

PROGRESSIVE YOUTH LEAGUE -- GENERAL RULES

1. LEAGUES

The Competitive League shall be by invitation only. The league shall be for both boys and girls.

2. DIVISIONS

The league shall be divided into eight (8) age levels, referred to as Divisions. The Divisions may be further broken up into Brackets based on strength of teams. Each team will play a total of eight games a season. The age breakdown is as follows:

DIVISION	AGE	ROSTER				BALL SIZE	GAME TIME
		On Field	Min to Start	Roster Size			
				Minimum	Maximum		
Under 7	6	7	5	8	12	3	2X25min
Under 8	7	9	6	10	14	4	2X25min
Under 9	8	9	6	10	14	4	2X25min
Under 10	9	11	7	12	16	4	2X30min

3. REGISTRATION

A. No refunds for registration will be issued once a team has registered to play PYL League unless PYL is unable to provide league within which the team can play.

B. Following paperwork will be required for registration before a team is allowed to play:

- (1.) Roster and any Add/Transfer/Delete forms.
- (2.) Birth certificate or passport for all players.
- (3.) Filled out waiver form for all players.
- (4.) Complete RISK MANAGEMENT for all rostered adults (coach, team manager, etc).

C. Team registration is done every season (fall, spring and summer).



3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

A. Age group cut-off date will be August 1. Players may play up with approval from the coach on whose team the player is assigned. Players are not allowed to play down their age group.

B. The playing of any youth outside the age limits of the team, as defined above, shall result in the forfeiture of all games in which said player participated and may also result in the suspension of coach.

C. New players may be added as long as a team has less than the maximum roster size. The names of the new players must be supplied to the league via email together with all the necessary paperwork 48 hours prior to the next scheduled game. Any team found in violation of this rule is subject to forfeiting the games in which the violation occurred and the coach of such team may be suspended.

D. The playing of any player not on the PYL official team roster may result in the forfeiture of all games in which said player participated and suspension of the coach.

E. Player transfer will only be allowed for teams within the same club.

F. A player can only register with one club at a time within any given season.

G. Players are allowed to play for more than one team within a club as long as they are officially rostered in PYL with any one of their club teams. A team must have with them a copy of the roster for which a player is listed in order for that player to be eligible to play.

4. TEAM FORMATION

A. Only team applications will be accepted. The acceptance of a team to the league and placement of level of competition will be at the discretion of the League Committee.

B. League Competition – Team Reassignment

(1) The League Committee shall determine, prior to the beginning of league play, team placement. At the option of the League Committee, placement can be determined by a seeding evaluation and/or past performance.

5. PLAYER RELEASE AND TRANSFER

A. Players are free to transfer at the end of the season (season as defined in section “3E” of this document). Players can also transfer between seasons if both coaches and parents agree to the transfer.

6. COACHES



- A. The Coach and Assistant Coach of record are to be active coaches for the team and not in name only.
- B. Each coach has one (1) vote at any meeting of PYL at which they are entitled to vote, as does the team manager for that team.
- C. Coaches will be held responsible for any misbehavior on the part of the team's spectators, parents, and players. This includes any foul and abusive language and any comments directed toward the referees, opposing players, and coaches. Offenders may be cautioned or ejected from the field by the referee. If any coach or team receives three (3) written complaints against the coach, or any member of the team, or spectators, or one (1) written complaint from a league official, the coach must go before the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee for judgment of fitness to continue participation in the league and appropriate punishment (if any). These complaints must be made on separate occasions (games, practices, etc.) during the season, and may include written complaints from referees, other coaches, and spectators. All complaints must be submitted to PYL and be signed.
- D. All coaching will be confined to the midfield line and to their own side of the field. **Only rostered coaches and managers may be on the team's sideline.** All persons, players, and spectators must stay at least five (5) feet back from the sideline (touch line). Spectators should remain on the opposite side of the field from the coaches and players.
- E. Coaches are responsible for verifying the eligibility of their players by confirming to the official roster. Only officially registered PYL player(s) shall be permitted to play in competitions under the auspices of this association and affiliated members. A Coach, Assistant Coach, or Administrator found to have allowed the use of an unregistered player(s) shall be brought before the Appeals and Discipline Committee. Penalties are at the discretion of the Appeals and Discipline Committee and may include suspension of the coach; and forfeiture of games in which the violation occurred.
- F. Coaches are subject to the jurisdiction of PYL, its League Director, the Commissioner and League Committee, and all PYL rules and policies. The League Director shall approve all coaches in the league. Returning coaches and teams in good standing are permitted and welcomed.
- G. Guest coaches will only be allowed if they have PYL ID card. Their name must be included in the Misconduct Report. The coaches must also complete RISK MANAGEMENT prior to the game.
- I. All coaches must **visibly display** the Coaches Badge during all team meetings.

7. GAMES

A. Forfeiture

The score for forfeiture is 3-0. The following constitutes a game forfeiture:



- (1) Fielding an ineligible player or a player under suspension.
- (2.) A suspended coach appearing at a game to coach the game;
- (3.) Failure to field a team with less than the minimum number of players, within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled starting time, according to the Referee's watch.
- (4.) If a team intentionally forfeits a game, the team (coaches, managers, and/or other responsible parties) may be required to appear before the League Committee, to present its reason for the forfeit. A team found *guilty of* intentionally forfeiting a game may:
 - a. Be prevented from participating in any further games during the season;
 - b. Have the coach suspended for up to a year;
 - c. Any penalty deemed appropriate by the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee.
- (5.) A team knowing that it will not be able to field a team should notify the league office and the applicable League Director at least 48 hours prior to the game.

B. Foul Weather Procedure

Unless officially notified by PYL, in a manner determined by PYL, teams must report to the playing fields for assigned games. Only a referee or a League Official can cancel the games at any field should it be so warranted.

If a game is suspended because of field or weather conditions before the second half of play has begun, that game will be replayed in its entirety. If the second half of play has begun, that game will be considered a completed game. The PYL office will reschedule any games scheduled and not played, due to field or weather conditions, as soon as possible. In the event a team refuses to play because of questionable field or weather conditions, the coach shall protest the situation to the Referee and any subsequent decision will be decided by the League Director subject to the approval of the League Committee. A coach can further protest or appeal the decision by filing a protest to the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee.

Any fines imposed upon PYL for improper field usage will be passed on to the offending team. In addition, the offending team will be required to forfeit the next scheduled game.

C. Method of Scoring for League or Division Standings:



(1.) Win-loss record. Three (3) points are given for a win, one (1) for a tie, and no (0) points for a loss. The team with the better win-loss record is the winner. In the event of equal records, the following criteria is used:

(2.) The winner of head-to-head competition.

(3.) Total points tabulated by a ten (10) point scoring system:

Win 6 points

Tie 3 Points

Loss 0 Points

Forfeit 10 points

(4.) One additional point per goal scored, up to a maximum of three (3) points per game plus one (1) additional point for a shutout. The greater number of points wins.

(5) Goal differential. Difference between goals scored and goals against.

(6.) Goals for. Total number of goals scored. A maximum of three (3) goals per game will be counted.

(7.) Fewest Penalty Card Points in league games during the current season (Fall/Spring) is the winner. The card points will be figured using one (1) point for each yellow card and (2) points for each red card. If still tied after applying 1 through 5, the winner is determined by **Kicks from the Mark**.

D. All teams must report scores to your League Director within 2 hours after the game finishes.

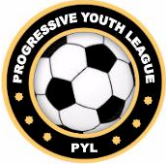
E. Teams will have free substitutions.

F. Teams will be responsible for paying the referee and the assistant referees. The total cost will be split up in half and must be paid before kick-off. If a team does not pay the referee, the game will be declared a forfeit and awarded to the team that paid. The forfeit rules will then apply to the team that did not pay the referee.

G. If a team forfeits a game:

(1) The team will pay PYL \$150 prior to their next scheduled game or following season's registration.

(2) Have coach suspended for a year.



(3) Be ineligible for awards.

(4) Be penalized by the League Committee as deemed appropriate.

8. DISCIPLINE

A. Complaints against Coaches, Players, Spectators, etc. Coaches, players, and/or spectators receiving written complaints against them or (1) written complaint from a PYL league official may be required to go before the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee per the directive of the League Director. These complaints may come from referees, other coaches, or spectators. These complaints must come from separate occasions. Only signed written complaints will be considered. It will be the prerogative of the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee to take whatever action they deem appropriate - probation, suspension, etc

B. Any individual obtaining a seventh card in league play shall be immediately suspended pending a hearing with League Committee (meaning any combination of yellow and red cards totaling seven).

9. PROCEDURE FOR FILING PROTESTS, APPEALS, GRIEVANCES, ETC.

A. PYL shall operate a system for filing protests, appeals, grievances, and the like. The Appeals and Disciplinary Committee will be the first and last level of appeal for any individual or team that appeal.

The Appeals and Disciplinary committee, at its discretion and when requested in writing to do so, may waive the time limit for filing matters before them, but in no case will grant an extension of more than ten (10) days. A request for an extension is not a valid reason for not meeting the original requirement for filing matters to these committees.

B. All protests, appeals, grievances, and the like shall be submitted in writing to PYL within forty-eight (48) hours of the matter concerned. The written document must have either PROTEST, GRIEVANCE, or APPEAL boldly written or typed across the top. Protests and appeals shall be accompanied by a \$50 fee (cash, money order, or cashier's check). If the committee upholds the protest or appeal, the fee shall be returned. If it is denied, the fee shall be forfeited to PYL. Once a fee has been forfeited to PYL, it shall not be returned.

C. PYL shall refuse to hear any protest, grievance, appeal or the like where legal action is threatened or has been initiated. Recording devices, stenographers and attorneys representing either party will not be permitted at hearings. The minutes of the hearing may be recorded, for purpose of recording the minutes only.

In no event shall any person or organization, under the jurisdiction of PYL resort to the Courts, at any government level, until all appeal procedures have been exhausted. For violations of this rule, the



offending party shall be subject to the sanction of suspensions and fines as set forth by PYL and shall be liable for all expenses incurred by these organizations in defending related Court action, including but not limited to Court costs, attorney's fees, compensation for persons defending such allegations, travel expenses, and expenses for holding meetings related to the Court action.

D. The Appeals and Disciplinary Committee may expedite the appeals process when that body feels it is necessary in order to render a decision for matters of utmost importance.

E. Protests, grievances, and the like against the performance or conduct of referees must be filed with the Referee Assignor and are not heard by the League Committee. It is the responsibility of the Referee Assignor to determine the validity of such actions and to handle it accordingly. Persons filing such charges should direct them to the Referee Assignor through the PYL office who shall forward them to the Referee Assignor.

F. Protests

(1.) There shall be no protests in Under 7 league play.

(2.) All protests of game matters shall be submitted in writing to PYL within forty-eight (48) hours of the game, accompanied by a \$50 fee.

(3.) The Appeals and Disciplinary Committee shall review the protest to determine the situation and *the* validity of the protest. A game may be protested only if:

a. There has been an obvious error made in the application of the Laws of the Game that directly affects the outcome of the match **and the referee admits it.**

NOTE: The Laws of the Game are the FIFA Laws of the Game as modified by PYL).

b. A team has played an ineligible or suspended player.

c. A team's suspended coach was present and coaching the team.

(4.) The Appeals and Disciplinary Committee shall receive protests and grievances through League Director and shall meet to consider them within seven (7) days of their receipt. All involved parties, coaches, and players shall be notified of the hearing and shall be requested to be present. Failure to attend after being requested to do so may cause default of the protest or require other action to be taken.

(5.) The Appeals and Disciplinary Committee shall not assume that a game result should be changed strictly on the basis of a protest being valid because a Law of the Game has been broken or for any other valid reason. Game protests should be upheld on the basis of the merits of the protest and the entire



circumstances surrounding the game, including the determination that the outcome of the game was or was not affected by the events referred to in the protest of the game.

G. Appeals

(1.) Decisions from the Appeals and Disciplinary Committee are final and there will be no appeal.

H. Grievances*

These shall be handled in the same manner as protests with the League Director or League Official accepting the grievance. A fee is not required. Grievance must be considered automatically by the League Committee, which shall determine whether a formal hearing should be called, and a fee is required.

* Definition of Grievances: A wrong, real or fancied, considered as grounds for complaint against an unjust act.

10. PYL POLICIES

All PYL policies, duly approved by the League Committee automatically become part of the General Rules of PYL.

11. REFUND OF REGISTRATION FEES

A. Refund Policy: No refunds will be issued once a team is accepted.

B. Procedure for Paying Refunds:

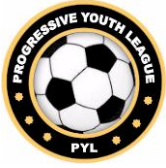
(1.) All other requests for refund must be initiated by the parent or player and submitted to the PYL office with the word "REFUND" marked across the top. The Treasurer will send a refund check (with the administrative fee subtracted) to the individual who signed the application.

12. AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL AND PLAYING RULES

Amendments to the General and Playing Rules may be proposed at any meeting of the League Committee. The League Committee must approve all rule changes.

13. IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Each coach/assistant coach, manager or any adult whose name appears on the team roster is required to display a valid PYL Identification card during all games, practices and other team activities. PYL issues ID cards for rostered coach/assistant coach and manager upon completing and submitting required **Risk**



Management forms. Only rostered coach/assistant coach and managers displaying valid IDs are allowed on the player's side of the field during games.

14. FACILITIES

Generally games are played on fields at the Fairview Soccer Complex. Some games may be scheduled in neighboring communities. All the participants, -- players, coaches, parents and fans – are to respect the facilities. The participants are to obey the rules and regulations of the facility. In addition,

- A. The facility is a non-smoking facility.
- B. Dogs are not allowed at the fields while games are in progress.
- C. Players are to pick up and dispose of all trash at the end of the game.
- D. While waiting for the playing field to become available, teams are not to interfere with any game. At the conclusion of the game, the teams must quickly depart from the fields to allow the next game to begin.
- E. Noisemakers are prohibited.
- F. Players are not allowed to bring bottled water.
- G. Alcohol is prohibited at the facility
- H. Only players and coaches are allowed on the fields.