



**Recreational  
Coach's  
Manual**

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# ROCKDALE YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

## Philosophy And Vision Statement

The objective RYSA shall be to implant firmly in the youth of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and reverence so that they may be finer, stronger, and healthier youths and will grow into good, clean, and healthy adults. This objective shall be achieved by providing supervised competitive soccer matches subject to the rules of the United States Football Association (USSF), United States Youth Soccer (USYSA), the Georgia State Soccer Association (GSSA), and the Georgia Youth Soccer Association (GYSA). It shall be one of the foremost objectives that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or winning the match shall be secondary and the molding of future adults is the true purpose of the program. Any youth irrespective of race, religion, or national origin, who meets the requirements of USSF, USYSA, GSSA, and GYSA, as applicable shall be eligible for participation. Any adult may become a member of the association by meeting the requirements of membership as set fourth by the board of directors.

## Rockdale Youth Soccer Association [RYSA]

RYSA is located at 1780 Old Salem Road Conyers, GA. From Atlanta: Take I-20 east to exit 82. Turn Right Go to first red light turn left (Old Salem Rd.). Soccerplex Approx. 1 Mile on left.

Please Remember: No Pets, No Smoking, And No Glass Bottles.

For the up to date field Status: Call 770-483-0284 x 598 or visit our website at <http://www.rysa.net>

## History

In 1971, Bob Boggus and Larry Ginder traveled to Dekalb County for their children to play soccer. In February 1972, a meeting was arranged with Dwight Langley, Bob Boggus, and Larry Ginder to explore the possibility of Rockdale County's starting a soccer program. There was no interest at that time. Larry Ginder then placed an ad in the Rockdale Citizen to register soccer players. Forty-six children were registered and the Rockdale Youth Soccer Association or RYSA was born. The Association received its charter from the State on August 19, 1972. Bob Boggus knew Ben Gross from Atlanta and his love of soccer and suggested they ask Ben for a place to play. Ben was excited about the idea and most generous. He provided the first playing field at the corner of Salem and Old Salem Roads (Gross Field). Practice areas were provided by Ben Gross along both sides of Salem Road. Parents volunteered to cut grass, mark fields, run concession stands, referee, and do anything that was required to make the new Association a success. Player participation grew from 46 in 1972 to 280 in 1975; 617 in 1977; 812 in 1978, and 928 in 1979. Today there are over 1400 children and

adults playing soccer in Rockdale County. As the Association grew in numbers, facilities also expanded.

1974 - RYSA used two additional fields provided by Ben and Alex Gross: Gross Lake and Chiefs' Field (later enlarged by RYSA and the name was changed to Upper Fairview - but that's a story in itself).

1976 - A much-needed field was built across from AT&T on Salem Road on land provided by Ben and Alex Gross using county equipment and volunteer help.

1978 - RYSA built two fields on Fairview Road on land provided by Ben and Alex Gross using county equipment and volunteer help.

1978 - RYSA purchased 38 acres on Old Salem Road for field construction. Money needed for land acquisition was raised by the Association members through various fund raising activities: the famous Onion Sale, Fall Carnival, and Fall Raffles.

1980 - Construction began on the Old Salem Road complex, which contains eight fields: Founders, Friends, Family, McDonalds, John Deere North and South, Enterprise, and Memorial. Bronze plaques representing contributors to each field are located at the Soccer Complex. A 400-car parking lot, concession stands and restrooms, maintenance building, and picnic area were also constructed.

1982 - RYSA initiated a three-day invitational tournament attracting 170-plus teams from the eastern United States.

1988 - RYSA constructed the first league-owned and operated indoor soccer facility. The Grand Opening was on November 4, 1989 with an Exhibition Game by the Atlanta Attack Professional Indoor Soccer Team.

1996 - RYSA installed lights on Friends and John Deere fields.

## **Relationships And Agreements With Rockdale County**

RYSA maintains a yearly agreement with Rockdale County. This agreement allows RYSA access to the O'Neal Sports Complex located on Old Covington Road as well as all the neighborhood parks. Neighborhood parks include but are not limited to all the school fields after school hours when not being used for an official school function. Our agreement also gives RYSA the right of first refusal on these locations. RYSA provides equipment and help when asked by the county to maintain these locations.

## **Structure And Organization Chart**

The RYSA Board of Directors is made up off a five-member executive committee and thirteen-member board. **The executive committee is elected every year within twenty days by the members of RYSA.** The President appoints the board members. The current Board of Directors can by found at the following link:  
[http://www.rysa.net/RYSAboardofdirectors/index\\_E.html](http://www.rysa.net/RYSAboardofdirectors/index_E.html)

## **How To Communicate With RYSA**

The most effective way to communicate with RYSA is via e-mail. You can find e-mail addresses at the following links:

Office staff: [http://www.rysa.net/Officecontacts/officestaff/index\\_E.html](http://www.rysa.net/Officecontacts/officestaff/index_E.html)  
Board Members: [http://www.rysa.net/RYSABoardofdirectors/index\\_E.html](http://www.rysa.net/RYSABoardofdirectors/index_E.html)  
A list of phone numbers will be provided to you as well.

## **Office Hours And Contact Information**

Contact information can be found at the following links:

Office staff: [http://www.rysa.net/Officecontacts/officestaff/index\\_E.html](http://www.rysa.net/Officecontacts/officestaff/index_E.html)  
Board Members: [http://www.rysa.net/RYSABoardofdirectors/index\\_E.html](http://www.rysa.net/RYSABoardofdirectors/index_E.html)

The RYSA office hours are:

Monday and Friday 11am – 5pm  
Thursday 11am – 7pm.

Please be advised that office hours may change from week to week. Current information can be found at the following link:

<http://www.rysa.net/home/80070.html>

## **RYSA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Access the RYSA policies and procedures at the following link:

[http://www.rysa.net/rysabylaws/index\\_E.html](http://www.rysa.net/rysabylaws/index_E.html)

Contact the Commissioner at the following link:

[http://www.rysa.net/RYSABoardofdirectors/index\\_E.html](http://www.rysa.net/RYSABoardofdirectors/index_E.html)

A list of phone number will be provided to you also.

# PRE-SEASON

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is RYSA a county organization?

NO!!! RYSA is operated as a non-profit organization and managed by a President, Commissioner, and Board of Directors who are elected annually. Property is held in trust by four Trustees.

### Where is my coach's folder located?

The coach's folders are located in the office located in the right back corner of the indoor soccer building.

### Who do I contact for help?

You should contact your division director first. If you still need help then contact the Rec. Commissioner. If you still need help then you should contact the RYSA Commissioner. You can find their names and e-mail addresses at the following link: <http://www.rysa.net>

### Why should I want to volunteer to work in the concession stand?

RYSA is a non-profit organization that depends on registration fees and fundraising to generate its operating capital. The concession stand is the **NUMBER 1** fundraiser that we operate. It is important to generate as much capital as possible from the fundraisers in order to keep registration fees down and field quality up.

### Who do I contact if I want to volunteer?

If you register online you can sign up to volunteer then. You may board member in charge of fundraising. You may also contact the RYSA Administrator. You can find their names and e-mail addresses at the following link: <http://www.rysa.net>

### Where can I practice?

You may practice at any of the neighborhood parks as well as the O'Neal Sports Complex.

## Registration

The seasonal year for soccer runs from August 1<sup>st</sup>. to July 31<sup>st</sup>. All children must be 4 years old by Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>. of the seasonal year to play within that year. At RYSA there are 4 seasons (Fall outdoor, Winter indoor, Spring outdoor and Summer indoor) that have there own walk-in registration dates. Walk-in dates are the end of registration for that season. Those dates normally fall in the same months during the year:

Middle of July for Fall outdoor  
Middle of October for Winter indoor  
Middle of January for Spring outdoor

Middle of April for Summer indoor

Online registration will open 30-45 days before the posted walk-in dates for each season.

### *Player Draft Process*

Recreation players are assigned to teams by what is called a “*blind*” draft. Player registration cards are separated according to appropriate age groups and given to the Age Group Coordinators. Prior to the draft, Age Group Coordinators will freeze coach’s children and separate player registration cards by age and number of seasons played to ensure a draft that is fair. The Age Group Coordinators will schedule meetings with the coaches in order to perform the “*blind*” drafts. The “*blind*” drafts should follow the same format for each age group. Let’s use the Under 10 age group for example:

- The under 10 age group consists of players that are eight and nine years of age.
- The coaches will pick player registration cards in order as determined by lottery.
- The eight-year-old player registration cards will be placed faced down on the table and each coach will select a card until all of the eight-year-old cards are selected.
- The nine-year-old player registration cards will then be placed faced down on the table and the selection process will continue where it left off until all nine-year-old cards are selected.
- To ensure teams have equal number of players the Age Group Coordinator reserves the right to reassign players as needed.
- The Age Group Coordinator will only honor sibling requests. All other requests will be examined thoroughly and substantiated before being honored.
- Coaches are to refrain from trading players. What you select is what you get.

Coaches should be prepared to select a team color and name at the draft. The lottery will determine the order of selection. Coaches will also need to fill out the uniform order based on the information provided on the player registration cards and return the order to the Age Group Coordinator.

Drafts will occur every season for age groups under 8. Drafts for age groups 10 and above will only be held in the Fall. This ensures that age groups 10 and above will play together in the Fall and Spring seasons.

Age group 10 and above players registering for the Spring season that did not play during the Fall season will be assigned to a team at the discretion of the Age Group coordinator.

The RYSA Recreation League consists of the following age groups:

- Under 6 Boys (U6B – 4 and 5 year olds)
- Under 6 Girls (U6G – 4 and 5 year olds)
- Under 8 Boys (U8B – 6 and 7 year olds)

- Under 8 Girls (U8G – 6 and 7 year olds)
- Under 10 Boys (U10B – 8 and 9 year olds)
- Under 10 Girls (U10G – 8 and 9 year olds)
- Under 12 Boys (U12B – 10 and 11 year olds)
- Under 12 Girls (U12G – 10 and 11 year olds)
- Under 14 Boys (U14B – 12 and 13 year olds)
- Under 14 Girls (U14G – 12 and 13 year olds)
- Under 16 Boys (U16B – 14 and 15 year olds)
- Under 16 Girls (U16G – 14 and 15 year olds)

## **Uniform Process**

Coaches should be prepared to pick a team name, color, and complete a uniform order at the player draft meeting. Recording the jersey and sock sizes provided on the player registration cards completes the uniform order. Coaches will keep a copy of the uniform order for their records. (NOTE: Coaches will also keep copies of the player registration cards to create rosters and to contact their players.) Coaches will be notified when the uniforms are ready to be picked up. Coaches will review their uniform orders to ensure that the color and sizes are correct and will be requested to sign for the uniforms. Any order discrepancies should be noted before leaving. The jerseys will have the RYSA logo on the front with the number on the back. Coaches will decide if team logos and player names are placed on the jerseys. Black Ink is usually the vendor of choice for this service. If coaches do not receive the uniforms in time to have the team logos and player names placed on the jerseys prior to the first game, coaches should plan to collect the jerseys from the players at the end of the first game.

## **Background Checks**

RYSA requires coaches to authorize periodic background checks in an effort to provide a safe environment for the children who are participating at RYSA. Coaches will be provided with an “Authorization to Perform a Background Check” form. The coach will fill in the appropriate information, have the form notarized, and return the form to RYSA. RYSA will then send the forms to the local law enforcement agency to have the background checks performed. This may seem a bit extreme, but remember, RYSA desires to provide the safest environment possible for the children and the families who are participating at RYSA.

## **Coaching Certification and Reimbursement**

Coaches should be prepared to obtain coaching licenses appropriate to the age group being coached. Coaches have 1 yr. to obtain the correct license. To find out more information about the licenses and certifications, you may go to the RYSA website at [www.rysa.net](http://www.rysa.net) or call RYSA at **770-483-0824**. For training clinics requiring a fee, coaches may request reimbursement for the portion of the fee that is eligible for reimbursement per RYSA’s policy. Coaches will need to provide RYSA with the certificate of completion; RYSA will validate the certificate and will authorize reimbursement for the dollar amount allowable per RYSA’s policy.

# FUNDRAISING AND VOLUNTEERS

## Fundraising

RYSA is a not for profit organization. It relies on registration fees and fundraising to generate the operating capital that it needs. RYSA does three fundraisers a season. They are: Concession stands, Pictures, and Various sales that have included in the past selling cokes, onions, and raffle tickets. These fundraisers help RYSA keep the cost of registration down and the quality of playing fields high. *It is each coach's responsibility to communicate fundraising information to his players.* Each coach is also responsible to provide volunteers to work in the concession stands. Information about current fundraising projects can be found at the following link:

[http://www.rysa.net/Fundraising/index\\_E.html](http://www.rysa.net/Fundraising/index_E.html)

## Parental Responsibilities:

- Get your child to practice and games on time with all necessary equipment. (20 minutes ahead of kickoff time)
- Teach your child timeliness and responsibility to his team
- Participate in all fundraising efforts.
- Support your coach both on and off the field.
- Supply positive reinforcement to all the children on your team or the other teams at all times.
- We are here to have fun

## Concession Stand

The concession stand is the largest fundraiser for RYSA and the funds received from concessions goes directly to keeping the registration fees as low as possible. Parents will be expected to staff a concession stand at an appointed time during the season (generally, a team is only responsible to staff a concession stand only one time during the season). Coaches are requested to select a date for their teams to staff one of the concession stands for a three-hour session. Coaches may elect to break the three-hour session into one-hour sessions and have the parents select an hour to staff the concession stand. RYSA will assign concession duty if coaches are not volunteering to staff a concession stand. Coaches will want to stress the importance of concessions and how it has a direct impact on registration fees.

## Player Insurance

This coverage is in place for all participants in a sanctioned event and for all registered officials. The basic program provides secondary coverage for medical expenses when an injury sustained by a participant in sanctioned GYSA activities shall require treatment by a legally qualified physician, dentist, or surgeon, confinement

within a legally constituted hospital, employment of a licensed or graduate nurse, or x-ray examination. Coverage includes transport by ambulance. Copies of the complete plan as well as claim forms can be obtained from RYSA or at the following link:

<https://ssl.gasoccer.org/org/orgdocs.asp?o=672&wzb=1&ccatid=240273>

## **Picture Procedures**

Picture Day is the NUMBER 2 fundraiser that RYSA does. It is each coach's job to organize the sale of pictures for his team. Order forms will be placed in each coach's folder. Each coach will be informed of the date and time the pictures will be taken. The coach should hand out the order forms to his team. They should be returned on the day pictures will be taken. All pictures will be taken on the same day. Each age group will be assigned a time. You will turn in your order form and your payment when your pictures are taken. Coaches will be notified when the pictures are ready and told where to pick them up. The coach will then hand them out to their team.

## **Parking:**

- The front stone area is the designated parking area for RYSA.
- The poles in the ground indicate the walking paths and how far in each row should be.
- The end of the car should be equal to the pole.
- Two rows of parking are provided for in each lane of traffic.
- Parents must be reminded to park as close to other vehicles as possible to maximize the space available.
- Parking along fences is permissible only when not posted.

# **COACHING RESPONSIBILITY**

## **Relationship With Parents**

The parents will look to you for all direction; therefore use that to guide them to improve participation in the fund raising efforts and additional practice with their child. You should be able to have a relaxed conversation at all times with any parent. Remember we are here to have fun. Sometimes people should be reminded of that.

## **Relationship With Players**

The players all look to you for guidance and approval. Remember to give plenty of praise especially the lesser skilled players to give them more incentive to improve. Speak clearly and demonstrate new drills or skills before asking the players to do it. Even walking the players through the skill and adding speed to it as their ability allows. Discipline or scolding may at sometime be necessary. No cursing or physical contact is permitted at anytime. Sitting a player out for a period of time should be more than enough to get their attention.

## **Team Parent**

The Team Parent handles many of the administrative tasks involved with the soccer team. It is important that the coach and Team Mom have open communications so the Team Mom can keep the parents informed. This allows the coach to concentrate on the players of the team.

Some of the tasks the Team Parent may handle include:

- Concession stand schedule
- Pictures and other fundraisers
- Snack lists
- Team party for end of season
- Practice or game changes

## **Recruiting Assistant Coaches & RYSA Staff**

Get your parents involved in your practices. Through this they will realize the ease at which they can learn the game and the methods. Point out the support systems in place to guide a new coach. They would not be alone. Encourage their involvement in both coaching and RYSA functions. This is an organization run by volunteers. There is always a need for new people to fill in or take on newly created responsibilities.

# PRACTICE

## Practice Field Availability

You may practice at the O'Neal Sports Complex. As per our association agreement with Rockdale County the following schools are available for use:

Barksdale  
Sims  
C. J. Hicks  
J. H. House  
Honey Creek  
Lorraine

These are not the only areas you can use, anywhere there is a open space can be used for practices. Churches, open fields, and front yards work just as well. Remember there are a lot of teams that have to use these areas so share please.

## Emergency Procedure: (Follow it for practice and game day)

- Assess Injury
  - Minor: First Aid Kits in concession
  - Severe:
    - Do not move player
    - Player's parent or guardian present at game decides all medical actions to be taken including the need for emergency response.
    - Absence of a parent or guardian present, player's coach decides medical actions to be taken including the need for emergency response.
    - Contact nearest Concession stand for emergency response call. On duty board member must be contacted.

## How to conduct practice, adherence with Training Manual

Coaches Certification and training with RYSA's Director of Coaching are the best ways to learn how to conduct practice. The Training Manual you will receive will also show you the correct progressions for helping the children learn. Plan ahead when setting up practice and it will go smoothly for you. Finally follow the Player Talent Development section closely as it is the guide for teaching the kids.

## Player Talent Development

### U6 Philosophy

- A. Teaching the basics – at a beginner level is important to teach the kids the skills in the correct manner. The idea is to teach basic skills (dribbling, ball control, ball striking) in fun environment
- B. Training / coaching tips
  - a. Dribbling – keeping control of ball, dribble close - inside and outside of both feet
  - b. Ball control – trying to stop the ball instead of kicking it back, move body to get behind, prepare foot to stop ball – hop step as the ball approaches.
  - c. Ball striking – basic idea of kicking the ball with inside and instep (laces) – at a greater pace – **not using the toe.**
- C. Tactics
  - a. Point them in the right direction and explain the basic roles of the game – try to score goals and stop the other team from scoring.

## U8 Philosophy

- A. At U8 the idea is to build on the basic skills of U6 and to learn new concepts while keeping the environment fun and exciting. With 4v4 we can start to introduce basic positioning as well as the idea of passing to teammates.
- B. Technical
  - a. Dribbling
    - i. The idea of dribbling around defenders – turns away from defenders
  - b. Passing
    - i. Inside of foot – not toe
    - ii. Inside of foot – receiving / trapping
    - iii. Doing both while moving
  - c. Ball striking
    - i. Striking ball with pace / power
    - ii. Laces for power
    - iii. Inside for accuracy
- C. Tactics
  - a. Basic positioning
    - i. Forward v back
    - ii. Right v left
    - iii. 4v4
  - b. Players “Pushing Up” not back, staying in front of goal
  - c. Can pass backwards
  - d. Play / Pass wide / Dribble – space is out wide
  - e. Defensively marking/ guarding player on other team
  - f. Spread out

## U-10 Philosophy

- A. At U-10 the idea is to build on the basic skills of U6 & U8 and keep the environment fun and exciting. With 6 v 6 we can start to introduce formations and goalkeeping.
- B. Technical
  - a. Ball contact – first touch, good control while moving – now under pressure.
  - b. Dribbling – shielding to hold possession, dribbling away from pressure, 1 v 1 moves to beat defenders.
  - c. Passing – idea of possession – passing and moving
  - d. Ball striking/shooting – pass with inside of foot, shoot with laces, no toe
- C. Tactical
  - a. Shape – try to set them to spread out or stay in a shape that resembles the formation 2-1-2 or 3 defenders & 2 forwards
  - b. Teach that positions are a relationships amongst players
  - c. The group moves up & down the field, side-to-side
  - d. Introduction of goalkeeper
    - i. Rules – box, etc.
    - ii. Where to be
    - iii. How to do it

## U-12 Philosophy

- A. At U-12 the idea is to build on the basic skills of U6, U8 & U10 and keep the environment fun and exciting. With 8 v 8 we can start to teach possession.
- B. Technical
  - a. Limited 1 per ball – move 2/3 per ball
  - b. Technical work with passing & moving elements
  - c. Introduction of serving longer passes/crosses
  - d. Enhance ball control under pressure
- C. Tactical – more emphasis on tactical training
  - a. Introduction into 3 lines – is most like 11-a-side formation
    - i. Defender, Midfield, Forward
    - ii. 2-3-2
    - iii. 3-3-1
  - b. Tactical concept of getting the ball wide – more space.
  - c. Stay in positions as we move up & down the field
  - d. Defending
    - i. 1 v 1
    - ii. As a team with players that cover each other
    - iii. Marking opposite player
    - iv. Transition – getting back
  - e. Possession – passing to teammates as a way of progressing the ball downfield – *Possession vs. booting*
  - f. Set Pieces

- i. Corners
- ii. Free kicks
- iii. Offense & defense

## **U-14 and Up Philosophy**

**A.** 11 v 11 starts at this level. Travel to other associations to play games happens now. Almost all training is tactical.

1. Team Possession
2. Team Shape
3. Combination Play
4. Crossing and finishing
5. Finishing at every practice possible
6. Individual position training
7. Team attacking
8. Team defending
9. Set pieces
10. Corners

Practices should incorporate individual and small group activity into team activity. Everything should finish in TEAM activity. Games should be focused on team shape, attacking and defending. Coaches should sit down and let the kids play.

## **Insurance Waiver**

An Insurance Waiver may be needed if you are not using the O'Neal sports complex or the neighborhood parks for practice. Contact our Administrator for the form during regular office hours.

**Friends**  
(Lighted Field)

**Founders**

**John Deere**  
(Lighted Fields)

**Enterprise**

Concession/  
Restrooms/  
DOC Office

Indoor Complex  
RYSA Office  
Concessions/Restrooms

**Memorial**

**McDonalds**

**Parking**

**Family**

# GAME DAY

## Required Forms And How To Complete Them

On game day the game card is the official record of the match. Make sure everything you write on it is clear and legible. Some of the information includes:

Your team name                      Your Head Coaches name

Opposing team name              Opposing Head Coaches name

Date                      Location                      Time

All your players' names and numbers

If you have a player sitting out a red card suspension, their name must appear on the card with the statement "Sitting out a red card " under their name. They must be on the bench in street clothes. And I would get the Referee to put a check mark by that name to confirm that that has happened.

**Field Layout RYSA:** (See Diagram)

**Emergency Procedure:** (Follow it for practice and game day)

- Assess Injury
  - Minor: First Aid Kits in concession
  - Severe:
    - Do not move player
    - Player's parent or guardian present at game decides all medical actions to be taken including the need for emergency response.
    - Absence of a parent or guardian present, player's coach decides medical actions to be taken including the need for emergency response.
    - Contact nearest Concession stand for emergency response call. On duty board member must be contacted.

## Behavior At Games

All Players, Coaches, and Parents are to act in an orderly manner while enjoying and encouraging players during the game. Referees are to be respected. No alcoholic beverages will be consumed or allowed on or near the property.

### **Game Procedures:** (All age groups included unless specifically noted)

- Arrive 20 to 30mins early for the game to allow for warm-up and Referee Equipment Check.
- Before start of game Captains will meet at the center of the field with the referee to determine kick-off.
- Substitutions, Throw Ins, and all other procedures as outlined in the RYSA, US Youth Soccer, and FIFA regulations.
- Game cards will be kept for U10 and older recreation games. (See Forms)
- U12 & U14 Interleague Traveling teams:
  - All players are required to have in their possession a state issued picture Id. Card on game day. No Card, No Play.
  - Coaches of the Away team should call the Home team coach the Wednesday before the game to confirm uniform colors, directions, and local rules for the games location.

### **Cards – Red or Yellow**

- All players, coached, asst. coaches and parents can be issued a red card during the course of the game at the referee's discretion as regulated by US Youth Soccer and FIFA.
- Individual issued a red card must leave the vicinity of the playing fields immediately or possibly cause game forfeiture. Individual must go to the parking area and away from all playing areas on the property.
- A Georgia Soccer Coach Report of Game Incident/Injury must be filled out and filed with the league office. This will report the offending individual's view of the incident. The referee will file his or her own report.
- A disciplinary board will be formed to review the incident and will issue sanctions according to the reports. The individual has the right to be present and to bring witnesses. Individual will be notified of the date of the hearing.
- Based on the severity of the incident game suspension, tournament suspension or total ban from play could be issued by the board.
- Incidents in the last games of the season will cause penalties to carry over to the next season and/or into the tournament schedule.

### **Policing and Clean Up**

- Each team is responsible for the cleanup of the field area after their game.
- No trash, garments, or any other items should be left on the field.
- All valuables found should be turned into the Office immediately following the game.
- Last game of the day returns nets to Indoor Complex building.

## **Tournaments**

Tournaments are a fun way to challenge your team during the season. RYSA has a Recreation Tournament around the end of November or first of December. There are more Rec. Tournaments listed on the state website ([www.gasoccer.org](http://www.gasoccer.org)). Normal costs for teams entering will be listed and you can divide the cost up among the players on your team. Make sure that you get all information and forms to fill out and send in so your team can play.

# RULES, FORMS AND LINKS

All playing rules should conform to FIFA and GYSA, with the following modifications.

## **RYSA Micro-Soccer Rules of the Game - U6**

**Play** - 3 v 3 - No Goalie

**Ball Size** – 3

**Duration of Game** - Four 10-minute quarters with a 2-minute break between quarters and a 5-minute break for half time.

**Substitutes** - Unlimited subs @dead ball to ensure equal playing time for all players. Substitution is also allowed for injury. (Coaches should try to sub at quarters to ensure players play half of every half.)

**Dress - Shin guards are mandatory.** Shin Guards are to be worn under the socks. Tennis shoes or soft-cleated soccer shoes must be worn. No earrings or other jewelry should be worn. Shirts must be tucked into shorts

**Start at Game** - Kick-off from the center with opponents at least 3 yards away

**Ball In/Out of Play** - The whole ball must be over the line.

**Off-side** - There is no offside.

**Fouls** - All fouls will result in an **Indirect**. A goal may not be scored until the ball is touched and/or played by another player from either team. No free kicks may be taken by the attacking team in the opponent's goal area. All opponents must be at least 6 yards away from the ball.

**Penalty Kicks** - No penalty kicks.

**Throw-ins** - There are no throw-ins; on balls going out the sidelines the appropriate teams must pass the ball in, while the opponents are at least 6 yards away.

**Corner Kicks** - No corner kicks, a dribble/pass-in will be taken.

**Goal Kicks** - Opponents must be at least 3 yards away from the ball and the ball may be placed with 2 or 3 yards from the goal.

### **Notes:**

1. The referee must briefly explain all infractions.
2. There is to be no score kept by the referees, coaches or parents.

3. **No goalie and/or player(s) should be standing in the goalmouth in order to prevent a goal.**
4. **All attacking players must be on the half of the field for a goal to count.** A goal kick will be given to the opposing team if violated.
5. Coaches are expected to be respectful of the Micro-referees. Remember they are learning as well as the young players. It might be your child refereeing one day.
6. Referees will be on time and in professional attire - proper shirt (tucked in), short, and shoes. There will be no arguing with coaches or parents. If a problem persists, please contact the Officer on Duty.
7. Players and Coaches are to be on one side of the field. Parents and guests on the opposite side.

## **RYSA Micro-Soccer Rules of the Game - U8**

**Play** 4 v 4 - No Goalie

**Ball Size** 3

**Duration of Game** - Four 12 minute quarters with a 2-minute break between quarters and a 5 minute break for half time.

**Substitutes** - Substitutions are made at quarters and half time to insure all players play **one half of every half**. Substitution is also allowed for injury.

**Dress - Shin guards are mandatory.** Tennis shoes or soft cleated soccer shoes must be worn. No earrings or other jewelry should be worn.

**Start at Game** - Kick-off from the center with opponents at least 3 yards away

**Ball In/Out of Play** - The whole ball must be over the line.

**Off-sides** - There is no off-sides.

**Fouls** - All fouls will result in an **Indirect**. A goal may not be scored until the ball is touched and/or played by another player from either team. No free kicks may be taken by the attacking team in the opponent's goal area. All opponents must be at least 6 yards away from the ball.

**Penalty Kicks** - No penalty kicks.

**Throw-ins** - There are no throw-ins; on balls going out the sidelines the appropriate teams must pass the ball in, while the opponents are at least 6 yards away.

**Corner Kicks** - Opponents must be at least 6 yards away from the ball.

**Goal Kicks** - Opponents must be at least 6 yards away from the ball and the ball may be placed with 2 or 3 yards from the goal.

**Notes:**

1. The referee must briefly explain all infractions.
2. There is to be no score kept by the referees, coaches or parents.
3. **No goalie and/or player(s) should be standing in the goal mouth in order to prevent a goal.**
4. **All attacking players must be on the half of the field for a goal to count.** A goal-kick will be given to the opposing team if violated.
5. Coaches are expected to be respectful of the Micro-referees. Remember they are learning as well as the young players. It might be your child refereeing one day.
6. Referees will be on time and in a professional attire - proper shirt (tucked in), short, and shoes. There will be no arguing with coaches or parents. If a problem persists, please contact the Officer on Duty.

**RYSA Micro-Soccer Rules of the Game – U10**

**Number of Players:** 6v6 – 5 field players & 1 goalkeeper.

**Field Dimensions:**

Field size will be 70 X 50

**Goals:**

The goal size will be 6 H X 12 W.

**Ball size:**

Ball size will be 4.

**Duration of play:**

The game will consist of 2 15 minute quarters per half. Subs will only be allowed on the quarters or in case of injury. Opposing team can also sub during an injury.

**Goal Keeper:**

A player **MUST** play as much time in the field as they played in goal.

**RYSA Micro-Soccer Rules of the Game – U12**

**Number of Players:** 8v8 – 7 Field and 1 Keeper). The recommendation for Roster size is a minimum of 10, maximum of 11. All players are chosen in a blind draft.

Teams will stay together 1 seasonal playing year (fall and spring). Substitutions are open and can be made in accordance with state rules for Select.

**Field Dimensions**

The field of play shall be rectangular, with the recommended size for 8v8 being between 75 -- 80 yards by 50 -- 55 yards.

## Markings

All field markings should be clearly visible. A goalkeeper's area of 36 yards by 12 yards shall be clearly marked, with all other markings conforming to FIFA standards.

## RYSA Rules of the Game – U14 and Up

**Number of Players:** 11v11 – 10 Field and 1 Keeper). The recommendation for Roster size is a minimum of 13, maximum of 18. All players are chosen in a blind draft.

Teams will stay together 1 seasonal playing year (fall and spring). Substitutions are open and can be made in accordance with state rules for Select.

## Field Dimensions

The field of play shall be rectangular, with the recommended size for 11v11 being between 100-130 yards long by 50-100 yards wide.

## Markings

All field markings should be clearly visible. A goalkeeper's area shall be clearly marked, with all other markings conforming to FIFA standards.

All other rules are listed on [www.gasoccer.org](http://www.gasoccer.org) .

As given to us by Tom Turner  
OYSAN Director of Coaching and Player Development

Modified by Jere Sawyer  
RYSA Commissioner

## Soccer Resources outside RYSA

FIFA .....[www.fifa.com](http://www.fifa.com)

U S Soccer .....[www.ussoccer.com](http://www.ussoccer.com)

U S Youth Soccer Association .....[www.usyouthsoccer.org](http://www.usyouthsoccer.org)

Georgia State Soccer Association .....[www.gasoccer.org](http://www.gasoccer.org)

Georgia Youth Soccer Association .....[www.gasoccer.org](http://www.gasoccer.org)