

SOUTHERN UTAH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

RULES AND POLICIES

THIS SECTION IS POLICY

Policy 1:01

TEAM ROSTERS

Policy 1:01:01

All players are required to register through UYSA and SUSA in the online system.

Rosters will be generated through the online system as each team/player is registered. Any team that plays a player or players that are too old for the registered age group, will forfeit the games that the player(s) participated in, and be subject to further discipline pending the decisions of the Discipline Committee.

The player registration fee shall be set by SUSA prior to the registration period for each season. Player passes shall be issued for each registered player or coach upon presentation of proof of age, two photographs of the player or coach, and the team registration fee. No player shall play up more than one scheduled age division without submitting a UYSA play-up form to SUSA and receiving approval from the SUSA BOD.

Policy 1:02

LEAGUE TEAMS

Policy 1:02:01

League teams shall be responsible for ensuring proper registration of all players within the time frames that have been set.

Policy 1:03

REGISTRATION

Policy 1:03:01

All coaches, referees, volunteers, and administrators shall register with SUSA by submitting a completed and appropriate volunteer form approved by UYSA at the beginning of each season.

Policy 1:04

SEASONAL YEAR

Policy 1:04:01

The year will be from August 1st to July 31st of the following year. Insurance coverage for all participants will be for that same time period.

Policy 1:05

COMPETITIVE TEAM RULES

Policy 1:05:01

Tryouts:

1. Competitive clubs and teams in the league may sponsor tryouts for the upcoming seasonal year.
2. The tryout season will be held prior to August 1 of each year and teams will be notified of allowable dates for tryouts.

Policy 1:05:02

Registrations:

1. The registration period for a competitive player registered with a UYSA team or club begins the day such player registers on the online system and payment is accepted, and ends at the end of the competitive soccer year.
2. A competitive player is obligated to his/her competitive team for the entire soccer year from the time he/she signs the registration form until the end of the soccer seasonal year, and any release to transfer to another UYSA competitive team will only be allowed in limited circumstances.
3. The player has the right to rescind, by written notice, membership to a team within five (5) calendar days of original registration with said team.

4. In an effort to bracket league play in the most equitable way, SUSASA will register teams with players in no more than two (2) age groups. Rosters cannot have players that span three (3) or more age groups. The exception will be the U15 and older teams; however those teams cannot roster any players in the U14 and below age groups.

Policy 1:05:03

Transfer:

A team may not roster any player who was previously rostered during the seasonal year to another team unless a written request, stating the reason why this action has been requested is made to and approved by the governing authority on a UYSA transfer form. The team may not roster more than five (5) previously rostered players in any seasonal year. A waiver of the five (5) previously rostered player limits may be obtained by meeting the following conditions:

1. All previously rostered players over 5 are from a team that:
 - a. The coach has voluntarily resigned or has been suspended,
 - b. A new coach cannot be found, and
 - c. The remaining players will not otherwise be able to play.
2. This action is approved by the League Board of Directors
3. This action is approved by the SUSASA President
4. The team using this waiver cannot register and compete in State Cup for that seasonal year, as per UYSA rules.

Policy 1:05:04

Player Release:

The team may not release, voluntarily or involuntarily, and player from its roster unless a written request, stating the reason why this action has been requested, has been made to and approved by the governing body on a form provided. A team may release involuntarily a player from its roster only if the player is unable to play for one or more of the following reasons:

1. The player has violated rules of the SUSASA, USYSA, USSF or UYSA
2. The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what is considered reasonable travel distance is subject to definition by the UYSA.
3. The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.
4. A player may voluntarily request to be released from a team.

When a player is released, his/her player pass must be brought with the proper forms to the league office by the team releasing the player.

Policy 1:05:05

Tampering/Recruiting and Inducement:

No team representative, officer, official, coach, player, booster, parent or representative of any such person, club or team shall within the current seasonal year, without the written permission from the player's coach, except as otherwise provided herein may:

1. Actively recruit any player currently registered to another team except during trout season with the following exceptions:
 - a. The player's team is no longer in existence

- b. The player's coach has agreed in writing to release the player
2. Approach a player about guest playing in a tournament or friendly match for another team unless permission from the player's coach is obtained first.

Failure to follow this will result in penalties set forth by UYSA.

Policy 1:05:06

Multiple Rosters:

Players may be registered on more than one team sponsored by the SUSA under the following conditions:

1. Both teams must be in different age brackets and/or gender group, and is only allowed to take place in the RCL league. KICKS and Xleague players may not multiple roster.
2. Players registering on two teams will pay the normal registration fee for the first team and for the second team the registration fee will be decreased by the amount to be pre-determined by the BOD.

Policy 1:05:07

Eligibility to Coach:

All head coaches of teams participating in the competitive program must have on record with the league a minimum of an E License. The E License must be verified by the league Registrar yearly. Coaches will have a minimum of one year to obtain the appropriate license, during this time he/she must obtain a waiver. If the coach does not have the required license or waiver, the Registrar will inform the coach that his/her team will be unable to participate in the league until the license is obtained or the waiver is turned in.

Policy 1:05:08

Proof of Age

All players are required to meet UYSA standards and furnish as proof of age one of the following:

- i. Birth Certificate
- ii. Board of Health Record
- iii. Passport
- iv. Alien registration card issued by the U.S. Government
- v. Uniformed services identification (military)
- vi. Birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency
- vii. Certificate issued by INS Service attesting to age or a certification of an American Citizen born abroad.
- viii. Current Drivers License
- ix. Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates **will not** be accepted.

Policy 1:05:09

Player Advancement

Coaches, administrators and other SUSA adult volunteers are pledged to assist players in reaching the highest level of play within SUSA that their skills, desires and inclinations permit. Those individuals that interfere with or subvert the efforts of others to help players reach these goals (such as actively discouraging players from trying out for competitive teams) are subject to disciplinary action. This does not apply where a team has been established and playing for that year, and player advancement would cause the team to drop below eleven players, resulting in its disbandment.

Policy 1:06
Policy 1:06:01

AGE GROUP DEFINITIONS

UYSA claims jurisdiction over all amateur youth soccer players in Utah who have not reached the age of 19 before August 1st of the preceding seasonal year.

Players who are nineteen on or after August 1st of the seasonal year are eligible to play in that age group for the remainder of the seasonal year.

- Age group under 19 – a player who has not reached 19 before August 1st.
- Age group under 18 – a player who has not reached 18 before August 1st.
- Age group under 17 – a player who has not reached 17 before August 1st.
- Age group under 16 – a player who has not reached 16 before August 1st.
- Age group under 15 – a player who has not reached 15 before August 1st.
- Age group under 14 – a player who has not reached 14 before August 1st.
- Age group under 13 – a player who has not reached 13 before August 1st.
- Age group under 12 – a player who has not reached 12 before August 1st.
- Age group under 11 – a player who has not reached 11 before August 1st.

Policy 1:07

PLAYER PASSES

- A. All players shall present their UYSA player passes to the referee before the start of the game. All passes are to be returned to the coach or manager of the team at the conclusion of the game, unless a player or coach was ejected for misconduct.**
- B. No player shall participate in a match without a valid player pass. Any player not having a valid player pass shall be considered ineligible. Players without a player pass shall not be permitted to play.**

Policy 1:08

FEES—REGISTRATION FEE

A player registration fee will be established for each season to pay for necessary program expenses such as: field equipment and maintenance, league administrative support, liability insurance, State Office administration and national USYSA dues. UYSA leagues are authorized to set their own registration fees. The fee charged by the State Office for administration shall be uniform for all members throughout the State. Only the league president or the authorized agent that collects the registration fees can authorize a refund of any or all of the registration fees. Neither the district nor the state has the authority to change the league president's decision. The RCL fees must be paid with one check per team. The board will select a registration due date and a registration drop dead date for each season. After the registration due date there will be a \$50 late fee and no team registrations will be accepted after the registration drop dead date.

Policy 1:09

SENIOR TRIAL GAMES

A youth player will be permitted to play in an unlimited number of senior games without losing his/her youth eligibility. The youth player must obtain permission on the proper UYSA form.

Policy 1:10

FINANCIAL LIABILITY

The Southern Utah Soccer Association shall not assume nor be liable for the financial responsibilities either implied or incurred of any of its members, coaches, managers, teams, clubs, or board of directors.

Policy 1:10:01

No part of the earnings of this corporation shall be for the benefit of or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers or other private person, except that the Southern Utah Soccer Association shall be empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in further and after exempt purpose for which it was formed.

Policy 1:11

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUSA, COACHES, TEAMS AND CLUBS

Coaches, teams and clubs operate independently of the Southern Utah Soccer Association. Coaches, teams, and clubs must organize themselves and make up their own bylaws and rules regarding their own organization. However, if these organizations register with the League, they are required to comply with all of the rules and regulations stipulated in both SUSA's and UYSA's constitution and bylaws.

Policy 1:11:01

FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUSA, Coaches, Teams & Clubs

At no time shall the League assume nor be liable for the financial responsibilities either implied or incurred of any of its members, coaches, managers, teams, or clubs. Teams, coaches, and clubs operate independently of the League in all financial matters.

Policy 1:12

RULES OF PLAY

Policy 1:12:01

FIFA Rules – FIFA rules shall govern SUSA play except as modified herein or as modified by UYSA. All contests sanctioned by SUSA shall abide by these same rules.

Policy 1:12:02

Sportsmanship – The common interest that members of the Association share is to inspire youth to practice the ideals of sportsmanship and fair play. Any player, coach, team, parent, spectator, administrator or referee whose behavior detracts from this purpose is subject to disciplinary action regardless of technical soccer background, expertise, accomplishments or standing.

Policy 1:12:03

Equipment – The SUSA will abide by and accept equipment standards as defined by FIFA, USSF and USYSA.

Policy 1:12:04

Game Times and the Ball Specifications – Length of games, overtime periods and ball specifications, except as provided by USYSA and its affiliates shall be as follows:

Division	Game Time	Ball Size	Circumference	Weight
U15-U19	Two 40 min. halves	#5	27-28"	14-16 oz.
U13-U14	Two 35 min. halves	#5	27-28"	14-16 oz.
U11-U12	Two 30 min. halves	#4	25-26"	11-13 oz.
U9-U10	Modified Rules	#4	25-26"	11-13 oz.

In the event that differing age-groups are combined for league play, the oldest division's rules apply to the match.

Policy 1:12:05

Number of Players – Team rosters shall consist of not less than fifteen (15) nor more than eighteen (18) players. A team must have at least seven (7) players present and able to play before a referee can permit the game to start. No more than eleven (11) players may be on the field at any one time during the game.

Policy 1:12:06

Player's Equipment – Where the colors of both teams are so similar that the referee orders a change, the designated home team must change to colors distinct from those of the opponent.

Policy 1:12:07

Types of Teams – Teams with all females are Girls Teams, all others are Boys Teams.

Policy 1:12:09

Competition Program (RCL) – No division shall have more than eight (8) teams nor less than three (3) teams.

Policy 1:12:10

Scheduling – All member teams shall abide by the schedule approved by the Board of Directors, all complaints of scheduling shall be duly noted by League officials. Excessive complaints shall be grounds for dismissal from league play. As a general rule, there will be no rescheduling of games for personal reasons.

Policy 1:12:11

Coaches and Spokespersons – All member teams must have at least one head coach who will act as spokesperson in accordance to the League Bylaws.

Policy 1:12:12

Proper Attire – Each team is required to have all players in uniforms of the same color and each jersey is required to have a number. The shirts, shorts and socks of each player on the fields, except for the goalie, must match. Each player is also required to have shinpads, socks long enough to cover each shinpad and a soccer style cleat (boots) (meaning no toe cleats). Goalies are to wear a shirt that differentiates him/her from the other players on the field.

Policy 1:12:13

Jewelry – Players shall not wear jewelry with the exception of medical bracelets or medical medals. Medical medals must be taped to the body.

Policy 1:12:14

Field Clean-Up – Each team is responsible for the cleanup of their area of the field before and after the game.

Policy 1:12:15

Coaching from the Side Lines – Giving direction to one's own team on points of strategy and position is permitted provided that:

No mechanical electrical or other devices are used to amplify the voice.

The tone of voice is informative and not demeaning.

The coaching takes place within the teams' bench area.

No coach, substitute player, or spectator, is to make derogatory remarks or gestures to the referee, linesmen, players, or spectators.

No coach, player, substitute or spectator is to use profanity or incite, in any manner, disruptive behavior of any kind.

No coach or substitute player may run onto the field without permission of the referee.

Penalty for infringement of these rules is a red card and ejection from the game.

Policy 1:12:16

Exclusive Remedy – No player, coach, referee, team, club, league, district, or member of the UYSA or their representatives may invoke the aid of the courts of any State or the United States, without first exhausting all available remedies and answers of appeal within the SUSA, UYSA, and USSF.

Policy 1:12:17

Forfeits – In the Competitive Program a match shall be considered a forfeit when one team fails to show with a minimum of 7 players, fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled time for start of play. Inconsequential is the number of referees in attendance, as long as there is one to report the forfeit on the Game Card. The team being awarded the win for the forfeit shall receive the full 3 points for the match.

Policy 1:12:18

Spectators on Sidelines – Opposing teams should sit on opposite sides of the field, and all spectators for a given team must sit on the side that his/her team is on except at the stadium fields, where both teams and all spectators will be on one side of the field.

Policy 1:12:19

Coaches Responsible for Own Sidelines – Per UYSA Bylaws Sections 10.02.01: “Each Coach and assistant coach shall be held primarily accountable for the conduct of the spectators for or from their respective teams.”

Policy 1:12:20

Referee Calls – The official referee shall be the sole judge on the field of play and his/her decision shall be final. Complaints about the match officials shall be directed in writing to the League President for review. Such findings shall be turned over to the Disciplinary Committee.

Policy 1:13

REFEREES

Policy 1:13:01

Referee Promptness – All referees shall be expected to be in attendance at least fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled time for the start of play. The recourse to this offense is a fine of \$10.00 for each individual offense.

Policy 1:13:02

Referee Responsibilities – The referee shall verify the identity of the players and coaches with his/her player pass. He/She will collect passes from players and coaches of both teams who are to participate in the game. The referee must not allow any person to play who has not submitted a player pass/or coaches pass. Upon completion of the game the referee shall send in a report (game card) to the SUSA within four (4) days, holidays excluded. If a coach or player is ejected, the referee report form (game card) is required within 48 hours along with the offending player or coach pass. A referee report (game card) must be filled in for every game. Payment of referees is conditioned upon receipt of the referee report (game card).

Policy 1:13:03

Payment of Referees – The League will assess referee fees from each registered player on each registered team. The League will be responsible for paying referees on the 5th and the 20th of each month. The payment amounts will be determined by the Board prior to the start of each season. Referees will only be paid for games in which the referee report (game card) has been filled out

properly and received by the league 5 days prior to the 5th and 20th of the month. Referees will not be considered employees of the League. Instead, they will work as independent contractors. The League will attempt to provide a three-man system of refereeing for all league matches whenever possible. However, the League may use a one-man system, or a one-man + 2 club linesman if necessary. When necessary, referees may shorten the match to keep the matches on schedule.

Policy 1:13:04

Misconduct

Please note that official's calls are subjective. Calls that are overlooked or ignored during one game may be called in another game.

Policy 1:13:05

Verbal Abuse – Verbal abuse of the Officials and/or dissent of an Official's rulings from the sidelines will not be tolerated. Sideline verbal abuse and/or sideline dissent is defined as follows:

- i. Verbal comments from the sideline that are either abusive to the officials or that question the decision(s) of the officials.
- ii. Direct disregard by the sideline of officials decisions/directives. (Note that these are subjective calls by the officials).

Policy 1:13:06

Penalties for Verbal Abuse

- a. **Team Sanctions** – Sideline verbal abuse/dissent offenses and negative sportsmanship comments logged by the game Center and/or mentor officials will be tracked. Sanctions will be decided by the Disciplinary Committee. When a situation occurs where a team may require sanctions in the form of match forfeiture, at a minimum a review must evaluate the following:
 - i. All officials sideline verbal abuse/dissent offense log entries.
 - ii. Any team protest of officials actions.
- b. **Other**
 - i. There will be no money refunded to teams which receive sanctions in the form of suspensions or forfeits.
 - ii. Warnings and Officials log entries may come from either the mentor official or the center official.
 - iii. During the season, reviews will be held as needed.
 - iv. Only UYSA licensed coaches may formally protest official's rulings/long entries.

Policy 1:14 **DEFINITIONS**

1. The "GROUNDS" are defined in the UYSA Bylaws Section 10.02.01 as "Within sight or sound of the field of play and areas surrounding the field of play and areas surrounding the field or fields near the field upon which the game is being played."
2. The coaching staff is defined as individuals who have UYSA issued cards valid for the current year and with the name of the team on them.

Policy 1:15 **STANDINGS**

1. Three (3) points for each match won (Including forfeits), one (1) point for each match tied, zero (0) points for each match lost. Goals scored for or against a team will in no instance influence the standings.
2. The Champions for each age-group shall be computed by the points received. There will be NO co-champions. In the event of a tie, a playoff game will be held to determine the League champion. In the event of a tie during the playoff game, two (2) ten (10) minute overtimes will be allowed and in the event of another tie, a shootout will occur as per USYSA guidelines.

Policy 1:16 TEAM TRAVEL

UYSA requires that any registered team traveling out of state must seek permission for out of state travel by filling out the travel request form. Individual team travel rules will be set by that age group and/or level respective Head Coach, and will be interpreted to the players of that team before each competition. Those rules are left to the discretion of that respective coach.

Policy 1:17 FUNDRAISERS

Fundraisers are one of the main sources of income for the league. Active participation is a must. Parent involvement in these activities makes them a success. All money earned will be placed in the League Account and will be used for the benefit of all teams and players in the League. Monies can be used for fields, etc. Monies may also be divided among the teams involved with the fundraiser, that are affiliated with the league. Each team also has the freedom to conduct their own team fundraiser and have the proceeds put fourth toward their wishes and liking.

Policy 1:18 GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS

1. The coach is in control on the field period!
2. Always speak in a positive manner about coaches and/or players with your athlete. To criticize only breaks the team apart. Help to develop the loyalty a team needs and deserves in order to survive and win.
3. Coaches of teams are comprised of professional and volunteer coaches who demand the respect of their players for at least two reasons: First, they are individuals interested in not only the development of the individual player but also furthering the development of the game. Second, coaches and parents who work together will benefit the individual players on the team. Parents would not appreciate the coaches talking poorly of the parents in front of any of the players, demeaning the authority of the parents. Likewise, this applies to the parents. They should give the coaches the same due respect and consideration.
4. If a problem should arise, think it over carefully and if the problem still needs attention, contact either the coach, club official, or a league official and the problem will be dealt with in an appropriate manner.
5. Help with fundraisers, in any capacity necessary.
6. Support at training and the matches as much as possible.

7. Help your athlete perform at the best of his/her ability by following the guidelines set forth.

Policy 1:19 COACHING GUIDELINES

1. The first and foremost goal of the League is player development (appreciation of the game, experience of playing in a variety of different positions, competitions, etc.). Coaches' behavior should always uphold this goal.
2. The coaches should be constantly pursuing every possible avenue in the continuance of their coaching education to further and better serve their team(s) and the League. Coaches will be encouraged to attend National licensing clinics (to be held locally) and obtain at least a National 'D' coaches license.
3. Strive to maintain integrity in the sport.

Policy 1:20 TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES

All league teams participating in the Dixie Invitational Tournament will be given a \$50 discount if they register on time.

Policy 1:21 CEDAR CITY BOARD / LEAGUE

SUSA recognizes the Cedar City Board of Directors as a temporary entity accepting money in our name and registering players. The Cedar Board has agreed that they would like to have their own league and be responsible for collecting money and remitting all appropriate information and payment to the state league for insurance, etc.

Policy 1:22 AMENDMENTS AND CHANGES

The constitution and bylaws may be amended or changed at the Annual General Meeting each year. Any member of the league and all players may submit proposed changes and amendments to the existing constitution and bylaws of the SUSA to the league president, vice president or secretary through his or her coach. All changes must be submitted no less than 30 days before the scheduled AGM. The membership shall hear each suggested change or amendment and an affirmative vote of 2/3 is needed to adopt the change or amend them, providing said changes do not violate any other rule already sanctioned by the UYSA, USYSA AND USSF.

Policies can be changes by the Board of Directors, at any Board of Directors meeting, as needed. The changes must be posted on the website within seven (7) days, and ratified at the next AGM.

Competition (RCL) policies and rules of play can only be changed at the yearly competition meeting. Members can submit recommendations no less than 30 days prior to that scheduled meeting.