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SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

1.01 Name of League

The name of the League shall be the “Arizona Premier League” (APL).

1.02 Mission

To provide the highest standard of competitive play for youth teams in Arizona and assure the continued growth and development of elite level players.

1.03 League Status

The Arizona Premier League is created and established by Arizona Youth Soccer Association. The league is operated by the APL League Commissioner on behalf of AYSA. Club membership within AYSA is a requirement for participation in the league.

1.04 Rules, Policies, and Procedures

All league rules, policies, and procedures shall be reviewed and approved by the League Commissioner and the League Operation Committee.

1.05 Team Gender Age Groups

The League Operation Committee, subject to the AYSA Board of Directors, shall determine the gender age groups of competition for each seasonal year. The APL will conduct APL play in the following gender age groups for the 2016-2017 season: Boys and Girls U-12, U-13, U-14, U-15, U-16, U-17, U18 and U-19/20 gender age groups.

1.06 Matters Not Provided For

The League Commissioner and League Operation Committee has final authority in all matters not specifically provided for by the rules or policies of APL.

1.07 Age Group Management

Each age group will be managed and supervised by the League Commissioner which will be responsible for, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Securing venues (except for U12 games)
- (b) Creating match schedules
- (c) Serving as the liaison with the APL Referee Assignor and SYRA to ensure that match officials are assigned.
- (d) Collecting approved APL team rosters
- (e) Recording and posting of scores and standings
- (f) Ensuring communication of age group news and information is shared with teams

1.08 Site Coordinators

The League Commissioner shall approve all Site Coordinators.

1.09 Site Coordinators Duties and Responsibilities

The Site Coordinator’s duties and responsibilities under the jurisdiction of the League Commissioner shall include but not be limited to:

- (a) Serving as a liaison between the APL and participating teams on site;
- (b) Establishing a central location for site headquarters;
- (c) Ensuring that the game fields are ready for play;
- (d) Collecting and distributing Referee Game Reports;

- (e) Forwarding Referee Game Reports to the League Commissioner at the conclusion of the event;
- (f) Completing any other duties as assigned by the League Commissioner.

1.10 Playing Seasons

The APL season will be played between August 29, 2016 and March 31, 2017

1.11 Precedence of Games

US Youth Soccer National Championship Series, National League and Desert Premier League competition will have priority over APL matches.

1.12 Team Rights and Privileges

Team participation in the APL will meet the requirements of the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series.

1.13 Contact Information and Communication

All member teams of the APL shall have contact information on file with the APL, including, but not limited to (a) the Team Manager’s Name, Address, Phone Numbers and valid e-mail address and (b) the Team Coach’s Name, Address, Phone Numbers and valid e-mail address. E-mail will be the primary means of communication within the APL. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that accurate contact information is on file with the APL.

SECTION 2. TEAM APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

2.01 Team Eligibility

Any team affiliated within an AYSA member club may apply to participate in Arizona Premier League.

2.02 Structure

The APL will offer competition for Boys and Girls in eight Age Groups, beginning with U-12 and concluding with U-19/20. Placement of teams within each gender age is determined by the performance of the teams. The APL will be composed of advanced teams wanting to participate at a higher level of competition.

2.03 APL Divisions

- Minimum of 6 teams per age group and gender
- Maximum of 10 teams per age group and gender

Number of Teams	Number of Games
6 Team Division	9
8 Team Division	9
10 Team Division	9

2.04 Boys Divisions

The Boys APL Divisions may consist of 6, 8, or 10 teams based on the quality of applicants.

2.05 Girls Divisions

The Girls APL Divisions may consist of 6, 8, or 10 teams based on the quality of applicants.

2.06 Good Standing

All teams must be properly registered competitive teams that meet the requirements for participation and are in good standing with their respective Club and AYSA.

2.07 Application Deadline – June 10, 2016 for the 2016-2017 Season

All applications for participation in the APL must be RECEIVED by the deadline established by the League Commissioner and the League Operation Committee.

2.08 Application Process

Team Applications to participate in the APL must be completed on-line.

2.08.1 DOC's (Director of Coaching) must approve in writing all team applications from their club for participation in the APL for each season.

2.09 Acceptance of Teams (Beginning 2017-2018)

The League Commissioner and League Operation Committee will determine what teams from those applied will be accepted in to the league. The committee will make the acceptance decision for entry into the league based on availability of positions, configuration of teams in each division and using the guidelines below but not limited to:

IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER

- Head to Head
- Common opponents
- Results against the top 3 State Cup Finishers
- Results from DPL and NL
- State Cup Standings
- Tournament Results
- Roster Continuity
- Strength of Roster/Player Pool
- Play-In games will be used if necessary (Last 2 weeks of August)

2.10 Roster Continuity

All teams that are accepted for play in the APL must show player continuity of 9 players for U12 teams and 11 players for U13-U19/20 teams throughout the complete 2016-2017 APL season.

2.11 Refusal to Admit Teams

The APL after consultation with AYSA shall have the final authority and right to refuse admittance of any team based upon the team's prior performance in the APL. These factors include, but are not limited to: failure to perform at a high level, failure to play APL matches as scheduled; failure to comply with APL rules; and/or failure to pay assessed APL fees or fines on time.

2.12 Placement of Teams in State League:

The League Operation Committee reserves the right to add teams to the Arizona State League that aren't accepted to the Arizona Premier League.

2.13 Registration Deadline

Registration for participation in the APL must be RECEIVED by the deadline established by the League Commissioner and the League Operation Committee. Gotsoccer will be used for league registration and scheduling.

2.11.01 Only teams accepted following the application review process shall register for APL in gotsoccer.

2.14 Fees and Other Expenses

Each team participating in the APL will pay the fees established by the League Commissioner and the League Operation Committee and approved by AYSA's Executive Director. The amount of fees imposed shall be based on costs incurred and estimated to be incurred in connection with the operation of the league. Each team shall be responsible for all costs incurred in connection with its participation in the APL, including without limitation travel, housing, and uniforms.

2.15 Acceptance of APL Rules

Any team applying to play in the APL, agrees to accept, abide by and comply with all rules, policies, and decisions by the APL and further agrees to pay all fees that are due to the APL for participation in the APL.

2.16 Return of APL Fees

The APL shall return all fees paid for any team that is not accepted to play in the APL. If a team withdraws from the APL before the APL schedules are published, one-hundred dollars (\$100) will be withheld from the fees paid. If a team withdraws from the APL after the publication of schedules, the entire entry fee will be retained and an additional fine or other penalties will be assessed.

SECTION 3. TEAM ROSTERS

3.01 Team Rosters

All teams must submit an official APL Team Roster of players at a time determined by the League Commissioner. An authorized official from the Team's Club must authenticate the validity of the rostered players. Club transfers can not be added to the team rosters after September 11, 2016 for the APL league. However club pass players will be allowed per APL policy.

3.02 Player Eligibility

Player eligibility is governed by the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series rules. A player may not be on the roster of more than one APL team; provided, however, that an AYSA registered player with the approval of AYSA may play as a club pass player for a second team from within the same US Youth Soccer affiliated club. No player may play for more than one APL team in one day. **No player may play for more than one APL team in the same age/gender group in the same seasonal year.**

3.03 Club Passes

Subject to the provisions of section 3.02, any U12-U14 team may use up to three (3) and any U15-U19 team may use up to five (5) club pass players per game.

Club Pass Definition

3.03.01 Issued to a registered youth player by a club in compliance with the rules of the AYSA of which the club is a member;

3.03.02 Issued as provided by this policy, and;

3.03.03 Specifies the club and team of which the youth player is a registered member.

3.04 Club Transfers

APL Players that transfer to another APL Club/Team after September 11, 2016 will be ineligible to participate in APL games only for that season.

3.04 Member Passes

Valid US Youth Soccer member passes will be used for APL play. All US Youth Soccer member passes must be valid for the current season, have a current player photo and be laminated.

SECTION 4. FORMATION OF DIVISIONS

4.01 Placement of Teams

The APL committee is responsible for the placement of teams based the team's performance in the AYSA leagues, DPL, Far West Regionals, the USYS National Championship, and other provisions of section 2.09. Each age group and gender will consist of 1 division of 6, 8, or 10 teams.

4.02 Promotion and Relegation

The APL does not operate on a Promotion / Relegation system.

4.03 Play in Games:

Play in games may be used to determine the final open slots in an age group.

Play in games will only be used if deemed necessary by the League Commissioner and the League Operation Committee. Players must be registered with your club in order to participate in Play In games (No Loan players will be allowed).

4.04 New Teams

New teams are defined as those teams that did not play in the APL during the immediately preceding season. No team is entitled to continue participation in the APL without the approval of the APL Committee and each team must apply for each season.

Each Club may nominate any number of teams to compete in the APL; provided, however, that only a maximum of two teams per Club can be accepted in an age and gender group.

4.05 Teams Playing Up

Teams may request to play up an age group.

4.06 Scoring Method

The standings of teams within a division are based upon the number of points earned.

Teams earn points as follows:

- Three (3) points for a win
- One (1) point for a tie
- No (0) points for a loss
- Minus two (-2) points for a forfeit

4.07 Forfeits

In the event of a forfeit, the team that forfeits the match will have two (2) points deducted, and the match score will be recorded as 0-2. The opponent will be awarded three (3) points and a 2-0 win.

4.08 Uneven Number of Games

In the event that the teams in a Division do not play the same number of games due to unforeseen circumstances but, not including games that teams refuse to play (i.e. forfeits), the Final Standings may be determined by using the percentage of points earned versus the maximum points the team could have earned. The APL Committee will also determine any tie-breaking procedures that may need to be applied.

4.09 Tiebreakers—Two Teams are Tied

If two teams are tied on the basis of points earned, the team's placement will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria:

- (a) Winner of head to head competition
- (b) Winner of most games.
- (c) Goal Differential (goals scored minus goals against max four (4) per game)
- (d) Fewest goals allowed.
- (e) Fewest disciplinary points (yellows and reds earn caution and ejection points)
- (f) Coin toss

4.10 Tiebreakers—Three or More Teams That Are Tied

If three or more teams are tied on the basis of points earned, the final rankings will be determined in accordance with the following sequential criteria. When a team ranks last on any criteria, they will be eliminated from consideration and the sequence will begin again for the remaining teams.

- (a) Points earned in head to head competition among the teams
- (b) Winner of most games.
- (c) Goal Differential (goals scored minus goals against max four (4) per game).
- (d) Fewest goals allowed.
- (e) Drawing of lots.

SECTION 5. OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

5.01 Reporting of Scores

Refer to GAME DAY STANDARDS.

5.02 Lineup Game Cards

Each team must complete and provide a lineup game card on the form approved by the League Operation Committee and a copy of the team roster, including guest players if applicable, to the referee at least thirty (30) minutes before the game. No more than 18 players from a team may be in uniform or play in a single game (no more than 16 players for U12 games). Any team that plays an ineligible player in a game forfeits that game. A team that plays an ineligible player shall forfeit any game in which an ineligible player played and be subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension or expulsion of the team and team officials from the APL.

5.03 Forfeited Matches

An APL team that forfeits a game by failing to appear shall be subject to a fine assessed against its club and collected before any team from that club can be admitted to a subsequent APL season and be declined to the APL, for the next season of participation. The amount of the fine shall be determined each season by the League Commissioner and approved by AYSA's Executive Director.

5.04 Uniforms

Teams playing in the APL are only permitted to wear the following on their game uniforms:

- (a) US Youth Soccer logo
- (b) The logo of the team's State Association or the logo of any State Association sponsor
- (c) Their individual club and/or team logo and team sponsor logo
- (d) Manufacturer of uniform logo
- (e) Name and number of player

No other patches or logos are permitted unless written permission is granted by the League Commissioner and League Operation Committee.

SECTION 6. MATCHES

6.01 Number of Games

Each team will be scheduled to play nine (9) games in a season.

6.02 Scheduling of APL Games

The League Commissioner will schedule all APL games. Once the APL publishes the season schedule, no game can be rescheduled. In the event that games are postponed by the APL, the League Commissioner will reschedule the games at the earliest possible reasonable date.

6.03 Match Schedule and Rest Periods

All matches will be played as scheduled, unless weather conditions dictate. It is the intent of the league to play only one match per day; however, when circumstances dictate, no more than two matches a day will be scheduled and no more than three matches per Saturday/Sunday weekend. Every effort will be made to provide for a minimum of three hours rest between matches.

6.04 Inclement Weather

The APL Commissioner or his/her designee shall have the sole authority to postpone a

match due to inclement weather and/or unplayable field conditions prior to the kick-off of a match. The League Commissioner will be responsible for notifying all teams regarding game postponement due to inclement weather. All reasonable efforts must be made to complete the match on the scheduled dates.

6.05 Referee Jurisdiction

Once the referee has jurisdiction of a match, the match may be stopped, suspended, or terminated as provided in the “FIFA Laws of the Game.”

6.06 Match Management Procedures and Competition Authority

Match Management Procedures are provided in “Appendix F” of these rules. As part of the Match Management Procedures, the APL Commissioner or his/her designee has the authority to make the final decision on all aspects related to a match outside of the jurisdiction of the referees.

SECTION 7. RULES OF PLAY

7.01 Applicable Rules and Laws of the Game

APL matches will be played under the applicable rule of US Youth Soccer. Teams are responsible for obtaining and being familiar with the U.S. Soccer Official Administrative Handbook and the FIFA Laws of the Game as they govern play subject to the modifications noted in these rules.

7.02 Substitutions

In the U15, U16, U17, U18, and U-19/20 age groups, a maximum of seven substitutions for each team shall be allowed in each game in each half of play. After leaving the game during a half of play, the substituted player may not re-enter the game during that same half of play. Substitutions may be made during any stoppage in play with the consent of the match referee. In the U12, U13 and U14 age group, unlimited substitutions will be permitted at any stoppage of play with the consent of the match referee.

7.03 Match Length and Ball Size

	<u>Length of Half</u>	<u>Ball Size</u>
U-17, U-18 and U-19/20	45 min.	5
U-15 and U-16	40 min.	5
U-13 and U-14	35 min.	5
U-12	30 min	4

7.04 Field Size

The APL recommended field size is 110 yards by 70 yards for U13 – U19 and the APL recommended field size is 75 yards by 50 yards for U12 (**Fields for all age groups must meet the FIFA requirements for full size fields**).

7.05 Official Match

A match shall be considered official after one full half of play is completed (the second half does not have to start). If less than one half is completed and the match is abandoned, the entire match must be replayed, subject to review by the League Operation Committee. If a match is abandoned in the second half of play due to inclement weather, the final score will be the score at the time the match is abandoned.

If a match is abandoned due to gross misconduct, the League Commissioner will decide the disposition of the match score following review of all information available including but not limited to Referee Game Reports, reports for APL staff, etc.

7.06 Forfeits-Lack of Appearance

Failure to appear or failure to timely appear for a scheduled match will result in a forfeit. A team must be present and ready to play within 10 minutes of scheduled match time. For unforeseen circumstances (traffic accident), the APL commissioner has the authority to delay the match time.

7.07 Anchored Goals

The coaches and match referee should inspect the integrity of the goals to ensure they are secure and suitable for play. Matches shall not begin until both goals have been firmly secured.

7.08 Player Passes and Rosters

Each team must bring a laminated US Youth Soccer pass for each player and team official signed by an official from AYSA, a APL game card, and a copy of their official APL roster to every match. No player without a current, valid player pass shall be permitted to participate in any game. Game cards, rosters, and player and team official passes must be given to the referee before the start of the game.

7.09 Playing of Ineligible Player

A team that plays an ineligible player shall forfeit any game in which an ineligible player played and be subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension expulsion of the team and team officials from the APL.

7.10 Member Passes Presented to Referee

US Youth Soccer Member Passes shall be presented to the referee upon entering the field of play. Passes will be returned to the players at the end of the half. Players will present passes upon entering the match during the second half.

7.11 Team Rosters

Upon request, copies of official APL game rosters must be provided to the opposing team coach/manager prior to the start of each game.

7.12 Uniform Color Conflict

Uniforms for APL matches must conform to the Team Uniform Policy outlined in “**Appendix G**” of these rules.

7.13 Team Bench Area

No more than 4 team bench persons (being only team coaches, team administrators, and team medical staff) shall be permitted at the team bench area during a match. Also, those players listed on the match lineup card are permitted at the team bench area during a match. A suspended team bench person is not permitted at the Team Bench Area. The team bench area must at all times be supervised by a team bench person and if no adult who possesses a member pass card from AYSA/US YOUTH SOCCER is available to become a team bench person to supervise the team bench area, the match is forfeited.

7. 14 Spectator Sidelines

Teams will sit on the opposite sideline from the spectators. Spectators should sit directly across from their team. No spectators on the team sidelines or behind the goals.

7.15 Coaching from Sidelines

Limited coaching is permitted only from one touch line from the team's respective technical area (if marked) or from the center-line to 5 yards from the end of the team bench closest to the goal line (if no technical area is marked). Team bench persons may not enter the field without permission from the referee. **Only the Head Coach can address the Match Officials (Referees).**

SECTION 8. MATCH CONTROL - REFEREES

8.01 Diagonal System of Control for Officiating

Matches must be officiated using the 3-person FIFA/USSF Referee System. In the event the assigned referee fails to appear (within 10 minutes of the match time); a certified referee must be found by the APL Commissioner or his/her designee to officiate the match. The referee, in conjunction with the APL official on site, may appoint replacements for assistant referees who fail to show up by the match time. In the event certified USSF officials are not available, the referee may appoint club assistant referees. Club assistant referees shall be limited to decisions only on touchlines and possession as specified by FIFA/USSF Referee Guidelines.

8.02 Game Officials

Game officials will be assigned under the authority of the APL Assignor working with the SYRA.

8.02.01 The APL Assignor will be assigned under the authority of the League Commissioner.

8.03 Payment of Referees

Referees and Assistant Referees appointed under the provisions of these APL Rules shall be paid in accordance with acceptable state and federal guidelines as independent contractors. All referees will be required to complete the W9 form to be compensated..

To be paid by AYSA:

- (a) Referee fees for U12 games shall total \$80.00 (\$40, \$20, \$20)
- (b) Referee fees for U-13 and U-14 games shall total \$100.00 (\$50, \$25, \$25)
- (c) Referee fees for U-15 and U-16 games shall total \$110.00 (\$50, \$30, \$30)
- (d) Referee fees for U-17, U-18 and U-19/20 games shall total \$130.00 (\$60, \$35, \$35)

If the league requests a 4th official they will be paid \$25.00 by the league.

If fields are closed and/or games are cancelled and the referees are not notified prior to their arrival at the site, the officials will be paid for their first scheduled match only. In the event that there is only one Assistant Referee, only one Assistant Referee payment is made. The other Assistant Referee fee may be paid to a club assistant referee, if they are a registered USSF official.

8.04 Termination of Games

Each coach is responsible for the behavior of his or her players and sidelines, including control of parents, fans, and spectators. In the event a game is terminated or abandoned by the referee, the referee will provide the League Commissioner with a written report within 48 hours. The League Operation Committee may based on the referee report and such additional information it considers appropriate immediately suspend the team, team officials, or players pending the holding of a hearing pursuant to section 10.3. All such suspensions shall remain in effect unless and until modified or reversed following a hearing or an appeal.

8.05 Filing of Referee Match Report

The referee shall file a Match Report with the APL immediately following the match in accordance with the APL Match Management Procedures.

SECTION 9. SEND OFFS, DISMISSALS, AND SUSPENSIONS

9.01 Protocol for Send Offs and Dismissals

Any player sent off from a match must leave the field area and retreat to the parking area of the complex or an area designated by the APL Commissioner. Any team bench person dismissed from participating in a match must leave the field area and retreat to the parking area of the complex or an area designated by the APL Commissioner. Any player sent off or dismissed team bench person is prohibited from communicating with his/her team while the team is at the field for its match, including but not limited to cell phone use, texting, tweeting, or other means of communication. Violation of this rule may result in further disciplinary action against the individual and/or team. The match officials and/or APL supervisors on site are authorized to prohibit the use of any communication devices at the team bench areas.

9.02 Cautions and Send Offs - Suspensions

Any player or team official sent off (red card) from a game for conduct other than fighting shall be suspended for at least the team's next APL game. Any player sent off for fighting whether on or off the field and regardless of with whom shall be suspended for at least the team's next three (3) APL games. AYSA's D & R Committee may based on the referee report and such additional information it considers appropriate impose greater discipline subject to the holding of a hearing pursuant to section 10.3. All such discipline shall remain in effect unless and until modified or reversed following a hearing or an appeal. Players accumulating three (3) yellow cards in a season will be suspended for their next APL match. Players accumulating five (5) yellow cards in a season will be suspended for their next APL match. Players accumulating seven (7) yellow cards in a season will be suspended for their next APL match.

Note:

- **Suspensions will carry into Presidents or State Cup once APL games have been exhausted.**
- **Club Passed Players: Must serve their suspension with the APL team or their primary team. If the player has no remaining games then he or she must serve in Presidents Cup or State Cup.**
- **Suspensions can also carry into Far West Regionals and Nationals.**

9.03 Disciplinary Actions

All disciplinary measures imposed by the APL shall be limited to an individual or team's participation in the APL. The APL will record the issuance of all red and yellow cards and other matters involving the conduct of a team, its players, coaches or supporters and immediately distribute this information to the League Operation Committee and the respective team. The home League Operation Committee has the right to impose additional sanctions with regard to any matters arising from participation in the APL.

9.04 Violation of Rules

Any violation of the rules herein will be subject to disciplinary action by the APL.

9.05 Disciplinary/Fine Schedule

Prior to the start of the season, the League Operation Committee shall distribute a Disciplinary/Fine Schedule.

SECTION 10. PROTESTS AND APPEALS

10.1 Protest

A **protest** is a formal written objection of any violation of established rules, policies, or procedures. Protests are usually related to a specific game or administrative action and are filed by one of the involved team officials. Only those teams involved are permitted to protest a game result. Third parties, i.e., coaches from other teams, state administrators, cannot file protests on a specific game. Protests must be based upon a violation of the published rules of the organization, competition, or FIFA Laws of the Game. Referee judgment calls cannot be protested. Protests may be heard by any three League Operation Committee members except that no Committee member involved in a hearing may be a member of a club that is party to the protest. Protests may also be referred to the Discipline and Appeals Committee under Section 10.4 of the APL Rules at the discretion of the League Commissioner or the Director of Leagues.

10.2 Appeals

An **appeal** is a review of a decision following a hearing. The appeals committee shall have the authority to affirm, reverse, or remand a matter on appeal. It shall affirm the decision appealed if the decision does not violate applicable laws, constitutions, bylaws, and rules and regulations and is supported by substantial evidence. Substantial evidence means evidence of credible value that a reasonable person could accept. Only parties to the decision being appealed who have been adversely affected by the decision may appeal. All appeals are handled under Section 10.4 of the APL Rules.

10.3 Grievances

A **grievance** is an allegation of misconduct against a league official or against the APL which has adversely affected the party filing the grievance. Grievances may be filed by any party with a demonstrated harm caused by the alleged misconduct. The League Commissioner and Director of Leagues will determine the validity of any grievance. (Allegations of misconduct against a referee or misconduct of a referee will be handled by AYSA's D & R Chair under USSF Rules 531-9 and 531-10.)

All grievance hearings are handled by the Discipline and Appeals Committee under Section 10.4 of the APL Rules.

10.4 Discipline and Appeals Committee

AYSA's Director of Leagues shall be the chair of the APL Discipline and Appeals Committee. The chair of the committee will appoint no fewer than three (3) and no more than five (5) members of the League Operation Committee to hold a hearing or decide an appeal. The members appointed will not be from or associated with the club(s) involved, or otherwise have a conflict of interest. The committee's decisions shall be in writing, issued within a reasonable time following completion of the review of a protest, the holding of a grievance hearing, or the holding of an appeal and shall be sent to the League Commissioner and all affected parties.

10.5 Filing Procedures

A protest, request for a grievance hearing, or appeal must be in writing and filed within seventy-two (72) hours of receipt of the decision or adverse action being protested, for which a hearing is sought, or being appealed. The written filing must include:

- (a) A statement of the specific facts involved;
- (b) Citation of all rules, policies, or procedures alleged to have been violated;
- (c) The relief requested;
- (d) Copies of all relevant documents; and
- (e) A filing fee in the amount of \$250.00 in the form of certified check or money order made payable to US Youth Soccer Region IV.

NOTE: Protests of Games Played - Notice of intent to protest arising from events relating to a game must be given to the site coordinator within one hour of the completion of the game.

Any protest, request for a hearing, or appeal may be e-mailed to the League Commissioner to meet the 72 hour deadline, but must also be filed by mailing it registered or certified mail to the AYSA office along with the \$250 fee, and postmarked within the 72 hour deadline..

10.6 Appeal of APL Assessed Fines

An appeal of APL assessed fines, must be postmarked no later than three (3) business days from notification of an assessed penalty in accordance with the Filing Procedures listed in Section 10.4. The APL Discipline and Appeals Committee will hear such fines as established by the League Commissioner and Director of Leagues.

10.7 Notification of Parties

AYSA shall notify all parties involved, no later than three (3) business days from receipt of an appeal or protest, that an appeal or protest has been filed.

10.8 Disputes and Discipline

The League Operation Committee are authorized to settle disputes and handle hearings other than grievance hearings which arise in the course of APL Competition. The League Operation Committee, in accordance with the

disciplinary policies and procedures of AYSA, Region IV, US Youth Soccer, and US Soccer, will investigate all allegations of misconduct by teams, coaches, players or others involved in APL operations and will impose an appropriate sanction for any violation found.

AYSA – ARIZONA PREMIER LEAGUE RULES

APPENDIX A

Available Slots in Each Gender Age Group For the 2017-2018 Season Year, the following procedures will be used for filling APL Slots in each gender age group:

Category - NL (Automatic Qualifiers)

- Teams that have earned NL slots in this category have until June 1, 2017, to complete the team application for the 2017-2018 seasonal year, and have the form received by the AYSA by that date. --Full payment of the team fee for 2017-2018 seasonal year is required to be received by the APL on or before July 31, 2017. (Teams that qualify for NL following June 1 will be added to APL accordingly)
- If a team does not claim its slot, then the slot will become an Open Slot (Category OPEN) to be filled at the APL Committee's discretion after the June 10, 2017, deadline from a pool of teams that wish to fill any Open Slots.

Category – DPL Premier Division (Automatic Qualifiers)

- Teams that have earned DPL slots in this category have until June 1, 2017, to complete the team application for the 2017-2018 seasonal year, and have the form received by the AYSA by that date. --Full payment of the team fee for 2017-2018 seasonal year is required to be received by the APL on or before July 31, 2017. (Teams that qualify for NL following June 1 will be added to APL accordingly)
- If a team does not claim its slot, then the slot will become an Open Slot (Category OPEN) to be filled at the APL Committee's discretion after the June 10, 2017, deadline from a pool of teams that wish to fill any Open Slots.

Category – AZ State Cup (Automatic Qualifiers) – Top 3 SC finishers

- Refer to Section 13 – Appendix C
Teams that have earned APL slots in this category have until June 1, 2017, to complete the team application for the 2017-2018 seasonal year, and have the form received by the AYSA by that date. --Full payment of the team fee for 2017-2018 seasonal year is required to be received by the APL on or before July 31, 2017. **All teams in this category must show player continuity from the previous state cup championships. At all times during the 2017-2018 seasonal year, an APL team must have on its Arizona Premier League roster, to be eligible to play during the 2017-2018 seasonal year, no less than 9 of the players that were on the team's state cup roster for the 2016-2017 seasonal year.**

- If a team does not claim its slot, then the slot will become an Open Slot (Category OPEN) to be filled at the APL Committee's discretion after the June 10, 2017, deadline from a pool of teams that wish to fill any Open Slots.

Category - APL (Teams maintain their spot) – Top 2 APL finishers

- Teams that have earned APL slots in this category have until June 1, 2017, to complete the team application for the 2017-2018 seasonal year, and have the form received by the AYSA by that date. --Full payment of the team fee for 2017-2018 seasonal year is required to be received by the APL on or before July 31, 2017. **All teams in this category that are accepted for play in the APL must show player continuity from the previous season. At all times during the 2017-2018 seasonal year, an APL team must have on its Arizona Premier League roster, to be eligible to play during the 2017-2018 seasonal year, no less than 9 of the players that were on the team's roster for the 2016-2017 seasonal year.**
- If a team does not claim its slot, then the slot will become an Open Slot (Category OPEN) to be filled at the APL Committee's discretion after the June 10, 2017, deadline from a pool of teams that wish to fill any Open Slots.

Category - OPEN (Teams Selected by APL Committee)

- These slots are to be filled at the APL Committee's discretion after a review of all team applications that are received by the APL by June 10, 2017, with full fee payment required to be received by the APL on or before July 31, 2017.

Category – CUP, NL, DPL, APL and OPEN will be used beginning 2017-2018 season.

AYSA – ARIZONA PREMIER LEAGUE

APPENDIX B

Match Management Procedures

SECTION 12. APPENDIX B

Team Eligibility

- 1. Arizona State Cup:** Teams that compete in APL will be eligible to apply for State Cup. Only teams that compete in APL or ASL (Arizona State League) will be eligible to apply for State Cup.
- 2. Desert Premier League:** Teams that compete in APL will be eligible to apply for DPL. Only teams that compete in APL or ASL will be eligible to apply for Desert Premier.
- 3. National League:** Teams that compete in APL will be eligible to apply for NL. Only teams that compete in APL or ASL and DPL will be eligible to apply for National League.

AYSA – ARIZONA PREMIER LEAGUE

APPENDIX C

Player Continuity

Roster Continuity

All teams that are accepted for play in the APL must show player continuity of 11 players for U13-U19/20 teams and 9 players for U12 teams throughout the complete APL season.

Beginning 2017-2018 and forward

All teams that are “AUTOMATICALLY” (see Appendix A) accepted for play in the APL must show player continuity from the previous season. At all times during the 2017-2018 seasonal year, an APL team must have on its Arizona Premier League roster, to be eligible to play during the 2017-2018 seasonal year, no less than 9 of the players that were on the **team’s roster** for the 2016-2017 seasonal year.

Returning Teams – teams that are accepted for play in the APL as a “Returning” team must show player continuity from the previous season. At all times during the 2017-2018 seasonal year, an APL team must have on its Arizona Premier League roster, to be eligible to play during the 2017-2018 seasonal year, no less than 9 of the players that were on the **team’s roster** for the 2016-2017 seasonal year.

New Teams – teams that are accepted for play in the APL must show player continuity of 11 for U13-U19/20 teams and 9 players for U12 teams throughout the complete APL season.

State Cup Results 2017 – APL Placement for 2017 – 2018 season

U13 Boys	U14 Boys	U15 Boys	U16 Boys	U17 Boys	U18 Boys
1. U12 SC	1. U13 SC	1. U14 SC	1. U15 SC	1. U16 SC	1. U17 SC
2. U12 SC	2. U13 SC	2. U14 SC	2. U15 SC	2. U16 SC	2. U17 SC
3. U12 SC	3. U13 SC	3. U14 SC	3. U15 SC	3. U16 SC	3. U17 SC

U13 Girls	U14 Girls	U15 Girls	U16 Girls	U17 Girls	U18 Girls
1. U12 SC	1. U13 SC	1. U14 SC	1. U15 SC	1. U16 SC	1. U17 SC
2. U12 SC	2. U13 SC	2. U14 SC	2. U15 SC	2. U16 SC	2. U17 SC
3. U12 SC	3. U13 SC	3. U14 SC	3. U15 SC	3. U16 SC	3. U17 SC

AYSA – ARIZONA PREMIER LEAGUE**APPENDIX D****Roster Size**

	Min Roster	Max Roster	Play	Min # Players to Start Game	Halves	Length of Break
U12 - 2005	9	16	9v9	6	2x30min	10 min
U13 - 2004	11	*22	11v11	7	2x35min	10 min
U14 - 2003	11	*22	11v11	7	2x35min	10 min
U15 - 2002	11	*22	11v11	7	2x40min	10 min
U16 - 2001	11	*22	11v11	7	2x40min	10 min
U17 - 2000	11	*22	11v11	7	2x45min	10 min
U18 - 1999	11	*22	11v11	7	2x45min	10 min
*U19/20 – 1998/1997	11	*22	11v11	7	2x45min	10 min

*U19/20: Players born August 1, 1997 and younger.

** 18 max suited up each game.

Out of Format Policy: (Playing out of format is limited to 3 players).

- No more than 3 players can play out of format on a team per game.
- U12 teams can have no more than 3 players U10 and younger.
- U13 and older teams can have no more than 3 players U12 and younger.

AYSA – ARIZONA PREMIER LEAGUE

APPENDIX E

Team Roster Information

Definition of an APL Team Roster: APL will accept a State Association generated roster. Teams are permitted to make changes (i.e. drops, adds) to their rosters during the course of the APL seasonal year provided that such changes are filed with the APL at the time of such change and approved with a revised stamped roster from AYSA.

Teams that are accepted into the APL are to file a Team Roster by August 29, 2016 as follows:

For the 2016-2017 seasonal year, the APL requires teams to file with the APL an initial team roster by no later than August 29, 2016. Filing is defined as the team providing the APL Commissioner with a copy of the team's roster that is approved by the club Registrar. **The primary purpose of this early filing is to ensure that teams are in compliance with the APL's "9 returning players" rule (the 9 returning player rule will be effective 2017-2018 season).**

Revising the Team Roster: An APL team roster may be changed throughout the APL seasonal year subject to these APL Rules; there is no freeze date of APL team rosters. Teams are permitted to update their team roster throughout the seasonal year. Also in situations of injuries, teams may desire to drop a player from its team roster and replace the player **(as long as the player continuity rule is still met).**

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APPENDIX F

Match Management Procedures

1-Teams should expect the referees to check player passes and collect the Match Line Up Card from the team around 15-30 minutes prior to the scheduled kick off time.

2-Match balls are provided by the Home Team.

3-The videotaping of matches by team representatives and non-official AYSA representatives from the team bench side is prohibited unless written permission is granted in writing from the APL Commissioner.

4-Reporting of Scores

Site Coordinators shall report game scores in a manner determined by the League Commissioner. In situations where no site director is available, the home team is required to report the scores in a manner determined by the League Commissioner (See Below). Official Score Cards must be submitted to the AYSA office within 24 hours following the completion of each game.

5-The APL Commissioner may implement additional Match Management Procedures during the course of the APL seasonal year.

Reporting Scores:

It is the Home team responsibility to call the final game score into GotSoccer using the phone number, Event ID and Pin# listed at the top of the game card. Once completed, fax (602-433-9221) or scan (chriswebb@azyouthsoccer.org) the completed score card to the AYSA office no later than 24 hours after the completed game, or the game may be scored as a forfeit against the home team.

AYSA – ARIZONA PREMIER LEAGUE RULES

APPENDIX G

Team Uniform Policy

1-Each player (except a goalkeeper) shall have a number on the player's jersey. The number shall be affixed to the back of the jersey and be clearly visible. Each player on a team must wear a number different from the number of every other player on the team. Numbered jerseys on goalkeepers are optional.

2-All teams are required to attend each match with 2 sets of jerseys and socks for all of its players; one set of light colored jerseys and socks, and a second set of dark colored jerseys and socks.

3- It is expected that that the first team listed on the match schedule is to wear light/white color jerseys and socks. When there is a conflict in uniform color, the team listed first on the APL schedule must change its jerseys and socks.

4-Socks – tape or any material applied or worn externally must be the same color as that part of the sock it is applied to or covers.

5-The APL shall have the option to assign jersey colors to teams for matches, should the APL Commissioner deem that such procedure is appropriate.

6-In the event of color conflict with referees, the referees shall change jersey colors.