



RULES AND PROCEDURES

These rules and procedures are subject to change. New rules, policies and procedures go into effect as soon as they are enacted or at a time specified and are reviewed and ratified at the annual general meeting. Contact the state office or an executive board member if you need clarification.

Updated August 2011

CONTENTS

Definitions of Terms	3
Source	6
Mission Statement and Goals	6
<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. General Provisions	6
2. Age Limits	7
3. Player, Coach and Volunteer Registration	7
4. Registration Submission	8
5. Insurance	8
6. Play During High School Season	8
7. Player Eligibility - Adds, Drops, Releases, and Transfers	9
8. US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program (US Youth Soccer ODP)	10
9. Recruiting and Poaching	10
Rules of Play, Modifications to Laws of the Game/Wyoming League and Sanctioned Events	
10. Law I – The Field of Play	10
11. Law II – The Ball.....	11
12. Law III – Number of Players/Substitutes.....	11
13. Law IV – Players’ Equipment.....	11
14. Law V – Referees	12
15. Law VI – Assistant Referees.....	13
16. Law VII – Duration of the Game	13
17. Laws VII – Law XI – The Start of Play; Balls in and out of Play; Method of Scoring; Off-Sides	13
18. Law XII – Fouls and Misconduct	13
19. Laws XIII – Law XVII – Free Kick; Penalty Kick; Throw-In; Goal-Kick; Corner Kick	13
20. Misconduct Procedures	13
21. Disciplinary Procedures and Penalties	14
22. Referee Misconduct Procedures and Policies	16
23. Protest and Appeals Procedures	16
24. Amateur Trial Games.....	18
25. Team/Guest Player Travel Procedures.....	18
26. Tournament Participation and Procedures	18
27. Wyoming Cup Championship Tournament	19
28. Far West Regionals and Presidents’ Cup Commitment and Bond.....	19
29. US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS).....	19
30. Alcohol, Illegal Drugs, Controlled Substances and Firearms	19
31. Risk Management Program.....	19
32. Matters Not Provided For	19

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

AFFILIATION/AFFILIATED – The process of association and continued membership of the successive associations administering soccer programs for US Soccer, USASA, and/or US Youth Soccer. The Wyoming affiliate (WYS) of US Soccer/US Youth Soccer is responsible for governing all affiliated soccer programs and clubs in the state and for collecting and forwarding national registration fees for all players registered with the leagues/clubs/teams under their jurisdiction.

AFFILIATED CLUB (CLUB) – a) The association with and continued membership of a state level club that administers soccer programs for Wyoming Youth Soccer. Affiliated clubs are responsible for the registration and development of players and teams and for collecting and forwarding registration fees and data for all players and adult volunteers registered with the club; b) has an identifiable membership of youth soccer players on whose behalf the organization conducts or engages in youth soccer activities.

AGE DIVISION – US Youth Soccer’s method of organizing competition is by grouping players by date of birth. The youngest age division in which a team may play is determined by the age of the oldest player on the team as of August 1 of the previous seasonal year.

AMATEUR/ADULT (SENIOR) – All programs, events, competitions, clubs, associations, etc. for players whose age exceeds the limits for youth soccer.

AMATEUR/YOUTH – All programs, events, competitions, clubs, associations, etc. for players who are under the age of 19 as of August 1 of the previous seasonal year.

COMPETITIVE PLAYER - A youth player, registered in accordance with the rules of WYS and a WYS affiliated club who can participate in league play, tournaments and out of state travel.

COMPETITIVE TEAM - a youth soccer team, consisting of players registered in accordance with the rules of WYS and/or its affiliated clubs that participate in Wyoming League, approved out of state leagues and competitive tournaments in and out of the state of Wyoming.

FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (FIFA) – The world governing organization for soccer, headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland. FIFA is the highest authority for administration of international playing rules, international competitions, and technical and educational development programs. FIFA is sub-administered through six continental associations: Africa, Asia, CONCACAF (North, Central America and Caribbean), Europe, Oceania and South America.

FOUL AND ABUSIVE LANGUAGE – Verbal abuse or threats including racial, ethnic or sexual slurs whether or not directed to one or more individuals.

GAME ROSTER – The listing of registered players, from the official team roster, who will compete in games.

GUEST PLAYER – A registered player participating in a competition for a team to which the player is not rostered; not allowed in qualifying league play.

IN-HOUSE PLAY – Practice, play, or tournaments held between teams from one affiliated club.

INTERPLAY – Participation, without discrimination, of players or teams who are affiliated with an organization and are members of USSF, in tournaments hosted by other organization members of USSF.

LEAGUE – a) A structured group of 3 or more teams formed to provide play between those teams under a common set of administrative and competition rules. It may be composed of teams from one or more clubs; it may be defined by geographic boundaries; it may be considered a qualifying league for a state or regional championship; b) can be differentiated from another league by the rules that govern the rostering of players to each league’s teams, and the different terms used to describe each league do not necessarily reflect the level of ability or talent of teams participating in the league.

LEAGUE, IN-HOUSE – A league composed solely of teams from the same club.

LEAGUE, INTERCLUB (Interleague) – A league formed and composed of developmental teams from 2 or more clubs.

LEAGUE, INTERIM – A temporary league composed of teams formed with properly affiliated players of high school age who are not playing on a high school soccer team.

LEAGUE, INTERMEDIATE – A league representing the highest level of recreational competition, composed of developmental teams whose play has surpassed that of most other in-house and interclub teams. All teams must be

intact recreational teams, formed in the usual recreational manner, without tryouts or any other selection process intended to strengthen the team.

LEAGUE, STATE – A league composed of teams participating at higher levels of competition. Within the Wyoming League, age division is the criteria for determining placement of teams for competition; is the qualifying league for the state championship.

NATIONAL COACHING PROGRAM – A program developed and administered by USSF/USASA/USYS for training coaches at all levels of soccer in the United States. The program also provides national licensing and registration of advanced coaches as well as guidelines for training and licensing of entry-level coaches.

NON-AFFILIATED – Soccer players, coaches, or officials who have not completed the registration process of a USYS organization member or WYS affiliated club or are subject to United States Soccer Federation (Federation) suspension.

MEMBER – Properly affiliated club including its soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, or officials who has completed the registration process of a USYS/WYS affiliated club and is not subject to United States Soccer Federation (Federation) suspension.

MEMBERSHIP CARD – Proof of official membership in USYS, WYS and its affiliated clubs and implies that the state association and club named on the card approves of the member's activities and assures the protections of membership.

PRIMARY TEAM – A team of an affiliated club that a registered member has committed to, been rostered to or that is a team located in the town in which a player attends school.

RECREATIONAL – A team that is formed without the use of tryouts or any other selection process designed to strengthen the team and where each player on a team plays at least 50% of each game; does not play in state league.

RECREATIONAL PLAYER - A youth player, registered in accordance with the rules of WYS and an affiliated club, who does not travel out of the state or participates in competitive tournaments.

RECRUITING – The process of attracting players to join a team.

RECRUITING, IMPROPER (Poaching) – Any attempt to attract players to join a team using any method that violates WYS recruitment rules.

ROSTERED: A properly registered and approved player, coach or assistant coach who has been assigned to a club's team(s) is therefore listed on the official team roster and is eligible to be listed on a game roster.

SANCTION – The authorization extended by WYS or one of its affiliates to conduct an official competition.

SEASON, LEAGUE – The period of time designated for the scheduled competitions of a league.

SEASONAL YEAR – As established by US Soccer, it extends from August 1 of a given calendar year through July 31 of the following calendar year.

SECONDARY TEAM – A team of an affiliated club that a registered member has been rostered for participation in a special, non-league event; is not eligible for participation in Wyoming League or the state championship; can be located in a town or with a club other than where a minor player attends school; can be a select team.

SMALL-SIDED GAME – A game where each team is limited to fewer than 11 players and plays following the US Youth Soccer recommended rules.

STATE OFFICE – The administrative/business office of Wyoming Youth Soccer

TEAM PERSONNEL – Any coach, manager, or other team official who is or appears to be in charge of a team.

TEAM ROSTER – A listing of all registered players who are eligible to play and be listed on a game roster.

TEAM, ADVANCED or SELECT – A team composed of players selected by a tryout process. Its members may or may not be from a defined geographic area.

TEAM, COED – A team composed of male and female players; is considered a boys team.

TEAM, DEVELOPMENTAL – A team composed of players not selected by a tryout process and generally formed within defined geographical (neighborhood) areas. Emphasis is on participation by all players and small-sided games for younger players.

TEAM, TOURNAMENT – A team formed for the sole purpose of attending USSF/US Youth Soccer/WYS sanctioned tournaments and college showcases. Such teams can be comprised of registered players, in good standing, from multiple WYS affiliated teams (intraclub team) and/or clubs (interclub teams) in age divisions U12 – U19; are secondary teams.

UNITED STATES AMATEUR SOCCER ASSOCIATION (USASA) – The division of US Soccer that governs adult (senior) soccer.

UNITED STATES OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (USOC) – The national governing body for selecting and developing Olympic athletes and teams for Olympic competitions.

UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION (Federation) – The national governing organization for soccer in the United States, the Federation is affiliated with FIFA and is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee.

US YOUTH SOCCER (USYS) – The division of US Soccer that governs youth soccer.

US YOUTH SOCCER OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (US YOUTH SOCCER ODP) – A program under the jurisdiction of the United States Olympic Committee (USOC). The USOC has authorized the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) to conduct this program for the sport of soccer for the USOC. USSF has approved and authorized the US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program (ODP).

WYOMING LEAGUE – The WYS sanctioned state/qualifying league.

WYOMING YOUTH SOCCER (WYS) – The Wyoming state affiliate of US Youth Soccer.

SOURCE

These Rules and Procedures are established, reviewed, and published at intervals by the Wyoming Youth Soccer (WYS) Board of Directors, and are subject to change by that board. Unless otherwise specified, changes in these rules take effect immediately.

MISSION STATEMENT

Wyoming Youth Soccer, an affiliated member of US Youth Soccer, the US Soccer Federation, and FIFA, is a charitable and educational organization whose purpose is to promote, develop, and grow the sport of soccer for Wyoming's youth players without regard to race, creed, religion, national origin, gender, or physical ability.

GOALS

- Provide opportunities for members to develop their skills to levels that fit their abilities and interest.
- Govern all members in a fair, efficient, and exemplary fashion.
- Ensure a healthy, safe, and enjoyable soccer environment.
- Foster honesty, integrity, and good sportsmanship.
- Educate youth players, coaches, referees, and the community about the sport of soccer.
- Recognize the positive contributions of volunteers, coaches, and young referees.
- Provide members with relevant administrative and technical support.
- Assure members due process and adjudication through properly established rules and procedures.
- Be a positive role model in youth sports leadership in Wyoming.
- Support and provide leadership to the associated governing bodies of youth soccer.
- Advance unity within the state, the region, and the national youth soccer community.

1) GENERAL PROVISIONS

- a) These rules shall govern all members of Wyoming Youth Soccer (WYS), except as provided by paragraph 1.3. All competitions sanctioned by WYS shall be governed by these rules unless the rules of a specific competition, as approved in advance by the WYS Board of Directors, provide otherwise.
- b) Each affiliated club (club) is responsible for ensuring that its players, coaches, managers, team representatives, and supporters adhere to these rules. Each club shall ensure that the actions of all associated individuals, on and off the field, do not bring WYS into disrepute.
- c) Clubs may adopt rules and procedures that differ from these rules for purposes of in-house play.
- d) WYS reserves the right to accept or reject any applying club if WYS, at its sole discretion, determines that the acceptance of that club would be either advantageous or detrimental to WYS or its mission and goals.
- e) Prior to participation in any sanctioned WYS practice, tournament or league play each club's teams and/or players shall have paid the required registration and other fees. All players, or a minor player's guardian, will have signed a consent for medical treatment and a release from liability.
- f) Seasonally, each club, using the designated registration system or process, shall submit or update the club registration data and pay the affiliation fee by the deadline set by WYS.
- g) Each club shall register each season or year, as set forth in each clubs' bylaws or rules and policies, on or before any dates prescribed by WYS, all of its players, coaches, assistant coaches, and team volunteers. Registration deadlines shall be established from time to time by WYS and shall be communicated to the membership at least 30 (thirty) days prior to said deadline date.
- h) Every soccer year each club shall designate an official club registrar who shall be responsible for the proper registration of a club's players, teams, coaches, and club officials, verifying proof of age, approving and signing as valid all membership cards and rosters, approving player requests, proper maintenance and disposal of proof of age documents, records maintenance, proper accounting of fiscal transactions, and accurate reporting to WYS. All requests submitted by the official club registrar will be considered valid, unless the request is in violation of USSF/USYS/WYS rules and procedures.
- i) Unless a coed division is specified, a coed team shall be considered a boys team.
- j) USSF certified referees shall be assigned, using whenever possible certified assignors, to WYS sanctioned events, games, or Wyoming League matches.
- k) Each club, registered player, coach, assistant coach, club coach, and adult volunteer participating in WYS sanctioned or Wyoming League competition shall follow these rules and procedures, which govern all clubs and their participants and the rules and procedures of the Wyoming League Manual.

2) AGE LIMITS

- a) Wyoming League and all sanctioned competitions, unless otherwise approved in advance by WYS, shall divide play among teams by age divisions as posted each seasonal year on the WYS website.
- b) The age group limitations apply to members when they participate in interclub and Wyoming League or other WYS sanctioned competition, unless that competition is specifically a recreational event.
- c) A club may move players up to older age division teams by no more than 2 (two) years beyond the player's proper birth date age division.
- d) Except with specific approval from the state office, a club may not move a player down to a younger age division. The State Registrar has the discretion to consider, on a case by case basis, a club's need to move a player down, and thereby grant such a request in the best interest of the club and the player.
- e) A club must request to the state registrar that a player/players play up 3 (three) years or more. Upon a club's written approval to the state registrar, the player's parent/guardian will be required to complete and submit an additional Accident Waiver and Release of Liability before the child can participate.
- f) A player who reaches the upper age of any age division on or after the first day of August of the previous seasonal year for which he or she is registering shall remain eligible to play in that division for the remainder of the current seasonal year.
- g) Official proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate or birth registration issued by an appropriate governmental agency, board of health records, passport, alien registration card issued by the United States government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age, or a certification of an American citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency.
- h) Hospital, baptismal, or religious certificates cannot be accepted as official proof of age documents.
- i) Official proof-of-age documents in a foreign language must have an English translation attached. Translations may be provided by anyone recognized as a translator by Wyoming Youth Soccer.
- j) If a team coach suspects that the age of player, as stated on the membership card and the roster, is incorrect *and* the club has not received special permission to roster the player to the team in question, proof of age can be requested following the game.
 - i) The request for Proof of Age must be submitted to the state office, along with \$20 within 24 hours of the event.
 - ii) If the player's stated age is determined to be incorrect sanctions, as determined by a WYS disciplinary committee, will be imposed.
- k) Players who entered the United States on or after their 12th birthday are responsible for requesting an international clearance from the Federation.
- l) Players who are 12 through 16 years of age do not need an international clearance if the player and the player's parents sign a statement that the player has not signed a professional contract or received money from a professional team for playing soccer.

3) PLAYER, COACH AND TEAM VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

- a) Registration of a youth player involves completing the registration process of a WYS affiliated club that will include the legal signing of a release from liability, consent for medical treatment, and payment of a registration fee; the minimum fee being the player registration fee required by WYS. These are to be signed by hand or electronically by a parent/guardian if the player is a minor.
- b) Registration of a coach, assistant coach, club coach or other adult who will be in direct contact with youth players (team personnel) involves completing a registration process with a WYS affiliated club that will include the legal signing, either by hand or electronically, of a release from liability, a background information disclosure and authorization for a background check.
- c) Finalization of registration requires each club to submit for approval all players, team personnel, and team coaches who will be participating in WYS sanctioned practices, games, tournaments, or Wyoming League using the WYS designated registration system.
- d) Each approved, properly registered and rostered player and coach shall receive a USYS/WYS membership card, with a current photograph of the member affixed and is signed and approved by the authorized club registrar or designee (except as set forth in 3g).
- e) Players and coaches who participate solely in in-house/recreational competition are not to be issued a USYS/WYS membership card.
- f) Any in-house/recreational player and/or coach who wants to participate in sanctioned, non in-house/recreational competition must pay a transfer fee and be rostered to a club's team(s) before obtaining a USYS membership card as described in 3d above.

- g) Clubs, only when set forth in their bylaws and/or rules and policies may register, but not roster to a team, and provide to a player a USYS/WYS membership card. This card may not list a team and must have on the card the words GUEST PLAYER and the player's true age group.
- h) Clubs, as set forth in their bylaws and/or rules and policies may determine ownership of the USYS/WYS membership card.
- i) On a case by case basis, approval may be given for U12 – U19 players to directly register with WYS, in the manner determined by the state registrar for a fee as determined by the board of directors.
 - i) Will be for GUEST PLAYER status, as defined in these rules and procedures.
 - ii) Will require verification from the player's home club, which will consist of no less than an email from the player's home club president stating the reason(s) the player cannot register directly with their home club.
- j) WYS allows its affiliated clubs to form tournament teams, as defined in these rules and procedures.
- k) Players participate on such teams as secondary players with the understanding that their primary club team is not attending the same events and/or their primary club team will not be impacted negatively by the loss of the member.
- l) For the convenience of its affiliated clubs, WYS can manage tournament teams and in those cases shall be known as WYO 307. An additional team name can be added *following* WYO 307.
- m) Management of a WYO 307 team shall require:
 - i) the payment of a team management fee, the amount to be determined from time to time by the WYS executive board;
 - ii) the team's coaches will have completed the WYS coach registration process (3b) even if they have completed the same process with another WYS affiliated club;
 - iii) all players will be registered and in good standing with a WYS affiliated club and must remain in good standing to continue to be eligible for the WYS 307 team.
- n) The state registrar or assistant will be the authorized registrar for WYO 307 teams; membership cards remain the property of WYO 307.

4) REGISTRATION SUBMISSION

- a) At the beginning of each soccer year, but no later than September 15, each club president shall assure that the state registrar has received the WYS Official Club Registrar Verification form and understands the role and responsibilities of the official club registrar.
- b) Player and team personnel registration shall be completed in the manner required by the State Office.
- c) The State Office is not obligated to accept registration requests or data that is submitted in another manner.

5) INSURANCE

- a) When participating in WYS sanctioned activities, all properly registered Members are provided secondary medical insurance and coverage under a primary general liability policy for bodily injury or property damage to spectators, game participants, and to members of the general public. Contact the State Office or WYS web site for coverage details and medical claim submission.
- b) All known potentially significant injuries shall be reported to WYS, in the manner requested, by the coach or association as applicable for league, in-house play, or other sanctioned event.
- c) All injury claims against the medical insurance program shall be reported to WYS within 90 days of the occurrence of the injury on the proper insurance claim form. Forms are available from local clubs, the State Office, or the WYS web site.
- d) For approval of claims for injuries that occurred during participation or travel to any event out of USYS Region IV, a properly executed notification of travel must have been submitted, using the process and within the timelines established by the State Office. See Section 17.

6) PLAY DURING THE WYOMING HIGH SCHOOL SEASON

- a) A player who is a member of a Wyoming high school soccer team shall comply with all applicable Wyoming High School Activities Association (WHSAA) rules. Contact WHSSA, 731 E. 2nd St., Casper, WY 82601. Office phone is (307) 577-0614; fax is (307) 577-0637; www.whsaa.org
- b) A player who is a member of a high school soccer team may participate in US Youth Soccer WYS ODP training events during the high school soccer season only with the appropriate written approval from the player's high school team coach. This request and approval must comply with current WHSAA rules.
- c) A player who is not a member of a high school soccer team may play in an interim league during the high school season. A player participating in such a league will return to his/her primary team for the regular Wyoming League session. Neither the player nor the primary team shall be in violation of drop and/or transfer rules.

7) **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY - Adds, Drops, Releases, and Transfers**

- a) Rules governing rosters and players for competition leading to the Wyoming Cup State Championship supersede WYS rules as outlined in this section.
- b) Only after approval from the state registrar may a player register with more than one WYS affiliated club (dual membership). Participation on WYO 307 teams, WYS ODP, tournament teams, or participation as a guest player shall not be a violation of this rule.
- c) A player with dual membership can only play on one team for one club during any WYS sanctioned event or Wyoming League. A dual membership player must state his/her primary club and primary team as part of the request for dual membership. The player will be bound to their primary team for Wyoming League and Wyoming Cup eligibility.
- d) Once an official team roster has been approved by the authorized club registrar, each player rostered to that team is bound to that team for the club's entire season, either fall or spring or both, per the club's rules and policies; unless the player is multi-rostered, moves, or transfers to another team or club, or the player is dropped as provided below.
- e) A club may add an unlimited number of newly registered players to its team rosters in a given age group throughout the seasonal year, as long as the team roster does not exceed WYS's maximum team roster sizes. (See the Wyoming League Rules, Policies, and Procedures manual for any Wyoming League roster size exceptions.)
- f) Dropping a player from a team against his/her will is prohibited unless the club's DOC or team head coach can show cause.
- g) Release and Transfer of a player shall be defined as adding a USYS/WYS rostered player, from one club to another club's team roster. A team shall be limited to a total of 5 (five) transferred players per seasonal year. The following exceptions exist:
 - (1) Movement of players among teams of a single club, as allowed in section 7.d and 7.e, shall not count as a transfer.
 - (2) Movement of a player between an interim team and a Wyoming League team is not a transfer.
 - (3) Participation as a guest player, where permitted by the rules of a specific competition, and with proper authorization, is not a transfer.
 - (4) Players rostered to a team that officially disbands prior to its third league game, as confirmed by the official club registrar, are non-rostered players. Such non-rostered players may be added to existing teams without being considered a transferred or previously rostered player.
- h) All requests for release and transfer of a player from one club/club's team to another club/club's team shall be submitted to WYS in the manner specified by the state office, can be electronic, and shall contain the following:
 - (1) Agreement/signature of the player.
 - (2) Agreement/signature of a parent/guardian of the player if the player is under 18 years of age.
 - (3) Agreement/signature of the releasing club and the accepting club, or a letter of authorization from each club's Board President.
- i) All requests to release a player from a club's team during a qualifying league season shall be submitted to WYS in the manner specified by the state office, can be electronic, and shall contain the following:
 - (1) Agreement/signature of the player.
 - (2) Agreement/signature of a parent/guardian of the player if the player is under 18 years of age.
 - (3) Agreement/signature of the releasing team coach or a letter of authorization from the club's Board President.
- j) In the event the releasing club registrar fails to approve appropriate requests, such failure may be protested to the WYS's Protest and Appeals Committee. The following, while not exclusive, are valid reasons for not releasing a player during the seasonal year.
 - (1) When the player individually or as part of a group of players requesting release would leave the releasing club or team with an insufficient number of healthy players to field a team.
 - (2) When the player was illegally recruited as determined by the Disciplinary Committee.
 - (3) When the player is indebted to the releasing team and/or club (money, uniforms, and other tangible goods).
- k) A registered player that moves from an in-house developmental program to a Wyoming League team, after the approval of the Wyoming League team roster, shall be considered a transfer.
- l) A fee, as determined by WYS, may be charged for each player released and/or transferred.
- m) Each club, through its coaches and/or board (administrators) can, based on their own judgment and the rules of the club, determine whether or not a player(s) should be added to or removed from its teams. It is also the responsibility of each club to manage its teams in the best interest of the players and the teams'

development. Any matters that arise with players, parents, guardians, coaches or other adults regarding player movement within the scope of this policy *is the sole responsibility of the club.*

8) US YOUTH SOCCER/WYS OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (US YOUTH SOCCER ODP)

- a) The operation of US Youth Soccer/WYS ODP (WYS ODP) is vested with the WYS Board of Directors and is under the supervision of the WYS ODP Program Administrator and WYS Technical Director. Program details and player eligibility are posted on the WYS web site and updated yearly.
- b) The US Youth Soccer ODP is a program for youth soccer players under 19 years of age (as defined by its bylaws). It is open to all players regardless of race, color, creed, sex, national origin, or affiliation. Players cannot play below their age group.
- c) The US Youth Soccer ODP is conducted by US Youth Soccer and receives substantial funding from US Youth Soccer and is to be carried out in accordance with the bylaws, policies, procedures, and directions established by US Youth Soccer, its regions, and US Youth Soccer State Associations.
- d) Participation in WYS ODP is open to any youth player, regardless of affiliation (or lack thereof) as long as the proper fees are paid and the player is within the program age groups.
- e) Unaffiliated players registering to participate in WYS ODP can be charged administrative fees, the amount of which will be determined at the WYS/WYS ODP July budget meeting.
- f) Registration for the WYS ODP program by non-affiliated youth players limits the player to participation in US Youth Soccer sanctioned ODP events only.
- g) Players wishing to be evaluated for WYS ODP may only do so and be selected for the program through the State Association of which the player resides.
- h) Players may request written permission to try out for the Olympic Development Program of another State Association. To be eligible to try out in another State Association, the player must receive written permission from:
 - (1) the State Association where the player resides; and
 - (2) the State Association where the player wishes to try out.
- i) A player may only try out for the Olympic Development Program in one State Association.
- j) A player is responsible for all Olympic Development Program fees of the State Association in which the player tries out.

9) RECRUITING AND POACHING

- a) No club or team, through its coaching staff, players, parents or guardians, responsible officers or any other representatives, is permitted to induce or request or assist a USYS/WYS registered player to leave his/her team and/or club to transfer to and play with another WYS team and/or club during the club's season/seasonal year. This is considered poaching and such allegations shall be subject to an inquiry and possible hearing by a WYS Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the provisions of section 19 shall set penalties for violation of this rule.
- b) The following recruitment practices shall be illegal:
 - (1) Recruiting or attempting to recruit any player or the player's parents/guardians with offers of material goods, gifts, free trips, scholarships, additional or advanced playing opportunities or opportunities for recognition or exposure to situations which could result in future benefits.
 - (2) Holding team tryouts for a new seasonal year prior to the Memorial Day holiday of the current seasonal year.

RULES OF PLAY – MODIFICATIONS TO LAWS OF THE GAME: WYS/WYOMING LEAGUE AND WYS SANCTIONED COMPETITIONS All WYS sanctioned competitions shall be played in accordance with the most current FIFA Laws of the Game and the modifications noted within these rules.

10) LAW I – THE FIELD OF PLAY

- a) In all games, the team listed first on the official game schedule shall be designated as the home team.
- b) Dimensions shall be modified to comply with the short-sided format.
- c) The club in the town where games are scheduled shall be responsible for the condition of the grounds, field markings, and proper equipment. Corner flags not conforming to Law I are forbidden.
- d) During the play of any game, all members of a team not on the field of play shall remain in their designated team area and behind any drawn spectator line or at least 5 (five) feet from the touch line, with the specific exceptions of players warming up prior to impending substitution.
 - (1) If both teams are on the same side of the field, each team's area shall commence 10 (ten) yards from the halfway line and shall extend for a distance of 20 (twenty) yards towards the appropriate

goal line. When a fourth official has been appointed, both teams shall be on the same side of the field.

- (2) If teams are located on opposite sides of the field, the team's area shall extend from the halfway line for a distance of 10 (ten) yards towards each goal line.
 - (3) If no friendly accord is reached on the choice of each team's area, and:
 - (4) Both teams are on the same side of the field, the home team shall occupy the team area nearest the north or west goal line.
 - (5) If the teams wish to be on opposite sides of the field, the home team shall occupy the team area on the north or west side of the field.
- e) All spectators shall remain at least 5 (five) feet from touchlines or goal lines, unless spectator lines establish a different distance. No person shall be permitted behind the goal-areas unless seated in bleachers.

11) LAW II – THE BALL

- a) Each team shall supply the referee with one or more suitable balls, properly inflated and in good condition. The referee shall choose the ball to be used in the game.
- b) Teams shall use balls as follows:

DIVISION	BALL SIZE
U8 and younger	# 3
U9 through U12	# 4
U13 and older	# 5

12) LAW III – NUMBER OF PLAYERS/SUBSTITUTIONS

- a) Recreational players shall normally play at least 50% (fifty percent) of each game.
- b) With the referee's permission, a team may substitute or re-substitute any number of players at the following stoppages:
 - (1) Prior to a throw-in, only by the team throwing in.
 - (2) Prior to a goal kick, by either team.
 - (3) After a goal, by either team.
 - (4) After an injury when the referee has stopped play, by either team.
 - (5) Between periods, by either team.
- c) With the referee's permission, a team may substitute for a cautioned player at the time of the caution.
- d) U6 through U12 players shall play small-sided games, with number of players as follows:

DIVISION	NUMBER OF PLAYERS	MAX ROSTER SIZE
U6	3, no goalie	6
U8	4, no goalie	8
U10	8 w/goalie	14
U12	8 w/goalie	14

13) LAW IV – PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

- a) The following items are not permitted:
 - (1) Hair control devices with any hard parts
 - (2) Jewelry of any sort, including earrings of any kind regardless of covering.
- b) The following items are CONDITIONALLY permitted:
 - (1) Religious medals or medical tags that are taped to the body.
 - (2) Splints, casts, braces, or other joint support devices which, in the referee's opinion, are not inherently dangerous or are padded with pliable materials to eliminate a dangerous condition.
 - (3) Goalkeeper hat with soft pliable brim for shielding eyes from direct sunlight.
 - (4) Failure of the referee to notice illegal equipment shall not be cause for protest.
- c) All players shall wear shin guards. Knee-high stockings shall be worn over and shall cover the shin guards.
- d) In Wyoming League, all field players on a team shall wear similar color jerseys, similar color shorts, and similar color stockings. A legible non-duplicate number on the back of each jersey is required. Players and substitutes shall not change numbers or remove their jerseys prior to the completion of the game without specific permission of the referee. The color of a team's jersey may be different from the color of the team's shorts and/or stockings.

- e) Only undergarments that are the same color as the uniform shorts may extend below the bottom of the uniform shorts. Such undergarments shall not extend farther than the top of the player's knee. No other undergarments may extend below the bottom of a player's uniform shorts.
- f) Any players not in compliance with these provisions after play begins shall adjust their equipment at the next stoppage of play.
- g) Goalkeepers may wear long trousers as they see fit. In cold weather, any player may wear leotards or warm-ups, sweat suits, or similar trousers, the legs of which extend below the player's knee.
- h) At each game, both teams shall be able to make a change of jersey color.
- i) If both teams are wearing similar color uniforms, the home team shall be required to change jerseys. Either team's goalkeeper shall change their jersey as the referee directs regardless of home/visitor status.
- j) All players starting each half or entering the field as substitutes shall have their jerseys fully tucked into their shorts. Unless adverse weather conditions exist, the wearing of long sleeve shirts under short sleeve jerseys is prohibited.

14) LAW V – REFEREES

- a) Only the diagonal system of control (one whistle only) shall be used. If there are only two registered officials, one shall referee and the other shall be an assistant referee. If available, non-registered volunteers may serve as club linesmen.
- b) Prior to the start of each Wyoming League game, each team shall provide the referee with the information required on the WYS game report. The referee shall:
 - (1) Provide each coach with the name of the each official participating as referee and assistant referee on that game.
 - (2) Collect a copy of the official team roster for that competition and the USYS member passes of the players and coaches desiring to participate in the game.
 - (3) Verify the identity of each player and coach with the picture on his/her USYS member pass.
 - (4) Unless the referee has received specific authorization from WYS or the competition authority, prohibit the participation in the game of any player or coach who does not have a valid pass.
 - (5) Record on the game report, as informed by the team representative, the name of any person on the roster not participating because of suspension.
 - (6) Inspect the equipment of each player for safety and conformance with WYS rules.
- c) In Wyoming League, at the completion of each game the referee shall:
 - (1) Record the identity and details of the offense of any participant who has been cautioned or sent off or has committed equivalent misconduct prior to, during, or after the completion of the game.
 - (2) Retain the USYS member pass of any participant who has been sent off or has committed equivalent misconduct.
 - (3) Return the rosters and remaining passes to the appropriate team representatives.
 - (4) Accurately complete the game report, including the full name of each official and mail or deliver it to the Wyoming League Administrator within 72 hours, or as required by the competition authority. Full details on all misconduct shall be accurately described in the report or on a supplemental sheet accompanying the report.
 - (5) Deliver or mail any USYS member passes retained for misconduct with the game report.
 - (6) Be available to explain or clarify incidents described in the game report in writing and/or in person at an official hearing.
 - (7) If the referee's report is not received by the Wyoming League Administrator within 7 (seven) calendar days of the game date or is lacking crucial information, the referee shall not be paid for future games.
- d) In Wyoming League, if a scheduled game is not played, the referee shall submit a game report and state the reasons for not playing the game.
- e) In Wyoming League, if a scheduled game is not played due to lack of a referee, the coach shall submit a report, in writing, to the Wyoming League Administrator.
- f) The referee's judgment with regard to the fitness of the field for play shall be final. Exception: Club officials or other persons who hold park or field permits and/or have responsibility for field condition may close the field to play.
- g) Disruptive behavior from the boundary lines by coaches or spectators is prohibited and will be regarded as ungentlemanly conduct warranting a report of misconduct equivalent to a caution and, if continued, a send off. Tactical coaching from the boundary lines is permitted but must be done in a manner that is not disruptive to the game.
- h) In interclub play, the referee shall not retain the USYS member pass of a participant who has been sent off or who has committed equivalent misconduct, but shall notify the home club, which shall take such

disciplinary action against the participant as it shall deem appropriate. If the participant was affiliated with a visiting club, the home club shall notify the visiting club, and the visiting club shall take appropriate disciplinary action against the participant, as it shall deem appropriate.

- i) In interclub play, the referee shall return the rosters and all USYS member passes to the appropriate team representative and, after accurately completing the game report, return it to the home club.
- j) Referees shall, prior to each match, check the credentials of every player and coach participating in the match. Players and coaches not properly credentialed by being on the team roster and having a player or coach pass card shall not participate in the match. If no coaches are present with proper credentials for a team, that team shall forfeit the match. This rule does not apply where teams and players are not required to present credentials, such as in recreational matches.

15) LAW VI - ASSISTANT REFEREES

- a) No Modifications.

16) LAW VII - DURATION OF THE GAME

- a)

DIVISION	GAME DURATION	OVERTIME	HALFTIME DURATION
U17 - U19	2-45 minute halves	2-15 minute halves	5 minutes
U15/U16	2-40 minute halves	2-15 minute halves	5 minutes
U13/U14	2-35 minute halves	2-10 minute halves	5 minutes
U11/U12	2-30 minute halves	2-10 minute halves	5 minutes
U9/U10	2-25 minute halves	None	5 minutes
U7/U8	4-12 minute quarters	None	5 minutes
U6 - younger	4-8 minute quarters	None	5 minutes

- b) There will be no overtime play for games during the regularly scheduled league season.
- c) Unless modified rules specify, game duration will be as above.

17) LAWS VIII, IX, X, XI – THE START OF PLAY; BALLS IN AND OUT OF PLAY; METHOD OF SCORING; OFF-SIDES

- a) No Modifications.

18) LAW XII - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

- a) No Modifications.

19) LAWS XIII, XIV, XV, XVI AND XVII – FREE KICK; PENALTY KICK; THROW-IN; GOAL-KICK; CORNER KICK

- a) As modified for small-sided games.

20) MISCONDUCT PROCEDURES

- a) All participants in WYS activities shall be subject to all misconduct rules contained herein, regardless of whether they have USYS membership cards and regardless of whether the referee displayed a yellow or red card. Misconduct not noted in a referee’s game report but is reported by any individual to the proper WYS authority may be investigated.
- b) A participant whose USYS membership card has been retained or who has been notified of suspension shall be ineligible to participate in any WYS sanctioned game until the USYS membership card is returned to the team representative or the suspension satisfied. Any individual who participates in a game while ineligible shall be subject to further disciplinary action. Any team that permits an ineligible player, an overage player, or a non-rostered player to participate in a game shall forfeit all games in which that player participated and the team representative shall be subject to further disciplinary action.
- c) A team representative shall be responsible for the actions of any individual who is associated with that team. If an individual engages in prolonged harassment of officials or abusive disagreement, or interference with officials, the team representative may be asked to control the individual. If the team representative does not reasonably attempt to control the individual’s misconduct, the team representative may be reported for ungentlemanly misconduct (equivalent to a caution). If the individual’s misconduct persists and the team representative still makes no effort to control the individual, the team representative may be dismissed (sent off) for persisting in misconduct after being cautioned. If the team representative has no control over

the individual or situation, the team representative shall not be penalized. Instead, the referee shall take other appropriate action.

- d) The referee may suspend play when necessary due to spectator or participant interference until the individual creating the disturbance leaves the playing area to a minimum of 100 (one hundred) yards from the field. Said individual shall remain silent for the duration of the game. Failure of an individual to comply with the referee's request within 2 (two) minutes may result in the referee's terminating the game. Such incident may result in forfeiture of the game as well as further disciplinary action.
- e) Any team representative, whose team refuses to take the field without cause, refuses to travel to an assigned game site without cause, or quits a game prior to its completion shall be reported by the referee to the state office. The team's club and the team shall be subject to fines and disciplinary action.
- f) Any participant who refuses to give his/her correct name to the referee while being cautioned, sent off, or otherwise disciplined shall be subject to additional disciplinary action.
- g) Misconduct involving 1 (one) or more WYS participants, at any time or place shall be reported in writing to WYS. WYS shall act on such reports at its sole discretion.

21) DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND PENALTIES

- a) The WYS Executive Board shall appoint a Disciplinary Committee (DC) consisting of at least 3 (three) impartial members, which shall have jurisdiction to act on any disciplinary matter in which the Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws or Rules and Procedures of WYS may have been violated and on any incident that may bring WYS or affiliated organizations into disrepute. The DC shall have the authority to consider all available information in any form regarding a disciplinary matter. The DC is empowered to conduct hearings in order to investigate alleged misconduct.
- b) Any incident or misconduct occurring within Wyoming shall be reported in writing to WYS within 60 days of the incident.
- c) The DC shall have the discretionary power to establish the penalties applied to participants. Any penalty established by the DC for a specific matter may, after a hearing, be reduced or increased by the DC. The DC is authorized to set specific periods and conditions of probation and to establish penalties for probation violations.
- d) Referees participating in WYS sanctioned events shall be subject to the disciplinary procedures of WYS. The Referee Committee (RC) shall have the authority to recommend appropriate disciplinary action to the State Referee Administrator (SRA). Allegations of referee misconduct occurring during in-house programs will initially be dealt with within the club. A club may choose to refer a matter to the WYS RC.
- e) A participant charged with misconduct shall have the right to:
 - (1) A hearing on the charges within 60 (sixty) days of WYS's receipt of a written report of alleged misconduct. Within 30 (thirty) days if alleged referee assault.
 - (2) Receive reasonable advance notice of the charges and of the date, time, and place of such hearing.
 - (3) Attend each hearing in person or to send a duly authorized representative.
 - (4) Testify, call witnesses and present evidence on his/her behalf, and directly question opposing witnesses.
 - (5) Receive, within 30 (thirty) days of the hearing, written notification of the committee's findings, conclusions, actions, and recommendations, his/her appeal rights, the procedure for filing an appeal, and the time within which an appeal may be filed.
 - (6) Appeal any decisions to the WYS Protest and Appeals Committee (P&A) and beyond, in accordance with these Rules and Procedures.
- f) Evidence in the form of videotape may be presented to WYS's Board of Directors or any of its committees, including but not limited to the Protest and Appeals Committee (P&A), the Disciplinary Committee (DC), and the Referee Disciplinary Subcommittee (RDSC) upon compliance with the following requirements:
 - (1) It shall be the duty of the person presenting evidence in such form to furnish or provide for all equipment necessary to view such videotape, and
 - (2) The person presenting the videotape evidence shall have no more than 5 (five) minutes to set up the necessary equipment prior to the commencement of the actual hearing and no more than 5 (five) minutes to remove the equipment at the conclusion of the hearing, and
 - (3) Such videotape shall be viewed during the time allotted for such person's presentation of evidence and shall not be cause for extending the time permitted for the presentation of such person's evidence, and
 - (4) Such videotape shall be submitted to the State Office no later than 2 (two) business days prior to the date of the hearing at which such videotape is to be shown, and
 - (5) Such videotape shall be left with the WYS Board of Directors or the chairman of the appropriate committee at the conclusion of such hearing.

- g) After both sides have presented all testimony, the DC shall retire to executive session to deliberate and decide. The decision shall represent the considered judgment of the majority of the voting DC members who heard the evidence presented at the hearing.
- h) Except as otherwise provided by US Youth Soccer National Championship Series rules, cautions and send offs counted for automatic suspension purposes shall carry forward from league to other competitions and vice-versa without limit and from one seasonal year to the next seasonal year.
- i) Any suspension stated in these rules shall commence with the next sanctioned game in which the suspended individual would otherwise be eligible to participate. For any game that a participant is “sitting out”, it is the responsibility of the coach or team representative to inform the referee of the name of the individual not participating.
- j) In the event of an unsuccessful appeal of a participant’s suspension, the full penalty shall begin with the next sanctioned game in which the participant would otherwise be eligible to participate. The duration of the suspension shall not be diminished by the passage of time consumed by the failed appeal.
- k) If a participant wishes credit for “sitting out” a USYS sanctioned game that was played outside of Wyoming, the participant must provide evidence of “sitting out”, which must satisfy WYS as to its authenticity.
- l) Participants whose misconduct outside of Wyoming is reported to WYS shall be subject to WYS discipline as though the offense had occurred in Wyoming. The written or verbal report shall be received by WYS within 90 days of the date of misconduct.
- m) The term “stand-alone caution” shall mean any caution or equivalent misconduct, except for 2 (two) cautions in the same game, which result in the send off of a participant for “persisting in misconduct after having received a caution.” Any participant who accumulates 3 (three) stand-alone cautions during any 365-day period shall be suspended automatically for a minimum of 1 (one) game. WYS shall monitor the accumulation of stand-alone cautions and shall notify the participant and the team representative in writing of a participant’s one-game suspension when 3 (three) such cautions have been accumulated within a 365-day period.
- n) Any participant who is sent off from a game or is reported for misconduct prior to or following a game for the offenses of “violent conduct”, “serious foul play”, “using foul or abusive language” or “persisting in misconduct after having received a caution”, shall be suspended automatically for a minimum of one (1) game.
- o) The SRA/SYRA shall review all reports of a participant’s “violent conduct or serious foul play”. If the participant forcefully struck, fought with, or spat upon another person, the participant shall be automatically suspended for a minimum of 2 (two) games and the SRA/SYRA may recommend that the incident be the subject of a hearing by the DC. If the report indicates that a participant intentionally caused, or attempted to cause, serious physical injury or if the individual committed an offense with grossly excessive force, the matter shall be subject to mandatory review by the DC.
- p) The term “official” shall refer not only to referees, assistant referees, fourth officials, and others duly appointed to assist in officiating a match, but also to all officers, employees, or appointees of WYS/USYS/USSF or affiliated organizations as well as all volunteers working in an official capacity within these organizations and all visiting dignitaries at a sanctioned event.
- q) The terms “abuse” and “assault” as applied to referees shall include but not be limited to any of the following:
 - (1) Referee abuse: Verbal abuse or threat; obscene gestures; threatening attitude directed at an official or his/her property, or similar offensive action.
 - (2) Referee assault: The act or attempted act of striking, kicking, tripping, holding, restraining, or otherwise physically accosting; the act of taking or attempting to take any item from an official such as a red or yellow card, pass, or flag; directing any object at an official, whether harmful such as a rock, or harmless such as water or similar offensive action. Any act in which an official suffers bodily harm or in which property belonging to or in the custody of an official is damaged or lost is viewed with particular concern.
- r) A participant guilty of an assault on an official shall be automatically suspended for a minimum of 12 (twelve) months unless serious injuries are inflicted, then the minimum suspension period will be at least five (5) years.
- s) The minimum suspension period for referee abuse shall be at least three (3) scheduled matches.
- t) Any participant who is suspended for a total of six (6) games during any 365-day period shall be automatically suspended for an additional six (6) games and shall automatically be placed on probation within WYS for a period of six (6) months by the DC. The participant may be subject to a suspension of up to 12 (twelve) calendar months.

- u) Any participant who accumulates 3 (three) stand-alone cautions or is sent off 1 (one) time during a probationary period shall be required to appear before the DC and may be subject to additional disciplinary actions at the discretion of the DC.
- v) The DC may consider a written or oral statement from the reporting referee recommending clemency for a participant, team, or club due to mitigating circumstances or a self-stated error by the referee.

22) REFEREE MISCONDUCT PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

- a) The chairman of the Referee Committee (RC) shall annually appoint a chairman of the Referee Disciplinary Sub-Committee (RDSC). The RDSC Chairman shall select, from currently registered USSF referees, no fewer than 10 (ten) additional members for the RDSC. Such membership shall be reviewed and approved by the RC.
- b) All allegations of referee misconduct, unethical conduct, or conflict of interest shall be directed, in writing, to the State Office. The State Office shall communicate such allegations promptly to the SRA/SYRA and the RC.
- c) To be considered, any complaint of referee misconduct must be received by WYS within 60 (sixty) days of the incident.
- d) The chairman of the RC, or his/her designee, shall promptly review the complaint and determine whether a formal investigation shall be required by the RDSC.
- e) If a formal investigation and hearing are required, they shall be scheduled such that a decision is reached within 60 (sixty) days of WYS's receipt of the complaint, or as required by the USSF *Ethics and Grievance Procedure for Referees*, etc. currently in force.
- f) The RDSC Chairman shall convene a hearing board consisting of the chairman and 4 (four) representative members of the standing sub-committee. The RDSC Chairman shall give notice of the time and place of the hearing at least 10 (ten) days prior to convening the hearing to the subject of the complaint, in writing, by certified mail, return receipt requested, and by regular mail or in person at the address on record with the SRA. In addition, written notice of the hearing shall also be made to the filer of the complaint, SRA, and any other persons whom the RDSC Chairman wishes to attend the hearing. The chairman of the RDSC shall have responsibility for assuring that a certified referee instructor is present to advise on the interpretation of *The Laws of the Game*.
- g) The hearing shall be presided over by the RDSC Chairman and shall proceed as follows:
 - (1) Complainant testimony.
 - (2) Testimony by subjects of the complaint. (Opposing parties, SRA, and hearing board members may question both sides as testimony is given.) After the hearing is adjourned, the hearing board members shall make a decision. The RDSC Chairman shall not vote except in the event of a tie. SRA shall not vote.
- h) The RDSC Chairman shall send a written report within 7 (seven) days of the hearing to the SRA. The report shall include the findings of the hearing and recommended penalties. Copies of the report shall be sent to the Referee Committee Chairman, WYS, the Disciplinary Committee Chairman, and the complainant. A copy shall be sent to the subject of the complaint by certified mail, return receipt requested, and by regular mail.
- i) Any referee subject to penalties shall receive, at the time of notification of the decision, notice of the right of appeal and the procedures required for such an appeal.
- j) SRA shall immediately impose the penalties recommended by the hearing board.

23) PROTEST AND APPEALS PROCEDURES

- a) The WYS Protest and Appeals (P&A) Committee shall consist of at least three (3) impartial members appointed by the Executive Board of WYS and have jurisdiction to hear and determine the following matters:
 - (1) **PROTESTS:** Actions arising from or related to specific game results, cautions, or ejections. Only team representatives may protest a game result. Protests must be based on violations or misapplications of *WYS Rules and Procedures, Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, or FIFA Laws of the Game*. Protests submitted to a sanctioned competition (such as a tournament) must proceed in accordance with the rules of that competition; however, protests or matters for which discipline or suspension may be imposed by WYS shall proceed in accordance with these rules.
 - (2) **APPEALS:** Actions arising from a decision by a WYS committee or official, by a member club, or by a sanctioned competition (e.g., tournament). Only those parties to the original action are entitled to appeal.
 - (3) A properly filed protest or appeal shall delay the effect of the protested action or ruling pending decision by the P&A Committee.

- b) THERE IS NO appeal of risk management decisions.
- c) The line of authority for protests and appeals shall be as follows:
 - (1) WYS Protest and Appeals Committee
 - (2) WYS Board of Directors
 - (3) USSF National Appeals Committee
- d) No protest or appeal shall be heard or determined by the next higher authority until a decision on the matter has been rendered by the lower authority; provided, however, that a failure of the WYS P&A Committee to decide a matter within 60 (sixty) days of receiving the protest or the appeal entitles the party to have the protest or appeal heard by the WYS Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Any higher authority may decide any protest or appeal upon review of the record of proceedings and decisions of the lower authority.
- e) All decisions rendered by WYS can be appealed directly to the USSF National Appeals Committee. A person has the right to appeal the decision to the USSF National Appeals Committee by completing a Notice of Appeal and sending it to USSF, together with the appropriate appeal fee (money order or cashier's check).
- f) All notices of appeal to USSF must be submitted by the person wishing to make such an appeal within 10 (ten) days from the receipt of the decision rendered by WYS. This includes all appeals relating to referee abuse/assault under prior USSF Rule 3041 and appeals relating to official misconduct under prior USSF Rule 3042.
- g) Appeals procedures are in the USSF Bylaws and Rules and Policies.
- h) **PROTEST PROCEDURES:** Any person wishing to protest must submit a written Notice of Protest to the State Office, and such notice must be postmarked or delivered within 7 (seven) calendar days following the date of the alleged violation or misapplication. The Notice of Protest must set forth the protestor's full name, address, and telephone numbers (home and work); describe each violation or misapplication, including the date, time, and place of each; state the relief or redress sought; and be accompanied by the required fee. The chair of the committee may summarily dismiss any protest that does not comply with the requirements of this paragraph.
- i) **APPEAL REQUIREMENTS:** Any person wishing to appeal to the Protest and Appeals Committee must submit a written Notice of Appeal to the State Office, and such notice must be postmarked or delivered within 7 (seven) calendar days following the date that person received notice of the action or decision being appealed. The Notice of Appeal must set forth the appellant's full name, address, and telephone numbers (home and work); describe the action or decision being appealed; state the relief or redress sought; and be accompanied by the required fee. The chair of the committee may summarily dismiss any appeal that does not comply with the requirements of this paragraph.
- j) **FEES:** The WYS protest and appeals fee is \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) for each protest or appeal. If the protest or appeal is upheld, the fee submitted to that authority shall be refunded.
- k) **HEARING PROCEDURES:** Each protest and appeal received by WYS and complies with 22.3 and 22.4, shall be forwarded to the chair of the committee. The chair shall set a date for a formal hearing and shall give written notice to the protester/appellant and other interested parties. The written notice shall set forth the date, time, and place of the hearing, the deadline for receipt of supplemental materials from the parties (materials may be requested by the committee), and that 10 (ten) minutes shall be allotted for each side to present his/her case. At the hearing, the committee members shall hear and consider arguments elaborating on the issues supported by the documents. Records of all proceedings shall be maintained. The committee shall retire to executive session to deliberate and decide. The decision shall represent the considered judgment of the majority of the voting committee members who heard the protest/appeal. After the hearing, the committee shall issue a written decision, which shall state adequately the reasons for the decision and shall announce the effective date of the decision for purposes of review or appeal to the next higher authority.
- l) Decisions rendered by the P&A Committee shall be conveyed in writing to all interested parties within 14 (fourteen) days of the decision, and a copy of the decision, along with all pertinent documents and findings shall be filed with the State Office.
- m) Any decision rendered by the P&A Committee may be appealed to the WYS Board of Directors. The appeal shall be submitted in writing to the State Office, postmarked or delivered within 7 (seven) calendar days of the receipt of the decision of the P&A Committee. An additional fee of \$100.00 (one hundred dollars) is required. The appeal does not entitle the appellant to a new hearing, but a decision may be made on the basis of a review of the record and proceedings of the P&A Committee. The chair of the P&A Committee shall present the committee's decision to the Board of Directors, but shall abstain from the vote on the board's decision on the appeal. The secretary of the Board of Directors shall convey, in writing, the board's decision to all interested parties, within 14 (fourteen) days of the decision.

- n) No WYS affiliated club or individual member may invoke the aid of any courts of the city, county, state, or of the United States without first exhausting all available remedies within the body of organized soccer. For violation of this rule, the offending party or parties shall be subject to suspension from this organization and any affiliated organization and shall be liable for all expenses incurred for legal costs and time of any officials of this organization or any affiliated organization. These include court fees, attorneys' fees, and compensation for time spent by WYS/USYS/USSF officers and employees, travel expenses, and expenses for special meetings necessitated by said court action.
- o) Any protest or appeal that the Protest and Appeals Committee determines to be lacking in good faith or substantial justification shall be grounds for disciplinary action against the protester/appellant.

24) AMATEUR TRIAL GAMES

- a) A youth player shall be permitted to play an unlimited number of amateur (adult) games with USASA affiliated teams without losing youth eligibility, providing that the youth player:
 - (1) Obtains written permission from his/her youth coach or team representative, and
 - (2) Receives written eligibility clearance from WYS
 - (3) WYS or other appropriate USASA affiliates have sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play amateur games and is responsible for establishing the procedures under which amateur game participation is implemented.
- b) If there is a conflict between an amateur (adult) game and a youth game, the youth game shall take precedence.
- c) Any player who has signed a "letter of intent" or a professional contract or who has played in a game with professional players or on a professional team, without prior written approval of the WYS Board of Directors, shall lose all privileges of youth amateur status and shall not be permitted to be reinstated to youth amateur status.
- d) The WYS Board of Directors may grant youth amateur players permission to play in benefit or exhibition games with professional players, but not in any other games involving professional players. Youth amateur players must have received written permission from the WYS Board of Directors before participating in these competitions.

25) TEAM/GUEST PLAYER TRAVEL PROCEDURES

- a) Any WYS team or player (as a guest player) wishing to travel outside the jurisdiction of WYS and US Youth Soccer Region IV shall submit a properly executed notification of travel, using a process and within the timelines established by the State Office. A copy of the approved notification is to be in the possession of the team's coach or manager and presented per the rules of the tournament.
- b) It is the responsibility of the team coach or manager to read, understand and follow a tournament's rules regarding the required team and guest player travel documentation.
- c) Travel outside of the United States, Canada, or Mexico requires approval of USYS and USSF. Notification of travel approval or denial will be sent directly to the team's coach or team representative.
- d) Teams that have been granted permission by WYS to play in an out of state league are exempt from acquiring travel papers for such out of state league play.

26) TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION AND PROCEDURES

- a) Only teams and participants in good standing with WYS/USYS/USSF and affiliated organizations may participate in tournaments sanctioned by WYS. Participants and teams playing in tournaments that have not been sanctioned by WYS or USYS may not have the privileges, benefits, and protections.
- b) All tournaments sanctioned by WYS shall adhere to and abide by all Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and WYS Rules and Procedures along with the USYS Application to Host and the USYS Tournament Hosting Agreement.
- c) USYS and WYS have no control or supervision over non-USYS sanctioned tournaments or games, their participants or staff, and rules of another organization will govern these events. The differing rules can include, but not be limited to, risk management requirements, rules of play, protest and appeal procedures, use of USSF registered referees, insurance coverage, and safety requirements.
- d) If an assault on a referee occurs at a WYS event/tournament by a player from another state, the referee shall immediately notify the Event/Tournament Chairman and forward a copy of the game report and his/her comments on the incident to the Event/Tournament Chairman on the day of the incident, the WYS President and the player's home state within ten (10) days. The Event/Tournament Chairman shall have the right to immediately convene a hearing at the site of the event/tournament, at which the player, his/her coach, and the game officials should be present. The Event/Tournament Chairman shall promptly relay information presented at this hearing to the player's Home State President, verbally and in writing.

27) WYOMING CUP CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

- a) The Wyoming Cup Championship Tournament (Wyoming Cup) is the WYS sponsored Memorial weekend tournament. Attendance is restricted to WYS affiliated teams.
- b) The championship division is for U12 to U14 boys and girls competitive teams. Eligibility is determined by participation in the spring season of Wyoming League.
- c) The recreational division is for U6 to U19 boys and girls recreational teams. Age groups invited can be determined by the hosting organization.

28) FAR WEST REGIONALS (FWR) AND RIV PRESIDENTS' CUP (PC) COMMITMENT AND BOND

- a) To participate in the *USYS Far West Regional Champions (FWR)* or the *RIV Presidents' Cup (PC)*, WYS affiliated clubs/teams must commit to attend and submit the required entry fee and bond for each team committed.
- b) The complete bond will be forfeited by any club/team that, after committing, fails to participate in the FWR or PC for whatever reason. Any team experiencing difficulties with player attendance must contact the state office and accept any terms WYS presents to assure that the team will still attend.
- c) WYS's entries into FWR and the President's Cup are determined by the responses to the commitment form that must be submitted to the State Office by the deadline indicated.
- d) Uncontested Teams: If only 1 (one) team in an age bracket commits and pays the bond, that team will be able to and expected to participate.
- e) Multiple Teams: If more than 1 (one) team in any age group commits and pays the bond by the deadline, those teams will be required to play off to determine which team will attend. The game must be played before March 1.

29) US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

- a) The US Youth Soccer National Championship Series consist of separately conducted competitions within each USYS state, which shall lead to regional (Far West Regionals/FWR) and national competition. Each competition is open to any USYS affiliated team in good standing. The competition is not open to select teams.

30) ALCOHOL, ILLEGAL DRUGS, CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND FIREARMS

- a) The possession, consumption, or use of any alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, or controlled substance or the possession or use of any firearm at the field area by any player, coach, referee, team official, or spectator prior to, during, or after the playing of any WYS activity is prohibited. Any individual who violates this prohibition shall be subject to disciplinary action by WYS.

31) RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

- a) It is the intent of WYS to exclude from participation in WYS/WYS ODP activities all persons who have been convicted of crimes of violence, crimes against a person or child, a felony; a drug offense or a DUI/DWI/MIP within the past 7 years.
- b) Every WYS affiliated association/club/program will follow the risk management guidelines as approved by the WYS Board of Directors. The WYS Risk Management Guidelines can be obtained from the State Office.

32) MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

- a) The above rules and procedures are not meant to be all-inclusive. Matters not provided for or extraordinary circumstances shall be brought to the attention of the WYS Board of Directors for determination and appropriate action.