

2007 RMI TOURNAMENT RULES

I. COMPETITIONS

Competition shall be open to all teams registered with the appropriate United States Soccer Federation (USSF) division (i.e. AYSO, AYSA, etc.) in specific age groups. Separate competitions will be held in the male and female U10, U12, U14, U16 and U19 age groups. A co-ed team will play in the male bracket. Age group breakdown is as follows:

U10	= U9 & U10
U12	= U11 & U12
U14	= U13 & U14
U16	= U15 & U16
U19	= U17, U18 & U19

II. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- A. All players and **coaches** must have a valid, **laminated** Player I.D. Card issued by their organization and signed by their Regional Commissioner or League representative.
- B. Player I.D. Cards to be reviewed by Tournament Registrar for validity during registration process and before each game played.
- C. Each coach is responsible for assuring the eligibility of all players on his/her team by turning in a signed roster by the teams RC or League President. Coaches must carry player registration forms at all times.
- D. Each AYSO player entering this tournament must have played in at least half of the games during the 2006 fall season.
- E. A player may play for only one team registered in the RMI.

III. SCHEDULING

- A. All teams will be guaranteed three (3) games.
- B. Depending upon the number of teams per division, teams will be divided into one or more brackets. Team placement into brackets are done by a random draw.

IV. AWARDS

- A. All participants will receive individual tournament token.
- B. All divisions will receive medals for 1st through 4th place. Medals awarded to both players and coaches.
- C. All U10 players will receive participation medals.
- D. All divisions will have one team that will be awarded a sportsmanship award. Awards will be given to both players and coaches. The team in each division with the highest total sportsmanship points as scored by the referee shall win the sportsmanship award.

V. GAME CONDUCT

- A. All games shall be conducted in accordance with the current FIFA Laws of the Game, AYSO Rules and Regulations, decisions of the International Board in effect and these tournament rules with no exceptions.
- B. All players must play at least ½ of each game.
- C. A maximum to two coaches per team will be permitted to instruct the players, and only from within a ten yards long on each side of the half-line. Coaches must provide adequate room for the assistant referee to work the line.
- D. Coaches (or other officials) shall not enter the field of play unless requested by the referee.
- E. All games shall start on time. If a team is not on the field of play and ready to start the game within ten (10) minutes after the scheduled time, the game shall be deemed a forfeit.
- F. A minimum of seven (7) players shall constitute a team for the U12, U14, U16 and U19 divisions; a scheduled game shall not commence nor continue if one or both teams cannot field

seven (7) players. For the U10 division a minimum of five (5) players shall constitute a team; a scheduled game shall not commence nor continue if one or both teams cannot field five (5) players.

- G. There will be no overtime periods for non-championship games.
- H. If a player is ejected from any game, the minimum penalty for an ejection is that player shall not be permitted to play in the immediate next tournament game of his/her team. This rule applies to coaches and assistant coaches also.
- I. Charging the goalkeeper shall not be permitted in the penalty area, nor shall the goalkeeper be harassed or interfered with while attempting to put the ball in play.
- J. All spectators must remain on their team's assigned side of the field at all times during the match. No spectator coaching of any kind is permitted. All spectators must remain within an area that extends from the edge of the penalty area on one end to the field to the edge of the penalty area on the other end of the field. Spectators must provide adequate room for the assistant referee to work the line. No spectators or teams are allowed behind the goal lines at anytime. Only official photographers are allowed behind the goal lines with the referee's permission, and they must not pose a danger to, distract, or talk to players at anytime during the match.
- K. Medical Identification/alerts may be taped to prevent injury to that player or to other players, but cannot be completely covered and must be easily recognizable in case of emergency.
- L. Under no circumstances will U-8 or younger age division players (those just completing the U-8 and under primary season programs) be permitted to play up.

VI. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- A. Teams will be guaranteed to play three (3) games. Each age division will be divided into one or more brackets.
- B. If a Championship or Consolation game ends in a tie, at the end of regulation there will be two (2), five (5) minute overtime periods. If there is no score during the two (2) overtime periods, the players on the field at that time shall remain on the field for a kick from the mark.
- C. PENALTY MARK KICKS – the AYSO-FIFA instructions regarding the taking of kicks from the penalty mark shall apply. The team with the most goals scored by the first five shooters shall be deemed the winners. If a tie remains, a sudden death shoot-out will occur. Each player on the field must kick once before any player kicks twice.
- D. Results of first three games shall accumulate points as follows:

Win	6 points
Tie	3 points
Loss	0 points
Scoring points	3 points maximum
Shutout	1 point

There will be no Shutout points for a 0-0 tie.

A yellow card shall result in a deduction of ½ point per card issued.

A red card send-off shall result in a deduction of 1 point per send-off issued.

- E. The two (2) teams who have accumulated the highest points after three (3) games shall play for the championship. The next two (2) teams shall play for consolation. The results of those games shall be final.
- F. In the event of a tie, if two teams have equal points, the following "TB" (tiebreaker) methods shall determine team standings:
 - 1. TB1 – The team without any cautions or sendoffs will be the winner. If both teams have been given cards, the team with fewer points deducted will be the winner.
 - 2. TB2 – If the tied teams played each other previously, the previous winner shall win the tie.
 - 3. TB3 – If the teams played a common opponent, the team that beat the common opponent shall be the winner.
 - 4. TB4 – The team with the least number of goals scored against them shall be the winner.
 - 5. TB5 – The team with the most goals, maximum of 3 per game, shall be the winner.

6. TB6 – If a tie still exists, a shoot-out will determine the winner. (Time and place to be determined by the tournament director)

VII. GAME TIME

U10 – 25 minute halves
U12 – 30 minute halves
U14 – 35 minute halves
U16 – 40 minute halves
U19 -- 40 minute halves

Halftime breaks will be a minimum of five (5) minutes.

VIII. SUBSTITUTION

- A. Except as noted below, all registered players in attendance at games must participate and play at least half (1/2) of each game, playing time shall be monitored by the tournament committee.
- B. Players not present (or expected to be absent) when match begins must be identified on the line-up card.
- C. U14 and younger divisions: approximately halfway through the first half and approximately halfway through the second half, the referee halts the game and notes on the line-up cards those players substituting. Additionally, substitutions may be made at half time and the start of any overtime periods.
- D. U16/19 substitution – U16/19 will be monitored substitution. The tournament will provide a tournament volunteer to monitor player substitution and playing time.
- E. Substitution will be allowed as follows:
 1. Prior to a throw-in, in your team's favor. (If team with possession subs, other team may sub also)
 2. Prior to a goal kick in either team's favor.
 3. Prior to a kickoff by either team.
 4. After an injury (injured player only), after referee stops play.
 5. At half-time and prior to any overtime periods.
 6. Player substituting must not enter or leave the field without the referee's approval and must enter and leave field at the center line.
- F. Any team found not to be following the rules governing substitution may be subject to immediate disqualification.
- G. Substitution for injury:
 1. 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 in the U10, U12 and U14 divisions. Only the player who is injured will receive credit for a quarter's play regardless of the actual time played. In the U16 and U19 divisions, the injured player may return at the next allowable substitution.
 2. The coach may choose to play "short", thereby allowing the injured player to return at any time upon permission of the referee.
 3. The injured player must be recognized by the referee to legally return to the game.
- H. Signed line-up cards must be completed by the referee and forwarded to the scorekeeping area.
- I. Late arriving players shall be substituted as follows:
 1. If a player arrives during the first quarter, the player must play a minimum of two of the remaining three quarters.
 2. If the player arrives during the third quarter, the player must play a minimum of one quarter.

IX. OFFICIATING

- A. Referees shall at all times impose the Rules and Regulations of competition as defined by AYSO and the FIFA Laws of the Game in general.
- B. The only system for officiating is the diagonal system of control. If only two qualified officials are available for a match, one should assume the duties of the referee and the other should become an assistant referee. A 'club assistant', after receiving instructions from the referee, should also be used. The only duty of a club assistant is to indicate when the ball has completely crossed the touch line or the goal line. If no club assistant is available, the referee must assume the duties of the missing assistant referee, as is done in the single referee system.
- C. Referees shall at all times put great emphasis on the welfare of the players and officiate the game in a manner conducive to clean competition and good sportsmanship.
- D. If a player is injured the referee, at his/her discretion, may stop play to ensure the welfare of the player even if the ball has not gone out of play.

X. SEND OFF PROCEDURES

- A. Any player or sub sent off (shown a **RED CARD**), or parent who has been told by the referee that they have been sent off must **IMMEDIATELY** leave the game site area to the referee's and/ or tournament committee member's satisfaction. Any minor who is sent off must leave the field area acceptable to the referee and tournament committee member's satisfaction. They must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or Safe Haven trained adult.
- B. If a coach is sent off from the match, he/she is required to leave the vicinity of the field. Coaches may not go to the other side of the field (spectator area). He/she must leave the vicinity of the field to the satisfaction of the referee.
- C. If a player or coach is sent off, the Field Marshall will retain his/her player pass, which will be sent to the Tournament Director together with the referee's report within thirty (30) minutes of the conclusion of that game.
- D. A player receiving a **RED CARD** shall be expelled from that game, may not be subbed, and is automatically disqualified from participating in their team's next scheduled tournament game. Stronger penalties may be imposed, depending on the circumstances. However, if a player is sent off due to fighting, he/she will not be permitted to play in any remaining games in the tournament.
- E. Any coach being sent off will be expelled from that game, and will be disqualified from coaching in the next scheduled game. The coach is responsible for the parent's/spectator's conduct, and may be sent off due to their misconduct.
- F. If a player or coach is sent off the field, one (1) point will be deducted from that team's total points.
- G. Upon completion of the suspension, the player/coach pass will be released from the Tournament Director to the coach.
- H. A player who has been "cautioned" or given a "yellow card" is written up by the referee and play continues. There is no mandatory sit out period.

X. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. It shall be the duty of each coach and official to:
 - 1. Conduct himself/herself in a manner promoting good sportsmanship.
 - 2. Encourage clean competition and fair play at all times.
 - 3. Coach their respective team to the best of their ability.
 - 4. Uphold the Tournament Rules and Regulations.
 - 5. Participate in positive coaching, instruction and encouragement of players.
 - 6. Present a healthy, athletic environment for players. Coaches, referees and spectators shall not consume alcohol beverages or use tobacco products during games or in the vicinity of the fields.
- B. Sideline coaching shall be limited to two (2) coaches from each team. They shall be limited to the coaching area that extends ten (10) yards on either side of the half-way line.
- C. The coaching area may be marked by two (2) lines perpendicular to the touch line.
- D. Negative comments and complaints about refereeing shall not be allowed.

- E. Upon team registration, each coach must have in his/her possession a valid Player ID Card for each player assigned to the team and a signed player registration form. All Player ID Cards must be laminated and signed by the Regional Commissioner or league official.
- F. Player ID Cards are to be given to the referee or Field Marshall depending on the site, at the start of the match, along with a completed Game Line-Up Card.
- G. **The first team listed on the schedule is the home team.** The home team will be responsible for providing two (2) game balls.
- H. **The home team will sit on the east or north side of the field.**

XI. Non-AYSO Teams

Non-AYSO teams registered may have player rosters of up to eighteen (18) players provided that all players are listed on the primary team roster and formal league approval is given and presented to the Tournament Director or Tournament Registrar. All players must have valid player ID card and a signed player registration form. No additional guest players may be added to participate. All teams MUST conform to AYSO's policy that every players **must** play at least one half of every game.

All teams must have a letter of approval to participate from their governing organization. All teams must include proof of insurance that is equal to or greater than insurance given to a registered AYSO player. This letter and proof of insurance must be included with the registration packet.

XII. SIZE OF BALL

- A. U16/19 divisions shall play with ball size 5.
- B. U14 division shall play with ball size 5.
- C. U10 and U12 divisions shall play with ball size 4.

XIII. FIELD OF PLAY

- A. Dimensions, the field of play, marking, goal area, and goals will be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. All efforts will be made to conform to all FIFA Laws of the Game requirements.
- B. The field shall be marked, where possible, with a spectator control line parallel to the touch line at a distance of at least three (3) yards from the touch line. All coaches, referees, assistant referees, and other league officials are asked to ensure that everyone except the assistant referees remain behind this line.

XIV. TEAMS

- A. All teams must have a signed roster upon team check-in. Only those players on the roster at team check-in will be allowed to play in the tournament.
- B. U16 and U19 teams may have a maximum of 18 players registered for the entire tournament.
- C. U12 and U14 teams may have a maximum of 15 players registered for the entire tournament.
- D. U10 teams may have a maximum of 10 registered players. U10 teams will play a 7v7 short-sided game format.
- E. Teams discovered to have an ineligible player(s) shall be disqualified from further competition. Previous matches played by a disqualified team will be recorded as a 1-0 win for the opposing team, regardless of the initial result.
- F. The home team shall change jerseys when there is a color conflict in uniforms. **The home team is the first team listed on the schedule.** All teams must have a color change of uniform. Pinnys are available.

XV. PLAYER SAFETY

- A. Players shall not be allowed to participate in any game unless they are wearing shin guards as outlined in Law 4 of the FIFA law.

- B. Players shall not be allowed to participate in any game with any type of hard cast, any type of splint. If a player is seen cutting off a cast, the player shall be disqualified from participating in any other scheduled tournament games.
- C. Players shall not wear anything that is dangerous to either themselves or another player, including but not limited to long fingernails.
- D. Players shall not wear jewelry of any kind except medical I.D. bracelets or necklaces.
- E. Players **shall** be allowed to wear removable metal cleats provided that they have not been used to walk on any hard surface causing the cleat to be rough in any fashion. That is at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director or committee member. To avoid conflict and ensure being eligible to play, players should have an additional pair of cleats or shoes with them. Players and coaches will abide by the decision of the Tournament Director of committee member regarding this type of cleat.

XVI. RAIN PLAN/REFUND POLICY

- A. If the tournament is cancelled due to inclement weather, Our rain dates are April 6-8, 2007
- B. A full refund will be issued if the tournament is canceled and cannot be rescheduled. If a team withdraws from the tournament 30 days or more prior to the tournament, a full refund is given. If less than 30 days, no refund is required unless a replacement team is found. If the original tournament dates are cancelled due to inclement weather, and a team cannot commit to the rainout dates, no refund is required to be given.

XVII. PROTESTS

PROTESTS WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED

XVIII. FIRST AID

A first aid kit with basic supplies (ie. Band-Aids, cold packs, gloves) will be available at the player check-in table and at the referee tent. Any injuries requiring greater medical attention 911 will be called.