



MARCH 11TH, 2026



SPRING COACHES MEETING

HOSTED BY SOUTH COAST SOCCER LEAGUE

DISCUSSION POINTS

In today's meeting, we will be going over important aspects that we feel everyone needs to know and adhere to within the SCSL. The goal is to provide clear information to our coaches and ensure all are aligned with our established best practices, fostering consistency across the league

- 01 Adult Registration
- 02 Season Timeline
- 03 Gameday Information
- 04 Reporting
- 05 Local Rules of Play
- 06 Referee Abuse Prevention
- 07 Sportsmanship
- 08 New Tiebreaker Policy





ADULT

REGISTRATION

ALL coaches need to complete the adult registration process prior to working in their teams in any capacity. This includes annual registration.

NO EXCEPTIONS



REGISTER WITH MYSA

COMPLETE SAFESPORT

COMPLETE FIRST AID CONCUSSION



ABOUT ▾ RESOURCES ▾ EVENTS ▾ PROGRAMS ▾ PLAYERS & PARENTS ▾ COACHES ▾ REFEREES ▾ SBLLI FIELDS AT PROGIN PARK

ADULT REGISTRATION

Thank you for being a part of our communities' youth soccer experience. Every adult member (18 years and older) of all organizations affiliated with Massachusetts Youth Soccer must complete their annual Mass Youth Soccer Adult Registration, be Massachusetts CORI and National Background Check approved/cleared, and State and National Sex Offender Registry Search cleared.

[Most participating adults](#) must complete and pass both SafeSport Abuse Prevention and Concussion Awareness Training.

Please follow the process below and reference our Help Guides, [Adult Registration Process video](#) and other tools to complete your adult credentialing requirements.

Adult Registration Process

IMPORTANT:

- Use your full legal name and the same email address when setting up all soccer-related accounts. This will ensure auto-uploading/verification when available.
- U.S. Soccer Learning Center background checks are **NON-REFUNDABLE**. Mass Youth Soccer adult participants should not submit background checks through the U.S. Soccer Learning Center (unless you are required to do so by a different organization like MSRC). **ONLY training in phase 1 is required.**
- Mass Youth Soccer training validity dates are noted below, the renewal reminders from the U.S. Soccer Learning Center can be ignored.

<https://mayouthsoccer.org/resources/adult-registration/>

SEASON TIMELINE

Below are important dates for the spring 2026
SCSL season.



3/28 Season Begins, Extra game weekend (Not a mandatory play date)

4/18 No Games Scheduled.

5/23 No games scheduled - Memorial Day Weekend

6/6 Final week of regular season

6/11 Play in or quarter final games completed

6/13 Semi Finals (Hosted by Higher Seed) AND Friendship Jamborees (Grade 2 - Grade 4)

6/20 SCSL Finals (Hosted at Mariner)

GAMEDAY INFORMATION

Each team needs 3 COLOR copies of their gameday roster. **NO PLAYERS can be written onto roster.**

Coaches must read the new pre game sportsmanship statement. This occurs after check in but before the game kicks off. Teams shake hands before the game and post game handshakes are not required anymore

All coaches and team officials MUST HAVE A CURRENT CREDENTIAL around their neck if they are on the coaches side

Please review the SCSL Handbook and/or keep a copy in your coaching bag. The handbook can be found here.

<https://www.southcoastsoccer.org/?q=documents>





REPORTING

Once the game is complete
your job is not done

Entering Game Reports

Log into <https://ma.affinitysoccer.com/>

You must have an account. Check with your club's registrar to review your site credentials.

To enter game scores/stats after the match has been played, please follow the steps below.

1. Log in to your My Account portal by toggling from your club account or directly logging in to the Association product. *(See Linking Club & National Governing Body Accounts)*
2. Click on the **Teams** tab
3. Click on the **Tournament & Schedule Apps** subtab
4. Click on the **Schedules/Game Scoring** link
5. A list of your games will appear on the screen. Click the empty box below Score for the respective game.

Bracket - Saturday, July 06, 2019

Game#	Group	Home Team	Score	vs.	Away Team	Score
100763	A1 vs B1	Fall 2019- ACB- B2006 Travel			Legends FC - B2006	<input type="text"/>

Coaches NEED to report scores within 48 hours of kick off

Coaches NEED to report any yellow or red cards within 48 hours of kick off

Failure to report will result in fines for your organization

LOCAL RULES OF PLAY

NEW RULE CHANGES FOR 2026 SPRING SEASON



8 SECOND RULE

ONCE A GK HAS CONTROL OF THE BALL AND IS UNIMPEDED THEY HAVE 8 SECONDS TO RELEASE THE BALL. FAILURE TO DO SO RESULTS IN A CORNER KICK FOR THE OPPOSING TEAM.

ONE CAPTAIN

FOR ALL 11 ASIDE GAMES (GRADES 7-PG) THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE CAPTAIN ON THE FIELD. THAT PERSON HAS TO BE DESIGNATED WITH AN ARMBAND. IF THEY LEAVE THE FIELD THE ON FIELD CAPTAIN MUST TRANSFER TO ANOTHER PLAYER OR THE PLAYER COMING ON MUST HAVE AN ARMBAND ON.

RESTART DISTANCE

FOR 7V7 AND 9V9 FORMATS (GRADES 2-6) THE RESTART DISTANCES FOR ALL FREE KICKS WILL BE 8 YARDS.

REFEREE ABUSE PREVENTION

531-9



U.S. Soccer is standing firm to protect referees and restore respect to the game. We encourage every player and coach to learn what behaviors cross the line, so they can avoid penalties and help create a better culture for the future of soccer.



REFEREE ABUSE PREVENTION

POLICY 531-9 PENALTY OVERVIEW / YOUTH & AMATEUR

The Penalties Matrix defines consequences associated with physical and non-physical offenses against Referees.

NON-PHYSICAL OFFENSES of gross misconduct, abuse, and / or assault

NON-PHYSICAL*	MIN. GAMES	TIME
Insulting, Belittling, Insinuating or Taunting Behavior Undermining Referee Authority	2	
Harassment, Intimidation, Retaliation, Abusive, or Threatening (Non Physical) Language	4	
Aggression, Attacking, Derogatory, Cyberbullying, Doxing or Threatening (Physical / Violence) Language	6	6 - 24 Months
Offensive or Discriminatory Act	10	12 - 24 Months

PHYSICAL OFFENSES of gross misconduct, abuse, and / or assault

PHYSICAL*	MIN. GAMES	TIME
Minor or Slight Deliberate Touching	3	1 - 6 Months
Pushing, Grabbing, Pulling, Squeezing, Pinching, Lightly Slapping, Use of Object in Non Striking Manner, or Physical Property Damage	10	6 - 24 Months
Hitting, Punching, Elbowing, Kicking, Biting, Spitting, Choking, Tackling, Throwing or Use of Object or Any Part of Body (Forearm, Knee, Head) in a Striking Manner		12 Months - Lifetime

(* Disclaimer: These are only a few examples of abuse – other actions or statements may also fall into this category.

KEY PENALTY FACTORS

- Single offenses are at **minimum the prescribed game penalty or time penalty** for non red zone offenses
- Penalties can be **both game and time depending on severity / circumstances**
- Second time offenders receive **double punishment**
- Third time offenders receive a **lifetime ban**
- More than one offense at the same time is **at least the punishment for the most serious offense**
- Offenses against minors are automatically subject to a **“minor multiplier”** resulting in **triple punishment**
- **One offense warning per league** to be managed by states and leagues collaboratively
- Game consequences are **inclusive of 1 game penalty for any red cards given**
- Optionality for **50% penalty for first offense from a minor**

<https://mayouthsoccer.org/referees/respect-the-call/>

SPORTSMANSHIP

While winning has its place, our primary goal should always be to foster competitive games whenever possible. We can all do more to prioritize this, especially at the younger age levels.

WHY TRY AND MAKE A GAME MORE COMPETITIVE?

- Makes the game harder for the winning team.
- Allows the team with better players to still continue to develop.
- The losing team can feel some success and gain confidence

MOST YOUNG PLAYERS DON'T EVEN REALIZE THE ADJUSTMENTS HAPPENING ON THE FIELD. IT'S THE COACHES WHO UNINTENTIONALLY PREVENT THE GAME FROM BEING MORE COMPETITIVE

EFFECTIVE WAYS

- Ask the losing team to add an additional player,
- Remove a player from your team.
- Use both above options at the same time creating a 8v6 situation.
- Tell players they can only score from outside the box
- Ask players to play the ball back to the defenders or GK before they can score.
- Ask players to only pass and shoot with their non dominant foot

INEFFECTIVE WAY

- Placing your defenders as forwards.

TIEBREAKER POLICY

Beginning spring season of 2026 the SCSL has instituted an new tiebreaker policy. This policy is more aligned with our league philosophy and best practices.



The seeding of teams for the playoffs in each age group shall be determined by the following:

- 01 Total overall points
- 02 The record of their head-to-head competition during the season.
- 03 Goal Differential (A maximum differential of five (5) shall be allowed for each match.)
- 04 Goals Allowed
- 05 Most Shutouts
- 06 Coin Toss

Q & A



Thank you for attending today's meeting. We do realize that we have provided you with a lot of information.

If you have any questions please either raise your hand through the zoom app or write it down in the chat.

Good luck this spring and we look forward to seeing many of you on the field soon!
