

## ALBERTA YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE (AYSL) VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

**Vision:** To create a competitive development environment which provides opportunities for all participants at the highest level of amateur youth soccer in Alberta and Canada

**Mission:** To provide leadership for soccer excellence in Alberta by:

- To provide a safe and professional environment through the maintenance of nationally recognized standards of youth development through Canada Soccer
- Operate a level of competition which prepares players to compete and excel in a professional, National Teams and/or post-secondary soccer environment.
- Offer opportunity for the personal development of coaches who desire to coach at a nationally recognized level and prepare them for professional opportunities.
- Offer vital development opportunities for officials working towards Regional, Provincial, National and International certification.
- To allow players, coaches, and officials a strong competitive environment that showcases personal development, teamwork and develops skills that contribute to their successes in life, on and off the field.
- To provide a program with quality and motivated administration

## Definitions & Acronyms

Alberta Soccer Association – Alberta Soccer

Alberta Youth Soccer League - AYSL

AYSL Administrators – CMSA & EMSA

AYSL Club – All AYSL teams and associated individuals within one club

AYSL Team – A single team within a club

Calgary Minor Soccer Association – CMSA

Canadian Soccer Association – Canada Soccer

Edmonton Minor Soccer Association – EMSA

Federation Internationale de Football Association – FIFA

National Youth Club License – NYCL

## AYSL Governance Guide

1. The Alberta Youth Soccer League (AYSL) is an extension of the Youth Program of the Alberta Soccer Association (Alberta Soccer) and as such is subject to all relevant Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of Alberta Soccer, the Canadian Soccer Association (Canada Soccer) and all relevant guidelines as stated in the AYSL Vision, Mission and Standards.
  - a. Any potential breach of this rule will result in a review of the AYSL Club involved by Alberta Soccer and Canada Soccer.
  
2. The AYSL Clubs will be required to meet the minimum standards for the National Youth Club License (NYCL).
  - a. Any potential breach of this rule will result in a review of the AYSL Club involved by Alberta Soccer and Canada Soccer.
  - b. Participation in any league activity will be revoked if an AYSL Club loses the NYCL license.
  
3. Alberta Soccer has entered into an agreement with the Calgary Minor Soccer Association (CMSA) and the Edmonton Minor Soccer Association (EMSA) to act as the AYSL administrators.
  - a. This agreement will be reviewed annually, and any changes communicated to AYSL clubs by no later than November 1.
  
4. AYSL Governance Committee
  - a. Responsible for governance and oversight of the AYSL as per the committee Terms of Reference
  - b. Committee Members
    - i. Alberta Soccer Executive Director
    - ii. Alberta Soccer Technical Delegate
    - iii. Alberta Soccer Board Delegate
    - iv. AYSL District Representative x 2
      1. One (1) of CMSA or EMSA Delegate
      2. One (1) of the remaining districts with AYSL Clubs
    - v. Consideration will be given to new participating AYSL Districts as necessary.
  
5. AYSL Operations Committee
  - a. Responsible for the day-to-day administration and operations of the AYSL as per the committee Terms of Reference
    - i. Committee Members
      1. Alberta Soccer Delegate
        - a. Cannot be a member of the Governance Committee
      2. CMSA Delegate
        - a. Must be involved in day-to-day operations of the league
      3. EMSA Delegate
        - a. Must be involved in day-to-day operations of the league

6. AYSL Technical Advisory Committee
  - a. Responsible for providing AYSL Club Advice on Technical Standards and Operational Rules
    - i. Committee Members
      1. AYSL Technical Chair
      2. AYSL South Club Representative x 2
        - a. One Boys & One Girls Representative
      3. AYSL North Club Representative x 2
        - a. One Boys & One Girls Representative
      4. Members-at-large x 2
      5. AYSL Administrator North & South
7. The AYSL Administrators have certain delegated rights from Alberta Soccer, as set out in the operating rules.
  - a. All decisions of the AYSL Administrators affecting AYSL club activity are subject to review by Alberta Soccer through the AYSL Governance Committee.
    - i. Club activity includes but is not limited to rosters, player status, player movement, schedules, fines etc.
    - ii. A reasonable, as determined by the AYSL Governance Committee, amount of time must be given to the AYSL Administrators to work with AYSL Clubs on complaints before it is considered for review.
8. The AYSL Operating Guide will be reviewed and presented annually by the AYSL Operations Committee to the AYSL Governance Committee for approval.
  - a. Any Rule changes must be presented to the AYSL clubs **by December 1 annually**
9. The AYSL Governance Committee may make temporary rules or regulations governing specific cases or occasions not provided for in these regulations, but which may be necessary for the carrying out of the objectives of the AYSL and in the interests of fair play.
  - a. The AYSL Operations Committee may present temporary rules or regulations for consideration and approval by the AYSL Governance Committee
10. AYSL discipline will be applied in accordance with AYSL Discipline Guide found in Appendix A and Alberta Soccer discipline and appeals procedures.
11. League Meetings
  - a. Alberta Soccer and the AYSL Administrators will hold a minimum of 2 league meetings annually
    - i. If possible, at least one of the meetings should be face to face
    - ii. All AYSL Clubs must have a representative present at all properly called AYSL meetings, be they in-person or conference call.
      1. Meetings are held with AYSL clubs, individual team representation is not required.

## **AYSL Operating Guide**

### **1) League Finance**

1. The AYSL, via the AYSL administrators and/or Alberta Soccer, will provide the following services, which are subject to change;
  - a. AYSL Administrators
    - i. General league admin, website content and support, player registration services, league scheduling and game reporting management.
  - b. Alberta Soccer
    - i. Game Official scheduling, Game Official training, hosting of league meetings.
2. The AYSL Operations Committee will provide an AYSL budget for approval to the AYSL Governance Committee by April 1 annually for the upcoming season starting in November.
  - a. The AYSL budget will be presented to the AYSL clubs by May 1 annually for the season to start November of that year.
  - b. The AYSL fee schedule, based on the AYSL budget, can be found in Appendix B
3. League Fees
  - a. The league fee schedule can be found in Appendix B
4. League Fines
  - a. The league fine schedule can be found in Appendix B.

### **2) Team Eligibility**

1. Entry into the AYSL season shall be open to any Alberta Soccer member club, registered with an Alberta Soccer member district, that attains a Canada Soccer National Youth Club License (NYCL) prior to August 31 in the year preceding entry into the League.
2. All AYSL Clubs must be in good standing with Alberta Soccer, the AYSL Administrators and their home District Association to compete in the AYSL.
  - a. Any club listed in bad standing will be reviewed by Alberta Soccer and/or Canada Soccer
3. AYSL seasons shall be operated for the following categories:
  - a. 2021 Outdoor Season
    - i. U15 Boys & Girls – 2006 Born
  - b. 2021 – 2022 Fall – Winter Season
    - i. U15 Boys & Girls – 2007 Born
    - ii. U16 Boys & Girls – 2006 Born

- c. 2022 Outdoor Season
    - i. U14 Boys & Girls – 2008 Born
    - ii. U15 Boys & Girls – 2007 Born
    - iii. U16 Boys & Girls – 2006 Born
  - d. 2022 – 2023 Season – SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE AYSL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
    - i. U14 Boys & Girls – 2009 Born
    - ii. U15 Boys & Girls – 2008 Born
    - iii. U16 Boys & Girls – 2007 Born
    - iv. U17 Boys & Girls – 2006 Born
  - e. 2023 – 2024 Season – SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY THE AYSL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
    - i. U14 Boys & Girls – 2010 Born
    - ii. U15 Boys & Girls – 2009 Born
    - iii. U16 Boys & Girls – 2008 Born
    - iv. U17 Boys & Girls – 2007 Born
    - v. U18 Boys & Girls – 2006 Born
      - 1. Season length to finish by July 31 to accommodate Post-secondary play
  - f. Each season after 2023 - 2024 there will be a U14 intake group and U18 aging out of the league.
4. NYCL Clubs as of August 31, 2021
- a. Calgary Blizzard Soccer Club
  - b. Calgary Eastside Memorial Football Club
  - c. Calgary Foothills Soccer Club
  - d. Calgary Rangers Soccer Club
  - e. Calgary Southwest United Soccer Club
  - f. Calgary Villains Football Club
  - g. Calgary West Soccer Club
  - h. Edmonton EIYSA FC
  - i. Edmonton Scottish United Soccer Club
  - j. Sherwood Park Phoenix
  - k. St. Albert Impact Football Club
5. All AYSL Clubs must register a team in both genders at all age categories based on year of entry into the league.
- a. Any AYSL club not in compliance with this rule is subject to review of good standing by Canada Soccer and/or Alberta Soccer.
6. AYSL Club Teams will have the following roster sizes at any time.
- a. **Minimum 14 Players**
  - b. Maximum 20 Players
7. All AYSL Club teams must be registered with Alberta Soccer through their respective Alberta Soccer Regular Members (District Associations) to the AYSL Administrators

8. No registered AYSL team may play in another league at the same time they are registered with the AYSL
  - a. All teams will follow the approved periodized schedule as published by the AYSL Operating Committee.
  
9. Any team participating in the AYSL that wishes to withdraw from the AYSL the following season must inform the Alberta Soccer office in writing no later than September 15th.
  - a. Any team that withdraws from the league will forfeit their team initiation fee and are still required to pay the team fees for the season if the withdrawal is made after September 15<sup>th</sup>.

### 3) Registration

1. All AYSL teams will be subject to the fee schedule as found in Appendix B.
  
2. All AYSL players and team officials appearing on an AYSL Regular Season Game Sheet must be registered with 1 of the 23 Regular Members (District Associations) of Alberta Soccer.
  - a. Alberta Soccer and Canada Soccer registration fees will be paid through the home District Association of the AYSL team.
  
3. All AYSL Clubs must complete the AYSL Information Sheet annually and submit it to the AYSL Administrators including any fees as per the fee schedule by October 1.
  
4. Name of teams - must be consistent Club wide with Age Group/Gender clarification.
  - a. The following are suggested names for all clubs
 

i. Calgary Blizzard 06B;	Calgary Blizzard 06G
ii. Calgary EMFC 06B;	Calgary EMFC 06G
iii. Calgary Foothills 06B;	Calgary Foothills 06G
iv. Calgary Rangers 06B;	Calgary Rangers 06G
v. Calgary SWU 06B;	Calgary SWU 06G
vi. Calgary Villains 06B;	Calgary Villains 06G
vii. Calgary West 06B;	Calgary West 06G
viii. Edmonton EIYSA FC 06B;	Edmonton EIYSA FC 06G
ix. Edmonton Scottish 06B;	Edmonton Scottish 06G
x. Sherwood Park Phoenix 06B;	Sherwood Park Phoenix 06G
xi. St. Albert Impact 06B;	St. Albert Impact 06G
  
5. The following shall be provided by each AYSL team to the AYSL Administrator within the timelines stated:
  - a. Name, postal address, e-mail address and telephone numbers of the team coach & assistant coach, qualified as per National Youth Club Standards, by **December 1 annually.**

- b. Each AYSL team's roster of eligible players signed to that AYSL team, being not less than **14 players** and not more than 20 players, on the standard Alberta Soccer team roster form by **December 1**.
    - i. AYSL roster additions and deletions must be submitted by the applicable District registrar to the AYSL Administrator as they occur before they are considered official.
6. Team Officials
- a. All AYSL Coaches must be certified as per the Canada Soccer Player Development Program (PDP) Guidelines.
  - b. All AYSL teams must have a minimum of 1 coach that is of the same gender as the team.
  - c. All AYSL Team Officials (Coaches and Managers) identified on the team roster and/or appearing on an AYSL Regular Season Game Sheet must have a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Check on file with their respective Alberta Soccer Regular Member (District Association) as per Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations.
    - i. The Criminal Record Check can be requested by Alberta Soccer or the AYSL Administrators if the coach is registered with an AYSL team
  - d. Each team official on an AYSL Game Sheet must have photo identification card approved by the AYSL Operations Committee, issued by the team official's local District Association, at each game or they will be considered as ineligible to participate.
    - i. This can include electronic cards if issued by the local district and approved by the AYSL Operations Committee.
    - ii. A Sample card for each district must be provided to the AYSL Administrators before the season start.

#### **4) Player Eligibility**

- 1. All relevant rules and regulations of Alberta Soccer and Canada Soccer apply to player eligibility in the AYSL. Teams must familiarize themselves with all such rules, including but not limited to transfer rules, non-amateur reinstatements and seven-day waiting periods
  - a. Ignorance of such rules will not be accepted as an excuse for a team playing an ineligible player.
- 2. Each player must have a photo identification card approved by the AYSL Operations Committee, issued by the player's local District or league office at each game or they will be considered an illegal participant in the game.
  - a. This can include electronic cards if issued by the local district and approved by the AYSL Operations Committee.
  - b. A Sample card for each district must be provided to the AYSL Administrators before the season start.
- 3. Any registered youth player is eligible to play in the AYSL subject to age and gender requirements.

4. Any player who is listed on an approved roster will be deemed eligible to play in AYSL games from that point forward.
5. Any player not on the AYSL Approved roster must complete an AYSL Trialist Form and submit to the AYSL Administrator for approval.
  - a. If an AYSL club requires an emergency trialist, to meet the minimum 14 eligible players guideline, the trialist form must be submitted to the AYSL Administrator electronically before kick-off of the affected match.
    - i. The eligibility of the trialist is subject to review and penalties to the AYSL club.
6. All Laws of the Game from the International Football Association Board (IFAB) will be adhered to except for:
  - a. A team with fewer than 14 eligible players on the game sheet and present 15 minutes after the scheduled kick-off time, will be considered in breach of minimum player standards
    - i. If you breach the minimum player rule there will be a \$50 fine per player below the 14-player minimum
7. Each team may use up to 20 players in any given game.
  - a. Trialists who participate in the AYSL will be identified with a "T" beside their name on AYSL game sheets.
    - i. Trialists rules are set out in Appendix C
8. An ineligible player is defined as any player not meeting the player eligibility rules as stated in Section 4 or:
  - a. who is currently suspended from AYSL league play or;
  - b. whose fine(s) have not been paid prior to his or her participation or;
  - c. who is not properly listed on the game sheet submitted to the game officials prior to the game or;
  - d. where the identity of a player declared on the game sheet of an AYSL game can be proven to be someone other than the person named or;
  - e. A player suspended from play in any other Canada Soccer, Alberta Soccer or District sanctioned league is subject to review and may result in suspension from the AYSL.
    - i. The review will be conducted as per the AYSL Discipline code.
9. In all cases where a player is deemed ineligible and participated in a game the offending team shall forfeit that game.
  - a. A team, who is discovered to have played an ineligible player, shall be subject to the discipline and fine(s) for each ineligible player played in any game.

## **5) Game Format**

1. Game Timing

### **PRE-GAME TIMING**

### **EVENT**



- |                          |                                              |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| - 60 Minutes to Kick-off | Team Arrival                                 |
| - 60 Minutes to kick-off | Game Officials Arrival                       |
| - 45 Minutes to kick-off | Game Sheet and Player Card Review            |
| - 40 Minutes to kick-off | Pitch Inspection & Team Warm-up Commencement |
| - 8 Minutes to kick-off  | Team Warm-up Ends                            |
| - 7 Minutes to kick-off  | Changes to starting line-up confirmed        |
| - 6 Minutes to Kick-off  | Player Line-up and equipment inspection      |
| - 4 Minutes to Kick-off  | Player Walk-out                              |
| - 2 Minutes to Kick-off  | Handshake and coin toss                      |

#### GAME TIMING

#### EVENT

- |                                                                     |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| - 45 Minutes + Added time                                           | First Half  |
| - 15 Minutes                                                        | Half-time   |
| - 45 Minutes + Added time                                           | Second Half |
| o There is no extra time during any AYSL Regular Season league game |             |

#### POST-GAME TIMING

#### EVENT

- |                                  |                                             |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| - 30 Minutes after final whistle | Game Sheets and Misconduct Reports to Teams |
| - 11:59 PM of Game Day           | Game Reports submitted online by Home Team  |
| - 11:59 PM day after Game        | Game Reports verified online by Away Team   |

1. If a game must be abandoned due to weather (or other considerations), and a minimum of 60 minutes has been completed, then the result shall stand. If less than 60 minutes has been completed, then the game shall be replayed and the AYSL Administrator shall reschedule it.
  - a. When thunder is heard during a game, including pre-game the current Alberta Soccer lightning/severe weather policy will be followed.
2. Substitutions
  - a. A maximum of five (5) substitution moments with up to 3 substitutions per moment will be permitted during open play
    - i. These substitutes must provide the officials with a properly completed substitution slip prior to entering the field of play.
  - b. Unlimited substitutions are permitted at half time without the use of substitution slips but the officials must be advised of the substitutes entering the game and the players being substituted.
  - c. A player who has previously been replaced in the game by a substitute shall be allowed to return to the game, but that return shall be considered one of the five allowed substitutions, unless it occurs at half time.
  - d. Injury Substitutions
    - i. If a player is injured during open play and removed from the field during a stoppage, with the Game Officials permission, this player can be substituted without it counting towards the 5 substitutions limit.
3. Team Jerseys, Colours and Numbering

- a. All AYSL teams must wear the Official AYSL Logo on their Home, Away and Alternate Jerseys.
  - i. AYSL jersey patches must be either sewn or sublimated on left jersey sleeve of all home and away jerseys.
    - 1. Teams will be provided with two sets of 25 patches in their initiation year, free of charge
    - 2. Teams may request one new set of 25 patches annually, free of charge.
    - 3. Patch allowance will not carry over into the next year if unused.
    - 4. Additional patch sets are available for teams to purchase at any time for cost according to the fee schedule.
- b. Team Colours By Game
  - i. Home Team – Light Jersey
  - ii. Away Team – Dark Jersey
  - iii. Team Colours must be submitted to the AYSL Administrators at least 30 days prior to the first scheduled game of the year.
  - iv. In the event re-scheduling of matches requires a team to play back-to-back days a request can be made to the league, at least 48 hours in advance, for a review of the colours for the second game in the back-to-back schedule.
- c. Conflicts in the color of jerseys and/or socks, as determined the Game Officials, will be handled as follows:
  - i. if the conflict is between the opposing outfield players, the home team will change.
  - ii. if the conflict is between the opposing goalkeepers, the home goalkeeper will change.
  - iii. if the conflict is between either goalkeeper and the opposing team the goalkeeper will change regardless of whether they are on the home or away team.
- d. All playing shirts must be clearly and uniquely numbered. The number on each player's shirt or jersey must correspond with the number listed with that player's name on the game sheet.
- e. Players may wear any undergarments, provided that any visible undergarment matches the portion of the kit it is visible nearest to OR teams may wear white with light coloured jerseys or black with dark coloured jerseys.
  - i. A decision must be made by each team regarding undergarments and all players on the team will be expected to wear consistent colours.
- f. When a player is required to leave the field to replace a bloodied uniform, a shirt with another number may be worn by that player provided the Game Official is advised of the new number and the player's name prior to that player re-entering the field and the game sheet will reflect the change.
- g. All AYSL players appearing on an AYSL Regular Season game sheet must be dressed in accordance with the appropriate Team Colours identified for that AYSL team.
- h. Players on the bench can wear additional club clothing that is consistent in colour and approved by the Game Official.

- i. The Game Official may ask team staff and players to wear alternate pinnies on the bench if a conflict is identified
  - 4. All occupants of the technical area must be eligible to participate in the game, present their approved ID card to the game official, and be recorded on the game sheet.
    - a. For each game, eligible participants include:
      - i. up to 20 registered players
      - ii. up to 5 registered team officials
      - iii. Injured Players
        - 1. Clubs can apply to the AYSL Administrators to include injured players, currently on or removed from the roster due to injury, to sit on the team bench during matches if it will bring the total number of players above 20.
5. Officials
  - a. Officials for AYSL games shall be scheduled by Alberta Soccer in consultation with the AYSL Administrators
  - b. Only those officials listed on Alberta Soccer's current list of eligible officials with the following additional qualifications will be assigned to AYSL games:
    - i. Alberta Soccer District level qualification, at minimum
    - ii. Have passed the fitness test as required for their classification
    - iii. Where possible, FIFA, National, Provincial or Regional Game Officials will be assigned.
    - iv. Fourth officials will be assigned to all games and be no less than a District level official.
  - c. An appropriately qualified Alberta Soccer or National Assessor will periodically assess AYSL officials throughout the season.
  - d. All game officials will be paid the AYSL approved game fees (found in Appendix B) for the current season.
6. Venues
  - a. Home teams are responsible for all associated costs for meeting the AYSL venue standards.
  - b. Field of Play
    - i. All games shall be played on fields that meet FIFA international game standards as outlined in the FIFA Laws of the Game;
      - 1. Length 100 m – 110 m
      - 2. Width 64 m – 75 m
    - ii. Game fields must be marked per the FIFA Laws of the Game except the optional mark is not required for AYSL games.
      - 1. This includes Corner Flags and Goals with Nets
    - iii. Home teams must provide covered benches capable of seating a minimum of 10 players / coaches.

1. Tents covering benches is acceptable for this standard.
  - iv. If the benches are on the same side as spectators, they must be blocked from spectator entrance via a rope, fence or other blockade.
  - v. Home teams must provide the 4<sup>th</sup> official with a table and chair.
- c. Home teams must provide sheltered change rooms.
- i. If the home team cannot provide sheltered change rooms, the AYSL club must inform the AYSL Administrators prior to the season and a review of the venue will be conducted.
- d. Home teams are responsible for securing a field of play and ancillary services for all scheduled AYSL Regular Season home games.
- i. A back-up field turf venue must be secured by the home team for any games scheduled on a grass field against a visiting team that has travelled more than 100 kilometers.
  - ii. Home teams are responsible for all costs associated with booking the field of play and ancillary services.
  - iii. Where an AYSL team does not have or designate a home venue the AYSL club must work with the AYSL Administrators to secure a home venue and is responsible for all costs associated with that booking, including administrative fees.
- e. AYSL Administrators will be responsible for field bookings and associated costs for any scheduled Showcase Events.
- f. Home teams may charge entry fee if a venue allows for it and will retain all revenue associated with entry into the game.
- i. Any team charging entry fees to an AYSL Regular Season game must provide the cost structure of entry to the AYSL Administrators at least 7 days in advance of the scheduled date of the game.
    1. Where possible the season plan should be submitted prior to the beginning of the season.
- g. Home teams are responsible for standard crowd control
- i. Any issues with identifiable away team fans will be addressed by the away team.
- h. Game Video
- i. Home teams must video all home games and provide a copy of the video the away teams within 48 hours of match completion at the latest
  - ii. Minimum video quality will be standard definition 640 x 480 quality
- i. Game Balls
- i. The AYSL Administrators will provide 4 games balls to each AYSL Club team
    1. The fee for the balls will be built into the league fee annually.

2. If the AYSL Club team loses or damages one or more of the games balls they will be responsible for all costs associated with replacing the ball.
- j. Home Teams must provide a certified Athletic Therapist at all home games.
  - i. Certification according to the Canadian Athletic Therapist Association (CATA) or one of the following approved options;
    1. Standard First Aid & First Responder from a Certified Provider
      - a. Canadian Red Cross, St. John Ambulance etc.
    2. Canadian Red Cross Sport First Responder and Sport Aid course

## 6) Schedule

1. The AYSL Administrators will determine all AYSL schedules including the dates, times, venues and opponents for all games.
  - a. The indoor schedule will be provided to teams by December 1 annually for feedback with the final schedule published by December 15 annually.
  - b. The outdoor schedule will be provided to teams by February 1 annually for feedback with the final schedule published by February 15 annually.
    - i. Actual game venues may be determined later than the dates listed.
2. The only allowable changes to the published schedule will be reschedules due to field closures or abandoned games.
3. Rest-time between games
  - a. No AYSL team shall be required to play three (3) games in a seven (7) day period and no more than (4) games in a 15-day period.
  - b. There will be no more than 14 days between games whenever possible except for periodized breaks.
4. If a team is scheduled to travel, more than 100 KM, to another city to play and the game must be cancelled due to inclement weather or any other health or safety concerns, the home team must communicate the game cancellation to the travelling team.
  - a. Whenever possible the cancellation should be communicated to the travelling team 4 hours before the scheduled kick-off.
  - b. If the AYSL Administrator determines that the home team was negligent in communicating the cancellation, resulting in unnecessary travel for the travelling team, the game will be rescheduled in the travelling team's city.
    - i. If a double header was scheduled and the second game must also be cancelled, it will be rescheduled in the same city as the reschedule of the first game.
  - c. The home team must notify the AYSL Administrator of the game cancellation at the same time as the travelling team.

5. AYSL Clubs must play games involving teams that are travelling from the North to the South or South to the North on an Artificial Turf (AT) Field that meets League Standards or have access to an AT field as back-up if for any reason the scheduled grass field is unplayable.
  - a. If games involving a team which has traveled more than 100 KM, cannot be played on the home team's AT field for whatever reason, the game shall be played on the next best facility available to the home team regardless of field size while providing that it is safe for the players' and officials' participation and that it is lined, netted and flagged as per standards.
    - i. The AYSL Club responsible for the field will be fined if applicable, for any breach of this rule.
  - b. The Game Official has the authority to not start a game if the conditions of the field do not meet standards in relation to;
    - i. Surface deemed unsafe due to condition of turf, grass or standing water.
    - ii. Goals deemed unsafe or of the wrong size
    - iii. Improper field markings, including field size.
  - c. If a team arrives for a scheduled game and it is not played because the field does not meet standards, as determined by the Game Official, the consequences are as follows:
    - i. Home team will be fined
    - ii. The game will be rescheduled to be played at the Away team's home field. The Away team will choose two possible reschedule dates where neither team is already scheduled to play. These dates must be submitted to the AYSL Administrator within one week from the originally scheduled game.
      1. These dates will be provided to the Home team who will choose one of them, and the necessary field bookings and Game Official assignors will proceed as per usual.

## **7) Points System & Standings**

1. Awarding of points:
  - a. The winning team shall be awarded three points.
  - b. Teams drawing shall be awarded one point each.
  - c. The losing team shall be awarded zero points.
2. Forfeited games
  - a. When a game is forfeited for any reason the team responsible for the forfeit will be subject to applicable fines and a review by the AYSL Governance Committee.
  - b. When it is discovered that a team, which has won or tied a game, played or attempted to play one or more ineligible players in that game, the offending team will forfeit the game and the opposing team shall be awarded the points for a win and the greater of the actual game score or a three-nil score.
3. Team Standings

- a. Teams will be listed based on the number of points obtained in AYSL games with first place and the AYSL trophy going to the team with the highest total points.
4. Tie Breaking
    - a. The following tie-breaking procedure will apply in prioritized order if teams are tied on points:
      - i. Greater number of points in head-to-head competition between the tied teams.
      - ii. Greater goal difference in head-to-head competition between the tied teams
      - iii. Greater goal difference between the tied teams in all league games
      - iv. Greatest number of goals scored in all league games
      - v. If the top two teams are still tied after applying these tie-breaking procedures, the league champion will be determined by a regular 90-minute game to be played with extra time and penalties if necessary

## **8) Discipline**

1. All disciplinary matters will be governed by the disciplinary code set out in Appendix A.

## **9) Statistics**

1. All AYSL statistics and Game reporting will be maintained in form and substance as determined by Alberta Soccer.
2. All AYSL statistics will be maintained on the AYSL website.
3. At the completion of the Regular Season, Alberta Soccer shall publish a final statistical report, which will be appropriately distributed to all teams and districts of the AYSL.
4. The home team is responsible to:
  - a. Ensure the game score has been recorded on the home team and away team game sheets
  - b. Submit the home team and away team game sheets, and misconduct report(s) to the AYSL administrator, via the online reporting platform, by midnight the day off an AYSL is completed.
    - i. Failure to meet these responsibilities will result in one warning. Subsequent offences will result in fines.
5. Home and away teams must each submit online Game Official feedback for each game they participate in via the online system within 48 hours of the match.
  - a. Failure to meet these responsibilities will result in one warning. Subsequent offences will result in fines.

## **10) Sponsorship and Communication**

1. Alberta Soccer will review all sponsors associated with the AYSL and AYSL Clubs annually.

- a. A list of sponsors associated with AYSL Clubs will be provided to Alberta Soccer annually.
2. All signage provided by Alberta Soccer for sponsors must be displayed during AYSL games in a location visible to spectators.
  - i. In cases where the home venue is not controlled by the home team it is the responsibility of the home team to provide notice to Alberta Soccer, via the AYSL Administrators, if this standard cannot be met.
3. Alberta Soccer and the AYSL Administrators shall maintain the AYSL website as linked by Alberta Soccer via [www.albertasoccer.com](http://www.albertasoccer.com)
  - a. AYSL Administrators will have the option to mirror the AYSL Standings through their website.
  - b. AYSL Clubs will have the option to mirror the AYSL Standings through their website.
  - c. Statistics will be posted on the AYSL website as determined by the AYSL Administrators.
4. Alberta Soccer and/or the AYSL Administrators shall send a minimum of 3 Press Releases regarding the AYSL each calendar year.
5. Alberta Soccer, with assistance from the AYSL Administrators, shall maintain a consistent social media presence regarding the AYSL Regular Season.
6. All participating AYSL Clubs will provide a minimum of 1 active social media link for their club and/or AYSL teams

## **11) Indoor Game Play Consideration**

1. All indoor AYSL games are subject to the rules outlined above with the following exceptions.
  - a. Minimum game day roster sizes will be dictated by the game format scheduled
    - i. 7 v 7 Format
      1. Minimum 10 Players on the roster
    - ii. 8 v 8 Format
      1. Minimum 11 Players on the roster
    - iii. 9 v 9 Format
      1. Minimum 12 Players on the roster
    - iv. 11 v 11 Format
      1. Minimum 14 Players on the roster
2. AYSL Match Timing Rule 5.1 does not apply to indoor matches due to facility constraints.



## Appendix A – AYSL Discipline and Appeals

### General

1. Discipline to AYSL teams shall be based on the information contained on the game sheets, misconduct reports and other reports submitted to the AYSL Administrators following each game.
  - a. Game Officials shall record all cautions and ejections issued during a game on the applicable game sheets and summarize same on the misconduct report.
  - b. Each official that participated in the game must sign each game sheet and the misconduct report.
  - c. A misconduct form must be completed and signed as noted even when no discipline has occurred during the game.
  - d. The game official(s) must submit a report giving all pertinent information surrounding the ejection of players and/or team officials and/or team supporters within 48 hours of the completion or abandonment of a game.
  - e. Game Officials, AYSL officials and/or Alberta Soccer representatives on duty at a game must submit a detailed report on any other incident which occurs between the teams, their staff and/or supporters whether before, during or after a game, within 48 hours of the game.
  - f. Individuals who have been listed on a game sheet will be deemed to have participated in that game.
2. Each team in an AYSL game must receive their copy of each team's game sheet and misconduct report once signed by the officials and both teams.
  - a. Failure of team staff to obtain those copies will not be an acceptable excuse for not being aware of their teams and individual players current discipline status.
  - b. Refusal by a team official to sign the misconduct report or game sheet will not negate the reports and the team will not be permitted to appeal any resulting discipline.
3. Each club is responsible for the actions of its teams, team officials and team supporters who are taking part in or present an AYSL game.
4. All cases involving assault on, or threatening behavior towards game officials shall be referred to the Alberta Soccer office and identified offenders are suspended indefinitely pending appearance at an Alberta Soccer Discipline hearing.

### Discipline

5. All Discipline of the AYSL, other than mandatory suspensions listed below, shall be dealt with in accordance with the Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations on Discipline and Appeals.
6. All hearings shall be held in accordance with the Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations on Discipline and Appeals.

## Suspensions and Fines

7. Suspensions and fines as stated below shall be in effect the current season except for red card offences which may carry over at the discretion of AYSL Administrators.
8. All minimum suspensions shall be automatic and will not involve a hearing by the AYSL Discipline Committee unless:
  - a. An appeal is launched in accordance with the Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations on Discipline and Appeals and conditions have been met for an appeal.
  - b. A hearing is determined necessary upon review by the AYSL Administrators.
9. All fines must be paid to the AYSL Administrators prior to the player's or Team Officials participation in the next AYSL game or the player or Team Official will be considered an ineligible participant in that game.
10. AYSL Administrators will strive to communicate all suspensions prior to the next scheduled game but it will remain the responsibility of each AYSL team to monitor yellow card accumulation suspensions and red card suspensions.
  - a. Playing of ineligible players in these circumstances will result in discipline as outlined in the AYSL Operating Rules.
11. Suspensions and fines will be applied even if the game misconduct report or game sheets were not submitted to ASA within the submission guidelines.
12. Suspensions per the schedule below will be served in the next AYSL sanctioned game for the offending player or team official with the following considerations;
  - a. Suspension of a player registered on another team while a trialist with the AYSL will apply to AYSL games and that player's home district will be advised of the suspension.
    - i. The home district reserves the right to suspend the player for games in their sanctioned leagues.
  - b. If a coach participates in other Canada Soccer, Alberta Soccer or District sanctioned leagues the Alberta Soccer and/or AYSL Administrators will communicate with necessary league administration to determine where the suspension will be applied in addition to the AYSL suspension.
  - c. AYSL suspensions may restrict a player and/or coaches' participation in Provincial, National or International Select programs.
13. Yellow cards accumulated but not resulting in a suspension shall expire with the current season and will not affect the next AYSL season.
14. In addition to AYSL penalties, red cards accumulated in the AYSL are subject to applicable penalties in the Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations on Discipline and Appeals.

## Appeals

15. Decisions of the Game Official in matters pertaining to the Laws of the Game are final and no appeal of those decisions will be heard.
16. There is no appeal of the minimum suspensions found in the AYSL Discipline guide.
17. Any appeal of suspensions beyond the minimum must be filed as per the Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations on Discipline and Appeals.

## Yellow Card(s)

18. The following discipline for Yellow Card accumulations during an AYSL season shall apply to play and be automatic.
  - a. Five Yellow cards received by an individual
    - i. One game suspension
  - b. Additional Two Yellow cards (7 total yellow cards received by an individual)
    - i. One game suspension
  - c. Additional Two Yellow Card (9 total yellow cards received by an individual)
    - i. Minimum Three game suspension, Indefinite Suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Hearing
  - d. Two yellow cards issued to a player in a single game will not be counted as accumulated Yellow Cards but will be counted under the Red Card accumulation.

## Red Card Offences and Ejections

19. All red card offences by players will be subject to following minimum suspensions and subject to review by the AYSL Administrators for referral to the Alberta Soccer discipline committee for consideration of additional penalties.
  - a. Second yellow card in a game
    - i. All offences
      1. Removed from current game
      2. No further suspension
  - b. Denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity
    - i. All offences
      1. Removed from current game
      2. No further suspension
  - c. Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language and/or Gestures
    - i. 1st Offence
      1. Removed from current game
      2. No further suspension
    - ii. 2nd Offence
      1. Two Game suspension
    - iii. 3rd Offence
      1. Minimum Three game suspension, Indefinite Suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Hearing

- d. Serious Foul Play
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Offence
    - 1. Removed from current game
    - 2. No further suspension
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence
    - 1. Two Game suspension
  - iii. 3<sup>rd</sup> Offence
    - 1. Minimum Three game suspension, Indefinite Suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Hearing
- e. Violent Conduct (including biting or spitting)
  - i. 1<sup>st</sup> Offence
    - 1. Two Game suspension
  - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence
    - 1. Minimum Four game suspension, Indefinite Suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Hearing and \$100 Club Fine
- f. Offences against Game officials
  - i. Minimum Four game suspension Indefinite Suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Hearing & \$200 Club Fine

20. All red card offences by team officials will be subject to following minimum suspensions and subject to review by the AYSL Administrators for referral to the Alberta Soccer discipline committee for consideration of additional penalties

- a. Offences Level 1
  - i. Delaying the restart of play by the opposing team e.g., holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a player or;
  - ii. Deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field of play or;
  - iii. Receiving a second caution in the same game;
    - 1. All offences
      - a. One Game suspension
- b. Offences Level 2
  - i. Deliberately leaving the technical area to: show dissent towards, or remonstrate with, a game official or;
  - ii. entering the field of play to confront a game official (including at half-time and full-time) or;
  - iii. interfere with play, an opposing player or a game official or;
  - iv. using unauthorised electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as the result of using electronic or communication equipment
    - 1. 1<sup>st</sup> Offence
      - a. One Game suspension
    - 2. All other offences
      - a. Two Game suspension and \$200 Club fine
- c. Offences Level 3

- i. Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language and/or gestures AND/OR act in a provocative or inflammatory manner
        - 1. 1<sup>st</sup> Offence
          - a. Two Game suspension and \$100 Club Fine
        - 2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence
          - a. Minimum Three Game Suspension, Indefinite Suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Hearing & \$400 Club Fine
- d. Offences Level 4
  - i. Physical or aggressive behaviour (including spitting or biting) towards an opposing player, substitute, team official, game official, spectator or any other person (e.g. ball boy/girl, security or competition official etc.) or;
  - ii. Violent Conduct
    - 1. 1<sup>st</sup> Offence
      - a. Minimum Four Game Suspension, Indefinite Suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Hearing and \$500 Club Fine

21. The following discipline for Red Card accumulations during an AYSL season shall apply to play and be automatic.

- a. Three Red Cards received by an individual
  - i. Two additional games minimum above the standard suspension on the third red card received and
  - ii. Indefinite Suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Hearing

#### Other Considerations

22. Any coach who is a spectator at a game they are suspended from participating in is prohibited from using all electronic communication devices at the field from 60 minutes prior to kick off to final whistle.

- a. Any reports of such behavior shall result in indefinite suspension for the team official until appearance before an Alberta Soccer Discipline Committee.

## Appendix B - AYSL Fee & Fine Schedule

Alberta Youth Soccer League Standard Fees			
Fee Type	Fee	One Time or Annual	Rate
Performance Bond	\$0	One Time	Per Club
Outdoor League Fees	\$4,800	Annually	Per Team
Indoor League Fees	\$2,000	Annually	Per Team

AYSL Game Official Fees		
Position	Fee	Rate
Center Official	\$75.00	Per Game
Assistant Official	\$50.00	Per Game
4th Official	\$50.00	Per Game

Alberta Youth Soccer League Fine Schedule – Rules*		
Fine Type	Fine	Rate
Missing League Meeting	\$500	Per Meeting
Team Withdrawal after deadline	\$2,000	Per occurrence
Late Submission of Administrative Information	\$200	Per occurrence
Late Submission of Roster Information (player & coach)	\$50	Per player/official per week
Play game with less than 14 Players	\$50	Per player / Per Game
Incorrect Game Sheet	\$200	Per Occurrence
Ineligible Player	\$500	Per Occurrence
Venue Standard(s) Breach but game still played	\$200	Per Occurrence
Venue Standard(s) Breach resulting in unplayed game	\$1,000	Per Occurrence
Cancelled Game Communication Error	\$500	Per Occurrence
Failure to submit game sheets & statistics & Referee Report	\$250	Per Occurrence
Alberta Youth Soccer League Fine Schedule - Game Misconduct		
Fine Type	Fine	Rate
Player Violent Conduct 1st Offence	\$100	Per Occurrence
Player Violent Conduct 2nd Offence	\$200	Per Occurrence
Player Offences against Match Official	\$200	Per Occurrence
Coach Offences Level 2, 2 or more offences	\$200	Per Occurrence
Coach Offences Level 3, 1st Offence	\$100	Per Occurrence
Coach Offences Level 3, 2 or more offences	\$400	Per Occurrence
Coach Offences Level 4, All offences	\$500	Per Occurrence

**\* ALL FINES ARE SUBJECT TO ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW BEFORE BEING INVOICED**

## Appendix C – Player movement rules for Transfers & Trialist

The following rules set out how Transfers and Trialists players can be used during the AYSL season.

All AYSL rules are subject to all Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations, where applicable.

### Transfers (in-season)

1. Players within an AYSL Club can transfer to lower-level intra-club teams as necessary but are subject to the General Rules & Regulations on player transfers regarding returning to your original team and number of transfers.
2. Players registered with AYSL Clubs can transfer to lower level non-AYSL clubs during the season
3. Players with non-AYSL Clubs will not transfer to AYSL Clubs during the season.
  - a. Applications may be made to Alberta Soccer for exemptions through the 3 members of the Governance Committee
4. Players registered with other AYSL Club Teams cannot transfer to AYSL clubs during the season unless the player has been removed from the AYSL Club Roster.

### Trialists (in-season)

All trialist rules are based on in-season player movement

1. Intra AYSL Club Trialists
  - a. Each AYSL Club is responsible for managing intra club trialists
  - b. There is a Maximum of 5 trialists games per year before a player must transfer to the AYSL Club Team
2. Inter AYSL Club Trialists
  - a. There is no trialists allowed from one AYSL Club to another AYSL Club
  - b. There is no contact with players from other AYSL Clubs allowed during the season.
    - i. If parents initiate contact with another AYSL Club this should be declared to the home AYSL Club and contact stopped.
3. Non-AYSL Club Trialists
  - a. All trialists from Non-AYSL Clubs must have completed the AYSL Trialist Form before training or game activity can occur.
  - b. Contact with prospective players
    - i. Any contact with prospective players must be done through the non-AYSL Club leadership, either the Technical Director (or equivalent), Executive Director (or equivalent) or non-AYSL Club Director
      1. AYSL Administrators must be copied on communication to the non-AYSL club and the AYSL Administrators must contact the impacted districts.
    - ii. If the parents of a non-AYSL Club player contacts an AYSL Club this contact should be made known to non-AYSL Club leadership as prescribed above.

- iii. No AYSL Trialist can be active with the AYSL Club without the trialist form being completed and approved by the AYSL Administrator.
- c. Trialist Activity
  - i. A minimum of 1-week trial should be offered to any player
  - ii. A non-AYSL club player can trialist in games a maximum of 5 times per year with an AYSL Club.
- d. After the maximum trialist period and/or games has been reached the result of the trial should be communicated to the non-AYSL Club and the AYSL Administrators.
  - i. Transfers from non-AYSL Club teams will not happen during their season
  - ii. Player movement will occur after the season has ended for the non-AYSL Club Player.



**Appendix D – KEY DATES**

<b>Reason</b>	<b>2022 Date</b>
Deadline for League Entry	31-Aug-21
League Withdrawal	15-Sep-21
Club Information Sheet	1-Oct-21
Coaching Staff List	1-Dec-21
Team Roster Submission	1-Dec-21
Season Start Indoor (In season)	1-Dec-21
Indoor Schedule Release	15-Dec-21
Outdoor Schedule Release	15-Feb-22
Season Start Outdoor (In season)	1-Apr-22

<b>Game Based Deadlines</b>	<b>2022 Date</b>
Trialist Form Submission	Before kick-off of the relevant Match
Charging Entry Fee for Game Day	7 Days Prior to Match
Match Reporting Deadline	Midnight of Game Day
Referee Reporting Deadline	Within 48 hours of completion of the Match
Referee Discipline Reports	Within 48 hours of completion of the Match