

# AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS AMENDMENT #1

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**SHORT DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT:** This amendment seeks to repeal newly adopted Rules and Regulations Section I. (J), (K) and (L) regarding Throw-ins, Goalkeeper Punts and Build-out Line.

**SUBMITTED BY EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:** Phil Ockelmann (Area Director of Section 1, Area D.)

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**PROPOSED AMENDMENT** (**bold underlining** for additions and ~~strikeout~~ for deletions):

## **AYSO NATIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS SECTION I. (J), (K) (L): MATCH CONDUCT**

### **I. MATCH CONDUCT**

#### ~~J. THROW-INS~~

- ~~1. For 6U to 8U, the throw in is replaced with the pass in. Opposing players must be at least two yards from the ball until it is kicked.~~
- ~~2. Training of throw in technique may begin at 9U and up.~~

#### ~~K. GOALKEEPER PUNTS~~

- ~~1. For 9U to 12U, the goalkeeper shall not punt the ball.~~
- ~~2. An indirect kick will be awarded to the opposing team at the spot of the offense if a goalkeeper for 9U to 12U deliberately punts the ball during a match.~~
- ~~3. An indirect free kick awarded to the attacking team inside the opposing team's goal area must be taken on the goal area line at the point nearest to where the goalkeeper punted the ball.~~

#### ~~L. BUILD-OUT LINE (9U AND 10U)~~

- ~~1. The build out line shall be placed across the field equidistant between the top of the penalty area and the halfway line.~~
- ~~2. The opposing team must move behind the build out line for a goal kick or when the goalkeeper has possession. At any time, the goalkeeper may pass, throw or roll the ball to a teammate who is behind the build out line.~~
- ~~3. The goalkeeper or the player taking the goal kick does not have to wait for the opposing players to move behind the build out line. The play from the goalkeeper or from the goal kick must be played to a teammate behind the build out line. After the ball is put into play, the opposing team can then cross the build out line and play may resume as normal. The first touch is from the goal kick or the pass from the goalkeeper.~~
- ~~4. The build out line shall be used as the line to determine offside. Players cannot be penalized for an offside offense between the halfway line and the build out line.~~

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**EFFECTIVE DATE OF AMENDMENT:** Removal of these provisions shall be effective immediately for MY2017.

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**REASON FOR AMENDMENT:** [The views in this section represent those of the amendment proponent(s).]

These sections were added in March 2017 by the Board of Directors, as allowed by the AYSO bylaws and California law. They were added to conform to the Player Development Initiatives (“PDI”) mandates of USSF. This mass adoption of such significant rule changes of great magnitude solely by the NBOD, however, undermines the Executive Members responsibility, duty, and privilege to consider major changes in the R&Rs at an NAGM.

These changes affecting our younger players were adopted made by USSF without AYSO being consulted. USSF’s apparent PDI objective (as explained by Mike Hoyer and Scott Snyder at the PDI seminar at the March 2017 AYSO EXPO held in Las Vegas) is to improve USSF National Teams, and to develop the next Messi. AYSO’s primary objective is to provide the structure to enable parents around the country to operate quality youth soccer programs for the children of their communities – to give kids a place to play, develop soccer skills, learn about life and teamwork, and have fun with their friends, simply and inexpensively through volunteerism. The 2 organizations’ objectives are turning out to be contrary to each other.

This R&R proposal seeks to eliminate Section I. (J) Throw-ins; (K) Goalkeeper Punts; and (L) Build-out Line. This proposal does NOT include Section I. (G) Field of Play, as use of those listed dimensions is described as being entirely at the discretion of the Region; Section I. (H) Small sided matches, as such matches were, in general substance, already agreed upon by the membership; or Section I. (I) Heading the Ball, as that is required by AYSO’s ratification of a lawsuit settlement.)

There may be validity to the concepts of several of these new rules in some form. Some AYSO people agree with several or all. But regardless of any person’s view, they are truly modifications to the Laws of the Game, and each should be carefully considered by AYSO’s Executive Members to determine whether they will a) enhance the skills of our players; b) enhance the enjoyment of our players; c) retain the support of our parent spectators; d) be easily and consistently enforceable by our “rookie” volunteer referees at the youngest ages; and e) be understood, valued, and readily trainable by our coaches. Further, these massive structural changes to AYSO’s game should be considered by AYSO’s Executive Members one by one and validated through a vote of Executive Members at the NAGM.

By allowing USSF to issue these mandates without our involvement, we are potentially hurting our competitive position in the market. For instance, if we are unable to consistently understand and implement the build-out line due to the inexperience of our fresh new referees who often were just trained (in a brief period of time prior to the season) to even learn the most basic Laws of the Game, while Club is using long-time experienced referees ONLY needing to learn these new rules, we will lose credibility with our volunteers, and even more so, our parents.

Further, it is possible that our membership determines that notwithstanding potential incremental improvement in some players' skills, the changes reduce the enjoyment of the match for our recreational participants, and drive kids away from the sport.

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This proposal seeks to immediately remove the above sub-Sections from the R&Rs. After appropriate review and discussion by the membership as a whole, any which make sense for AYSO can be individually added at a future NAGM. This also provides the benefit of avoiding the “back and forth” as we are aware that even US Soccer, at the behest of the clubs and other members, is collecting data over the next months and into next season to determine whether modification of certain of the PDIs should occur. As we saw with the back and forth on the Heading rule placement at the 6 vs the 18, it is tough to retrain everyone consistently when we reverse ourselves. Another year before adoption of ANY of these rules will also provide the opportunity to see how many survive as is, or are modified from their current form.

And, mostly, we need to send the message that 1) regardless of the legal right of the NBOD to make changes to the Rules and Regulations, these huge decisions should be put to a vote of the EMs at NAG; and 2) we are not puppets of USSF and that, in fact, AYSO is the “World’s Biggest Soccer Club,” with influence and self-determination over the 450,000 kids in our communities.

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**POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF AMENDMENT:** OPERATIONAL, FINANCIAL, eAYSO, etc. (e.g., documents requiring revision, training materials requiring revision, changes required to eAYSO, potential costs): [The “impact statements” below were prepared to provide information to the membership to be able to better understand the potential impacts of the proposed amendment.] The proposed amendment to the National Rules and Regulations, if enacted, would have the following impacts:

1. Require modification of the current version of the National Rules and Regulations to reflect the change.
2. Informing coaches and referees of the changes in time for Fall 2017 matches to avoid confusion over the proper rules and regulations to be used during matches.
3. To the extent that this amendment conflicts with USSF player development initiatives, it puts AYSO’s membership in USSF at risk. AYSO is currently an affiliate member of USSF. As set forth in the USSF bylaw excerpts set forth below, AYSO must comply with all Bylaws, policies and requirements of USSF:
  - **USSF Bylaw 212**, General Responsibilities, Section 1 provides that "Each Organization Member shall satisfy all of the following requirements: (1) except as otherwise required by applicable law, comply with all Bylaws, policies and requirements of the Federation, and all statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA and CONCACAF, to the extent applicable to that classification of Organization Member.
  - **USSF Bylaw 213**, Organization Member Responsibilities, Section 1(a) provides that USSF's "**organizational** documents and governing documents of each Organization Member shall include the following: (3) The Articles of Incorporation of the Federation, its binding rules and policies, and these Bylaws, including Bylaw 603 governing interplay, shall take precedence over and supersede the organizational documents and governing documents of the Organization Member and its member organizations except to the extent applicable law otherwise requires, and the Organization Member and its member organizations shall abide by the Articles of Incorporation of the Federation, its duly approved binding rules and policies, and these Bylaws...."

**AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION  
PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS AMENDMENT #2**

**SHORT DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT:** This amendment seeks to modify and/or repeal portions of Rules and Regulations Section III. (A), (B) and (C).

**SUBMITTED BY EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:** Phil Ockelmann (Area Director of Section 1, Area D.)

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT (bold underlining for additions and ~~strikeout~~ for deletions):**

AYSO NATIONAL RULES & REGULATIONS SECTION III. REGISTRATION

II. REGISTRATION

A. The standard age divisions for the Boys and Girls programs are as follows:

Age	Division
Ages 3, 4 or 5 by date program commences	AYSO Playground Soccer
5 years but not younger than 4 years	AYSO Schoolyard Soccer
6 years and Under	6U
8 years and Under	8U
10 years and Under	10U
12 years and Under	12U
14 years and Under	14U
16 years and Under	16U
<u>19</u> <del>18</del> years and Under	Under <u>19U</u> <del>18U</del>

B. The effective date of age determination for **AYSO United** shall be calendar year or the registrant's age as of December 31 in the same year as the end of AYSO competition and end of end of Membership Year in accordance with US Soccer Player Development Initiatives mandates. ~~Any variance requested by Regions or Areas must have Section Director approval, comply with US Soccer mandates, be memorialized in the Region's or Area's Policies and Protocols, and be duly registered with AYSO's National Office.~~

**For Core Programs, the effective date of age determination shall be the registrant's age as of July 31<sup>st</sup> in the same year as the end of AYSO competition, which is the end of the membership year. Sections may adopt different cutoffs, as determined by the Section. Any variance requested by Regions or Areas from the Section standard must have Section Director approval. The National Games and any other cross-Section tournaments for the Core Program (i.e. Western States) will utilize the July 31<sup>st</sup> cutoff.**

**As most states have school year age cutoffs between August 1<sup>st</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>, parents shall be allowed to "move up" Core Program players born from August 1<sup>st</sup> through the local cutoff date at the parents option, so as to allow such players to play with their grade, if desired.**

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**For EXTRA programs, at the Section level, each Section may select either of the 2 above criteria as the age cutoff. For EXTRA tournaments, the National Games will utilize the July 31<sup>st</sup> cutoff. For their local EXTRA tournaments, other jurisdictions may elect whether to utilize the July 31<sup>st</sup> cutoff or the December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**Transition: As this is being voted on in June 2017, registrations have already begun for MY2017, and this provision may not reasonably be fully implementable until MY2018; however, any Section, Area, or Region may elect early implementation for MY2017 if they wish, in order to avoid switching twice. Such decision does not require any higher-level approval; however, participation in MY2017 tournaments will require meeting the age cutoff criteria established by the entity putting on any such tournament.**

- C. Individuals who shall reach ~~nineteen~~ **twenty** years of age by ~~December~~ **July 31<sup>st</sup>** of the end of the Membership Year are not eligible to participate.

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**EFFECTIVE DATE OF AMENDMENT:** Changes shall be effective immediately for MY2017.

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**REASON FOR AMENDMENT:** [The views in this section represent those of the amendment proponent(s).]

The current July 31<sup>st</sup> cutoff was enacted by the EMs at the NAGM in 1992. The NBOD this year, after polling the Section Directors, changed the cutoff to December 31<sup>st</sup> in February. This was driven by USSF's change made in the interest of aligning internationally. The NBOD decision was in spite of AYSO even having been allowed by USSF to retain the July 31<sup>st</sup> date. The last-minute change of such a serious matter by the NBOD, although legal under AYSO bylaws, undermines the Executive Members' responsibility, duty, and privilege to consider major changes in the R&Rs at the NAGM.

AYSO's primary objective is to provide the structure to enable parents around the country to operate quality youth soccer for the children of their communities – to give kids a place to play, develop soccer skills, learn about life and teamwork, and have fun with their friends, simply and inexpensively through volunteerism. It is critical that the AYSO Core Program continue to utilize the July 31<sup>st</sup> cutoff date to fulfill this objective. The youth leagues of essentially all sports in the United States have established age cutoffs between July 31<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup> to allow kids in the same grade to play with their peers. The universal logic is that this will entice more kids to play and keep playing, as they will see their friends in their school grade either on their own team or in friendly competition with each other, talk about the matches at school, etc.

The vast majority of states in the U.S. – 44 states - have “kindergarten age cutoffs” in the 2-month period between July 31<sup>st</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>. 31 of the states have cutoffs of September 1<sup>st</sup> or earlier, including 26 using August 31<sup>st</sup>/September 1<sup>st</sup>. California, until recently, had utilized a cutoff of December 2<sup>nd</sup>, however, it phased in a change in the cutoff over a 3-year period, such that as of 2014 and later, the cutoff is September 1<sup>st</sup>. As a result, all 6U, 8U and 10U kids in California are now in grades based on a September 1<sup>st</sup> cutoff, and that cutoff is spreading upward through 12U at this time.

Utilizing a July 31<sup>st</sup> cutoff allows all AYSO Regions to keep the vast majority of kids in the same grade together each year. Predominantly, depending on state policy, only 1 to 2 months of kids would be split off from their grade and playing with younger children in a lower grade. The parents of these children can request to have them “moved up” to play with their grade or leave them to be the oldest (best) players in their division. Either way, there is every incentive for every child to play.

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Utilizing a December 31<sup>st</sup> cutoff requires, in the vast majority of states, that 3-5 months of children (roughly one-third of all kids) who are the oldest in their grade be split off and play in a division containing children 2 grades higher every other year. These kids, as well as being split from the majority of their peers, would be the youngest (generally worst) kids in their division. And there is not an option to play down. Many of these children will become disillusioned with the sport and likely quit. If only 15% of them decide to quit, that is a 5% decline in total AYSO headcount. And this even assumes that the kids who are NOT “pushed up” aren’t also influenced to leave the sport by “losing” their slightly older peers/friends in the same grade every other year. Further, 3-5 months of 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be forced to play 16U with High School kids. In some states, notably California, the 16U program must shut down prior to Thanksgiving due to High School rules. As a result, these 8<sup>th</sup> graders will face a mandatory “break” for over 3 months, while many of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade peers are still able to play in AYSO programs at least part of that time.

The most significant problem with voting now to retain July 31<sup>st</sup> for the Core Program is the confusion associated with changing back after the February announcement. However, that is not a good enough reason, and it is better to fix the problem sooner rather than later after we have lost kids. Aligning with Club/USSF to feed into the U.S. National Teams for International play is not a sufficient reason to switch to December 31<sup>st</sup>. We also need to send the message that major changes to the Rules and Regulations should be handled by a vote of the EMs at NAGM, after a full and open discussion.

As the representatives of our communities, we owe all of our Core Program kids the opportunity to have fun playing AYSO soccer with their peers.

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**POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF AMENDMENT:** OPERATIONAL, FINANCIAL, eAYSO, etc. (e.g., documents requiring revision, training materials requiring revision, changes required to eAYSO, potential costs): [The “impact statements” below were prepared to provide information to the membership to be able to better understand the potential impacts of the proposed amendment.] The proposed amendment to the National Rules and Regulations, if enacted, would have the following impacts:

1. Require modification of the current version of the National Rules and Regulations to reflect the change.
2. Modifying how MY2017 divisions will be created, including informing parents of any changes.
3. To the extent that this amendment conflicts with USSF player development initiatives, it puts AYSO’s membership in USSF at risk. AYSO is currently an affiliate member of USSF. As set forth in the USSF bylaw excerpts set forth below, AYSO must comply with all Bylaws, policies and requirements of USSF:
  - **USSF Bylaw 212**, General Responsibilities, Section 1 provides that "Each Organization Member shall satisfy all of the following requirements: (1) except as otherwise required by applicable law, comply with all Bylaws, policies and requirements of the Federation, and all statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA and CONCACAF, to the extent applicable to that classification of Organization Member.
  - **USSF Bylaw 213**, Organization Member Responsibilities, Section 1(a) provides that USSF's "organizational documents and governing documents of each Organization Member shall include the following: (3) The Articles of Incorporation of the Federation, its binding rules and policies, and these Bylaws, including Bylaw 603 governing interplay, shall take precedence over and supersede the organizational documents and governing documents of the Organization Member and its member organizations except to the extent applicable law otherwise requires, and the Organization Member and its member organizations shall abide by the Articles of Incorporation of the Federation, its duly approved binding rules and policies, and these Bylaws...."

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4. USSF has published the following objectives regarding Birth Year Registration:
- It does mean that the soccer community can be better aligned with U.S. Soccer’s player development objectives and we can collectively harness the advantage our nation’s diversity and populations has to offer.
  - A uniform framework also allows U.S. Soccer, and the programs of our members, to provide consistent messaging and education for parents, players, coaches and referees.
  - Aligns with international standards for youth development which means aligning with the international standards used by the world’s leading soccer nations so that kids in the United States are developing in an environment similar to those playing in Germany, France, Spain, etc.

**AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION  
PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS AMENDMENT #3**

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**SHORT DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT:** This amendment to the National Rules & Regulations Section I. (C) seeks to allow an intermediate or higher accredited coach the option of using a monitored/unlimited (free) substitution format, or continuing the established quarter substitution format for the 14U division. Monitored/unlimited substitution would only be an option for a team coached by an age-appropriate trained and if the match is monitored to ensure everybody plays at least half of the match.

**SUBMITTED BY EXECUTIVE MEMBERS:** Kent Jennings (Area Director of Section 12, Area D.); Co-sponsor Dave Witter (Area Director of Section 8, Area G.)

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**PROPOSED AMENDMENT** (**bold underlining** for additions and ~~strikeout~~ for deletions):

**AYSO NATIONAL RULES AND REGULATIONS SECTION I. (C) MATCH CONDUCT PLAYING TIME AND SUBSTITUTION**

I. REGISTRATION

C. PLAYING TIME AND SUBSTITUTION

1. Except as noted in Article I. (C) 3 all eligible team members in attendance at AYSO matches must play at least half of the match, excluding overtime.

Such participation is controlled as follows **for 8U, 10U & 12U divisions:**

- a. Approximately midway through each half the referee shall permit substitution. This normally occurs during a regular stoppage in play, and the match is resumed with the appropriate restart (i.e. throw-in, goal kick, corner kick, kick-off, free kick, penalty kick or dropped ball.) On occasion the referee may need to stop play for substitution while the ball is in play, in which case the match is resumed with a dropped ball.
- b. Substitutions may also be made at half-time and at the start of any overtime periods.
- c. When the referee signals for substitution, the coaches should have all substitutes entering the match immediately report to the referee or the designated assistant referees, who shall note on the lineup cards those team members substituting.
- d. During such stoppages, the coach of each team may substitute as many team members, or none, including previously substituted team members, as long as all eligible team members meet the minimum playing requirements.
- e. The referee shall allow for any time lost due to substitution or other cause by stopping his/her watch or adding playing time. (See Article I. (B) 3. regarding reducing the length of halves to permit proper substitution.)

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Such participation is controlled as follows for the 14U division:

- a. Prior to the beginning of the match, the coach will declare to the referee whether he/she will be using the standard quarter substitution format, or using unlimited substitution. If the two coaches are not declaring the same option, the team using the standard format will be responsible for making their substitutions at the appropriate times without stoppage of the clock half way through the first and second halves, during a dead ball match situation, and without an extended stoppage in play.
  - b. With the consent of the Referees, unlimited substitution can be made with any dead ball match situation where the ball is out of play. (throw-ins, corner kicks, goal kicks and kick-offs.)
  - c. Unlimited substitution shall only be permitted in this division if:
    - Either or both team's coach/es are trained consistent with the National Coaching Program standards as Intermediate or a higher level for the team he/she is coaching.
    - Monitored substitution is tracked in a manner that will ensure, except as noted in Article I. (C) 3, all eligible team members in attendance play at least half of the match, excluding overtime.
  - d. Article I. (C) 1 and Article I. (C) 2 shall not apply to matches using unlimited substitution.
2. Substitution for injury:
- 8U, 10U & 12U
    - a. If a player is injured, the coach may provide a substitute for the player, in which case the injured player may **not** return until the beginning of the next "quarter." Only the player who is injured is credited with a "quarter" played regardless of the actual time played.
    - b. The coach may choose to not substitute and "play short" thereby allowing the injured player to return during the "quarter" in which he or she was injured.
    - c. The player **must** receive a signal from the referee in order to return to the match.
  - 14U - Substitution for injury applicable to monitored/unlimited substitution matches:
    - a. If a player is injured, the coach may provide a substitute for the player, in which case the injured player may not return until the player is deemed able by the coach and a stoppage in play occurs which is recognized by the referee and signaled to return. Both injured and substituted players get credit for the actual minutes played as a segment of their total time on the field.
    - b. The coach may choose to not substitute and "play short" thereby allowing the injured player to return when deemed able by the coach and a stoppage in play occurs which is recognized by the referee and signaled to return.

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- c. **The player must receive a signal from the referee in order to return to the match.**
3. Late arriving team members shall be substituted as follows:
- **8U, 10U & 12U matches:**
    - a. If the team member arrives during the first “quarter”, the team member must play a minimum of two of the remaining three “quarters.”
    - b. If the team member arrives during the second or third “quarter”, the team member must play a minimum of one “quarter.”
  - **Late arriving team members for 14U matches using the standard substitution format will follow item 3a:**
    - a. **Late arriving team members shall be substituted as follows for 14U matches if using the unlimited substitution format:**
      - **If the team member arrives during the first 17.5 minutes the team member must play a minimum of 50% (35 minutes) of the total allotted time available.**
      - **If the team member arrives during the 17.5 - 52.5 minute time span, the team member must play a minimum of 25% (17.5 minutes) of the total allotted time available.**
4. Signed lineup cards must be completed by the referee and forwarded to the Regional Commissioner or his/her designee.

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**EFFECTIVE DATE OF AMENDMENT:** Removal of these provisions shall be effective August 1, 2018.

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**REASON FOR AMENDMENT:** [The views in this section represent those of the amendment proponent(s).]

The intent is to provide a greater experience and inclusion into the game of soccer for players & coaches in the 14U age group. The intent is to recognize and embrace the evolution of instructing soccer at the 14U age division by becoming more aligned with our own progressive training methodologies and also the soccer programs outside of AYSO that incorporate free substitution into the match. Without jeopardizing our philosophies and values we should embrace the coaching principles now taught at 14U in that it now becomes a tactical match of which unlimited substitution is a part of the strategy incorporated into the match. In many of the states across the U.S where soccer has become part of their school’s Jr. High athletic program, a high majority of those institutions embrace the rules of soccer as including unlimited substitution. By continuing our current substitution restrictions in this age division, we are risking the possibility of losing some players, coaches and volunteers who now view our current substitution methods for this age as inhibiting. As the kids of our AYSO families get older, those parents are evaluating whatever soccer program their child is in, and that the program is the best direction for the growth they need. Regardless to the extent those evaluations are justified, including unlimited substitution at this age plays into their decision. As with the other developmental soccer enhancements we consistently review, it is time to rethink the way we manage the game of soccer in the 14U age division, and remove the “training wheels” that restrict the teaching and tactical strategies of our coaches and our players.

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Other legitimate reasons of equal importance include better managing of resting and hydration of players, more flexibility for players with health considerations, increased communication between coach and player by capturing timely teaching moments, quicker more intense physical activity through shorter spurts versus elongated 17.5 minute quarters, and better alignment with school/Jr. High soccer programs. Unlimited substitution will assist in managing injury by creating more options regarding time in or out of the match to evaluate the player condition and behavioral moments when composure needs to be addressed. Substituting multiple players in the time span of a 14U quarter using unlimited substitution creates an atmosphere of greater inclusion and keeps them alert in knowing they can be put in or taken out at any moment during the match based upon the always changing circumstances of the match and the coach's decision. We should advance the core/primary 14U program with the same attention and progressiveness as those accelerated programs which even some of our advanced teams in AYSO have been approved to compete in for years.

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**POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF AMENDMENT:** OPERATIONAL, FINANCIAL, eAYSO, etc. (e.g., documents requiring revision, training materials requiring revision, changes required to eAYSO, potential costs): [The "impact statements" below were prepared to provide information to the membership to be able to better understand the potential impacts of the proposed amendment.] The proposed amendment to the National Rules and Regulations, if enacted, would have the following impacts:

1. Coaching and referee manuals would need added information regarding free substitution. Coach and referee updates would also be needed for existing certified coaches and referees. In addition, curriculum regarding free substitution would need to be added to coach and referee training.
2. The effective date of the amendment allows adequate time for development of any coach, referee or other training and materials referred to in paragraph 1 above that may be needed with respect to unlimited monitored substitutions.
3. Regions, Areas, Sections and/or tournaments utilizing unlimited substitution, would need to develop processes to ensure that eligible team members have the minimum required playing time.
4. Unlimited Monitored Substitution\* is currently permitted under the 16U-19U Program. This amendment would: (a) expand unlimited substitution to the 14U division; (b) allow more flexibility for determining how to ensure that eligible team members play at least the minimum required time; (c) require the coaches of the teams be AYSO trained at the age-appropriate level of the team; and (d) specify when substitutions may occur.
5. Unlimited Monitored Substitution\* under the 16U-19U Program would remain available to 16U/19U matches that are not eligible for free substitution under the amendment because one or both of the coaches are not age-appropriated trained.
6. Except as noted above, no other financial, operational, or other impacts have been identified.

\* \* \* \* \*

\*Unlimited Monitored Substitution under the 16U/19U Program provides:

“Free substitution will be permitted in the 16U/19U Program, but only if it is handled in a manner which will ensure that every participant plays at least one half of every match by requiring a separate time

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monitor, independent of either team or coach, who checks each player in or out of the match.