

## Youth Soccer Rules- 2017 Season

### ***Age Requirements:***

A player's age as of May 31st the current year will determine the age group they participate in:

Mini Might League: ages 4-6 (Co-ed)

Pee Wee Boys League: ages 7-9

Pee Wee Girls League: ages 7-9

Junior Boys League: ages 10- 12

Junior Girls League: ages 10- 12

Senior Boys League: ages 13-16

Senior Girls League: ages 13-16

*Example: A player is 10 years old on June 1, 2017 will play in the 7-9 year old division.*

A younger player may participate in an upper age division with a request from the parent and approval from the recreation staff. However, after one game in the upper age division, the player will be ruled ineligible to participate in his or hers respective age group and must remain in that age group for the current season.

### ***Rosters and Registration:***

- All players will be entered into the draft every year.
- The draft will take place following the registration period. A second draft may occur to fill remaining roster spots.
- Draft order will be determined by picking numbers out of a hat.
- For other Draft rules see Youth Sport Manual

### ***Fields Rules and Sportsmanship:***

- No alcoholic beverages are allowed on recreation property. This is a state law. If necessary, proper legal action will be taken to enforce this rule.
- A coach, player, or spectator with alcohol on their breath will be asked to leave the recreation area.
- No tobacco products—smoking, chewing, dipping, etc. Are allowed on the field or practice area.
- No profanity
- No negative cheering
- Children not participating **MUST BE** under supervision by a parent/adult at all times. No children may be unattended at any time in any facility.

***Equipment:***

- Shoes - Tennis shoes or molded sole shoes with multiple cleats are acceptable.
- Molded multiple cleats, studs or bars less than ½ inch in diameter or width that does not extend more than ½ of an inch from the sole and are not of an extreme conical design is permissible. Detachable fiberglass or steel-tipped cleats are not legal.
  
- Shinguards - Use of shinguards is required, either commercial or custom made shinguards deemed safe by the game officials. All players must wear shinguards under their stockings. Shinguards will not be furnished by the Ayden Arts and Recreation Department.
  
- Mouthpieces are not required.
  
- Jewelry, which includes hair beads, will not be permitted.
  
- Soccer Balls – Practice and game balls will be provided by the Arts and Recreation Department. The sizes to be used are as follows:
  - Mini Might League #3
  - Pee Wee League #4
  - Junior League #5
  - Senior League #5
  
- Jerseys- Players shall wear the game jerseys supplied by the Recreation Department. If a player does not have the issued jersey, a temporary substitute jersey may be worn without numbers that does not conflict with the color of the opposing team's, referee's or goal keeper's jersey. The referee shall be informed of the temporary shirt prior to the game.
  
- Players may wear long sleeve or short sleeve undergarments that do not conflict with the referee or goal keepers jersey.
  
- Shorts- Shorts or long pants are approved in any color that has no belt loops or buckles. Shorts or pants with pockets are acceptable.

***League standings:***

League standings will be determined by the following formula.

- Win = 2 points
- Tie = 1 point (there is no overtime period)
- Loss = 0 points

Mini Might League - Scores and league standings are not kept.

### ***Player Participation:***

- Each player is required to start and finish two full periods of each game without interruption except in the case of injury, illness, or other emergency situation. There will be no substitutions in the first and second quarters except in the case of injury, illness, **caution\*** or ejection. These players must be brought to the attention of the athletic staff. During the third and fourth quarters, players who have played their two full quarters of playing time may enter the game as a substitute or be substituted for. Participation does not have to be in consecutive quarters.
- **Caution:** A player issued a yellow card for a caution must leave the field of play and may return at the next legal substitution opportunity.
- A coach who has a player arrive after the start of the game but prior to the start of the third quarter must play him or her in two full quarters of playing time. However, if a player arrives after the start of the third quarter, the coach has the option to play this player or not in the fourth quarter. If the tardy player is placed in the game at the beginning of the quarter, he/she cannot be replaced unless an injury occurs.

### ***General Games Rule:***

Ayden Arts and Recreation Department will utilize the National Federation of High School rules except as modified within:

- Girls will be allowed to hold their arms over their chests for protection. Judgment on the move will be called by the officials.
- No slide tackling allowed
- Heading will not be allowed.
- Bicycle kicks or other high kicks that are potentially dangerous are not allowed
- A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-off

## Division Rules

### *Mini Mites*

Mini Mites 4-6 years old: This non-competitive league to teach this age group the fundamentals of soccer.

#### *Game Rules:*

- Goal 4'high x 6' wide
- Field 15 yd. x 30 yd.
- Ball size 3
- Games will consist of four (4) 6 minute quarters
- 6 players on the field
- 7 minimum / 9 maximum players
- Each team is allowed 3 coaches on the roster.
- The official time will be kept on the field by the referee.
- Halftime will last 3-5 minutes.
- No score is kept for the Mini Mites league.

#### *League Rules:*

- Heading will not be allowed. Penalty: Indirect Free Kick at the point of the infraction.
- Off-Sides - This will not be enforced unless a clear advantage or disadvantage is apparent to the official.
- Minimum Players to Start - teams have no minimum to start however; both teams will play with a balanced number for example, 4 vs. 4 or 5 vs. 5. When additional players arrive, they must enter the game immediately.

### *Pee Wee League*

Pee Wee (Boys & Girls) 7-9 years old: This league is to teach the fundamentals, skills, and team building.

#### *Game Rules:*

- Goal 6'5" high x 12'wide
- Field 45 yd. x 60 yd.
- Ball size 4
- Games will consist of four (4) 10 minute quarters
- 7 players on the field
- 8 minimum 10 maximum players on a team
- Each team is allowed 3 coaches on the roster.
- The official time will be kept on the field by the referee.
- Halftime will last 4-5 minutes.

*League Rules:*

- Heading will not be allowed. Penalty: Indirect Free Kick at the point of the infraction.
- Bicycle kicks or other high kicks that are potentially dangerous are not allowed and will fall under the “Dangerous Play” call.
- Minimum Players to Start - teams have 5 players to start however; both teams will play with a balanced number for example, 5 vs. 5 or 6 vs. 6. When additional players arrive, they must enter the game immediately.
- No slide tackling allowed
- A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-off

***Junior League & Senior League***

Junior (Boys & Girls) 10-12 years old & Senior League (Boys and Girls) 13-16 years old:  
These leagues develop gross motor skill fundamentals and competitive play.

*Game Rules:*

- Goal 6'5" high x 18'5" wide
- Field 80 yd. x 40 yd.
- Ball size 5
- Games will consist of four (4) 12 minute quarters
- 11 players on the field
- 12 minimum / 14 maximum players
- Each team is allowed 3 coaches on the roster.
- The official time will be kept on the field by the referee.
- Halftime will last 4-5 minutes.

*League Rules:*

- Heading will not be allowed. Penalty: Indirect Free Kick at the point of the infraction.
- Bicycle kicks or other high kicks that are potentially dangerous are not allowed and will fall under the “Dangerous Play” call.
- Minimum Players to Start - teams have 9 players to start however; both teams will play with a balanced number for example, 9 vs. 9 or 10 vs. 10. When additional players arrive, they must enter the game immediately.
- No slide tackling allowed
- A goal cannot be scored directly from a kick-off