



AYSO REGION 304
2023 POSTSEASON:
PLAYOFFS, ALLSTARS, TOURNAMENT
RULES & REGULATIONS

LETTER FROM THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER

On behalf of the kids of Region 304, I want to thank our coaches, referees, parent volunteers and board members for your time and effort this season.

The Region 304 postseason is an additional component to the core program and consists of: Invitational Region Playoff Tournament, All Stars, and additional tournament play. The goal of the postseason program is to provide additional opportunities that will enrich the lives of children by playing soccer and embracing the six philosophies of AYSO: Good Sportsmanship, Open Registration, Balanced Teams, Everyone Plays, Player Development, and Positive Coaching.

This booklet contains information that is necessary for all post season competitions, including: the Invitational Region Playoff Tournament, All Stars, and Tournament Teams.

The Invitational Region Playoff Tournament will be played in October/November for the 10u, 12u, and 14u divisions. It is not guaranteed that all teams will qualify for the tournament, but those that do will be because they met the minimum requirements set forth by the Region 304 board.

All Star competition is our opportunity to create teams in the 10u, 12u, and 14u divisions that includes the “best” players from each respective division that will then compete against other All Star teams within Area 10W (Ventura & Santa Barbara Counties) in January.

Tournament play is an extension of the All Star Program. Tournament teams may be created for the 10u, 12u, 14u, 16u, and 18u divisions. These teams may consist of any player that meets the eligibility requirements outlined in this booklet.

Postseason naturally includes a higher level of competition and because of that SPORTSMANSHIP is more important than ever. Emotions run high during these competitions but please remember to remain respectful of all volunteers including: referees, coaches, and administrators. Winning now matters but coaches still need to remember to back off when winning big. This is still a children's soccer program.

Playoffs, All Stars, and Tournaments are always a special time that will produce lasting memories for everyone involved. I wish everyone good luck and hope everyone enjoys the experience.

Scott Barradas

Regional Commissioner

AYSO Region 304 - North Oxnard

AYSO REGION 304 POSTSEASON RULES AND REGULATIONS

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SECTION I – POST SEASON GENERAL GUIDELINES

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Players must have been registered for the core season prior to the **fifth game(September 30, 2023) and participated in at least half of their team games after player registration**. Games missed for injury will count as games played for this eligibility criteria.

PLAYING TIME

All players **MUST** play equal playing time. In most cases this will consist of at **least ¾ of each game**. Time lost during a game for injury by a player will be counted towards the equal playing time rule. For players arriving late, the number of “quarters” required is rounded down.

When all players on a team are unable to play at least ¾ of each game due to roster size, then the player sitting out more should be rotated every game. As discussed in the above paragraph, playing time will be adjusted for late arrivals and injury.

While time is limited for players to play goalkeeper during the core season (10U: no more than 2 quarters per game, 12U: no more than 3 quarters per game), there is no restriction on the amount of time that a player can be the goalkeeper other than the above rule for equal playing time.

PLAYER REGISTRATION FORMS

Player Registration forms must be present at every team gathering: including all practices and games. These forms can be obtained by the Region Registrar. It is considered a good practice for the Coach, Assistant Coach, and Team Parent to have a copy of registration forms.

COACH REQUIREMENTS

All teams shall have at least one trained and certified Coach and Assistant Coach. Each coach shall be age specifically trained:

- 10U=10U Coach
- 12U=12U Coach
- 14U=Intermediate Coach
- 16U-18U=Advanced Coach

In addition, all coaches must be Safe Haven certified and CDC Concussion Awareness Trained within the last two (2) years, ***Mandated Fingerprinting, SafeSport.***

All training requirements MUST be completed before October 31.

UNIFORMS

For the Region 304 playoff tournament, the uniforms used during the core season will be used.

For All Star and Tournament play, players will wear “Region-colored” uniforms ordered by Region 304. Uniforms will be paid for by the parents at the time that they notify the region uniform coordinator of their players size.

The uniform cost for FY23 is **\$80** per player and includes 1 pair of shorts, 2 sets of socks, and 2 jerseys. ***Payment will be made on line when registering the players.***

All uniforms purchased are the property of the players’ parents(s) and cannot be returned for a refund.

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SECTION II - REGION 304 PLAYOFFS

This information is intended to provide standard rules for the conduct of the tournament and to ensure fair, safe and fun play for all of the teams involved in the North Oxnard AYSO Region 304 Playoff Tournament. These guidelines are not intended to replace Region Policies and Procedures, Section 10 Guidelines, or Area 10W Guidelines, but rather to supplement and clarify those areas that are playoff related. As noted during the coach meeting and, as posted on the Region website:

"Failure to complete the required points during regular core season may result in the team not being eligible to participate in region playoffs. If they are allowed to participate for the benefit of the region, these teams WILL NOT advance out of pool play. Failure to provide a referee for the minimum of four games during pool play will also result in the team not advancing out of pool play."

PLAYOFF COORDINATION & CONDUCT

The coordination of this tournament is the responsibility of the Regional Commissioner (RC) and the Region 304 Board. All decisions concerning field assignments, scheduling, location, rescheduling, and dispute resolution will be made by, and at the direction of, the Regional Commissioner or his/her designated representative.

Every Coach is responsible for the conduct of his/her players and their team's spectators, all of whom are expected to display positive support and good sportsmanship consistent with the AYSO vision, mission, and philosophies. Our attitude towards the volunteer referees, other players, and tournament staff must always be positive. Failure to comply may result in playoff disqualification.

LOCATION

All playoff games will be held at Fremont Junior High School.

SCHEDULE/FORMAT

As shown in Table 1, the playoff format will begin with pool play games followed by single elimination games.

Table 1. Region Playoff Format

| | 10UB | 10UG | 12UB | 12UG | 14UB | 14UG |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of teams | 12 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 4 | 3 |
| Number of Pools | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Teams per Pool | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Quarterfinals | TBD | | TBD | | | |
| Semi-Finals / Finals | YES | | YES | | YES | |

Please note that the number of teams, pools, and teams per pool are subject to change based on the number of teams that meet the eligibility requirements.

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PLAYOFF DATES

As shown in Table 2, the playoffs will be conducted over **three** days, weather and fields permitting.

Table 2. Playoff Dates

| Date | Day | 10U | 12U | 14U |
|------|-----------------|----------------------|-----|-----|
| TBD | Saturday/Sunday | Pool Play Games | | |
| TBD | Saturday/Sunday | Pool Play Games | | |
| TBD | Saturday/Sunday | Semi-Finals / Finals | | |
| TBD | Saturday/Sunday | AREA Playoff Games | | |

The winning teams from pool play will advance to Semi-Finals, Finals, and Consolation.

IMPORTANT NOTE: In the event of cancellations for rain, the Regional Commissioner may alter the playoff format.

GAME DURATIONS

Game duration for pool play and single elimination is shown in Table 3

Table 3. Playoff Game Duration (minutes)

| Division | Pool Play | Single Elimination |
|----------|-----------|--------------------|
| 10U | 40 | 50 |
| 12U | 50 | 60 |
| 14U | 60 | 70 |

All semi-final and championship games will be played to conclusion. In the event of a tie after regulation time, two five-minute overtime periods will be played to completion. There is no golden goal. If the score is tied at the end of the two overtime periods, teams will go to kicks from the penalty mark.

POINTS AND TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

The criteria for advancing to Single Elimination rounds will be based on the results of Pool Play. Pool play points will be awarded for each game played following the criteria identified here:

- 6 Points for a win
- 3 Points for a tie
- 1 Point for a shutout
- 1 Point for each goal (maximum of three per game)
- -1 Point for each player and/or coach send off

FORFEITED GAMES

Forfeits will be treated as 1-0 wins (8 points). Forfeited games will not be re-scheduled.

ABANDONED GAMES

Games that may not be played due to administrative reasons, such as no available referees or safety issues on the field will be considered “abandoned” games rather than forfeits. The Regional Commissioner has the option of re-scheduling abandoned games or pro-rating the pool play points for both teams of the abandoned game.

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QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS(SINGLE ELIMINATION)

To qualify for the Single Elimination round, teams must provide the necessary volunteer and referee support during the regular season and pool play. The criteria for teams advancing to the Single Elimination round will be provided at the coaches meeting.

TIE BREAKERS

In event of ties in pool points, the following criteria will be used:

- (1) Most wins
- (2) Head-to-Head Result
- (3) Least goals allowed
- (4) Most goals scored (maximum of 3 per game)
- (5) Sportsmanship **(-1 for Cautions, -2 for Send off)**
- (6) Coin Flip

Seeding for Single Elimination will be based on pool play points. Teams from the same pool will not face each other in the first round of elimination play, if avoidable. Otherwise it will be bracketed using higher seed versus lowest seed; seeds 1 & 2 will be in opposite brackets.

AWARDS

Awards will be given to teams taking 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place.

REFEREE & VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES

Volunteers are needed for playoffs. Teams will be asked to provide referees and volunteer field support to ensure the best possible tournament possible. Teams failing to provide the necessary support will be disqualified from the Single Elimination round. Referee and Volunteer requirements will be provided at the coaches meeting.

TEAM CHECK-IN & UNIFORMS.

Forfeit time is game time. The team must be fully checked in and on the field ready to play by game time. There may be allowances due to delay by the Regional Commissioner and/or his/her staff.

At the time of check-in, the Coach must have a Player Registration Form for each player on the team. All forms **must have an original signature or esignature** by the player's parent/guardian.

Sixty (60) minutes before the first playoff game time, the Coach and his/her Team will assemble at the team check-in area. All of the game card(s) for the day will be presented with all players listed in numerical order. Players will line up in numeric order, holding their medical release.

ALL players must be wearing an AYSO uniform that complies with all National Rules and Regulations at the time of check-in. No deviation is allowed. No names are allowed on the uniform.

In case of a conflict in uniform color, the home team will be required to change (wear pennies). The home team is listed first on the schedule. Alternate color pennies will be available at the check-in table (A driver's license deposit will be required).

Players who have received treatment for an injury (or illness) shall present a signed medical release (on the physician's letterhead) with the doctor indicating the player by name and the permission to resume play. These releases must be provided to your coach who must certify to the Regional Commissioner that the player may return to active play prior to check-in.

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Here are additional player uniform requirements:

- All players jerseys should be of the same color and match in style
- All players shorts should be the same color
- All players socks must match both their team-mates and each other
- Shorts are not to be worn on or below the hip.
- No bandanas are allowed.
- No jewelry of any kind is allowed. ONLY cloth hairbands and/or headbands that are plain or contain manufacturer's logo will be allowed.
- No face painting.
- Nothing that can be interpreted as a danger to the player or others is allowed, however remote the possibility of the danger.
- Goalkeeper may wear a painter's cap (soft bill only).
- The keeper's jersey cannot display any advertising-logos that are not AYSO
- Wristbands will be allowed ONLY to cover a medical bracelet.
- No casts or splints!
- Knee braces are allowed. No metal or hard plastic.
- When the team is properly assembled, the medical releases are to be given to each player to hold during check-in.

PLAYERS ON THE FIELD

Table 4 indicates the Minimum and Maximum number of players needed, by division, on the field to participate.

Table 4. Player needed on the field

| | Minimum | Maximum |
|------------|----------------|----------------|
| 10U | 5 | 7 |
| 12U | 6 | 9 |
| 14U | 7 | 11 |

MISCONDUCT (CARDS)

All misconduct (cards) requires a written report by the issuing referee. The Regional Commissioner and his/her Staff will review disciplinary actions and will make a determination as deemed appropriate.

A send-off (red card) issued to a player or coach during or after games will result in a two-game suspension (the game in progress and the following game). Flagrant, violent actions may result in more severe discipline, including disqualification from further play.

Two send offs(red cards) or the equivalent may result in suspension from representing the region in this tournament and any subsequent AYSO competitions.

In the event that the head coach is sent-off, a certified assistant coach must be available for the team to continue playing.

RESCHEDULING DUE TO UNSAFE PLAYING CONDITIONS

- Every effort will be made to play the games, even in the rain.
- In the event that teams are unable to play pool play games due to unsafe playing conditions, the team pool points will be prorated for the missing game(s).
- Games will be skipped if a game day is lost to un-safe playing conditions.
- In the event that teams are unable to play the Semi-Finals and Finals because of unsafe playing conditions, the team pool points will be used to determine First, Second, Third and Fourth Place.
- Play/no-play status will be posted on the region website (www.ayso304.org) and on Facebook, AYSO Region 304 – North Oxnard.

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AREA PLAYOFFS

The Region will select two teams from each division to represent Region 304 in the Area 10W Playoffs, typically in late November. *The RC will select these teams based on performance and SPORTSMANSHIP during the season & playoffs. Traditionally, the 1st and 2nd place team in each division are invited; however, poor sportsmanship from coaches, players or sidelines and/or failure to perform volunteer duties may result in a team not being invited.*

Teams chosen to participate in the Area 10W League Tournaments may have the possibility to play in the Area, Section, and Western State Tournaments, depending on each tournament's performance and until eliminated. This may result in the team playing until late March. All coaches and players advancing will fall under Rules for the respective tournaments.

PROTESTS

There are no protests.

INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENTS

Interpretation of the Region 304 Playoff rules will be made by the discretion of the Regional Commissioner and/or the Postseason Director.

Amendments to the Region 304 Playoff Rules may be made a majority vote of the Regional Board.

SECTION III - REGION 304 ALL STARS

| | 10U | 12U | 14U |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Estimated Number of Teams | 2 Girls 2 Boys | 1 Girls 1 Boys | 1 Girls 1 Boys |
| Max Number of players on each roster | 10 | 12 | 15 |
| Max number of players nominated from a team | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Votes per coach | 10 | 12 | 15 |
| Number of Players selected by coach vote (per All Star Team) | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Number of Players selected by All Star Coach (per All Star Team) | 5 | 6 | 8 |

TEAMS

An estimate of eight teams will be formed within this region for All-Star play. They will participate in the Area 10W Playoffs in January and may have the opportunity to participate in the Section 10 tournament (early February), and The Western State Games (late March). The Section 10 Tournament and Western State Games are invitational tournaments based on performance and sportsmanship from the previous tournament.

All Star teams will have the opportunity to continue to play in additional tournaments during the “AYSO Tournament Season.”

COACH SELECTION

Coaches interested in being an All Star Coach or Assistant Coach must complete and turn in the “All Star/Tournament Coach Application. Applications are due by **(October 22, 2023)** of the core season.

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Coaches must meet the minimum qualifications as outlined in Section I.

All Star coaches will be selected by the All Star Coach Selection Committee after the All Star Player Selection Meeting. The Coach Selection Committee will consist of the: Postseason Director, Coach Administrator, Referee Administrator, and respective Division Coordinator. Criteria that should be taken into consideration shall be: coaching experience, sportsmanship displayed during the core season, history with the region, etc. The committee shall select coaches that they believe will represent the Region in the most positive manner when participating in competitions.

Coaches selected are expected to participate in the Area 10W All Star Tournament and then transition to Tournament Teams.

PLAYER SELECTION

All Core Season Coaches will nominate players from their season team to the All Star Selection List as part of the Team Player Rating process. To be eligible, the player must meet the eligibility requirements outlined in Section I. 14U players planning to play high school soccer should not be nominated.

All nominated players must be rated A or B. Players may be withdrawn from the nomination list by the Regional Commissioner for disciplinary reasons.

At the All-Star selection meeting, each coach will vote for players from the nomination list to be on the All-Star team. Players with the most votes will be the core members for each of the teams in a division, divided among the teams formed: 5 per team for 10U, 6 per team for 12U, and 7 per team for 14U. In the event of ties, the All-Star coach will select the player.

The remaining players for each team are to be selected by the All-Star coaches from the eligible players in the division (nomination not required).

For divisions with multiple teams, the Division Coordinator and the AllStar coaches will determine how to divide the players. Each team must have the same number of "voted" players when the teams are formed.

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SECTION IV - REGION 304 TOURNAMENT

TOURNAMENT SEASON

The tournament season begins immediately after the Region 304 Playoffs and ends on June 31.

ADMINISTRATION

Administration for Tournament Teams will be a collaborative duty between members of the Regional Board and each respective team.

The Postseason Director and Coach Administrator will have oversight of all Region 304 Tournament Teams. Additional members of the Regional Board that will provide tournament support are the region: Treasurer, Registrar, Uniform Coordinator, and Regional Commissioner.

Each individual team must have a team: Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Parent, and Treasurer.

COACH SELECTION

Coaches interested in being a Tournament Coach or Assistant Coach must complete and turn in the “All Star/Tournament Coach Application. Applications are due by (**October 22, 2023**) of the core season.

Coaches must be current AYSO volunteers that meet the coach requirements outlined in Section I. In addition, all Tournament Coaches must have a “Tournament Coach Code of Conduct” on file with Region 304.

Coaches may be suspended and/or removed, by the Regional Commissioner or Postseason Director, for violating the Code of Conduct at any time during the Tournament Season.

PLAYER SELECTION

Players are selected by the Tournament Coach.

Players must meet the eligibility requirements outlined in Section I.

The All Star Coaches have the first “right of refusal” when selecting players. (Basically, a tournament coach cannot “steal” an all star player if the all star coach chooses to keep him/her on their tournament team).

Players may be suspended or removed from a tournament team for any disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the Regional Commissioner and/or Post Season Director.

TEAM STAFF ROLES

Head Coach: The head coach is ultimately responsible for all aspects of the team. This includes the recruitment of a team treasurer and team parent. The Head Coach will complete all paperwork for tournaments by the tournament guidelines. The coach will also keep the Post-Season Director of any and all tournaments that they are planning to attend.

Assistant Coach: The assistant coach will assume the duties of the head coach in their absence or in the case of his/her suspension or removal. The assistant coach will provide additional assistance to the team, at the head coach's discretion. This may include: training, recruitment, paperwork, etc.

Team Parent: The team parent is responsible for dispersing information to the parents on the team. This may include practice and game location/times, snack schedules, coordination of a team party, etc.

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Team Treasurer: The team treasurer will be responsible for managing the funds of their respective team by keeping a clear accounting record. This includes the collection of funds, writing receipts, turning money into the Region Treasurer, and keeping a clear record. The team treasurer must attend the “Tournament Team Treasurer Training.”

TOURNAMENTS

All Region 304 Teams **MUST** apply and pay for the Oxnard Sports Festival Tournament prior to applying for any additional tournaments:

- April 27-28, 2024 (10u, 12u,14u)

Region 304 teams will be charged a \$200 deposit that will be returned to the teams if assigned volunteer duties are completed during the tournament. This may include: field painting, field setup/tear down, trash pick up, parking lot duty, etc.

Once teams apply and pay for the Oxnard Sports Festival, they will be eligible to apply for other AYSO approved tournaments. A list of approved tournaments can be found online:

<https://ayso.org/events/ayso-tournaments/>

Here is a list of tournaments that previous Region 304 teams have attended and enjoyed:

| Tournament | Divisions | Estimated Date | Location |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------|
| New Years Tournament | 10u, 12u, 14u | Late Dec-Early Jan | Simi Valley |
| Pot O' Gold | 10u, 12u, 14u, 16u, 18u | Early Mar (Boys) Mid-Mar (Girls) Late Mar (16u; 18u) | Thousand Oaks |
| Apricot Jam | 10u, 12u, 14u | Early Apr | Moorpark |
| Strawberry Cup | 10u, 12u, 14u, 16u, 18u | May | Camarillo |
| Patriots Cup | 10u, 12u, 14u | Late May | Newbury Park |
| Splash | 10u, 12u, 14u, 16u, 18u | Jun | Santa Barbara |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Tournament Teams wishing to participate in “club” competitions must obtain prior approval by the Regional Commissioner. Please note that the region strongly recommends participating in only AYSO approved tournaments.

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TOURNAMENT APPLICATION PROCESS

When applying for tournaments the following process will be followed:

- (1) The Head Coach will inform the team of the tournament and it's cost(including the referee deposit). He/she must also complete the tournament application.
- (2) The team treasurer will collect funds from the parents on the team, totaling the exact amount of the fees needed.
- (3) The Head coach must request a team roster from the Region Registrar.
- (4) The team treasurer and Head Coach will schedule an appointment with the Regional Commissioner and Region Treasurer.
 - a. The Region Treasurer will write a region check for the tournament, totaling the amount due to the tournament and totaling the fees turned into the region.
(Please note that region checks require the signature of the RC and Treasurer)
 - b. The Regional Commissioner or their designee is required to sign all team rosters and tournament applications
 - c. Tournaments requiring team referees will also require a referee application signed by the Region Referee Administrator.
- (5) The coach or their designee will mail all required paperwork and the region check to the tournament which they are applying to by the required deadline. *Please note that each tournament has their own deadline and accepts teams at their discretion.*

TOURNAMENT UNIFORMS

Tournament Teams will follow the uniform policy outlined in Section I.

If additional purchases are needed, the coach or their designee will coordinate with the Region Uniform Coordinator.

Only the Region-identified uniform will be allowed.

SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS

Appointments will need to be scheduled with the Regional Commissioner and the Region Treasurer in order to get signed paperwork and checks for the tournaments.

All appointments will be scheduled through the google document that will be shared with all Tournament Coaches.

CLOSING OUT

Once a team has decided that they will no longer be participating in tournaments, they must complete the "close out" process.

The team treasurer and region treasurer will schedule a meeting in order to compare the finances for the team. Once the finances are reconciled, the team treasurer will provide a list of parents, their addresses, and how much each parent should receive from remaining team funds. The region treasurer will then write and send checks to the teams parents based on the breakdown provided. Team accounts should be at a \$0 balance at the end of the close-out process.