

CATHOLIC YOUTH ORGANIZATION

SOCCER RULES/REGULATIONS

I. PLAYING RULES:

- A. Official Rules: The rules for the CYO Soccer League are those of the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA). It is imperative that each coach has a working knowledge of the NFHS and MHSAA rules in addition to those rules governing CYO Athletics.
- B. Purpose of these Rules: CYO wishes to stress that scores are not to be run-up by winning teams, and also wishes to emphasize that coaches must make every effort to play as many team members as possible in a given game.
- C. Team Minimum: A team must be able to field the minimum number of players (11) at game time or the game is forfeited. If a player is ejected, becomes ill or injured and is unable to finish the game, the team may finish the game with no fewer than seven (7) players.
- D. Game Time: Game time is forfeit time. If one team is not present and ready to play at the time that a game is scheduled to begin, their opponent may accept a forfeit victory for that contest. Game officials shall sign the score card to verify forfeit. No official is required to wait beyond the scheduled game time for a team.
- E. Game Length: The game will be two (2) 30 minute halves with a 10 minute half-time period.
- F. Overtime: No overtime periods for CYO regular season soccer games. Games that are tied at the end of regulation time shall remain a tie.

II. GAME RULES/REGULATIONS:

- A. Playing Field: Home team must provide a marked field with regulation goals at each endline.
- B. Protective Equipment: Shin Guards are required; mouth protector/guard is recommended.
- C. Regulation Ball: Ball size for 7/8th grade boys and girls teams will be a #5 size ball, and 5/6th grade boys and girls teams will use a #4 size ball.
- D. Uniform Jerseys: The home team shall call the visiting team and make jersey arrangements so that jerseys are of contrasting colors.
- E. Uniform Numbers: Jersey or shirt must have numbers, even if only taped.
- F. Roster Exchange: Preceding ALL CYO Soccer Non-League/Crossover and/or League Contests, each team is REQUIRED to exchange rosters with the opposing team ten (10) minutes prior to the start of the game. This list should be prepared in numerical sequence indicating jersey number and name of each player.

III. LEAGUE RULES/REGULATIONS:

- A. Officials: CYO will assign officials for all games. The home team is responsible for paying all officials prior to the start of the game. One (1) to two (2) officials will be assigned for all games. **NOTE**: Parishes wishing to obtain their own MHSAA/FIFA registered officials should notify the CYO Office when entering teams.
- B. Officials Not Present: In the event that the assigned officials are not present to officiate the game(s) the teams will have two (2) options:
1. Play the game with individuals they mutually agree to have officiate the game(s). If a mutual agreement is made to play, the contest(s) results will stand.
 2. Re-schedule the game(s) with the CYO office after mutually agreeing on date(s) and time(s).
- C. Suspended Games: In the event a game must be suspended because of conditions which make it impossible to continue play, the head referee shall declare it an official game if one (1) complete half or more of the game has been played. If less than one (1) half of the game has been played, the game shall begin from the point at which play was suspended.
- D. League Standings: The league standings will be computed on the basis of two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero (0) points for a loss. Non-league games do not count in division standings.
- E. Game Timer: The game referee will keep the official time.
- F. Game Score Keepers: Each team is required to supply a scorer for the game. The scorer will keep score on the score cards provided by the CYO. The home team is the official scorer.
- G. Roster Limitations: There is no limit as to the number of players that a team may have. Additional players may be similarly registered (as per eligibility rules) at any time during the regular season.
- H. Insurance: Secondary medical insurance is provided for participants for all athletics through the Michigan Catholic Conference. This coverage has some limitations and is secondary to parent's medical coverage. This coverage is in effect if the student has no medical coverage. Information can be obtained through School Principals or Parish Pastors.
- I. Allowable Games Per Team: No team may play more than three (3) games per calendar week (Monday through Sunday).

IV. PLAY-OFFS:

- A. 5/6th Grade: There are no play-offs for 5/6th grade teams.
- B. 7/8th Grade: The CYO will sponsor a play-off tournament at the conclusion of the season for the 7/8th grade teams that win their division. Teams qualifying for play-offs may not enter into any other tournament(s).
1. Teams invited by the CYO Athletic Department Director are based on league records and/or from divisions that are traditionally the strongest in the CYO Soccer Program.

C. Division Tie Breaker (7/8th Grade Only):

1. If 2 or 3 teams tie for a division title, head-to-head game results will determine division champion.
2. If still tied, a play-off game will be held to determine the division champion, time permitting.
 - a. If Team A beat B, and A beat C, then A will be declared champion.
 - b. If Team A beat B, and B beat C, and C beat A, then a three-way play-off will be held, time permitting.
3. The CYO Athletic Department determines if a play-off can be held. A coin flip may be used to determine division champion.

D. Play-Off Tie Breaker:

1. First sudden death overtime - 10 minutes
2. Second sudden death overtime - 10 minutes
3. Shoot-out

V. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES:

Violations of CYO rules and regulations shall subject a member Parish/School to any or all, but not limited to, the following: censure, probation with competition, probation without competition, forfeiture, suspension, and expulsion.