special requests will NOT be honored after the completion of schedules. **Except for extreme weather conditions and field closings games cancellations must be made 72 hours before the game start time.**

There will be a \$10.00 fine for every game cancellation made less than 72 hours prior to the scheduled game.

There will be a \$15.00 fee for all games rescheduled if cancelled due to other than field closures.

Playoffs

Participation in AYSA playoffs is assumed for age divisions U8 and up unless:

- Outstanding fees or fines
- Disciplinary action
- Completion of all games in the playoffs cannot be guaranteed (teams must be available to play on all scheduled dates of the playoffs)
- The league scheduler is notified at least two weeks in advance of the playoffs in writing. There will be a \$25 fine per team for any game forfeited by no-show. Playoff games are conducted in single elimination format.

Awards are given by AYSA to the 1st and 2nd place teams. Detailed rules addressing playoffs are available. There are no reschedules of playoff games. Any team or teams that attempt to reschedule playoff games will be banned from the playoffs.

The winning coach will need to report the game scores immediately following each match by email to aysareresults@gmail.com

Cancellation Due to Field Shutdown

- Person(s) that will be reporting field closings must be established with AYSA prior to the start of the season
- Notify AYSA by texting or calling the number (will be provided)
 - Before 7:45am on Saturdays
 - Before 3:30pm on weekdays
- All field closings (received by the times indicated above) will be listed on the AYSA hotline after 8:00am on Saturdays and 4:00pm on weekdays.

AYSA Severe Weather Policy

All games will be cancelled or suspended if a severe weather warning is in effect, regardless of the time the warning goes into effect.

- Any club that fails to report field closings by the designated times will not have their fields listed on the AYSA hotline. The club will be responsible for any and all referee fees.
- Rescheduled games must be handled according to the schedule/reschedule policy.

Dropped Teams

Any club, which has a team(s) suspended or dropped after registration, forfeits its registration money, fined \$100.00 and must bring account back to current requirements at the next registration.

Coach Requirements

- Concussion Training <http://www.aysasoccer.org/coaches-corner>
- OYSAN Background Check <http://www.aysasoccer.org/coaches-corner>

Coach Responsibilities

Coaches are responsible for the behavior of the players, spectators, and themselves. Each coach is responsible for the conduct of every person, including guests on their side of the field. A coach is recognized by AYSA as a participant in the match and may receive yellow or red cards from the referee. The referee is not required to warn coaches before issuing either yellow or red cards.

Coaching is restricted to the team area only, which should be marked by the home team during field preparation, and which extends 10 yards to either side of the mid-field line. If a club fails to provide lines marking the designated area, it is implied.

No person may move up and down the length of the touchline for the purpose of coaching, instructing, players or shouting encouragement.

Expect the referee(s) and players in the game, NO OTHER PERSON IS ALLOWED ON THE FIELD unless, and until, authorized by the referee.

Spectators, coaches and substitute players are required to remain at least 5 feet back from the touchline on their side of the field.

Fighting by any persons, either in the game on the sidelines, and/or loud verbal abuse or physical/verbal assault of the referee, shall be grounds to immediately suspend the match if the referee chooses. Such a decision is that of the referee alone. The coach will be held responsible by the league. The league also has the right to begin disciplinary proceedings in the event league officers witness such actions, even when the

referee does not choose to take action. If a referee suspends a play, or if a match is interrupted for any reason, the outcome of suspended matches will be decided solely by the AYSA disciplinary committee based on the referee's report and game reports.

Poor conduct by a team, leading to suspension of a match, will be grounds for forfeiting a match, and AYSA has the right to impose harsher penalties.

Lines of Communication

It is important that coaches, parents and club officials honor the lines of communication established by the AYSA Executive Board for efficient handling of concerns. Expect for direct violation of the "Parents Code of Conduct", "Coaches Code of Conduct" or the violations of AYSA rules and regulations, each club is responsible for addressing questions and discipline of violations within their club. If a coach or parent must contact the league for any reason, contact will be made through your club representative.

Game Roster

Each coach must be ready to present the referee with the official AYSA approved laminated game roster at the start of each and every game. Each coach must cooperate with the referee at player check-in, and have the team ready to check-in whenever the referee desires. The referee will be paid on the field prior to the start of the match. Any questions of the validity of the roster must not be addressed at the field (other than playoffs). Contact the League registrar after the game. At least one approved coach is required for each team. The roster is not to be used by anyone for any other purpose than to check the eligibility of players listed.

Running up Scores

Soccer is a GAME. It is intended to be fun for ALL participants, not just the winning team. Without a worthy opponent, no purpose is served in playing any game; running up the score to embarrass an opponent, is pointless and shows poor sportsmanship. AYSA recognizes that there will be times when opposing coaches will not cooperate with the established guidelines voted on and adopted by the Board of Representatives. When such a time occurs, please do not confront anyone on the field. Continue the match if you wish and contact AYSA IMMEDIATELY. AYSA tries to ensure that teams are put in the correct division at the time of registration. However, if it appears that a team is in the wrong division due to players being dropped or added to the team after alignment, or failure of the team to properly represent themselves. This is no excuse for teams who consistently and intentionally run up the score on their opponent.

Suggested methods to control the score:

- Switch players around to different positions
- Establish a minimum number of touches by the team and/or each player
- Limit players from the winning team to the defensive half of the field
- When there is a 5 goal difference the losing team may add a play to the field (a player may also be added for each goal thereafter).
- If the goal differential reverses extra players must be removed from the field accordingly.
- Have your team attempt to hone their foot skills and passing skills when you are ahead by a few goals
- Have players use their weaker foot
- Do not let your players shoot from inside the penalty box.

Field Preparation and Dimensions

| AGE GROUP | LENGTH (yards) | WIDTH (yards) | GOAL SIZE |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| U7 and BELOW | 30-35 | 20-25 | 4' x 6' to 4' x 9' |
| U8 | 30-35 | 20-25 | 6.5' x 12' to 6.5' x 18' |
| U9-U10 | 55-65 | 35-45 | 6.5' x 12' to 6.5' x 18' |
| U11-U12 | 70-80 | 45-55 | 6.5' x 18' to 7.5' x 21' |
| U13 and UP | 100 | 50 | 8' x 24' |

Goal Safety Policy

All goals must be secure before a practice/match can begin. Supervision is critical to prevent horseplay on or around goals. Parents and coaches must remind children not to climb on goals and tell any child fooling around a goal to get off! Coaches must make goals "off limits" as a part of their pre-season speech about keeping safe. The Federal Soccer Goal Safety Standards can be found at http://www.ohionorthsoccer.org/bylaws_rules_policies/

Player Equipment

- Cleats must be soccer cleats, cleats designed for other sports will not be allowed.
- All players will wear shin guards with socks covering the shin guards.
- Field players will wear a jersey with a permanently affixed number.
- Shorts must be of athletic type (no snaps, buttons or zippers)
- Goalkeepers will wear a jersey that is a different color than all field players (number not required).
- Any other clothing worn will be at the discretion of the referee.
- Jewelry will not be allowed this includes but is not limited to:
 - Earrings (covering earrings is not permissible)
 - Hair pins or barrettes
 - Hair beads
 - Watches, bracelets, chains or necklaces
- Cast and other support equipment such as braces must be padded and approved for play by the referee.

There is no appeal on the decision of each referee; the fact that an item was allowed in one game shall not be grounds for that same item to be used in a different game by a different referee.

Game Ball

The HOME team is responsible to supply a suitable game ball, which must be acceptable to the referee. Ball sizes are as follows:

- U6 – U8: size 3
- U9 – U12: size 4
- U13 and up: size 5

Length of game

| AGE | HALF TIME | LENGTH OF GAME |
|------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| U6 - U7 | 5 Minutes | 8 Minute Quarters |
| U8 | 5 Minutes | 20 Minute Halves |
| U9 - U12 | 5 Minutes | 25 Minutes Halves |
| U13 and Up | 5 Minutes | 30 Minute Halves |

Referee Fees

U6-U7 – Coaches Referee Games
U8 – U10 – \$10.00 per team
U11 – U12 - \$12.00 per team
U13 and up – \$15.00 per team

Official Game

Any game ended at the end of the first half, no matter what the reason, other than behavior problems, will be considered official. AYSA will make a determination whether or not the game will be replayed. The game score will be reported as the official score. Any game abandoned by the referee prior to the second half kick-off for other reasons (such as lack of discipline) will be reported to AYSA, which will make the final determination as to the outcome and final score of the game based on the referee's report.

Overtime

There is no overtime except for playoff games where a winner is needed. Regular season games that end in a tie will be recorded as a tie.

Failure to Report to a Game

Failure of a team to show up (field a minimum number of players) at a scheduled or rescheduled game by the expiration of the 15-minute grace period will result in the no-show team forfeiting and paying the total referee fee and the team will be fined \$25 (adopted 2/06). These games will NOT be rescheduled.

Game Reports

It is the responsibility of the coach to complete the AYSA End of Season Summary. Due by the November meeting and June meeting, for all games. This report is needed for alignment of the next season. There will be a \$10.00 fine assessed for each End of Season Summary not turned in. This form is the only accepted form and to be filled out completely and turned in to your club representative.. This form may be found at <http://www.aysasoccer.org/pdf/AYSA%20Season%20Summary.pdf>

Policy on Fair Play, Sportsmanship and Referee Abuse/Disrespect

This policy has been adopted to assure all persons involved in AYSA soccer matches understand the manner in which the League will address such incidents, and understand that their participation in the League subjects them to the rules contained in the policy. Participation in AYSA is a privilege, not a right. By taking these steps, we are not trying to find ways to punish the great people involved in our soccer programs but are simply trying to maintain a sense of fair play.

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is defined by AYSA as unwelcome touching, striking, spitting or the verbal threat to do so. The league will not tolerate this conduct. Any physical abuse of a referee by a coach, player or spectator, or by a referee against any coach, player or spectator whether it occurs before, during or following a game will result in an

immediate ban of the offending person from future AYSA games and participation in AYSA programming. In addition, the incident will be referred to OYSA-N for consideration of further disciplinary action.

Verbal Abuse

Verbal abuse is defined by AYSA as a verbal attack of sustained, excessive, obscene or offensive nature and will not be tolerated. It is not intended to include mere dialogue or question by or among coaches and/or referees.

Referee Authority

Every referee, including emergency volunteers in no-show cases, has complete and total authority for the conduct of the match and to enforce discipline from the moment he arrives at the field until he leaves. This includes all pre- game and post-game activities. The referee is responsible for starting each match as close to the scheduled time as possible.

Referees are to be paid on the field before the start of the game. A referee may refuse to referee the game unless paid. Each coach is responsible for paying half of the fee.

THE REFEREE AUTHORITY AND JUDGEMENT SHALL NOT BE CHALLENGED, NOR MAY HIS JUDGEMENT BE APPEALED.

Referee No-Shows

The referee has 15-minutes after the start of the game time to show up to the field of play. Both teams must remain at the field during this 15-minute grace period. If a referee fails to show:

If the assigned referee does not show up, the HOME coach shall referee the 1st half of the game and the Visiting Coach shall referee the 2nd half. Or an individual that is mutually agreed upon may referee the game and is to be treated as such. That person will be paid just like a certified referee. The final score of the said match will be considered valid and recorded by the League.

Referees

Upon any initial of verbal abuse by a referee directed towards any player, coach, or other spectator, the coach observing the behavior shall report it to the League President. Matters, including the conduct of officials, brought to the attention of AYSA, will be subject to review or submission to the Referee Association for review, but remedies will never include changing the result of a match.

Coaches and Players with Red Cards

Players/coaches (anyone receiving a red card or sent off) will be reported to AYSA by the referee for review and possible disciplinary action by AYSA. Coaches will NOT allow any red-carded player to play in the next AYSA scheduled game. Coaches that are sent off will NOT coach at the next AYSA scheduled game. Generally, yellow and red cards will be shown when given but it's not necessary for the referee to show a card or to verbally warn any person before taking a stronger action, or to directly notify any person that he has been sent off from the match. Current rules concerning yellow/red card procedures apply. The Executive Board will follow the Disciplinary Hearing Guidelines established by OYSAN. Coaches and players have the right to a hearing and have the right appeal

Local Modifications to “FIFA Laws of the Game”

Breakaways and “Professional” Fouls

Referees are required by FIFA Laws to deal harshly with fouls against the game. Fouls which are intended to replace soccer skill with brute force. In particular, referees are required to issue red cards to any players who intentionally commit so-called “professional” defensive fouls, no matter how forcefully, in order to stop play of the game, and/or breakaways, when there is a clear scoring opportunity.

Slide Tackling

Slide tackling is **NOT ALLOWED** in any recreational game.

Heading the Ball

Intentionally heading the ball is **NOT ALLOWED** by any player on the field from U7 – U11

Substitutions

Substitutions for U6 & U7 are outlined in the rules for each age division. For all others, U8 - U15 The referee must authorize all substitution by making a direct and unmistakable sign to the coach that he has permission to substitute. Play will not begin until all players leaving the game are off the field. Substitution is allowed with permission:

- Prior to throw-in in your favor, or the other team’s throw in IF THEY ARE ALSO SUBSTITUTING
- Prior to a goal kick by either team
- At any injury time-out, limited to one-for-one
- After a goal is scored by either team
- When a player has been cautioned (only the yellow carded player may be replaced)
- At half-time

U8 - Jr. High, players must be at midfield before the stoppage of play in order to be allowed to enter the field

Spectators

Upon any **initial incident** of verbal abuse directed toward a referee, any player, any coach or any other spectator, the referee will **stop the match** (if it is going on). The referee will warn the coach and allow the coach to advise his spectator(s) of the warning and counsel the spectator(s) to cease immediately, if such incident occurs **before a match**, the referee will similarly warn the coach and instruct the coach to warn his spectator(s). If such incident occurs **following a match**, the referee will notify the League immediately and call 911 if necessary.

A **repeat offense** occurring during the same match will be cause of stoppage of the match, at the sole discretion of the referee. The team associated with the offending spectator(s) will forfeit the match and will be immediately fined \$25.00. Such team will immediately provide the name(s) of the abusive spectator(s) to the referee. If the team refuses to do so, it will be suspended immediately from all AYSA matches until the offending person(s) is identified in writing to the President of AYSA. The AYSA Executive Board will notify the club of its decision and disciplinary action. Spectators do not have appeal rights and there will be no hearing. Spectators that violate the Executive Boards decision or choose to ignore said decision will jeopardize the standing of the team and entire club. Fines and sanctions will apply.

A **second incident** of abuse occurring at a future match by any spectator(s) from the same team during the same season will result in suspension of that team the remainder of the season, or for the entire next season. An automatic fine of \$100 will be imposed on that teams’ parent club. Any future incidents involving spectator(s) from the same team will jeopardize the clubs’ standing within AYSA. The team will be disbanded. Continued abuse from the club will be cause for disciplinary action up to and including removal from AYSA. The League will maintain records of spectator offenses from season to season.

Protests and Appeals

Disputes, Protests, Appeals and Disciplinary Action

Disputes, protests and appeals are to be directed to the appropriate organization. The goal of any dispute, protest or appeal is to reach a mutually agreeable settlement or corrective action when necessary. Either party to a dispute, protest, or appeal is encouraged to settle the matter between parties whenever possible.

A dispute, protest, or appeal in regards to referee conduct/performance or match issues **are not** to be submitted to the Appleseed Youth Soccer Association. These disputes, protests, or appeals are to be submitted via the mansfieldsoccer.com website under GAME REPORTS.

A dispute or protest which violates the Appleseed Youth Soccer Association Coaches Manual should first be submitted to the appropriate Club BOR. Disputes or protests submitted directly to the AYSA President will be referred to the appropriate Club BOR representative for attention. The Club BOR is encouraged to resolve the matter with assistance from their Club organization.

In the event that either party to a dispute or protest is not satisfied by the corrective or disciplinary action or address of their dispute or protest they may submit an appeal to the Appleseed Youth Soccer Association. An appeal must be signed and submitted in writing and describe in detail the grounds for the appeal. (Appleseed Youth Soccer Association, P.O. Box 3686, Mansfield, OH 44907) The Executive Board will review the protest and act in the best interest of the safety of our participants, the spirit of the game, the Ohio Youth Soccer Association, the Appleseed Youth Soccer Association and affiliated Club organizations.

Decisions of the Executive Board may include but are not limited to the following:

- That the Executive Board will enforce the rules of higher governing organization (USYSA, USSF, and OSYAN).
- That no dispute or protest is warranted.
- That the dispute or protest **should be addressed** by an affiliated Club.
- That the dispute or protest **has been addressed** appropriately by an affiliated Club.
- That the dispute or protest **has not been addressed appropriately** by an affiliated Club and suggest further corrective or disciplinary actions.
- That the dispute or protest **warrants further corrective or disciplinary actions** on behalf of Appleseed Youth Soccer Association.

Decisions or recommendations of the Executive Board are not subject to repeated appeal. Failure to follow the recommendations of the Executive Board in regards to disciplinary or corrective actions may result in loss of membership or affiliation with Appleseed Youth Soccer Association.

Parties not satisfied by the recommendations of the Executive Board or Disciplinary Committee may choose to dispute or appeal their issue with OYSAN pursuant to and in accordance with rule 5.2 of the OYSAN Rules, Regulations and Policies.

If an AYSA Member Club Disciplines Any Player, Coach, Parent or Spectator

If an AYSA member club disciplines any player, coach, parent, or spectator; AYSA will uphold the decision of that club. In addition, all other AYSA clubs must follow the disciplinary action taken against any of those listed within the action. If it is found that the disciplined member or spectator's disciplinary actions were not justified AYSA may not uphold the actions taken by the member club. Other member clubs will not solely go against the actions of the disciplining club.