

OHIO YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION NORTH



Ohio North State League Charter

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Part I

Playing Rules

Section I-10 State League Structure

I-10.1 - Divisions

The State League will be comprised of a First Division (D-I), a Second Division (D-II). Additional divisions may be added as determined by the State League Administrator (SLA). Team placement shall be determined by the SLA.

I-10.2 - Promotion and Relegation

The State League will utilize a promotion and relegation system as determined by the SLA.

I-10.3 - Co-ed Issues

Boys and girls will be accommodated in separate divisions; however, girls will be eligible to play on Boy's teams and exceptional girl's teams may be assigned to boy's divisions. Boys may not compete on Girl's teams. Boy's teams must be at least 51% male.

I-10.4 – State Cup Seeding

The State Association may decide to seed teams in its State Cup competition based on the standings of teams in the State League.

I-10.5 – Midwest Regional League Nomination

League champions in the U-13 divisions and older may be eligible for Midwest Regional League nomination.

Section I-20 Determining Divisional Champions

I-20.1 - Game Points

During seasonal play, game points shall be awarded as follows:

Wins: Three (3) points

Ties: One (1) point

Losses: No (0) points

I-20.2 - Tie-breakers

The following tie-breaking criteria will be used to determine the final standings for each Division:

- a) Total points
- b) Head to head results
- c) Goal differential
- d) Goals scored
- e) Goals allowed

Section I-30 Laws of the Game and Playing Formats

I-30.1 - Rules of Play

The rules of play shall be the current "Laws of the Game", as published by FIFA. All contests sanctioned by the State League shall abide by the "Laws of the Game." Authorized modifications to the Laws of the Game, as permitted by FIFA, are noted below.

I-30.2 - Modifications to the Laws of the Game

Games in the 9/10U divisions will:

- a) Be contested between teams of six (6) field players and a goalkeeper (7v7)
- b) Apply the offside law. The build out line is to be used for determining offside
- c) Not allow the goalkeeper to punt the ball directly into the opponent's penalty box
- d) Use unlimited substitution

Games in the 11/12U divisions will:

- a) Be contested between teams of eight (8) field players and a goalkeeper (9v9)
- b) Use unlimited substitution.

Games in the 13/14U divisions for D-I and D-II will allow for unlimited substitution.

Games in the 15 to18U division 1 will employ restricted substitution.

- I. Players may not re-enter the game during a half once they have been replaced. Substitutes may enter the field during any stoppage in play, provided they have received a signal from the referee.
- II. Player passes will be returned to each team at the end of the first half of play.
- III. For any play-off situation, the entire overtime is regarded as a new half and players cannot re-enter the game once they have been replaced.

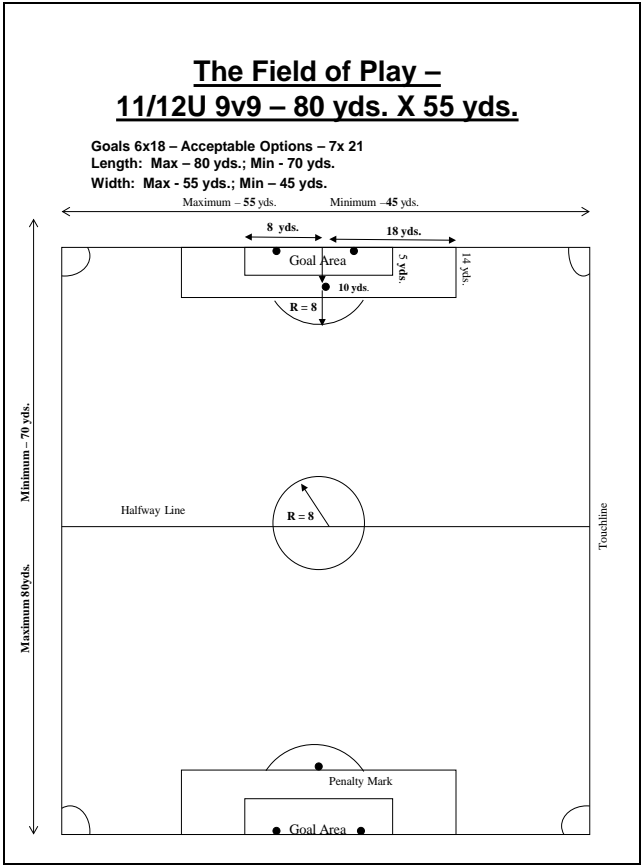
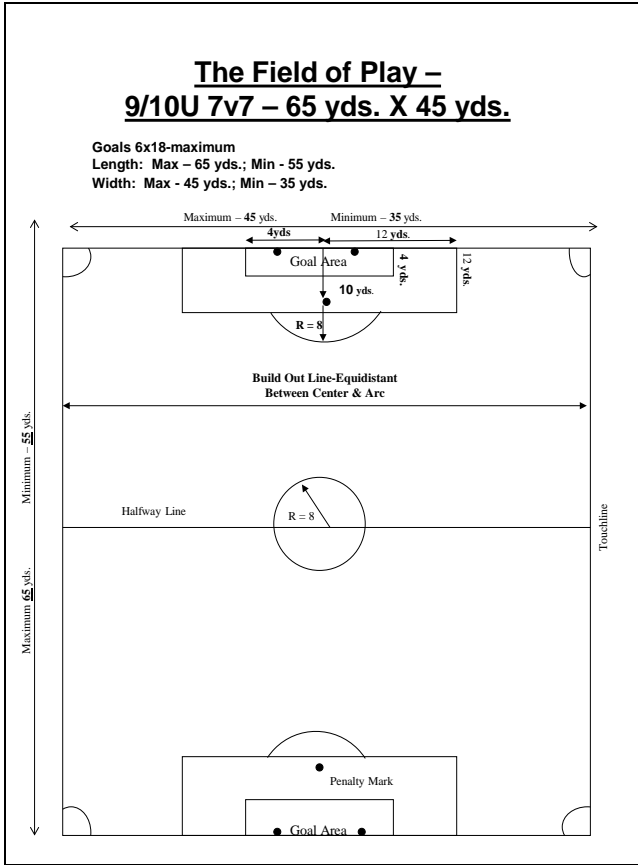
Games in 15U to18U division 2 and lower will allow for unlimited substitution.

I-30.3 - Playing Formats

The Playing Formats shall be as follows:

Age	Halves	Ball	Game Form	Min. Roster	Max. Game Roster	Max. Roster
9U	2x25-minutes	Size 4	7v7	7	12	18
10U	2x25-minutes	Size 4	7v7	7	12	18
11U	2x30-minutes	Size 4	9v9	8	16	20
12U	2x30-minutes	Size 4	9v9	8	16	20
13U	2x35-minutes	Size 5	11v11	9	18	24
14U	2x35-minutes	Size 5	11v11	9	18	24
15U	2x40-minutes	Size 5	11v11	9	18	24
16U	2x40-minutes	Size 5	11v11	9	18	24
17U	2x45-minutes	Size 5	11v11	9	18	24
18U	2x45-minutes	Size 5	11v11	9	18	24
19U	2x45-minutes	Size 5	11v11	9	18	24

I-30.4 - Field Dimensions

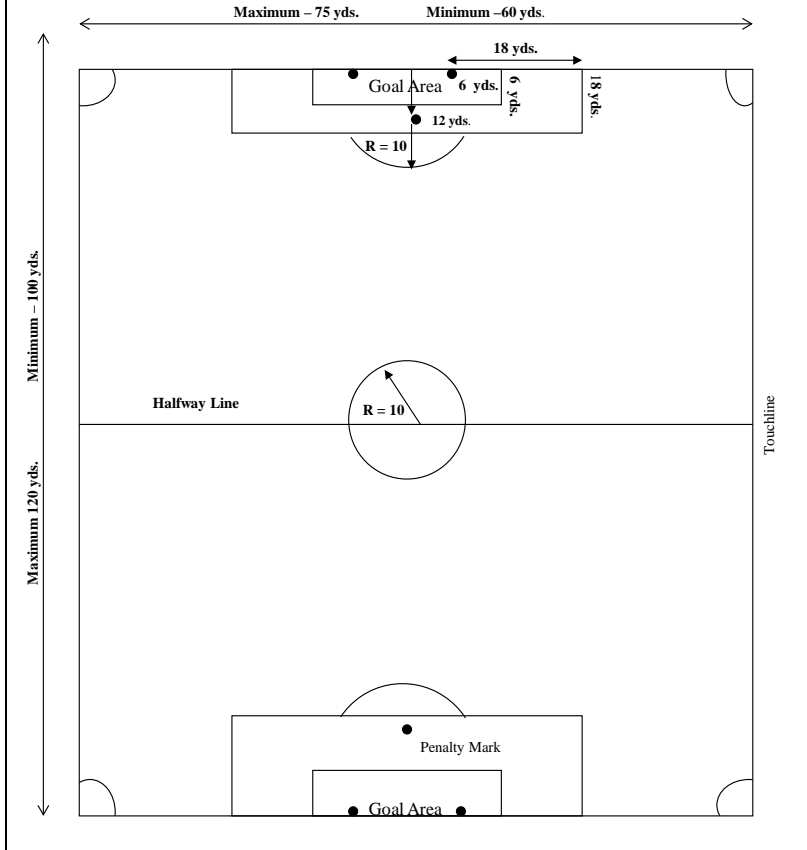


The Field of Play – 13-18U 11v11 – 120 yds. X 75 yds.

Goals 8x24

Length: Max – 120 yds.; Min - 100 yds.

Width: Max - 75 yds.; Min – 60 yds.



I-30.5 - Abandonment of Game

Any game that is abandoned because of inclement weather or darkness after the start of the second half will be considered a completed game. If the second half has not started, the game will be replayed in its entirety prior to the end of the current season.

The State League Administrator shall review any game abandoned for any other reason.

I-30.6 - Reporting of Scores

The winning team (home team in case of tie) is responsible for recording game scores on line within 48 hrs of game. Game reports are to be mailed into the State Office within seven (7) days-no exceptions

I-30.7 - Delayed Game Start

Any team delaying the start of a scheduled game by more than fifteen (15) minutes without authorization from the State League Administrator shall forfeit the game to their opponent and shall be responsible for full payment of the game officials' fees.

I-30.8 - Failure to Appear for a Game

If both teams do not appear for a scheduled game and the match official rules the grounds playable, both teams shall be assessed with a fine and half the referee's fees. Forfeits may be awarded to one or both teams as determined by the State League Administrator.

I-30.9 - Coaching from the Sidelines

Coaching from the sidelines is allowed in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game. Only persons with a valid pass are permitted to coach or give direction from the sidelines. No mechanical or electrical devices are permitted and coaches, managers, team officials, and substitutes must remain within the technical area (10 yards) in front of the team bench. All team personnel must remain at least one (1) yard from the sideline.

Only those persons in possession of a pass shall be allowed within the technical area.

The home team or, in the case of a neutral venue, the team listed first on the schedule will have their choice of preferred sideline. Spectators must take the opposite sideline to the teams.

I-30.10 - Home Team Responsibilities

If both teams wear uniforms of the same or similar colors, the home team or, in the case of a neutral venue, the team listed first on the schedule must change to colors that are distinct from those of their opponents.

The home team is responsible for the condition of the field and the field markings. Secured goals, goal nets and corner flags are expected.

Where neutral venues are involved, neither team will be held responsible for the condition of the field; however, the team listed first on the schedule will be responsible for the anchoring of the goals.

The home team or, in the case of a neutral venue, the team listed first on the schedule shall be responsible for providing a game ball and corner flags.

The home team or, in the case of a neutral venue, the team listed first on the schedule shall be responsible for securing nets. Nets are not required for play to begin.

Given the legal ramifications of any incident with a fallen goal, it is strongly recommended that both coaches inspect and verify the stability of both goals prior to play at any home or neutral site.

In the event of a referee or field owner declares a home field unplayable due to: dangerous surface conditions, excluding weather-related cancellations; improper markings; or missing corner flags; the game will be rescheduled. The home team will pay the referee fees for the cancelled game. Both teams will share the referee fees for the rescheduled game. The rescheduled game will take place at the home field of the original visiting team, unless mutually agreed to by both parties.

Note: Referees shall not be paid if fields are closed due to inclement weather prior to the scheduled game.

I-30.11 - Pre- and Post-Game Sportsmanship

Prior to the kick-off, both teams and the match officials should “walk on” to the field together and exchange handshakes.

After the match, opposing players and coaches should shake hands.

Section I-40 Scheduling of Games

I-40.1 - Responsibility

The State League Administrator shall be responsible for establishing the calendar parameters for the State League seasons and for working with the State League Scheduler to prepare fixture lists.

The official dates for league play are currently as follows:

Fall Season: Determined by the State League Administrator

Spring Season: Determined by the State League Administrator

I-40.2 - Declarations

The State League Administrator determines team declarations deadlines, fees and registration fees.

I-40.3 - Scheduling Meeting

A scheduling meeting may be held around late July (fall) / mid March (spring) to complete the scheduling process. Any club not having someone able to schedule games for their club at this meeting will be fined.

I-40.4 - Playing Days

Teams determine playing dates and scheduling by the conclusion of the State League Scheduling Meeting or the designated scheduling period.

I-40.5 - Final Schedule

The State League Administrator will release the final master schedule. Once posted on-line, and distributed via e-mail to the teams the final schedule is final. All games will be played as scheduled

I-40.6 - Assigning of Match Officials

The final schedule, complete with confirmed dates, locations, and game times will be sent to the designated District Referee Assignor for assignment of officials following the league scheduling meeting or after the deadline of the designated scheduling period.

I-40.7 - Late Schedule Changes

All Game Changes proposed & approved at least 1 week prior (7 days) to the initially scheduled game will be processed at no charge. Games proposed and approved seven (7) or fewer days before the scheduled game will be assessed a \$75 fee to be charged to the team/club requesting the change.

NOTE: Games not played as scheduled or games that are rescheduled without the prior knowledge and consent of the OYSAN State League Administrator will result in forfeit(s) for the teams *as well as fees at least equal to the reschedule fee plus referee fees assessed to both teams/clubs.*

NOTE: Any team(s) who forfeits games shall have their continued status in the OYSAN State League reviewed prior to being permitted to register/affiliate for future season with the OYSAN State League.

I-40.8 - Rescheduling of Games

1. Games may be rescheduled due to unscheduled ODP activities that can be confirmed by the State Office.
2. Reschedules will be allowed for State Cup conflicts.
3. Games may be rescheduled due to dangerous or unplayable field conditions as deemed by the Center Referee at the field or the Field Owner.

I-40.9 - Dropping Out

A team that drops out of the State League shall forfeit registration fees (player & team) as well as be subject to additional fines including the loss of their club bond.

Player passes are the property of the league. If a team drops out of the league, all player passes should be returned to the league Registrar within seven (7) days.

I-40.10- Forfeited Games

A club or team that forfeits a State League game shall be fined. The penalty for a forfeited game is \$200 and referee fees for a first offense; \$250 and referee fees for a second offense; three or more forfeits result in the team(s) being dropped from the State League.

The score shall be 4 – 0 (three points for the win awarded to the opponent). Referee fees will also be assessed, if less than seven (7) days notice is not provided.

I-40.11 - Dual Use of Game Results

Except for State Cup play-in or preliminary games, which may be used, there shall be no dual use of tournament or other competition results to fulfill the requirements of playing the posted State League schedule.

I-40.12 - Summary of Declaration and Scheduling Process

To be prepared and published by the State League Administrator and the State League Registrar.

Information on Team Declarations and Scheduling can be found on line at <http://skit.site.infoquest.com/oysan/HomePageOYSAN.aspx>

Section I-50 Passes

I-50.1 - Team Credentials

At the start of each State League match, each team must present valid Ohio North State League approved passes and a completed Ohio North State League Game Roster / Coach's Game Report to the match referee. The game report must be filled out completely to include all match information (opponent-field-date-time-match number).

The referee shall not allow any individual without a valid pass to accompany the team to the bench area.

I-50.2 - Valid Passes

A valid pass

- a. Has a current photograph of the pass holder attached
- b. Has been laminated.

All passes are to be returned to the coach after each game, except for passes belonging to players who have been sent off

I-50.3 - Medical Release Forms

Medical release forms must be available at all State League games.

Medical release forms do not have to be turned in with your registration paperwork.

Section I-60 Game Reports

I-60.1 - Game Roster / Coach's Report

Both teams shall be responsible for entering all appropriate information on a legible Ohio North State League Game Roster / Coach's Report prior to the start of the game.

I-60.2 - Referee Abuse and Assault

Reports of Referee Abuse or Referee Assault shall be submitted to the Ohio North Executive Director, SRA and SYRA within 24 hours of the incident.

I-60.3 - Submitting Game Reports

Game reports must be submitted to the Ohio North office within seven (7) days of the game date and be filled in completely with all match information.

All game reports with red card incidents are to be sent in by the center referee with card(s) and a complete report of the incident.

Game reports without incident should be returned to the Ohio North State Office at the following address:

Ohio North/SL Game Reports
6650 W. Snowville Rd., Suite Y
Brecksville, OH 44141

Section I-70 Requirements of Players

I-70.1 - Shin Guards

All players are required to wear age-appropriate shin guards, worn within two inches of the ankle. Shin guards must be worn always while on the field of play. Shin Guards must be completely covered by the socks always.

I-70.2 - Uniforms

All teammates must have unique numbers on their uniforms. Once a team is checked in, the players are not allowed to switch numbers without first notifying the referee.

If both teams wear uniforms of like or similar colors, the referee will determine if a change of uniform is necessary for the game to begin. In the event of a color clash, the home team will take responsibility for changing uniforms, unless the coaches agree otherwise.

All uniform shirts must be clearly numbered on the back. Players may wear numbers on their shorts and socks that correspond to their uniform shirt numbers. A uniform number may also be displayed on the right front or center of the chest-no temporary numbers (tape, etc.) are allowed.

I-70.3 - Sponsor Patch

A sponsor patch or logo may be attached to the uniform shirt.

I-70.4 - Other Uniform Markings

Player's and team names may be displayed on the uniform.

Teams may only display US Youth Soccer or Ohio North patches and logos on their uniforms. No competing youth soccer organization markers are permitted.

Section I-80 Requirements of Coaches

I-80.1 - Valid Pass

Each coach and team administrator must register with Ohio North State League and carry a valid Ohio North State League coaching/bench pass to matches.

I-80.2 - Risk Management Disclosure Forms

All team coaches must have on file with Ohio North a completed Ohio North Risk Management disclosure form. The Risk Management disclosure form can only be completed on-line at www.ohionorthsoccer.org. Coaches who do not have their RM clearance by the player/coach registration deadline will have their pass withheld until verification is provided.

I-80.3 - Licenses

Divisions I and II

All State League Coaches must hold a minimum of a USSF D License or equivalent

It is recommended that all State League Club Directors of Coaching hold a National Youth License and at least a USSF "B" License or equivalent.

New coaches to the State League will be granted one year (two consecutive seasons) to acquire the proper license. In all cases, annual progress waivers (one level per year) will be granted to league coaches.

I-80.4 - Coach's Responsibilities

Each coach is responsible for the conduct of his/her players, other team officials and spectators before, during and after the game, and shall instruct all of the above to behave in a proper and respectful manner.

Each coach is responsible for correctly submitting a legible Game Report, with the proper information to the Referee prior to the start of the game.

Each coach is responsible for submitting the proper passes and referee fees prior to the start of the game. Referee fees should only be paid to licensed USSF officials who display a uniform patch verifying current year certification.

In the event that a coach wishes to protest a game he/she should inform the referee prior to the start of the match, at half-time, or within five (5) minutes of the final whistle. The referee will note the reasons for the protest on the Game Report.

The coach is responsible for enforcing any suspensions to players or other club agents.

The home team coach is responsible for securing the goals and nets, and for assuring corner flags and proper field markings are provided.

I-80.5 - Coach Misconduct

Coaches in the State Leagues are expected to exhibit the highest level of sportsmanship. In the event the referee determines the conduct of the coach is detrimental to the game, the referee may ask the coach to leave the immediate vicinity. Immediate vicinity shall be defined as sufficient distance from the playing field where the offending party cannot cause additional disruptions to the game. This is considered the "Out of Sight and Out of Sound principle."

Any coach sent off in a State League game for serious offenses will be required to attend a disciplinary hearing. Penalties for serious offences can include completion of referee certification, probation, and suspension for up to three (3) years.

I-80.6 - Referee Conflict of Interest

Referees may not officiate a game in which a team participant is a member of his/her family; or referee a game in which there is a close relationship with one of the teams, unless both coaches agree and sign the game report stating such an agreement.

Section I-90 Referee Information

I-90.1 - Number of Officials

For 7v7 games at the 9/10U levels, there shall be one (1) official
For 9v9 games at the 11/12U levels, there shall be ONE (1) official
For 11v11 games at the 13/19U levels, there shall be three (3) officials

I-90.2 - Pass Verification

The referee shall verify the identity of the players, coaches, managers, and team officials with their league passes.

I-90.3 - Equipment Verification

Prior to the start of the game the Referee shall make sure that each player's equipment is in proper order.

I-90.4 - Field Verification

Prior to the start of the game the referee shall make sure that all goal nets and corner flags are properly installed and in proper repair, that the field has the proper makings, and that the ground is fit for play. Both goals must be securely anchored.

I-90.5 - Referee Qualifications

All referees will be currently registered USSF Grade 8, or higher, officials. No person shall officiate as a referee or as a neutral assistant referee in any match under the sanction or jurisdiction (direct or indirect) of the USSF who is not registered with the Federation, unless both coaches agree and sign the game report stating such agreement.

I-90.6 - No Official Referee Available

If a registered referee is unable to officiate a State League game, club or team officials may agree upon another person to act as the official(s).

Referees may not officiate a game in which a team participant is a member of his/her family unless both coaches agree and sign the game report stating such agreement.

In the event both coaches do not agree on an alternate referee, the game will be replayed.

I-90.7 - Referee Match Reports

The State Referee Administrator (SRA) and State Youth Referee Administrator (SYRA) will be apprised of improperly completed Game Reports

I-90.8 - Ejections

If a player, coach, manager, or other team official is ejected for misconduct, the Referee must sign the Game Report at the conclusion of the game.

Games Reports involving Red Cards must be submitted to the appropriate State League Administrator within 24 hours of the completion of the match.

I-90.9 - Referee Fees

See Current Game Report for Referee Fees

Section I-100 Matters Not Provided For

1-100.1 – Matters Not Provided For

The State League Administrator, Ohio North Executive Director and the Ohio North Board of Directors reserve the authority to make decisions and resolve conflicts for matters not otherwise provided for in this copy of the State League Playing and Administrative Rules.

Part II

Administrative Rules

Section II-10 League Overview

II-10.1 - Name

The Ohio Youth Soccer Association North (Ohio North) State League, hereafter known as the State League, or the league, will be comprised of a First and Second Divisions for both boys and girls. The Second Division may have multiple levels.

II-10.2 - League Office

The official State League office shall be the same as Ohio North. The current location is:

Ohio North
Attn.: State League
6650 W. Snowville Road/Suite Y
Brecksville, OH 44141
Phone: (440) 526-9020
Fax: (440) 526-9055

II-10.3 - Mission

The Mission of the State League is to provide Ohio North clubs and teams with the opportunity to compete in a safe and well-organized competitive soccer environment.

II-10.4 - Goals

The Goals of the State League are to:

- a) Develop a pyramid structure of competitive levels for Ohio North member clubs and teams
- b) Facilitate the development of a statewide club structure
- c) Improve the identification, training and advancement of state, regional, and national caliber players
- d) Create a youth soccer environment based on sound player development principles
- e) Create a statewide approach to coaching and player development
- f) Forge a coaching-administration partnership for the betterment of youth soccer

II-10.5 - Meetings

There shall be formal league meetings as determined by the State League Administrator.

Section II-20 Governance

II-20.1 - Authority

The Ohio North State League is authorized by the Ohio North Board of Directors to operate as the official league of Ohio North. The State League shall be administered by Ohio North through the State League Administrator and Ohio North Executive Director. The State League shall be affiliated with Ohio North, US Youth Soccer, and US Soccer (USSF).

II-20.2 - Board Responsibilities

Ohio North Executive Director and the Ohio North Board of Directors will have oversight authority for the State League.

The State Administrator or Ohio North Executive Director shall be responsible for formulating, proposing and enforcing league rules and policies.

II-20.3 - Due Process

All actions of the State League Administrator and Ohio North Executive Director are appealable. Any challenges to decisions should be made to the Ohio North Board. The Ohio North Board is the final arbiter in all State League matters.

Section II-30
State League Administrator Job Descriptions

11-30.1 - State League Administrator

The State League Administrator of the Ohio North shall be responsible for the following:

- a) Developing a professionally organized, coach-driven league
- b) Expanding league membership
- c) Coordinating all league activities.
- d) Acting as the league arbiter for disciplinary matters
- e) Attending Ohio North Board meetings as circumstances demand
- f) Presenting all Charter changes to the Ohio North Board for formal approval
- g) Creating periodic articles for www.ohionorthsoccer.org and Ohio Soccer Online
- h) Working on developing possible sponsorship opportunities
- i) Officiating at State League meetings
- j) Works with the Executive Director to prepare the State League budget
- k) Working within the parameters of the approved State League budget
- l) Coordinating the purchase of trophies and awards for winning teams
- m) Compile initial team declarations
- n) Construct an initial league schedule
- o) Oversee the league scheduling meetings
- p) Complete a final schedule
- q) Post a final schedule at www.ohionorthsoccer.org and e-mail the schedule to members
- r) Maintain accurate and updated scores and standings at www.ohionorthsoccer.org

11-30.2 – State League Registrar

This position is under the auspices of the Ohio North Executive Director. The State League Registrar should be thoroughly familiar with Ohio North and US Youth Soccer registration policies and procedures and the responsibilities of the State League Registrar shall be as follows:

- a) Assist club administrators with the on-line registration process, as requested
- b) Advise clubs on registration deadlines and monitor club progress
- c) Enforce registration deadlines
- d) Monitor payment of league fees by clubs and teams with assistance of the Ohio North office.
- e) Collect all registration-related fees and fines
- f) Serve as a contact point for registration questions
- g) Compile a league-wide database of registered players and coaches
- h) Validate registrations and issue official league passes and rosters
- i) Monitor travel notifications with regard to insurance coverage
- j) Advise teams entering the Ohio North State Cup for the National Championship Series on transfer limitations, first roster rules, and player release restrictions
- k) Validate team eligibility for Ohio North State Cup
- l) Assure league-wide compliance with Risk Management program

Section II-40 Budget

II-40.1 - Fiscal Responsibility

The Ohio North Executive Director will prepare the annual league budget prior to September 1st in consultation with the Ohio North Board. The proposed budget will be submitted to Ohio North for final Ohio North Board approval.

The State League Administrator shall determine league fees and fines, subject to Ohio North Executive Director and/or Ohio North Board of Directors for approval.

II-40.2 - Collection of Fees

The State League Registrar shall be responsible for the notification and collection of all league fees and fines.

League fees will be paid at the beginning of the declaration/registration process.

All funds collected must be made payable to Ohio North and presented to the Ohio North state office for deposit in Ohio North State League accounts.

Section II-50 Application and Membership

II-50.1 - Application to the State League

Any club may apply for entry to the State League. There will be no limit to the number of clubs or teams considered for application to the league.

All applications must be made to Ohio North in accordance with the established deadlines. A per-team league fee will be due at the time of initial team declarations.

All remaining players and coaches' fees must be paid on or before their first registered League game.

II-50.2 - Club-building

To retain league status, a "club" must field a minimum of four teams in the league from season to season. Clubs that fall below the four-team minimum may be placed on probation and their membership shall be subject to seasonal review by the State League Administrator.

II-50.3 - Team Standing

Once a team or club has established a divisional standing within the league that divisional standing will remain with the club or team and not with the rostered players.

Teams that re-apply to the league after an absence will be placed in the Second Division, except when returning from the Midwest Regional League (MRL) and these teams will be placed in the first division.

New Teams will be placed in the appropriate division upon review of the team history.

II-50.4 - Midwest Regional League Participants

Any team(s) that elects to play in the Midwest Regional League (MRL) will not lose their standing in the State League. Any team returning from the MRL will assume their previous divisional standing.

Teams may elect to participate in the Ohio North State League and the Midwest Regional League (MRL)

Section II-60 Player Registration

II-60.1 - Individual Registration

Registration Policies are provided by the State League Registrar in the Registration Guidelines. Information can be found on line at www.ohionorthsoccer.org.

Players are not permitted to be rostered with multiple clubs in the State League.

II-60.2 - Legal Proof of Age

A birth certificate, driver's license, passport, board of health records, certificate of naturalization, or alien registration card shall be sufficient for proof of age.

A copy of one of these documents must be placed on file with the Ohio North State League Registrar at the time of initial registration. Annual re-documentation is required.

II-60.3 - Team Tryouts

Team tryouts will be held between June 1st and July 31st in accordance with Ohio North policy.

Registration forms shall not be required as a prerequisite for a tryout.

All tryouts for State League teams shall be advertised on www.ohionorthsoccer.org and distributed statewide through the Ohio North coaches network or the Ohio Soccer Online.

II-60.4 - Minimum Number of Registrations to Compete

Teams must register a minimum number of players at the time the initial registration closes for that season. The player registration process will be open until the day before the season commences

Minimum Number of Players for a 9/10U Team: 7

Minimum Number of players for a 11/12U Team: 9

Minimum Number of Players for a 13-19U Team: 9

Section II-70 Team Registration

II-70.1 – Team Registration Fees

See State League Registration Guidelines. Information can be found on line at www.ohionorthsoccer.org.

II-70.2 – Individual Registration Fees

See State League Registration Guidelines. Information can be found on line at www.ohionorthsoccer.org.

II-70.3 – Cost of Player Passes

Contact the State League Registrar for fees. Information can be found on line at www.ohionorthsoccer.org.

Section II-80 Individual Eligibility

II-80.1 - Birth Date

Eligibility for age groups shall be determined by a player's age on January 1st. Contact the State League Registrar on questions of Eligibility.

II-80.2 - Authority to Contest

The State League Administrator or the State League Registrar can call upon any player to prove his/her legal age. A birth certificate, driver's license, passport, board of health records, certificate of naturalization, or alien registration card shall be sufficient for proof of age.

Section II-90 Rostering

II-90.1 - Fall Season

In order to comply with US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS) rules, 13U and 14U teams expecting to compete in the Ohio North State Cup should roster a minimum number of nine (9) core players during the fall season.

In accordance with US Youth Soccer NCS rules, teams attending any tournament during the fall season will have established their initial NCS roster. For the NCS state cup, this initial roster must reflect nine (9) common players and cannot include more than five (5) players previously rostered to another team.

II-90.2 - Spring Season

All teams must establish their initial team rosters by the posted registration deadlines. This roster should be filed with the State League Registrar. Spring season rosters must be finalized by the posted registration deadlines.

II-90.3 - Club Pass

Players registered to teams in the same club may use their league player pass to play on teams in their club provided the player is playing in the same age group or older (see II-90.6 Playing Up).

Players are not permitted to be rostered with multiple clubs in the State League.

Players from Division I cannot play down in Division II. Division II players can play up in Division I.

II-90.4 - Guest Players

No Guest Players are permitted to participate in any SL game as this impacts State Cup eligibility.

II-90.5 - Roster Additions

All roster additions must take place according to registration policies as posted prior to each season and in accordance with National Cup rules.

II-90.6 - Playing Up

Players are not restricted from playing on older teams.

Teams may play up in age divisions as their performances dictate. Keep in mind this impacts State Cup eligibility.

Section II-100 Transfers

II-100.1 - Commitment

A registered player who has signed the State League Registration Form shall be committed to one State League club for the entire seasonal year. Once registered, a player should remain with his/her club until July 30th of that seasonal year.

Transfers will only be granted from November 15th to January 8th of the current competitive calendar with the following exceptions:

- a) The player has moved his/her residence more than 60 miles
- b) The player's current team has disbanded

II-100.2 - Application

Under the conditions listed above, a player who has secured a release from his/her original team may be granted a transfer to a new State League team upon completion of the transfer form and submission of the appropriate fee to the State League Registrar.

If a player requests a transfer, the player cannot compete in any State League games until the State League Registrar has authorized the request.

II-100.3 – National Championship Series Roster Change Limitations

Teams competing in the Ohio North State Cup for the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS) are restricted from acquiring more than five (5) previously rostered players to their original State Cup roster.

Section II-110 Recruiting

II-110.1 - Club Agent

A club agent is defined as any player, coach, team official, player's parent or guardian, or other entity that officially or unofficially represents a club or team.

II-110.2 – Tampering

Any club agent who attempts to induce a duly registered player to change State League teams between September 1st and May 31st of the seasonal year, or to change teams for the following seasonal year, shall be guilty of tampering.

II-110.3 - Open Recruiting Window

The period between June 1st and August 31st shall be the designated as an open recruiting window. During this window, any club agent may freely discuss new affiliation with players who have not registered with another State League team for the following seasonal year.

II-110.4 - Due Process

The State League Administrator or the Ohio North Executive Director shall address all allegations of illegal recruitment.

Section II-120 Insurance and Insurance Claims

II-120.1 - Provider

State league Insurance shall be obtained through Ohio North.

II-120.2 - Coverage

Ohio North insurance provides liability insurance for players, coaches, club officers, and league officials; and medical insurance for players and coaches.

II-130.1 - Club Responsibility

All teams, players, coaches, managers, team officials, clubs, and/or leagues will follow the rules of the State League, Ohio North, US Youth Soccer and USSF. It is the responsibility of each player, coach, manager, trainer, team official, and league official to know and understand the rules of the State League.

Ignorance of these rules will not be considered an excuse for failing to follow them and will not be considered a defense in any State League decision.

II-130.2 - Hearings

Referee abuse and assault cases are referred to the Ohio North Disciplinary Committee.

Other infractions are referred to the State League Administrator or the Ohio North Executive Director.

If an imposed penalty is limited to State League games, the outcome is not appealable.

If an imposed penalty affects all games, including league and tournament play, the outcome is appealable to the Ohio North Appeals Committee.

If an imposed penalty is limited to all Ohio North activities, the outcome is not appealable to the USSF.

If an imposed penalty extends to all soccer activities inside and beyond Ohio North, the outcome is appealable to the USSF.

II-130.3 - Use of the Court System

US Youth Soccer Bylaw 704, Section 1 states that, "No member of US Youth Soccer, official, league, club, team, player, coach, administrator, or referee may invoke the aid of the courts of the United States or of a state without first exhausting all available remedies within the appropriate soccer organizations, and as provided within US Youth Soccer."

Part III

Disciplinary Issues

III-10.1 Fines and Penalties Surrounding Player Behavior

Violation by Player	Action by League Administrator
Red Card: General	1 st Offense: One (1) Game Suspension 2 nd Offense: Two (2) Game Suspension 3 rd Offense: Three (3) Game Suspension
Red Card: Violent Conduct / Serious Foul Play	1 st Offense: Two (2) Game Suspension / Administrator Review 2 nd Offense: Four (4) Game Suspension / Administrator Review 3 rd Offense: One (1) Year Suspension / Administrator Review
Red Card: Pushing Or Striking A Match Official	Referred To Ohio North Disciplinary Committee
Cautions	Three (3) Cautions: One (1) Game Suspension Maintained By Team Honor System
Providing Inaccurate Pass Information	Hearing Forfeit Games Involving Ineligible Player
Playing Without Proper Registration	Hearing Forfeit Games Involving Ineligible Player
Falsifying Documents	Hearing

III-10.2 Fines and Penalties Surrounding Coaching Behavior

Violation by League Coach	Action by League Administrator
Not Completing Risk Management Form Prior To Season	Suspension from Coaching in State League Pending Completion
Red Card: General	\$50 Fine and one (1) Game Suspension
Red Card: Offensive, Insulting Or Abusive Language	1 st Offense: \$50 and one (1) Game Suspension 2 nd Offense: \$100 and two (2) Game Suspension 3 rd Offense: \$200 and Suspension from State League Coaching
Removing Team From The Field Without Permission	\$100 and 2 Game Suspension, Pending Administrator Review
Physical Or Verbal Assault Or Abuse Towards A Match, League, Or Club Official; Or Towards A Player Or Spectator	Referred to Ohio North Disciplinary Committee
Inaccurate Pass Information, Such As DOB, Name, Picture, Etc.	\$100 Fine and Hearing Forfeiture Of Any Games Involving Ineligible Player
Coaching With A Disqualifying Felony	Suspension from Coaching in the State League
Registering A Player Without An Official Release	\$100 Fine
Playing Unregistered/Ineligible Player	\$100 Fine, Mandatory Suspension and Hearing Forfeiture Of Any Games Involving Ineligible Player
Using A Suspended Player	\$100 Fine and Hearing Two (2) Game Suspension Forfeiture Of Any Games Involving Ineligible Player
Using Falsified Documents	\$100 Fine and Hearing Forfeiture Of Any Games Involving Ineligible Player
Providing False Information	\$100 Fine and Hearing
Game Abandoned For Not Controlling Parents Or Spectators On Sideline	\$100 fine Forfeit game
Red Card For Using Profanity Towards Players, Coaches, Parents Before, During Or After A Match	See "Red Card"
Not Obtaining Appropriate License / Upgrade Within Twelve (12) Months Of Initial League Registration	Suspension from Coaching in State League

III-10.3 Fines and Penalties Surrounding Team Behavior

Violation by League Coach	Action by League Administrator
<p>Game Forfeit</p> <p>A forfeit is a game not played as originally scheduled. A game changed for any reason specified in I-40.7 is not considered a forfeit.</p>	<p>Three (3) Points To Opponent Goal Differential TBD*</p> <p>1st Club Offense: \$200 And 100% Referees Fees 2nd Club Offense: \$250 And 100% Referee Fees 3rd Club Offense: Result in teams being dropped from State League</p>
No Club Representative At (3) Mandatory League Meetings	\$100 Per Occurrence
No Suitable Home Facility / Inappropriate Fields	Play Matches Away From Home. Rental Fee \$25 per game.
Declaration After League Deadline	\$50 Surcharge
Using An Unregistered Player / Ineligible Payer	Forfeiture Of All Games Involving Ineligible/Suspended Player \$100 Coach Fine And mandatory Suspension, Pending Review
Both Teams Failing To Show For A Scheduled Match	Forfeit. No points Awarded.
Participation By A Suspended Team Official Assistant Coach, Manager, Official, Etc.,	\$100 Fine And Two (2) Game Suspensions For Team Coach. Forfeit Game
Withdrawing A Team Prior To The 1 st Schedule Draft	\$250 fine and Forfeiture of League Fees
Withdrawing A Team After The Release Of The 1 st Schedule	\$250 fine, Forfeiture of League and Registration Fees
Withdrawing A Team After The Release Of The Final Schedule	\$500 fine and Forfeiture of League And Registration Fees

* Goal Differential for a forfeit is based on the highest goal differential recorded within the division.

III-10.4 Fines and Penalties Surrounding Parent and Spectator Behavior

Violation by League Coach	Action by League Administrator
Removal From Sideline	Coach Held Accountable See "Coach Red Card"
Physical/Verbal Abuse Of A Match, League, Club Official, Player Or Spectator	Referred To Ohio North Disciplinary Committee
<p>Cited In A Match Report For.....</p> <p>NOT Honoring The Game NOT Respecting The League NOT Respecting Opponents NOT Respecting The Officials NOT Respecting The Coaches NOT Respecting Other Supporters / Parents Arguing And Causing A Scene</p>	<p>Person(s) Suspended From Attending League Games. Additional Individual / Team Sanctions Possible, Upon Review.</p>

Part IV

Appendix

State League Club Carding Policy

Introduction

In the club carding system players are registered to compete as part of a soccer organization (i.e. club) instead of being registered to a specific team within a club. This allows a club to then assign players to teams within the club for league play at the appropriate age and division level. This provides a club with an efficient means of managing their players for the benefit of player development without the burden of paperwork.

There is an exception to club carding for certain teams and this can be found below under “State Cup” compliance.

Under this format a “transfer” is defined as movement between two different soccer organizations (clubs) and not as an “add/drop” between two teams in the same club.

Club Card Benefit

1. A player is issued one pass that may be used for participation on any properly registered team within the same club
2. Add eligible players to a game roster as needed
3. Move eligible players between tiered teams (division 1-2-3, etc.) according to league policy
4. Provide talented players the opportunity to compete on older teams
5. Create separate event rosters from the entire pool of eligible players

Team Standards

The State League (SL) supports the club card concept but also has a responsibility to maintain competitive equality in its divisions and to ensure that every registered player has a reasonable expectation of participation. With that in mind the following criteria concerning team placement and player numbers are to be used by member clubs when declaring teams and registering players.

The SL uses promotion/relegation for a coming season based on the results from the preceding season. In the club carding system since a roster is not tied to a specific team a club will earn a slot in a division based on the results from a previous season. In other words, if club ABC had a boys U12 team that finished with a 4-3-1 record in the first division the club will have a spot in the first division the following season for this age group (this applies from fall to spring, from spring to fall it would be for the next age up since teams age up from one soccer year to the next). If that same team were to have had a 1-7-0 in the first division it is reasonable to expect the team to be relegated to the second division therefore the club would then have a slot in the second division for the following season. New teams will be placed based on available information and according to other related league policies.

To ensure the viability of a declared team a club must have the following number of unique players available for participation on the declared team(s):

- 9/10U-seven players
- 11/12U-eight players
- 13U and older-nine players

A club cannot use the same six players which allow for a 9/10U team to be declared to also be used to declare a 11/12U team in any combination. This applies through all age groups.

The following numbers are to be used by clubs to determine how many teams are to be declared based on player numbers. This is done to prevent a club from registering an excessive number of players in each age group that would make it difficult at best to provide playing time for all players.

Age	Format	Min Players	Max Players	Max Game Roster
9/10U	7v7	7	18	12
11/12 U	9v9	8	20	16
13 U +	11v11	9	24	18

In each example when a club registers one player beyond the maximum a second team must be declared, 18+1 /20+1/24+1 all mean another team is to be declared. This simple formula applies as the number of players increases proportionally for every multiple of the maximum number of players. As an example, a third team is to be declared at 37/41/49 players, a fourth team at 45/61/73 and so on.

Clubs may still declare multiple teams before they reach these limits provided: a) each team has the minimum number of players and b) each team uses the specified number of unique players and not any combination of the same players on the both teams.

Division Integrity

Since club carding allows for the movement of players within a club and does not lock a specific roster to a specific team the following policy is to be followed by all clubs and their teams. For those clubs with multiple teams in an age group and are in different divisions it is expected the appropriate players for a first division game will be rostered to the first division team for the game with the same being true for the second division team. In other words, do not bring your first division team to a second division game and vice versa. Your opponent has every expectation of facing a team of comparable talent for a competitive game. Failure to observe this can result in sanctions/penalties being applied to the team/coach/club. Game rosters may be randomly audited to ensure compliance.

State Cup Compliance

Current State Cup rules & policies supersede league and Ohio North registration policies for those teams participating or intending to participate in the Ohio North State Cup. Specifically, the National Cup rules as they relate to 13U and older teams will be applied to those teams entering the State Cup. It is the responsibility of every club and team to be fully aware of the roster rules for their teams so they are in compliance. Failure to do so may result in a team being removed from competition at any point a discrepancy is discovered, with a resulting loss of any and all funds paid.

This policy may be amended as needed by the State League Administrator or Ohio North.

For further information on club carding contact Bernie Telmanik/SL Registrar at 440-526-9020 or btelmanik@ohionorthsoccer.org.