

Davis AYSO – Fall Season Reminders and Division Specific Rules

Officiating the Game

Only AYSO certified referees may act as center Referee. Non-certified parents can be used as Club Linesmen in place of Assistant Referees. USSF certification does not apply to AYSO games. If no certified referee is available, the game is canceled, and the teams can hold a coach-led scrimmage.

AYSO only recognizes the diagonal system of control. The Dual System (two center referees) of refereeing is prohibited. If only two referees are present, recruit a club linesman for the other assistant referee position.

Preparation for the Game

As best you can, arrive at the field 20 minutes prior to game time. This will allow time for the field and player inspections, and for the pre-game instructions to the assistant referees. Be professional. Look sharp (wear proper uniform, etc.) and use proper mechanics and signals. When we're on the field we represent all Davis AYSO referees.

Game Card Procedures

Before the game: All coaches, U6 and higher, will provide rosters (white adhesive cards) to referees, and the home team coach will provide the tri-fold game card. The game logistics information on the game card can be completed at this time.

During the game: Track the substitutions on the roster cards and note any cautions / send-offs / ejections on the game card.

After the game: Record the result and obtain referee signatures. Return the card to the home team coach. If sendoffs / ejections or other significant incidents occurred, mail the game card in yourself and see the next section.

Send-off/Ejection & Incident Reporting

If a send-off (player) or ejection (coach or spectator), or other significant incident (e.g. coach or spectator dissent without an ejection, abandoned game, etc.) occurs during the game, complete the incident report and send it to the referee administrator (refereeadmin@davisayso.net) within 24 hours. Remember, we control the tone of the game and touchline. Do not tolerate bad sportsmanship in the form of dissent toward the referees.

Incident report:

<http://www.davisayso.org/forms/MisconductIncidentReport.pdf>

Safety Check

Goals: Goals must be staked down or counter weighted or the game can not be played. Referees have responsibility to suspend games, if the goals are not properly setup. Work through the coaches, as they are responsible for getting field set up.

The Field: Use flat cones (from the coaches) to mark holes, sprinkler heads, or other hazards that could cause injury.

Fingernails: "There is no official AYSO or USSF position on the length of players' fingernails. Players are not allowed to "wear" anything that is dangerous to themselves or another player. The acceptable length and shape or adornment of fingernails is up to the good judgment of the referee. In general, long or fake fingernails are not to be considered dangerous by themselves. However, the use of such as a deterrent should be sanctioned according to the severity of use." AYSO FAQs

Toe Cleats: "It has been perpetuated that toe cleats are illegal in soccer. ... Many styles of soccer shoes are now on the market and some of them have cleat configurations that wrap across the toe. A blanket statement that toe cleats are not allowed is too narrow. The myth that metal cleats are not legal is also not uncommon. Metal cleats (usually aluminum) are acceptable, but the referee must inspect all types of cleats on shoes to ensure that there are no burrs or sharp edges and, if they exist, burrs or sharp edges must be removed before the player is allowed to participate. The referee must examine the particular footwear in question and determine if it presents any unreasonable danger to the participants." AYSO FAQs

Additional Resources

[Davis AYSO Referee Documents](#)

<http://www.davisayso.org/referees.htm#laws>

[AYSO Referee Online Documents](#)

<http://www.aysohelp.org/>

[USSF Referee Online Documents](#)

<http://ussoccer.com/laws/index.jsp.html>

	U-19/16	U-14	U-12	U-10	U-8	U-6
Ball size	5	5	4	4	3	3
Length of half	40 min.	35 min.	30 min.	25 min.	20 min.	10 min.
Max/Min No. of players	11/7		9/7	7/5	6/5	3
Substitution	See below.	Quarters, half, and injury				
Playing time	See below	Three “quarters” of the game				
Deliberate heading	FIFA Laws			Not allowed—see text below. Considered “dangerous play.”		
Slide tackling	FIFA Laws			Not allowed—see text below. Considered, at a minimum, “dangerous play.”		
Red/Yellow cards	FIFA Laws			Never display cards. See below.		
Offside	FIFA Laws				Does not apply	
Penalty kicks	FIFA Laws				No penalty kicks	
Free kicks	FIFA Laws				All free kicks are “direct.”	
Goalkeepers	FIFA Laws				No goalkeepers	

Slide tackling in U10 and younger

Slide tackling is not allowed in U10 and younger age groups. If done, it is to be considered, at a minimum, dangerous play. If there is contact with the opponent, the contact could be a direct free kick foul (restart = direct free kick or penalty kick). Sliding on the ground without an opponent nearby is perfectly acceptable and is not a foul.

Heading the ball in U10 and younger

Heading the ball deliberately is not allowed in U10 and younger age groups. If the referee decides that the ball was headed deliberately, the heading is to be considered dangerous play.

Showing cards for misconduct in U10 and younger

Players in U10 and younger age groups should never be shown cards, but they may still be cautioned or sent off. If misconduct does occur, the referee must inform the coach before restarting the game.

Substitution & playing time in U16/19

U16/19 games will play with free substitution as described below. If there are 14 or less players at the game, then all players must participate in three fourths of the game. If there are more than 14 players at the game, then players shall be substituted to maintain equivalent playing time. Substitutions can be made in the following circumstances with the referee’s permission:

- ▶ By either team:
 - On a goal kick.
 - After a goal has been scored.
 - At the beginning of the second half.
 - Upon an injury on either team.
 - When a player has been instructed to leave the field of play for an equipment adjustment or to address blood issues.
 - When a player of either team has been cautioned or sent off.
 - At the beginning of any overtime period.

- ▶ By the team in possession of the ball:
 - On a throw in.

- ▶ By the team not in possession of the ball, if the team in possession of the ball is also substituting:
 - On a throw in.