



Washington State Youth Soccer Association

DISTRICT 7 STANDING RULES & REGULATIONS

December 1996
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I. GENERAL RULES

ARTICLE 1. GOVERNING OF LEAGUES

The organization of competition for District 7 sponsored leagues shall be governed by the Standing Rules and Regulations set forth herein, unless rules of a specific competition determine otherwise.

ARTICLE 2. SEASON

Section A. Seasonal Year

The seasonal year of District 7 is defined by Washington State Youth Soccer Association (WSYSA) Rule 203.

Section B. Playing Season

All league seasons are to be determined by District 7 Board.

ARTICLE 3. CHANGES TO STANDING RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section A. Proposed Changes

1. Proposed changes are to be provided to District 7 Board Members and Member Association Representatives 45 days before consideration by the Board.
2. Changes to these Rules and Regulations may be made at any regular Board meeting by a majority vote.

Section B. Approved Changes

1. Changes to these Standing Rules and Regulations shall not be made retroactive.
2. The revised approved rules will be posted on the District 7 web site. The Secretary shall mail or email notice of changes within thirty (30) days to all District 7 Officers, Member Association Representatives, Member Association Presidents, and to WSYSA.

ARTICLE 4. DISTRIBUTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section A. Schedule

1. Copies of Standing Rules and Regulations shall be posted on the website for access prior to the first scheduled match of the season.
2. Each Member Association or club shall be responsible for notifying Referee associations or referee assignors prior to the first match of each season that the District 7 Standing Rules and Regulations are posted on the District 7 website.

ARTICLE 5. COMMUNICATION

Section A. Web Page

A web page will be maintained for communication of District 7 information.

Section B. Email

Each association, club, and team must maintain an active email address.

Section C. Telephone

Each association, club, and team shall provide a contact phone number.

II. PLAYERS/TEAMS/LEAGUES

ARTICLE 6. REGISTRATION

Section A. Definitions

1. Youth players - The term 'youth' as applied shall mean an amateur player who was born on or before August 1st of the year they reach age 19 and apply for registration.
2. Teams
 - a. Recreation - The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to a team is prohibited.
 - b. Competitive - The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting, or any like process to roster players selectively to a team on the basis of talent or ability is permitted.

Section B. Player Age Classification for Team Formation

1. Age classifications will be according to WSYSA rule 206
2. Prior to the beginning of the playing season (Fall, Spring, etc.), the Board shall determine the age groups for competition during that playing season.

Section C. Association Registrars

All Member Associations shall have an Association registrar, who shall be responsible for the proper registration of players, coaches, and assistant coaches within that Member Association, including obtaining player proof of age and assignment to teams. All Member Association registrars will follow WSYSA and District 7 Standing Rules and Regulations in the registration process.

Section D. Association Risk Managers

All Member Associations shall have an Association risk manager, who shall be responsible for the oversight of background check information for all officers, coaches, assistant coaches, and other soccer participants that will have care and custody of players. Association risk managers must be aware of their responsibility and obligation to safeguard the information obtained during discharge of their duties. Other duties pertaining to safety of participants and procedures to safeguard the assets of the organization may be performed as defined by the WSYSA Risk management committee.

Section E. Player Registration

1. All players must register annually through member clubs in accordance with WSYSA, District 7 and applicable Association Standing Rules and Regulations to participate in all activities of District 7.
1. Players must be registered officially to a team with a Club registrar before taking part in any District 7 sponsored league or cup match.
2. No team may allow unregistered players to participate in practice.

Section F. Team Registration Procedures for District 7 Leagues

1. A recreational team playing eleven-a-side in a District 7 league may have no less than 11 players registered or more than 22 players registered to it at the beginning of the season. If a recreational team has more than 18 players on its roster, its club registrar on the team application for league play, must inform the D7 Director of Competition of the number of rostered players. The reasons for a team having more than 18 players shall be clearly stated. A team may not play more than 18 players during a District 7 sponsored league game or tournament game. Select (competitive) teams shall not register

- more than 18 players to a team.
2. District 7 requires a copy of a completed WSYSA team registration from the WSYSA online database for each team participating in a District 7 sponsored league be submitted to the District 7 Director of Competition. These forms are to be submitted by the dates specified by the District 7 Board.
 3. Failure by an Member Association to submit a copy of a properly completed WSYSA team registration from the WSYSA online database for each team participating in a District 7 sponsored League to the District 7 Director of Competition by the specified deadline will result in forfeiture of all games played by those teams and suspension of the team from further league play until the registration form is properly submitted.
 4. A team will be considered defunct if it fails to maintain eleven (11) registered players during the league season, or if responsible Association or Club officers determine that the team has disbanded.

Section G. Over-age/Ineligible Players

1. Any team playing a player, who is over-age, or otherwise ineligible to play, as a result of improper or late registration, judicial action, or other suspension, shall forfeit any game(s) in which the player has taken part.
2. Any coach, club or Member Association officer who knowingly allows an ineligible or over-age player to participate in any league, cup or tournament match without prior approval of the District 7 Board, shall be subject to disciplinary action.
3. Waivers for over-age teams can only be submitted to and approved by the District 7 Board

Section H. Falsification of Records.

Willful falsification of records by any person shall be grounds for suspension from future participation in District 7 sponsored Leagues and/or tournaments.

Section I. District 7 Waiver Requests

(i.e., Requesting a U17 Team with one U17 Player to participate in a District 7 Sponsored U16 League)

1. All waiver requests shall be submitted to the District 7 Board by the Member Association representing the team using their own applicable Member Association rules. To properly place each team in District leagues, the age makeup for each team should be presented at the District scheduling meeting. Any coach, club or Association officer, who knowingly allows an ineligible player to participate without prior approval of the District 7 Board, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

ARTICLE 7. PLAYER MOVEMENT

Section A. Player Assigned to a Team Roster

Each Member Association shall have the authority to assign youth players according to its own Bylaws and Operating procedures provided they do not violate those of higher authority.

Section B. Player Release/Transfer Procedures

Release and transfer of a player shall be in accordance with WSYSA and applicable Member Association procedures.

Section C. Deleting Players from a Roster

Players may be deleted from a team after the registration is submitted to WSYSA, in accordance with WSYSA Regulations.

Section D. Player Poaching

Any team, whether through its coach, assistant coach, manager, club or Association officer, representative, parents, or players, attempting to induce a registered player from another team under the jurisdiction of this District 7 to transfer from their rostered team, shall be deemed to have committed a poaching offense, and shall be subject to disciplinary action by the District 7 Board.

III. RULES OF COMPETITION

ARTICLE 8. SCHEDULING

Section A. Governing

All teams participating in leagues governed by District 7 shall be subject to these rules.

Section B. Playing of Scheduled Matches/Tournaments

1. All league matches must be played on the date and time approved by the Director of Competition.
 - a. Request for rescheduling of any match must be submitted to the District 7 Director of Competition.
 - b. Failure of a team to appear for or have a sufficient number of players to legally start a regularly scheduled match will result in forfeiture of the match by the team failing to appear or having an insufficient number of players to start. Should both teams fail to appear or have a sufficient number of players to start, both teams will be credited with a forfeit/loss.
 - c. Both teams have the responsibility to communicate directly with the opposing team at least three days before the day of the scheduled game. Confirm game time, location, and referee assignment. If the teams do not do so, the game will not be rescheduled if a problem occurs, and both teams will be credited with a forfeit/loss.
2. A team may not play more than 18 players during a game without forfeiting the game. There will be no additional penalties or discipline for playing more than 18 players, as long as they are properly registered on the team.
3. Procedure for rescheduling games:
 - a. Notify Director of Competition (DOC) by email or phone of intent to reschedule.
 - b. Contact the other coach and seek approval to reschedule at least three days prior to the scheduled day.
 - c. With approval from the other coach, contact field and referee assignors and determine new game location and time.
 - d. Both coaches email or phone director of competition that they approve of the change.
 - e. DOC changes schedule and posts on the website.
 - f. DOC notifies coaches, referee and field assignors by email that the change is official.
 - g. If a game is rescheduled and played without following the procedure, both teams will be credited with a forfeit/loss.
4. A team may not participate in any tournament during the District 7 scheduled season without the permission of the District 7 Director of Competition.
 - a. All teams desiring to play a WSYSA approved tournament during the scheduled D-7 league play should request permission in writing no later than the scheduling meeting.
 - b. Any rescheduling fees shall be the responsibility of the team's Association.
 - c. Any coach, club president, or Member Association President that does not meet these requirements will be required to appear before the District 7 Board.
5. When league matches are rescheduled due to one or both teams' participation in any WSYSA approved tournament, it will be the responsibility of the Director of Competition to notify the affected teams through their Member Association representative.

6. Teams may not participate in any tournaments not sanctioned by WSYSA or USYSA.

Section C. League Formation

1. The following format for scheduled games shall be used by the Director of Competition:
 - a. The desired number of scheduled league games for any team in the fall season shall be ten (10) for eleven-a-side play.
 - b. The desired minimum number of scheduled league games for any team in the spring season shall be set by the District 7 Board based on player interest.
 - c. The desired minimum number of scheduled league games for any other league season shall be determined by the District 7 Board.
 - d. Complete game schedules shall be compiled and posted on the web site by the Director of Competition.
2. The following guidelines shall be used by the Director of Competition in assigning teams:
 - a. Select (competitive) teams (teams from select clubs) will play up one age bracket.
 - b. Divisions may have mixed ages in order to balance competitiveness.
 - c. Teams may be reassigned to different divisions with two weeks notice. Notification will be by email to the association, club, and team contacts. Repeated games with goal differentials of more than 4 goals may result in teams being moved up.
 - d. Year to year, teams may be treated as identical if more than 8 players are returning.
 - e. Teams that play down into younger age brackets may be assigned to play without standing.

Section D. Point System for Season Results

1. A point value will be assigned for wins, ties, and losses in the Fall Season only. A win will count three (3) points, a tie one (1) point, a loss zero (0) points, a forfeit three (3) points to the non-forfeiting team. The spring league will be purely recreational with no standings kept. Point values for any other league shall be determined by the District 7 Board.
2. The division champion will be decided by the number of points accrued during the season as outlined in Section D. 1.
3. Ties will be resolved as follows:
 - a. Head to head competition results will be used as a tie breaker.
 - b. Should a tie still remain, a playoff may be scheduled. Otherwise, both teams will share first place.
 - c. Should a playoff game be tied at the end of regulation time, there will be up to two (2) overtime periods, the duration of which is specified in WSYSA ADM, Rule 301. If the game is still tied at the end of this overtime period, the FIFA Kicks from the Penalty Mark procedure will be used to determine the winner.

Section E. Providing Season Schedule to Member Associations

1. The Director of Competition will be responsible for providing the league schedule to the District 7 web page, and notifying teams, by email, of changes. Each team is required to have an email contact for notification of schedule changes which are posted to the website.

Section F. Responsibility of Marking/Setting Up Fields

1. It shall be the responsibility of each home team to provide properly marked fields.
2. It is mandatory that all fields have goals. Goals should be properly netted.

Section G. Reporting of Game Results

1. Game results must be entered to the website no later than seven (7) days after the match.

2. Each Association is responsible to ensure that each team report the game results to include the following:
 - a. Game ID number
 - b. Team ID number
 - c. Game final score
 - d. Referee's name
 - e. Numerical comment concerning Referee (1 -10). (1 =Poor to 10=Great)
 - f. Report of any difficulties and all Cards issued.
3. Both teams are required to report all results. The Director of Competition will resolve any conflicting reports by contacting coaches and referees as needed.

Section H. Team Standing

1. Current standings will be posted on the website as scores are received.
2. No standings will be kept for the spring league.

Section I. Abandoned Matches

1. All abandoned matches will be replayed in their entirety, forfeited, or score at abandonment let stand as determined by the District 7 Board unless specified otherwise in these rules and regulations. All replays will be scheduled by the Director of Competition.
2. If a match is abandoned due to the misconduct of one of the teams or a member of one of the teams, that team shall not profit by the abandonment.

Section J. Miscellaneous

1. No alcoholic beverages or tobacco shall be permitted at any scheduled match or team practice.
2. Saturday games will not begin before 9:00 am and Sunday games will not begin before noon unless requested by both club teams involved. All games will end no later than 10:00 pm. Exceptions may be granted by the District 7 Board.

ARTICLE 9. AWARDS

Section A. Distribution

1. District 7 will provide awards for first place teams in all divisions for the fall season. An award will be given to each team should two or more teams in a division remain tied for first place at the end of the season as outline in Rules of Competition, ARTICLE 1, Section D.
2. No awards will be given for spring league.
3. Awards for any other league will be determined by the District 7 Board.

IV. MATCH PROCEEDINGS

ARTICLE 10. REFEREE

Section A. Governing

All teams participating in District 7 governed leagues shall be subject to these rules.

Section B. Abandoning a Match

1. Upon their arrival at the field, the Referee shall inspect the marking of the field to determine suitability for play.
2. If the Referee finds that the field is not properly marked for play, or does not have goals, or is

hazardous, the match may be abandoned and the circumstances must be reported to the Director of Competition within 24 hours by phone.

3. If both teams have been notified of a scheduled match and one team fails to show following a fifteen (15) minute grace period, the game will be forfeited to the showing team with a score of 1 - 0. Penalties and fines shall be assigned as specified in Rules of Competition ARTICLE 8, Section B. 1.
4. If both teams have been notified of a scheduled match and both fail to show, within fifteen (15) minutes of the scheduled match time, the referee shall abandon the match and notify the Director of Competition by phone. Penalties and fines shall be assigned as specified in Rules of Competition ARTICLE 8 Section B. 1.
5. Referees may, at any time, be called upon by the proper authority to explain the circumstances applicable to abandoning a match for field conditions.

Section C. Assigning Referees

1. The 'home' Association is responsible for assigning referees.
2. After a fifteen (15) minute grace period, if a scheduled referee has not announced their presence at the game, a substitute official should be chosen upon agreement by both coaches. In any case the home team coach will notify the home team club president that no referee announced their presence at the game on that date. It is recommended that each team have at least one licensed referee affiliated with it.
3. In the event a referee cannot be chosen to the agreement of both coaches, the coaches themselves shall referee, each coach will referee one half of the match, and the toss of a coin will decide who will referee first.

Section D. Problem with an Official or Referee

In the case of a problem with an official, a detailed report shall be written to the Director of Competition. A copy will be forwarded to the assigning Member Association and any relevant Referee Association. The District 7 Board shall have the right to bar a referee from officiating in matches under its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE 11. RULES OF PLAY / GAME CONDUCT

Unless exceptions are noted, District 7 competition will be subject to WSYSA Section 3 – Rules of Competition – Outdoor

Section A. Exceptions to FIFA Law

1. All matches under the jurisdiction of this District shall be subject to the laws of the game, authorized by Federation International de Football Association, and modified by USYSA, WSYSA and District 7.
2. The duration of matches, ball size, ball weight, ball dimensions, and overtime periods shall comply with WSYSA ADM Rule 301. NOTE: Overtime periods are only utilized in playoff matches. Regular season games contain no overtime periods.
3. Players will not be allowed to play with a bleeding wound or one leaking body fluid. All wounds must be dressed before the player may return to competition. Bloody portions of the uniform must be changed or disinfected with a veridical disinfectant prior to return to competition. Equipment contaminated with body fluids during competition must be decontaminated prior to play resuming.

ARTICLE 12. GAME CONDUCT

Section A. Coaches/Coaching

1. Coaching from the sidelines, giving directions to one's own team on points of strategy and

positioning, is permitted in all District 7 play providing the coaching is:

- a. By not more than two (2) persons, one (1) identifying themselves as coach, and one (1) as an assistant prior to the commencement of the match.
2. The home coach will choose which side they prefer, the visiting team must take the opposite side if field conditions permit.
3. A coach's failure to comply upon request of the referee may result in their ejection.
4. All coaching must be done from one side of the field, when possible. If not possible, the coach must confine coaching to half the field. In any case, no team may have coaches on both touchlines.
5. Team coaches and assistants will ensure that anyone sent off or asked to leave a match shall immediately leave the playing field area.
6. If a coach has been disqualified for any reason, the coach will be ineligible to coach until the disqualification has been reviewed by the District 7 Disciplinary Committee.
7. Any coach who removes their team from the field prior to the completion of a match, must appear before the District 7 Board to explain their actions prior to the next scheduled match. If necessary, the District 7 Board will convene a special Board Meeting to review the coach's actions. The offending coach is disqualified from participation in District 7 activities until review by the Disciplinary Committee.
8. All coaches must be in good standing with WSYSA.
9. Coaches are responsible for their assistants, players, substitutes, and spectators.
10. Upon request from the referee, the coach shall be required to give their name, the name of any assistant, player, substitute or spectator to the referee.
11. Before the game, each coach shall give the referee a copy of the District 7 roster form with each player's name and number.

Section B. Playing Time

All players of a team participating in District 7 League competition who are in attendance, in uniform, and physically fit, are required to play 50% of the match, or the match may be declared a forfeit. Only disciplinary reasons can keep a player from playing in a game, in which case the referee and opposing coaches must be notified before the game begins.

Section C. Substitutions

See WSYSA ADM Rule 301.

Section D. Uniforms and Player Equipment

See WSYSA ADM Rule 301.

1. It shall be the coach's responsibility to see that players are properly and safely attired, and assure that all player jewelry and other banned items are removed before his players take the field for practice or for games.
2. It is the responsibility of the home team to have a game ball properly inflated, at game time.

Section E. Spectators

1. Spectators will not be allowed behind the goal area, or within two (2) yards of the touch line, or beyond the top of the penalty box. Persons desiring to photograph the match from these areas shall obtain permission from the Referee before the start of the match. Said person shall not coach, cheer, or in any way distract the players or official.
2. Any spectator interfering with the progress of a match shall be asked to leave the field.
 - a. The coach of the team concerned is responsible for removal of the spectator.
 - b. Failure to do so may result in an abandoned game.

- c. The club concerned shall take appropriate disciplinary action. A report of the action shall be sent to the District 7 Board of Directors for review.

V. DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

ARTICLE 13. AUTHORITY

Section A. Authority

1. As a condition of participation in District 7 activities, players, coaches, parents, member clubs shall be subject to the authority of the District 7 Disciplinary Committee and the District 7 Board of Directors.
2. In accordance with WSYSA Rules and Regulations, any player, coach, parent, spectator or person associated with a team that is accused of assaulting a referee or assistant referee shall be subject to the authority of the WSYSA Disciplinary committee.
3. Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein, including cautions, ejections and suspensions. Any other individuals who may be reasonably construed as being associated with a team shall also be subject to the jurisdiction and authority of the District.
4. A plea of ignorance to any published District 7, Association, WSYSA, USYSA or FIFA rule shall not be considered an excuse for violation. Coaches are responsible for educating their players on the rules for competition.

Section B. Disciplinary Committee

1. The District 7 Disciplinary committee will handle misconduct and protests. It shall consist of a Chairperson and no more than 5 members including representatives from each Member Association.
 - a. Three members shall constitute a quorum.
 - b. The District 7 disciplinary Committee shall deal with all misconduct reports arising out of competition conducted by District 7 and have the authority to penalize any player, coach or member affiliated with District 7.
 - c. The District 7 Disciplinary committee shall meet throughout the season.
 - d. All deliberations among the committee members concerned with the Disciplinary action shall be held to be in executive session.

Section C. Cautions and Ejections

1. When a player or coach is sent off the field of play for any reason, they shall be considered ineligible to play or coach in the next regularly scheduled game after the next regularly scheduled disciplinary hearing unless the red card is canceled or reduced to a yellow by the Disciplinary committee. A more severe penalty may be applied by the Disciplinary committee under established guidelines. Failure of an ejected player or coach to leave the vicinity of the field IMMEDIATELY following ejection may result in abandonment of the match and/or an additional three (3) game suspension of the offender.
 - a. The Referee concerned shall send a written report of any caution or ejection within forty-eight (48) hours of the match to the chairman of the Disciplinary committee.
 - b. A player must appear before the Disciplinary committee if they wish to dispute a report. Any coach or player protesting the issuance of a card must do so in writing to the chair of the Disciplinary committee at the beginning of the next scheduled Disciplinary committee Meeting.
 - c. The Disciplinary committee chair shall keep records of all players or coaches cautioned or ejected.

- d. Players and coaches sent off the last match of the season must have the approval of the Disciplinary committee before they compete in future District 7 or WSYSA activities.
- e. Penalties may be assessed for offenses committed by a player or coach before, during or after a match.

Section D. Disciplinary Notification Procedures

1. It is the responsibility of the Disciplinary committee to notify the coach, player, and the Member Association of any disciplinary action by email.
2. Reported misconduct shall be a referee misconduct report from a match, a game report entered on the website, an email, or a letter of concern by a club or Member Association official, another coach, or referee. District 7 Disciplinary committee shall deal with all protests and misconduct reports arising out of competition conducted by the District.
3. Member clubs are responsible for ensuring that their players or coaches named in the above are aware of the date and time of the District 7 Disciplinary committee hearing reviewing their misconduct

Section E. Noncompliance with Judiciary Findings

If an affiliated Association fails to correct a problem of spectator, coach or player conduct, the matter shall be brought to the attention of the District 7 Board for review and appropriate action.

Section F. Administration

1. The Disciplinary Committee shall assess penalties for misconduct in accordance with District 7 and WSYSA procedures.
2. All decisions by the Disciplinary committee shall be recorded and sent by email to the Association, the club representatives, coaches, or players involved. Minutes will be kept on file, and made available to authorized parties on request.
3. The offender shall be notified of their right of appeal and the appeal procedure by the District 7 Disciplinary committee.
4. All records and Disciplinary committee decisions shall be part of the person's record as long as they remain affiliated with District 7. Any subsequent misconduct may be dealt with more severely than a first offense.
5. Any suspension from league matches will carry over to the next District or WSYSA sanctioned match.
6. Should a person named in a misconduct report fail to show for a hearing or to notify the Disciplinary chairperson of their inability to attend, the misconduct report will be acted upon in that person's absence.
7. Copies of misconduct reports and letters of concern will be available at the Disciplinary committee hearing.

Section G. Appeals to Disciplinary Rulings

1. Appeals of decisions of the District 7 Disciplinary committee may be heard by the District 7 Board. All appeals must be filed within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of notification of the Committee's decision. Notification may be by email, letter, phone, or in person.
2. All appeals must be in accordance with District 7 and WSYSA procedures.
3. No person hearing a matter may participate at a higher level for an appeal.
4. Any person, team or club desiring to appeal decisions of the District 7 Board of Directors following an appeal hearing must submit a written appeal, as outlined in the WSYSA Manual of Operations, Protests, Appeals and Administrative Hearings(Rule 213), accompanied by a fee of \$50.00 (money order or cashier's check) to the WSYSA Protest and Appeals Committee within forty-eight (48) hours

of notification of said decision.

Section H. Player Infraction Classification

See WSYSA ADM Rule 605

Section I. Player Penalty Guidance

See WSYSA ADM Rule 605

Section J. Team Officials Infraction Classification

See WSYSA ADM Rule 605

Section K. Team Officials Penalty Guidance

See WSYSA ADM Rule 605

NOTE: The term "game(s)" is defined as all WSYSA sanctioned competitions.

Section L. Disciplinary Point System

In accordance with WSYSA ADM Rule 213, the following system will be used by District 7 in regards to all WSYSA-sanctioned, District 7-administered events (games, leagues, tournaments, etc.) and teams:

1. District 7 Disciplinary committee has the authority to review all yellow and red cards in WSYSA sanctioned District 7 administered tournament reports. Cards from this review will be accumulated with those from other events. Players, coaches, and teams that accumulate multiple cards will be subject to the disciplinary procedures in WSYSA ADM Rule 213, applied to District 7 administered events, as determined by the District 7 Disciplinary committee.

Section M

1. Assault or Abuse

When any person shall assault or abuse a participant within a D-7 sanctioned competition the matter shall be directly dealt with by the D-7 Board and if needed brought before the WSYSA Appeals Committee for a hearing. (WSYSA ADM., Rule 215)

2. Misconduct Towards Game Officials

When any person shall abuse or assault "an official"(excluding referee- USSF Policy 531) the matter shall immediately be dealt with by the D-7 Board and if needed brought before the WSYSA Appeals Committee for a hearing. (WSYSA ADM., Rule 214)

ARTICLE 14. GAME PROTESTS

Section A. Administration

1. The Disciplinary committee shall hear all protests arising from matches within District 7 jurisdiction.
2. All protests must be phoned into the District 7 Disciplinary committee chairperson within twenty-four (24) hours of the date of the match to which it relates (Sundays and Holidays included). Written protest must then be submitted in triplicate after review and endorsement by a club officer or

Representative. This must occur within forty-eight (48) hours and be sent to the Disciplinary committee chairperson. One copy of the protest shall be sent to the opposing team by the Disciplinary committee chairperson within twenty-four (24) hours after receiving the protest. One copy shall be kept by the committee chairperson in the event of an appeal to WSYSA. All protests must be accompanied by a \$50.00 fee (certified bank check or money orders only).

3. Decisions of the Disciplinary committee shall be binding but subject to appeal to WSYSA. Appeals to the higher authority shall be made in accordance with the provisions established by that organization.

Section B. Protest Procedures

1. The Referee upon completion of the match must be verbally notified that the match shall be protested. The Referee shall report the verbal notification to the chairperson of the Disciplinary committee.
2. Player eligibility may be protested without notification of the Referee.
3. Upon receipt of a written protest by the Disciplinary committee, the chairperson of this committee shall add the protest to the agenda of the next scheduled meeting. If no meeting is scheduled the chair will schedule one to hear the protest. Notification by email will be made to the association involved. The association is responsible for notification of club representatives, coaches, or players involved.
4. Every protest must be accompanied by a \$50.00 fee, refundable if the protest is upheld (certified bank check or money orders only).
5. In the matter of protests, no party (player, parent, spectator, coach, team, club, etc.) shall engage any legal counsel until all avenues of approach to protests and appeals are exhausted through the regular channels of organized soccer.
6. The Referee's decisions on points of fact connected with the play of the match, and those prerogatives granted to the Referee by the "Laws of the Game" as published by FIFA shall not be challenged.
7. Only violations of the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of this District, WSYSA and misapplication of the 'Laws of the Game' as published by FIFA, shall be proper subjects to consider for protest or appeal.
8. Coaches or representatives of the teams involved in a protest as well as the game officials shall be invited to the meeting of the Disciplinary committee. In the event invited parties, duly notified, fail to appear, Disciplinary Committee decisions will be rendered based on information available at that time.
9. The order of business shall be:
 - a. Introduction of all parties present.
 - b. Statement by a representative of the protesting team.
 - c. Statement by a representative of the opposing team.
 - d. Statement by the game official(s).
 - e. Questioning by the Disciplinary Committee if desired.
 - f. Ruling on the protest by the Committee (in the absence of any witnesses or spectators).
 - g. Informing teams involved of Disciplinary Committee's decision shall be done by email, mail, or in person. A written record of the decision will be kept by the Disciplinary Chairperson.

Section C. Appealing Findings of Disciplinary Committee

1. No person hearing a matter may participate at a higher level for an appeal.
2. Any person, team or club desiring to appeal decisions of the District 7 Disciplinary Committee must submit a written appeal, as outlined in the WSYSA Manual of Operations, Protests, Appeals and Administrative Hearings (Rule 213), accompanied by a fee of \$50.00 (money order or cashier's check) to the WSYSA Protest and Appeals Committee within forty-eight (48) hours of notification of said decision.