**AREA 11-L TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS December 1, 2, and 4, 2018 TOURNAMENT RULES**

**TEAM CHECK-IN LOCATION:**

All teams, COACHES (ONLY), must check-in A MINIMUM of one half-hour in advance of their first game. Check-in will be conducted at the tournament headquarters of their assigned venue. Lake Forest Sports Park HQ will be adjacent to the snack stand on the concourse between the two artificial turf fields.

An optional early check in (HIGHLY recommended) will be held on Thursday, November 29, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at Outback Steakhouse in Laguna Hills.

**CHECK-IN PROCEDURE:**

Coaches must bring their own ID card as well as registration forms for all players on their team. Team rosters and lineup cards in PDF format will be provided by the team’s region. Rosters and lineup cards will be checked against AYSO player registration forms. Any player that does not have an AYSO registration form in the coach’s possession will not be allowed to play and will be so indicated on the team’s lineup card. Once the players have been verified the coach will be asked to sign the coach’s agreement to be provided at registration, see Attachment 1. ONLY a coach named on the team roster may check the team in and sign the coach’s agreement.

NOTE: The Tournament Director or designated representative(s) will rule on any issue related to player eligibility. Any such decision is to be considered final and not subject to protest, dispute or further discussion.

**ID CARDS:**

Coaches are required to have ID cards. ID cards must be shown at team check in and must be worn at all times during games. Players are not required to have ID cards.

**TEAM ROSTERS / LINEUP CARDS:**

Rosters and lineup cards submitted for playoffs must match the team’s roster as of their last regular season game. No players will be allowed to be added to or dropped from a team specifically for area playoffs. All players must be registered with AYSO for the fall 2018 AYSO season. Any team found to be in violation of player eligibility rules will be subject to disqualification and forfeit of all their games.

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**REFEREE CHECK-IN PROCEDURE:**

All referees must check in at the referee tent located next to tournament headquarters at least forty five (45) minutes prior to their first game assignment.

Referees will be provided with game cards and lineup cards for matches to which they have been assigned. All are to be returned to the referee tent immediately upon completion of each assigned game. Runners will be provided to assist with collection of game cards from each field.

Referees will conduct a player safety check prior to each game.

**FORMAT OF PLAY:**

Area L’s game format during regulation time shall follow AYSO’s National Standards of Play:

● U10 teams will play 7 v 7;

● U12 will play 9 v 9;

● U14 teams will play 11v11.

Formation of pools is based on a random draw in each age/gender bracket. Where possible, wild card and champion teams from the same region will be placed in separate flights.

Generally, four pools of three teams each will be formed; the ten regional champions and two at-large wildcard teams. If any region does not provide a champion in a division, additional at-large wildcard teams will be added to complete the flights. The four pools will be divided into two flights of six teams each.

Each team will play three (3) pool games within their age/gender bracket. Two (2) pool games will be played on Saturday and one (1) pool game will be played on Sunday morning.

The home team of each game is the first team listed on the schedule. The home team will have their choice of direction to start the game. The away team will kick-off to start the game.

No spectators will be allowed behind the goal lines or within 18 yards of the goal line without the express consent of the referee. Fields will be designated either with field markings or field maps to indicate the areas that players and spectators will occupy.

The top two teams of each flight, (top two teams out of the six in the flight), will advance to the semi-final games. The semi-final pairings will consist of the first-place team of Flight 1 vs. the second-place team of Flight 2, and the first place team of Flight 2 vs. the second place team of Flight 1.

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**GAME SCORING:**

Official scoring will be done at the tournament headquarters. Scores/points will be tabulated and posted upon receipt of the game cards signed by both coaches and Referee. Scores will NOT be posted based on input from coaches or spectators.

Points shall be awarded as follows:

Win – 6 points Tie – 3 points Loss – 0 points Shut Out – 1 point Goals – 1 point per goal (3-point maximum) Send-off – 3-point deduction per player or coach send-off

1 point deduction per spectator send-off A maximum of ten (10) points may be awarded to a team in any one game.

In a 0-0 tie, each team shall be awarded 4 points.

**Point deductions will apply to send-offs of any player, coach, or spectator.**

**TIES IN STANDINGS:**

Pool play games may end in a tie.

No team shall be allowed to benefit themselves in pool play by their own forfeit, such as assuring their final standing above another team over which they have a 9 point lead prior to the forfeit. If necessary, scores shall be adjusted to avoid such benefit.

If a tie exists at the conclusion of pool play, the final pool standing shall be decided by considering the following tie breakers, in the following order:

● Head-to Head Play (outcome of the game involving the tied teams)

● Goal Differential: goals scored less goal allowed per game, with a maximum differential of three goals per game

● Team with lowest number goals against

● Team with highest number of goals scored (counting no more than three goals more than their opponent in any game)

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**MEDAL ROUND GAMES ENDING IN A TIE:**

In the case of a tie following regulation time, the winner shall be determined by the TAKING OF KICKS FROM THE PENALTY MARK as follows:

• Each team alternately takes five (5) penalty kicks at the same goal- each one shall be taken by a different player.

• The team scoring the most goals shall be declared the winner.

• If the game is still tied after the first five from each team have kicked, the taking of kicks shall continue until all players of each team have taken a turn.

• Kicks will continue until such time as both teams have taken an equal number of kicks (not necessarily five (5)) and one team has scored one more goal than the other. This team shall be declared the winner.

● Coin flip.

**CONDUCT:**

Coaches are responsible for ensuring appropriate conduct on the part of themselves, their players and spectators. A maximum of two (2) coaches will be allowed in the “technical area” along with substitutes. Spectators associated with a team should remain in the area designated for spectators. Spectators are not allowed to follow play along the touchline. They must remain in a single location during play. All in attendance are expected to keep ALL comments POSITIVE and RESPECTFUL or they are subject to removal by the tournament director or his designee.

Any send-off (Coach or Player and/or Parent/Spectator) will result in an automatic suspension from participation/attendance in/at the next scheduled game. A review of the match report by the Tournament Director and his designees may result in additional sanctions such as the deduction of 1 or more points.

**AWARDS:**

Participants in all semi-final and final games will receive medals (Semi-Finalist, Finalist, or Champion).

Championship teams in all age/gender brackets will receive a commemorative T-Shirt.

The U10, U12, & U14 championship teams will be invited to represent Area 11-L at the Section 11 Playoffs, to be held in February, 2019. Teams will be provided detailed information as soon as it is available. We hope that everyone involved has an enjoyable experience at this year’s Area 11-L League Playoffs. Good luck to all! ***The Staff of AYSO Area 11L***

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**AREA 11-L LEAGUE PLAYOFFS December 1, 2, and 4, 2018**

**COACH AGREEMENT**

**I have read the 2018 Area 11-L Playoff Tournament Rules and agree to comply with the stipulations therein.**

**I certify that all players participating in this event, the 2018 Area 11-L Tournament of Champions, are registered and participated in the Fall 2018 playing season in AYSO, therefore every player has player participation insurance.**

**Additionally, all players posted on the roster are the correct age for the age group the team is participating in per the 2018 fall season playing age dates (unless player is playing up). Only players on the eAYSO roster / line up cards, as furnished by the applicable Regional Commissioner, will participate. No player(s) shall be added to the roster or team.**

**All necessary paperwork per AYSO’s rules of participation and eligibility is in my possession.**

**Due to time constraints of the scheduled games, I understand that during half time, the team’s players shall not leave the playing field area by more than 10 yards. At the referee’s request, teams must start the second half within one minute. In addition, time constraints may require the referee to shorten play time in any given game to allow a subsequent game to begin play as per the master schedule.**

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**Attachment 1**

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