

Playoffs Rule Differences vs Regular Season for Referees

Game Duration (also printed on scorecard)

Division	Game Length
10U	20 minute halves
12U	25 minute halves
14U	30 minute halves
15U	30 minute halves

Halftime will be five (5) minutes; there will be no quarter breaks. No stoppage time will be allowed.

Home Team picks side

The home team is the team listed first in all matches and will choose the side of the field they wish to defend. The away team will get the kick-off to start the game.

Substitution

Unlimited substitution will be allowed with referee approval in the following situations:

- a) Before a throw-in in your favor.
- b) Before a goal kick by either team.
- c) After a goal has been scored by either team.
- d) At half-time.
- e) In case of an injury.

If a team is substituting during own throw-in, the opponent may also substitute.

Substitutes have to await referee's permission to enter the field at the halfway line. Substitutes are to be at the halfway line before the ball goes out of play.

50% Rule

Each player must play at least ½ of every game.

Failure to Show - Forfeits

A minimum of five players constitutes a team for 7v7, with the minimum increasing to six players for 9v9 and seven players for 11v11, respectively. Teams with fewer than the minimum number of players will be given a ten minute grace period beyond the scheduled kickoff time before a forfeit is declared.

Game Score Reporting

The referee will ensure that scorecards are properly completed (including Sportsmanship Ratings on the back), signatures obtained, and the scores recorded at the end of each game.

The team coach or team representative from both teams must sign the scorecard at the conclusion of each game, before leaving the field area.

Scorecards will be picked up by Playoffs Headquarter staff in golfcarts. If scorecard does not get picked up, then it is the responsibility of the referee or the winning team to deliver the completed and signed scorecard to the Playoffs Headquarters promptly at the conclusion of each game.



Play-off Sportsmanship Scoring

We consider good sportsmanship to be the NORMAL behavior at all times. As such, normal AYSO good sportsmanship, while outstanding in many cases, should be considered average, or the expected norm. Center referees should talk to their AR's and club linesman prior to the game, and ask them to pay attention to these criteria. All three categories should start at a 5 score, and then be adjusted up or down based on any of the following considerations.

a. Players on the field

- i. Players played hard regardless of score
- ii. Respectful of referees, coaches, teammates, and opposition
- iii. No excessive dramatization on injuries or fouls
- iv. Quickly accepts referee calls without dissent
- v. No excessive celebration - especially if aimed at the opposing team
- vi. No stalling

b. Coach and sideline

- i. Ready to start on time and organized
- ii. Respectful of referee, players, and opposition
- iii. Follows proper substitution protocols
- iv. Maintains 50% play rule
- v. Encourages team. Positive Coaching
- vi. Congratulates opposition on good plays
- vii. Post-game formalities - handshake, thank referees

c. Spectators

- i. Cheering for players
- ii. Supportive of referees and opposition
- iii. Congratulate opposition on exceptional plays
- iv. Encouraging players
- v. Not coaching from sidelines - Do not tell players WHAT to do with the ball. Instead celebrate their decisions and reactions on the field after the fact!
- vi. Maintain proper distance from field
- vii. Stay on Spectator Sideline. Do not watch games from behind goal area, or coach sideline area

Winning or losing should not be considered in sportsmanship points, however, a winning team that does not make adjustments to keep a game close should be penalized, and a losing team that does not continue to compete hard should also be penalized. Body language should be considered, rather it be excessive celebration from a play, or an extreme negative reaction to a game getting out of reach. We want kids to celebrate and be emotional on the field. Make sure it is not done in a derogative fashion that either brings their own team down, or rubs it in to the opponent.