

CALIFORNIA STATE SOCCER ASSOCIATION-SOUTH
LOS ANGELES FÚTBOL CIRCUIT
2009-2010 RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. TITLE

1.1 The Cal South Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit shall be governed by these rules.

2. Administration

2.1 The Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee shall be under the direction of the Cal South Director of Competition and act as the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee Chairperson. The Cal South Board of Directors reserves the right to any final decisions with regard to the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit competition.

2.2 The Competitions Committee shall be appointed by the Competitions Committee Chairperson and confirmed by the Cal South Chief Executive Officer.

2.3 The Competition Chairperson shall appoint a maximum of seven (7), and but no less than three (3) representatives to the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee.

2.4 The Cal South Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee shall have the authority to rule on any matter pertaining to this competition.

3. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

3.1 A team entering the Cal South Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit shall meet the following eligibility requirements:

3.1.1 The team must be comprised of properly registered and rostered players (as defined by the rules of USYS and Cal South). No team may register a player not residing in Cal South to its roster without prior written permission from the Cal South president and the home State or National Association of the player.

3.1.2 The team must be in good standing with Cal South, its league of registration and competition league, if applicable, and must be in compliance with, and has not violated, any of the rules of USYS and Cal South.

3.1.3 The team must demonstrate continuity of team rosters between the league play and the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit competition, including subsequent circuit competitions, by maintaining a minimum of seven players common to the rosters of both. Player retention shall be based on the league roster as the previous seasonal year. (Except Under-19 teams).

3.1.4 A team may not roster any player rostered during the seasonal year to another team, unless a written request stating the reason for this action has been made to and approved by Cal South on the approved forms (Release and Transfer).

3.1.5 "Rostering" means assignment of a registered player to a team.

3.1.6 Every team shall have a team roster. For Under-16 and younger teams, the team roster may not have more than eighteen (18) youth players on the team roster at any given time during the seasonal year. For Under-17 and older teams, the team may have up to twenty-two (22) youth players on the team roster at any given time during the season year.

3.1.7 The team must submit its game match report with game roster to the referee crew no later than fifteen (15) minutes prior to each scheduled Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit game. The game roster shall have a maximum of eighteen (18) active players and a minimum of seven (7) players. Every player listed on the game roster must be included on the team roster to be eligible to participate with the team.

3.1.8 The team may not release, voluntarily or involuntarily, any player from its roster unless a written request stating the reason for this action has been made to and approved by Cal South on through the approved release process. A team may release involuntarily a player from its roster only if the player is unable to play for one of the following reasons:

3.1.8.1 The player has violated rules of the USSF or USYS or the affiliation through which the player is registered.

3.1.8.2 The player has moved beyond a reasonable travel distance. Determination of what constitutes a reasonable travel distance is subject to definition by Cal South.

3.1.8.3 The player is injured in such a manner that the player will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season.

3.1.9 The team, with at least seven (7) players and at least one (1) administrator must be registered with Cal South to be eligible to enter Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit.

3.1.10 Teams must enter the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit in the age group, or an older age group, in which the team was initially registered for the current seasonal year.

3.1.11 Teams must enter Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit no later than advertised deadlines. All entries must be recorded and paid. Acceptance to Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit after this deadline is at the discretion of the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee.

3.1.12 Teams agree to play, without complaint, wherever they are assigned to play within the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit geographical area after the final approved schedule has been published.

3.1.13 Submission of the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Team Registration Application is the team and representative's acceptance and compliance with the above requirements. An electronic submission will be considered to have been signed, the same as a paper entry, once the electronic entry has been posted to the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit.

3.1.14 All changes to team roster, adds, transfers, etc., including electronically posted changes to circuit entries made via Internet must be in prior to the official gaming circuit freeze date.

4. Player Eligibility

4.1 Players must be properly registered to their team in order to participate in the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit.

No loan players are permitted. Loan players will be considered ineligible players.

4.2 A player may play for only one team entered in the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit during a seasonal year.

4.3 A player who has been suspended may play only after the player's term of suspension has been served.

4.4 Players that are hand written into the roster are not eligible to play for the game scheduled on that schedule.

4.4.1 If a team cannot field the minimum required players because the majority of the players are hand written they will forfeit the game (0-1). Teams that do not have a printed roster will be fined \$25.00 per occurrence.

5. Form of Competition

5.1 Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit competition shall be offered annually in the following age groups for boys and girls: Under-9, Under-10 Under-11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U18, and U19.

5.2 The Competitions Committee may choose to consolidate or eliminate age groups if there is a lack of teams registered for a respective age group. Competitions Committee may alter the bracket size and or league competition format for any age group that does not meet the minimum team bracket requirement.

5.3 A team will be allowed to play up one age group. The team shall be registered under their appropriate Cal South age group for the respective seasonal year.

5.3.1 U-8 or younger may not play up an age group. U-8 teams will not be accepted into the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit. Any exceptions will be reviewed and approved by the Los Angeles Futbol Committee.

5.4 Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit competition shall be a league format of complete round robin from which teams the top four teams will advance to a single-elimination playoff format of semi-final and final matches. The playoff teams will be seeded according to final bracket standings. (Team #1 vs. Team #4 and Team #2 vs. Team #3).

5.5 Regular season round robin games may end in a tie. For all games beyond the regular league competition, games ending in a tie at the end of regulation time will play overtime periods per Cal South Rule 2.4 (USYSA Rule 303).

5.6 Teams will be awarded points for games in regular league competition:

Win = 3 Points

Tie = 1 Point

Loss = 0 Points

5.7 If more than two (2) teams are tied at the end the round, including the regular season competition, the circuit shall use the following tiebreaker rules in order:

1. Goal Differential
2. Least Goals Allowed
3. Most Goals Scored
4. Head-to-Head Competition
5. Most Shut Outs
6. Most Total Wins
7. FIFA Penalty Kicks

5.8 Teams shall be notified of final league schedule a minimum of ten (10) days prior to their first game.

6. Precedence of Games

6.1 Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit games shall take precedence over all other Cal South sanctioned tournament games.

7. Playing Rules

7.1 CAL SOUTH/USYS/USSF Rules apply except as modified below:

7.2 Game Length:

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Game Length</u>
U9/U10	Two (2) 25 min. halves
U11/U12	Two (2) 30 min. halves
U13/U14	Two (2) 35 min. halves
U15/U16	Two (2) 40 min. halves
U17/U18/U19	Two (2) 45 min. halves

7.3. Waiting Grace Period:

- 1.) As scheduled with a fifteen (15) minute grace period. Failure to field a team of seven (7) players will result in a forfeit. If both teams fail to field a team, the final result will be a forfeit for both teams.

7.3 Referee Fees: (Three man referee system is mandatory. Use of club linesman is at the discretion of the center referee.)

- 1.) Each Team is responsible for their referee fees. Referees are to be paid BEFORE THE START OF THE MATCH. The referee rates will be published 3 weeks prior to the start of the season.
- 2.) If a team does not show up for a game and the game is ruled a forfeit, the entire referee fee amount is the responsibility of the "no-show" or "forfeiting" team. The referee fee is based on a 3-man system. The opposing team that appeared for the game shall not pay any referee fee.
- 3.) If a referee does not appear for the game and the entire game is played with only 2 referees, the team will discount the publish rate for each missing referee. The referee must refund this amount to each team at the end of the match.
- 4.) Playoff teams do not need pay referee fees for playoff matches.

7.4 Substitutions

- 1). During regular league play and playoffs, there are free player substitutions.

7.5 Ball

1). All divisions will use a size 5 ball, except U9, U10,U11 and U12 Divisions. U09-U12 Divisions will use a size 4 ball.

- 2.) Each team must provide one (1) game ball for each match.

7.6 Uniform

1.) All team and administrator uniforms may feature sponsor logos, however, uniforms that feature any logos or trademarks that promote tobacco, hard liquor, adult content or any offensive trade name or mark are prohibited. Teams may submit their uniforms prior to the first regular game to the Competitions Committee Chairman for review and approval. Failure to comply with this rule may result in a fine and or forfeiture of games.

2.) Authentic and replica professional (domestic or international) soccer team uniforms featuring team their sponsor logos are permitted.

3.) Compression shorts of the same color as the shorts may be worn under shorts.

7.7 Equipment

1.) No unsafe knee braces. No "hard casts" are allowed. Shin guards must be worn and covered by socks. The center referee is responsible for rule enforcement and the final authority for on-field decisions.

7.7 Home Team Responsibilities

- 1.) Complete field set up and take down (nets, flags, field markings, trash, etc.) must be completed within 10 minutes of game time or home field forfeits. As common courtesy, the Visiting Team shall assist with set up and take down. Failure to properly set up the home field may result in additional home team sanctions and or fines.
- 2.) Home Team shall change to an alternate color jersey if colors conflict with the Visiting Team.
- 3.) Home team has choice of sidelines. When both teams must share the same sideline, the home team has first choice which half side of the field (up to center line) they will occupy.

7.8 Games may not be rescheduled after the final game schedule is released, unless approved by the Competitions Committee. A \$25.00 rescheduling fee will apply to the team initiating the rescheduling of a game.

7.9 Coaching from the sidelines.

1.) All divisions shall coach from their side only. Teams, administrators and spectators, where possible, shall be on opposite sides of the field. Team administrators, players and spectators shall position themselves no less than five (5) feet from the field sidelines in order to avoid interference with the assistant referee. Teams shall position unlicensed or non-credentialed Cal South team administrators and spectators a minimum of eight (8) feet away from for the team bench.

7.10 Cal South Player/Coach/Administrator Cards

1.) All Player and Administrator Cards must be official Cal South Member Cards with a Player or Administrator photo. Cards must be stamped, embossed or signed by the league registrar and be laminated.

2.) All Players must have a current medical release form with a parent/guardian's signature at each game. Forms shall be provided to the referee or gaming circuit representative upon request. Medical releases are required for all age groups and divisions.

3.) Licensed Coach/Manager. There must be USYS licensed coach for each team, at each game. The coach must have a Cal South 2009-2010 photo identification card. A team without a licensed and carded team coach or manager will forfeit the match. Note: The coach may be from any team within the same league of registration as the team they are representing for the match.

7.11 Match Reports and Results. Each team will supply two (2) copies of the official match report to the referee prior to the game. The match reports shall be downloaded and printed within 48 hours of the scheduled match to ensure most current game rosters.

1.) The head coach or team manager must post their final game results via the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit online competition manager within 24 hours of the completion of their match. A team that fails to post their final match results on time will result in a forfeit. Any final game results discrepancies will be resolved by the designated flight administrator based on the official referee match report.

2.) The referee or gaming circuit official shall mail the official match reports within 12 hours after the game to Cal South. The match report shall contain a record of all goal scorers, cautions, ejections, injuries, team administrator signature and other pertinent match information. The match reports are the official record of Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit and shall not to be kept by referees or their referee association for any reason.

7.12 Season. League play shall begin on the weekend following Labor Day and ending prior to Thanksgiving Day. The primary day for play is Saturday. Weekday or Sunday games will be scheduled if necessary and approved by the Competitions Committee Chairperson.

7.13 Circuit Team Roster Freeze.

The Circuit Team Roster Freeze date is October 23, 2009 (12:01am). Players added to the team roster beginning on this date are in are ineligible for the remainder of the LA Fútbol Circuit regular season and post-season games. Players registered during this period will appear crossed out on gaming circuit match reports if the player is not deactivated on the team roster.

7.14 ID Cards. Referees must return all ID cards to the respective coaches following the match except when there is a Referee Assault or Violent Conduct violation on the field.

7.15 CONDUCT/SUSPENSIONS/DISCIPLINARY ACTION

1.) COACHES AND TEAM ADMINISTRATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL CONDUCT ON THEIR SIDELINE.

2.) The safety of all participants and maintaining an atmosphere of good sportsmanship is the responsibility of all Cal South members (players, team officials and administrators) referees and spectators.

3.) Any member player, administrator or team official promoting violence, enticing team dissent or in general violation of item 7.15.1 may be brought before LA Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee for disciplinary action (including suspension, fines or removal) subject to Cal South and USYS Disciplinary Guidelines and Procedures.

4.) Any member who instigates violence that leads to harming an opponent, spectator, official, referee or teammate, in addition to any action defined above, may be subject to criminal prosecution. This type of conduct will not be tolerated and will be aggressively pursued by Cal South and the LA Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee.

5.) Yellow Cards.

1. Any player, coach or administrator of the team receiving a yellow card (caution) during a game shall be noted by the referee in the official match report.

2. Any player, coach or administrator of the team receiving a second yellow card in the same game, shall be suspended for the remainder of that game and the team's next scheduled game.

3. Yellow cards and suspensions will be posted for public viewing on the gaming circuit website.

4. Any player, coach or administrator of the team receiving four (4) yellow cards will be suspended for the next's next scheduled game. After the suspension is served, the count of yellow cards is reset to zero (0). A second offense of the "four yellow card" rule, during the same season, will result in a two (2) game suspension and may be requested to appear at a Competitions Committee hearing.

5. Any outstanding game suspensions received during the regular season shall be carried over and served in the post-season.

6. All yellow cards accumulated during the regular season will be re-set to zero (0) for post-season play and the following seasonal year.

6.) Red Cards.

1. Any player, coach, administrator or spectator receiving a red card or is ejected by the referee, must leave the field of play and shall be suspended for the remainder of that game and their team's next scheduled game. Red cards and suspensions will be posted for public viewing on the gaming circuit website.

2. Any player, coach, administrator or spectator of a team receiving a red card or ejection for a Violent Conduct violation shall serve a minimum of a two-game suspension or greater as determined by the LA Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee. If it is the last game of the season, the suspension shall carry over to LA Fútbol Circuit post-season play and the following seasonal year.

3. Any player, coach, administrator or spectator receiving a second red card or ejection during the season will be required to attend a LA Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee hearing.

4. Any outstanding game suspensions received during the regular season shall be carried over and served in the post-season.

5. Any unserved or uncleared player or administrator game suspensions shall carry over and must be served in the following gaming circuit season. No exceptions.

7.) The team, club and head coach shall be responsible and will be held accountable for enforcing player, administrator or spectator suspensions.

7.15 Forfeits.

1. A team that does not field a minimum of seven (7) players after the grace period will forfeit their game. The game will appear as a loss (0-1, 0 points). The forfeiting team must pay both referee fees. The referee fees will deducted from the team's gaming circuit bond. The full bond amount must be

replenished by the next game or an additional \$50.00 fine will be imposed on top of the missing bond amount.

2. Any player/team found responsible for promoting violence, instigation, or enticing a team disturbance, causing the referee to suspend play prior to the completion of regulation time, will have forfeited the game (even if they are winning at the time of the incident). All such incidents will be reviewed by the LA Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee. Upon review the team may also be subject to league suspension. Any team under league suspension will forfeit all schedule games with a score of (0-1) until the suspension is complete. If it is found that both teams/player are equally at fault in the suspension of a game, then both teams will receive a forfeit (0-1, 0 points)

7.16 Small Sided Format

7.16.1 The U-9 and U-10 divisions will play the 8v8 format of play. The 8v8 format will be refereed by one referee during the regular season.

7.16.2 The field width will be a minimum of 40yds and a maximum of 50yds wide. The field length will be a minimum of 50 and a maximum of 70 yds.

7.16.3 The center circle is an 8 yd radius. The corner flags are a 2 foot radius. The goal area is marked 6yds to the side of each goalpost, and 6yds out into the field. The penalty area is 14yds to the side of each goalpost and 14yds into the field. The penalty spot is 8yds from the center of the goal line.

8. Protests

8.1. If a coach deems it necessary to protest a game because of misapplication of FIFA LAW, not a judgment call, the coach must notify the referees of the intent to protest, write a brief statement on the card and sign the card. A \$50.00 protest fee must be turned in within 48 hours to the Cal South office to the Attention: Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee Chairperson, along with a one page explanation of the protest, including citation of the FIFA or Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit rule the protesting team feels was misapplied. The Chairperson may, along with the concurrence of two competitions committee representatives, determine that no FIFA or LA Fútbol Circuit rule violation occurred and that it was a referee judgment call. If it is determined that there may have been a misapplication of the rules, a protest hearing will be held. An appeal of any decision of the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee may be made to the District Commissioner. No Judgment Call Protests will be allowed.

9. Appeals

9.1 The decisions of the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee ("Level 1") may be appealed to the Cal South Protest, Appeals, and Disciplinary Committee ("Level 2"). Contact your District Commissioner, the Cal South office or refer to the PAD Manual of Operation for the proper procedures.

9.2 Filing an appeal shall not stay the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit competition.

9.3 The Los Angeles Fútbol Gaming Circuit will refer all assaults, either referee assaults or non-referee assaults, overage player violations, and falsification of document cases directly to the Cal South PAD Committee.

10. Plea of Ignorance

10.1. Any claim of ignorance to these rules and regulations shall not be grounds for protest or appeal.

11. Rule Changes

11.1 The Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee may revise the rules and regulations at anytime during the regular and or postseason and shall notify teams in writing via electronic email and or by publishing rule changes on its website.

12. Appendix: Definitions

Except as otherwise provided, the following definitions apply to this gaming circuit:

Add - the addition of a player to a team's roster.

Administrator or Coach – A registered Cal South Administrator or Coach listed on the official Team Roster.

Cal South - California Youth Soccer Association-South

Eligibility to play - registered and not under suspension.

Federation – the United States Soccer Federation, Inc.

Involuntary Release - the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of team authorities.

Ineligible – Player inactive, not registered or under suspension.

Referee Committee - the Cal South Referee Disciplinary Committee.

Registration - the signing of intent to play the sport of soccer and the paying of fees to become a member of USYSA.

Rostering - assignment of a registered player to a team.

Circuit Roster Freeze - The starting period during which teams may no longer add players to the Team Roster for participation in the LA Fútbol Circuit.

Team Roster – means a list of registered players eligible to play for a team.

Game Roster – means the list of active players who will participate in a particular game.

Suspension – the temporary withdrawal of rights and privilege, such as the right to play, coach, or otherwise administer or participate (directly or indirectly) in soccer, and the suspension is for the entire term of the suspension with all rights and privileges withdrawn unless specifically stated otherwise by the suspending authority.

Team - a group of soccer players playing on the same side in soccer games.

USYS - the United States Youth Soccer Inc.

Voluntary Release - the removal of a player from a team's roster at the request of the player.

Youth player - an individual who has not reached 19 years of age prior to August 1 immediately before the start of any seasonal year. A player who reaches 19 years of age during a seasonal year is allowed to complete that seasonal year. A player who reaches 19 years of age during August of one seasonal year shall be allowed to complete all of the next seasonal year.

(Revised April 2008)

Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit 2009-2010 Bracketing Guidelines

Bracketing Guidelines

In the 2009-2010 seasonal year, participating LA Fútbol Circuit teams will be bracketed in one of three flights: (1) Premier, (2) Gold or (3) Silver.

Teams will be assigned to their respective age group bracket by the Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee based on verified team results, records and league standings provided on the team's gaming circuit team registration application. The Competitions Committee will take into consideration the following competition results and records (not in any order):

- 1) USYS Regional or National competitions (Regionals Far West Regional League, Nationals and the National League),
- 2) Fall 2008-2009 Cal South Gaming Circuit,
- 3) Fall 2008-2009 Cal South League,
- 4) 2008 or 2009 Cal South National Cup,
- 5) 2008 or 2009 Cal South State Cup,
- 6) Spring 2009 Cal South League or Gaming Circuit, and
- 7) Summer 2009 Cal South League competitions.

Team Promotion

The final season bracket standings (not playoff/finals results) will be used to determine team flight promotions for the following year. The top two placing teams in each age group bracket will be promoted to the next higher flight. (For example, Silver level promoted to Gold or Gold level promoted to Premier). In the next seasonal year competition, promoted teams must return a minimum of seven (7) rostered players from the previous circuit competition team roster in order to qualify for promotion. Teams not meeting this requirement will not qualify for team promotion and must remain in the same bracket for the following competition. The Competitions Committee will select the next promotion team based on the final brackets standings. Bracket space permitting, additional team promotions may take place. These additional teams will be selected by the Competitions Committee prior to the new the seasonal year.

Team Relegation

The final bracket standings will be used to determine flight team relegations for the following year. The bottom two teams in each age group bracket will be relegated to the next lower level flight. (For example, Premier level relegated to Gold and Gold level relegated to Silver). In subsequent seasonal years, relegated teams must return a minimum of seven (7) rostered players from the previous circuit competition team roster in order to qualify for the Circuit Competition. Teams not meeting this requirement may be dropped from the circuit competition. Dropped or non-returning teams will be replaced by the Competitions Committee with new or waiting list teams.

Bracket Reservation

In the 2009-2010 seasonal year competition, all teams must return a minimum of seven (7) rostered players from the previous circuit competition roster in order to retain their previous bracket level. Teams not meeting this requirement will not qualify to remain in the same bracket for the following circuit competition. The Competitions Committee will select the next replacement team from the previous competition final brackets standings, new or waiting list teams.

The Los Angeles Fútbol Circuit Competitions Committee reserves the right to revise the bracketing guidelines after the end of the regular season for the following year.
(Revised June 2009)