



Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Boys and Girls State League Policies and Administrative Procedures

RULE #1 NAME

These leagues shall be named the Wisconsin State Leagues and shall be referred to as the Boys State League and the Girls State League. Each league will have a Premier, a First Division and a 2nd Division where needed.

RULE #2 PURPOSE

The purpose of the Wisconsin State League (Boys and Girls Premier, 1st Division and 2nd Division) shall be to provide the highest level of competition for the U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U18, and U19 youth teams within their age division.

RULE #3 AUTHORITY

The Wisconsin State Leagues are authorized by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Board of Directors to operate as the Official State League. It shall be administered by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association, through the respective League. The League's will be managed by the State technical committee. The State Leagues shall be properly affiliated with the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association, Wisconsin Soccer Association, US Youth Soccer, and US Soccer.

RULE #4 LEAGUE OFFICE

The official league office shall be the same as the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association, located at 10427 W. Lincoln Ave, Suite 1100, West Allis WI. 53227 Phone # 414-328-9972 Fax # 414-328-8008 Toll free # 1-888-328-9972

RULE #6 LEAGUE DIRECTOR

The Vice President-Competitions, in conjunction with the Director's of Coaching and the League program administrator, known as the state league technical committee shall be responsible for the organization and operation of the league in accordance with the established league rules and policies. This state league placement committee shall meet at least twice a year to approve the placement of teams in the league and make any other rule or policy changes.

RULE #7 BUDGET AND FEES

The Vice President of Competitions working with the state league technical committee will prepare a budget for the League subject to the approval of the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Board of Directors. The budget will be submitted to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Executive Director. The WYSA Board of Directors shall determine the league fees and set performance bonds as needed. The League Administrator shall be responsible for the collection of league fees from all participating teams and to include all items in the league operating budget. All funds collected must be made payable to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association and presented to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association for deposit in Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Accounts.

RULE #8 APPLICATIONS TO THE LEAGUE

Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association clubs may apply for entry to the State League. All applications must be made to the State Association in accordance with established deadlines. All league fees along with a completed league application will be reviewed by the state technical committee. All league applications will be done online and paper copies of the application will not be accepted. Team placement will be determined by the State technical committee. The team placements will be posted on the Wisconsin Youth Soccer web site following the league placement meetings. Teams will have 48 hours to request an explanation of their placement. Teams that elect to appeal their placement will have 24 hours from the time of the response to their inquiry by a league representative. Please understand the time starts when the information is posted and not from when you review the posting. The WYSA appeal fee of \$125 must be received in the State Office before the scheduled appeal hearing. If this fee is not received or the procedure is not followed with regard to the appeal, before the scheduled hearing date/time, the team's appeal will not be heard or considered.

RULE #9 ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA

U12 teams that apply for entry into the Fall State League will be placed into a "Pod System" to determine the Spring State League premier, first and second division. The Pods will be based somewhat on geography; the league will be limited to thirty (30) teams.

U12 and above teams that did not participate in the Boys or Girls Falls State League may apply for entry. Acceptance will be based on performance in their District Classic League. Teams entering the league will be considered for first division or 2nd division placement, under some circumstances a team could be accepted directly into Premier. There are more District Leagues than there are positions available in the Wisconsin Boys and Girls State Leagues. The placement will be determined by the State technical committee, with consideration given to the District League top division champion. In addition to the four criteria listed above, the performance of the team in State Championship Tournament play will also be considered.

The selection of teams will be determined by the State technical committee

1. District Classic League Champions
2. The team won-loss record and placement in league play
3. The team won-loss record in State Championship Tournament play (U13-U18 only) and the opponents they defeated

If after participating in the Premier or 1st Division a team does not participate in the State League for any reason, the team must reapply to the State League. Teams returning from Midwest Regional League play will be allowed to return to the Premier Division. Acceptance will be determined based on the criteria in League Rule #9.

New teams may be considered for placement between the fall and spring season at the U12, U13 and U14 from their respective District Classic League. **First consideration for placement will be given to undefeated/untied teams. District League champions are not guaranteed acceptance midseason and teams will only be accepted if space is available.** Teams may be asked to submit a resume of their accomplishments to support their application for State League.

If a club earns a spot the previous year that spot remains with the club for the next year as long as the club selected team applies and meets criteria for inclusion in the league. This rule applies to State League participation only.

Under extraordinary circumstances additional teams from existing leagues/divisions may apply for admission for state league play. Those teams must submit a vita to the program administrator at the time of application so the placement committee can evaluate their viability for state league play. Consideration will be given to league champions, teams that play up and age group and W-L record.

RULE # 10 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION

League participants in the U12 through U18 will be promoted and relegated based on the performance record in the State League. The Premier Division, First Division and Second Division will be made up of minimum of six teams with a **maximum of 11 teams.** Teams one through six will be protected and will remain in the league the next scheduled season. If eight teams are not available the State technical committee reserves the right to select six or seven teams. If the League has fewer than eight teams the State technical committee reserves the right to protect as many teams as the State technical committee deems qualified. Teams that finish in position seven and below will be considered for relegation to the 1st Division and 2nd division. In the event of a tie for position six and below the following criteria will be used to determine placement.

1. Head to Head results
2. Goals differential- goals scored minus goals allowed
3. Goals scored
4. Goals allowed
5. Play off game (at the discretion of the League Director)

Teams that finish league play in position one or two in its division (1st division, 2nd division) will be considered by the State technical committee for Promotion. The state technical committee may consider additional teams for promotion if needed. The same criteria listed will apply in the event of ties. There will be no limit to the number of teams considered for application to the 1st Division or where available a 2nd division.

Regarding the U12, U13 and U14 age groups, there will be promotion and relegation between the Premier, 1st and 2nd division (where available) of the State League between the Fall and Spring seasons. The acceptance criteria stated in Rule #9 will be used as criteria upon which teams will be considered for promotion. Teams may also be asked to submit a resume of their accomplishments to support their mid-season promotions between the State League divisions.

RULE #11 USYSA REGION II LEAGUE- MIDWEST REGIONAL LEAGUE (MRL)

The Midwest Regional League placement is offered to State League teams that have demonstrated proficiency in the State Championship Tournament, the Wisconsin Developmental Academy and the Wisconsin Boys or Girls State League.

The MRL operates under a system of promotion and relegation, MRL First Division teams may be sent back to the State League Premier Division. Placement in the State League will be determined by the State Technical Committee.

RULE #12 REGISTRATION

To participate in the State League, a team must be affiliated with a recognized Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association club in “Good Standing” status. All players may only be placed on one official State roster, players used as club pass players must appear on a permanent team official State roster.

RULE #13 TEAM CREDENTIALS

Each team must have validated and laminated USYSA player passes, a validated USYSA team roster, and each coach and team administrator must register with the State Office and have in his/her position a valid coaching pass. All State League coaches must have in their possession a current Wisconsin Youth Soccer Coach Pass. A minimum “D” level license is required for all U15 and above State League coaches and a minimum “E” level license for coaches at the U12, U13 and U14 age levels. All coaches will be expected to comply with this requirement.

RULE #13a 22 PLAYER ROSTER

The Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association and all recognized leagues within the Association shall recognize roster limits of up to 22 players on the official State roster for players at the U13 through U19 age group levels. The game day roster shall have a maximum of 18 players and a minimum of seven players.

RULE #13b CLUB PASSES

A State League or SECL Classic League team may elect to add players. The club pass is designated as an intraclub player arrangement and is not intended to be used as an interclub arrangement between two different clubs. For older age groups U13-U18 the maximum number of players on the sidelines and allowed to participate in league games shall not exceed 18. In cases where club passes are utilized by younger age group teams U11-U12, the maximum number of players shall not exceed the allowable number of players as designated by State policy. Teams that make use of club passes must supply a copy of the official State roster for that player. Players can play at any competition level within the State league and SECL leagues if they are age appropriate for the competition division. A club is no longer limited regarding the number of club pass players it can use for a league match.

No male players will be allowed to participate in a female league unless designated as a co-ed league which permits male and female players on the same team and within the same league.

RULE #14 SCHEDULE OF GAMES

The League Administrator shall be responsible for preparing the league schedule of games. The League Administrator shall set the parameters of the dates that the league Games will be played. The schedule will be prepared with dates and field locations. This first draft will be forwarded to the club or facility field assignor who will add times and return the draft to the scheduler. Field schedulers will have roughly two weeks to complete the schedule with locations, and times will be sent to the designated Regional Referee Assignor for assignment of referees. A master schedule will be prepared and presented to the League Administrator for approval. The completed schedule will then be distributed to the team. All games must be played as scheduled, the scheduling priorities are as follows; State Championship Tournament play dates – including final and semi final dates, Midwest Regional League play dates and mediated play dates. Teams are reminded to split the referee fees at all league games.

LEAGUE GAMES MAY ONLY BE CHANGED OR CANCELLED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

1. Direct conflict with same day State Championship Tournament games
2. Direct conflict with Midwest Regional League games
3. Weather
4. As determined by the League governing body

Teams will be provided the opportunity on the league entry form to “BLOCK OUT” the following number of dates: Fall – Boys and Girls U12 – U14 = four dates, Girls U15 and above = four dates and Spring Boys and Girls U12 and above = four dates.

The State Championship Tournament does not count against the designated number of dates. The Wisconsin State League will not schedule games for the Girls U15-U18 age groups.

RULE #15 SCHEDULE OF FINES

Teams that fail to play a league game or drop from the league shall be fined as follows:

1. Drop after placements for the fall season – forfeit entry fee
2. Drop after scheduling has begun for the fall season – entry fee plus \$25.00 per game
3. Drop after placements for the spring season – forfeit entry fee
4. Drop after scheduling has begun for the spring season – entry fee plus \$25.00 per game
5. Unauthorized reschedule of league game - \$50.00 per team
6. Use of ineligible club pass player – forfeit game plus \$100.00 plus coach suspension
7. Failure to provide game official with league game report - \$10.00 per violation
8. Forfeit League State League/SECL game - \$150.00
9. Unwillingness to travel for match - \$200.00 + loss of promotion eligibility

The club will assume the responsibility to see that the team pay any fines assessed, in the event the fine is not paid the league will request the club be placed in “not good standing” status by the State Association.

RULE #16 GAME RESCHEDULING PROCEDURES

Teams that fail to play a game as a result of one of the four reasons listed under rule #14 will be expected to adhere to the following reschedule procedure. All games must be rescheduled and played within the determined league window.

In the event a game reschedule is approved by the league administrator the coach or manager of the team requesting the change must provide in writing to the League Administrator the following information:

1. Name of the league, division, age level, and name of person making the request
2. Date, time, and location of rescheduled game
3. Name of the club field scheduler
4. Name of the Regional Referee Assignor
5. Name of opposing team contact who agrees to the change
6. Confirmation that fields and referees have been assigned and approved

In the event the teams cannot agree to reschedule the League Administrator will assign a date.

Under no circumstances will teams be permitted to make a game change without written permission from the League. Should the league discover this has occurred; both teams will forfeit that match and be subjected to league approved fines. This action may result in suspensions for teams, coaches, and administrators.

Teams that forfeit one State League game in a season may be relegated to the next lowest division. Teams that forfeit more than one State League game in a season may be

relegated out of the State League for the next competitive playing season. The schedule of fines can be found in RULE #15.

RULE #17 FIELDS

It is the responsibility of the home team to have corner flags and nets for all home games. It is also the home team's responsibility to make sure that the field is properly marked (lined). The participating club must provide fields that meet the standards at these age levels.

RULE #18 UNIFORMS

It is the responsibility of the home team to change uniforms in case of a color conflict. Each player on a team must have shirts of the same color, and each player must have a different jersey number. Each player on a team must have shorts of the same color. A player may wear a long sleeve shirt under the uniform jersey. A player may wear leggings under the uniform short provided the color of the leggings is the same as that of the uniform shorts. All players must wear matching socks. No hard casts, braces or jewelry are allowed.

RULE #19 GAME REPORTS

Teams must submit a WYSA League roster, referee payment, player passes and the coach's pass. The referee is expected to complete the online game report through game officials within 48 hours of the completion of the match. The league will recognize the score provided by the referee as the official result if teams don't agree on the game score. The referee must also note any yellow or red cards shown during the match.

RULE #20 YELLOW AND RED CARDS

All yellow and red cards issued during the course of play will be reviewed by the League Administrator and recorded. The State League Administrator in association with the Vice President-Competition will review all red cards and rule on suspensions. The player pass should be returned to the coach at the end of the match. The club shall be responsible for insuring that the player has satisfied all penalties issued by the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association. All penalties shall be subject to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association appeals process

RULE #22 RED CARDS

Players that receive a red card during participation in a league game shall receive a minimum of one League Game suspension. This includes two yellow cards received in one contest equating to a red card. The Vice President-Competition may assess a longer suspension subject to the severity of the offense and prior history of misconduct of the offending player. Red cards include, but are not limited to the following:

RULE #23 COACH MISCONDUCT

Coaches in the State Leagues are expected to exhibit the highest level of sporting behavior and are responsible for the attitudes and behavior of their assistant coaches,

players and spectators. 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." In the event the referee completes a report of "Physical or Verbal Abuse" the matter will be directed to the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Vice-President.

All coaches asked to leave by the referee may be subject to additional sanctions, those sanctions can include completion of the referee training course, additional game suspension, probation or loss of coach pass subject to the severity of the reason resulting in the coach's dismissal from the game.

Description of Codes

S- 1 Serious Foul Play S-5 Serious Foul Play – Denies Goal Scoring
Opportunity Foul punishable with a free kick
S-2 Violent Conduct S-6 Language
S-3 Spitting at any Person S-7 Receives 2nd Caution
S-4 Serious Foul Play – Denies Goal Scoring
Opportunity – Handball

All suspensions are determined by the State Compliance Officer and the Director of Leagues and are subject to the Hearings and Appeals process described in RULE # 24

Description of Codes:

C-1 Unsporting Behavior C-5 Encroachment
C-2 Dissent C-6 Entry/Reentry w/o permission
C-3 Persistent Infringement C-7 Leaves w/o permission
C-4 Delaying the Restart

All suspensions are determined by the League Administrator and the Vice President-Competition and are subject to the established Appeals process described in RULE #24

RULE #24 HEARINGS & APPEALS

Decisions of the League Administrator or the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Vice President-Competitions regarding suspensions assessed to players, coaches, administrators, and parents may be appealed in accordance with the Wisconsin State Leagues Hearing and Appeals Process followed by the Hearing and Appeals Process of the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association and in accordance with the Hearing and Appeals Procedures as outlined by US Youth Soccer and US Soccer.

Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association Policies and Procedures:

"(a)Appeals will first be addressed by the State League (b) then at the State Association level. The appeal fee at the State League level shall not exceed \$125.00. If the State Association wishes to establish an appeals fee, this fee shall not exceed \$125.00 per appeal. If the appeal is overturned, then the appeals fee shall be returned to the Appellant."

USYSA Bylaw 704, Section 1:

“No member of USYSA, 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 USYSA.”

For the violation of USYSA Bylaw 704, the offending party shall be subject to suspension and fines, and shall be liable to WYSA and USYSA for all expenses incurred by WYSA or USYSA and its officers and members of the Board of Directors in defending each court action, including the following:

- 1) Court costs
- 2) Attorney’s fees
- 3) Reasonable compensation for time spent by WYSA or USYSA officials and employees in responding to and defending against allegations in the action, including responses to discovery and court appearances
- 4) Travel expenses
- 5) Expenses for holding special State Board meeting or Special National Council meetings necessitated by court action

RULE #25 OTHER MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

The League Director, League Board, Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association President, or Vice President/Competitions have authority to make decisions and resolve conflicts for matters not otherwise provided for elsewhere in the State League’s rules of play.