



**2022 MIDDLESEX YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE
COMMISSIONER'S CUP & MTOC QUALIFIER**

Saturday, June 18th and Sunday, June 19th

Congratulations and welcome to the 2022 Middlesex Youth Soccer League Commissioner's Cup and MTOC Qualifier Weekend. This year's tournament will be held at the [Massachusetts Youth Soccer Fields at Progin Park](#), 512 Old Road, Lancaster MA 01523.

The Commissioner's Cup qualifying teams for Grade 34 Div. 1 – Div. 5, Grade 56 Div. 3 – Div. 5 and Grade 78 Div. 3 – Div. 5 will compete in a three game round robin format on Saturday and Sunday.

The MTOC eligible divisions Grade 56 Div. 1 & Div. 2, Grade 78 Div. 1 & Div. 2, Grade 911 Div. 1 & Div. 2 and Grade 12+ Div. 1 will play single elimination semi-final games on Saturday and the winners will compete in the finals on Sunday. The winning teams on Sunday will go on to represent MYSL at MTOC.

MYSL has drawn wild card slots for MTOC in Girls 56 Div. 1, Girls 78 Div. 2 and Boys 911 Div. 1 so the second place teams in these groups will also go on to compete in MTOC.

Please note that all game schedules, team and game information are available on the schedule and standings tabs on the MYSL website [SportsManager](#). Please note that at this time some tie breaker, play in games remain to be played prior to the start of the Tournament and those teams which qualify will be added to the SportsManager schedule as the game results are submitted.

The Middlesex Youth Soccer League's Board of Directors request your attention and adherence to the rules of the tournament on the following pages to ensure a safe and enjoyable soccer weekend.

No dogs or pets are allowed on site or on any of the fields.

No Barbecuing allowed.

Shade tents allowed in Designated Areas Only.

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June 12, 2022

Fellow MYSL members,

Congratulations on a great season and welcome to the 2022 MYSL Commissioner's Cup & MTOC Qualifier Weekend.

This weekend is the culmination of your journey which began in late August of last year, through all of the practices, the fall developmental season, winter indoor activities, individual tournaments, playing with friends and family, kicking the ball around the backyard, and sometimes inside the house. It is a great accomplishment to get to this point and you should all be very proud of yourselves, as we are.

As many of you are aware, inappropriate conduct and behavior has become an increasing problem for youth sports organizations. Please be reminded that MYSL has Zero Tolerance for this type of behavior between and from any combination of our players, coaches, parents, guardians and spectators involved with or in attendance at any MYSL event.

MYSL will not tolerate obscene or vulgar language, derogatory comments regarding race, gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation, aggressive behavior, sarcasm, harassment, taunting, verbal or physical threats during any MYSA event, from or toward anyone within its membership.

It is the responsibility of the coaches to address and resolve any issues that may arise with their players, parents, guardians or spectators prior to, during or after an event.

We are all here to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for our children, to develop their skills to play soccer, to help them learn to be part of a team, to learn the values of respect, integrity, fair play and good sportsmanship, to carry these lessons beyond the soccer field, and hopefully develop a love for the beautiful game which they will carry with them long after they leave MYSL. Most importantly, we want them to feel safe and to have fun. To help promote these goals, we will have Field Marshalls on site who will monitor the behavior of the players, coaches and spectators and support the referees throughout the tournament. It is a game!

Each one of us represent not only ourselves but our team, our town and our league. Respect yourself, your opponents, the officials and represent with dignity.

Again, congratulations on your season and best of luck this weekend.

Sincerely,

Kenneth G. Antonucci, Sr.

Kenneth G. Antonucci, Sr.
Commissioner's Cup Director
Middlesex Youth Soccer League

Front Field Layout



Team Check In:

Team registration and check in will be at the east side of the registration pavilion opposite the concession and turf fields.

All teams are required to check in at least one-half hour prior to the scheduled start of their first game of each day at the check in pavilion.

Please be sure to have all players and coaches present when approaching the registration pavilion to be checked in. Any late player or coach will need to be checked in separately prior to be allowed to enter the field. We will hold the passcards at the tent until that person arrives and checks in.

All rostered coaches must have their MYSL passcard and their Mass Youth Identification credential in clear view at all times during the tournament.

Coaches must present the following during team check in:

- Two (2) signed copies of the approved game roster with watermark with all player jersey numbers clearly marked
- Mass Youth Identification Credential for all rostered coaches
- MYSL passcards for all rostered coaches
- MYSL player passcards with current photo for all players
- **Safe sport documentation certificates for all players 18 years of age or older**

Grade 34 teams pass cards are required only for the coaching staff.

Tournament officials will keep one copy of the roster. Coaches will keep the second copy of the roster and give the referee the passcards at the start of each game. The referee will return them at the end of the game.

Player Uniform and Safety Check:

- Players must present themselves dressed to play in full matching uniforms (team jerseys, shorts and socks), wearing shin guards and proper footwear at time of safety check.
- Shirts must be tucked into the shorts, the socks must cover the shinpads.
- If cleats are worn, they should be soccer cleats with no sharp edges and no cleat on the toe.
- No jewelry is allowed except for medical bracelets which must be taped down.
- No hard or metallic hair restraints are allowed.
- Non-dangerous protective equipment, for example headgear, facemasks and knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight padded material is permitted as are goalkeepers' caps and sports spectacles.

Game Field Information:

- All coaches and players must remain in the marked technical area and not creep up to the mid field line. All substitutions must take place at the mid field line.
- Sun shades or canopies may be used over team bench areas however they must be anchored or weighted if on grass fields. No team shades or canopies will be allowed on the turf fields.
- No food or drink on turf fields. Water only.
- Please be sure to remove all equipment and clean up your team area immediately after your game has completed to make room for the next upcoming team.

Team and Spectator Information:

Parking for all coaches, players and spectators will be in the main parking lot as you enter the site unless Mass Youth Staff directs you elsewhere. There will be a lot of traffic and vehicles entering and exiting the site throughout the weekend as the tournament proceeds. Plan to arrive early as the walk to the field from the furthest parking lots could take up to fifteen minutes.

If you have elderly or handicapped spectators attending your game please let me know ahead of time and we will try to make parking accommodations in the lower referee lot. Mass Youth Staff will provide transportation from the upper lot to the pavilion or to a field if needed.

Teams, families and spectators may set up tents in designated areas only and outside of spectator lines. Tents must be securely staked or weighted properly to prevent overturning.

Spectators must remain in the designated spectator area opposite the team areas, must not stand at the ends of the fields or goal lines and must remain behind the spectator lines at all times.

Coaches, players, spectators and fans at home can stay updated on the 2022 Commissioner's Cup by visiting us on Facebook @middlesexyouthsoccer, Instagram @mysleague and Twitter @mys_league. Feel free to send pictures and videos to be featured on our pages, be sure to tag #myslchamps on your posts.

Fine Designs, our 2022 MYSL Commissioners Cup commemorative apparel vendor will be on site adjacent to the registration pavilion and concession area. Please follow the link to our [2022 Commissioners Cup Tournament Online Store](#) to preview items that will be available on site or pre order for home delivery. See advertisement at the end of this package for more information.

A full concession stand will be operating at the front field pavilion during the event providing snacks, sandwiches, ice cream and refreshments.

Porta Johns will be available on the main roadway adjacent to field 1.

Handicap rest rooms will be available at the west side of the pavilion adjacent to fields 1 & 2.

No dogs or pets are allowed on site or on any of the fields.

No barbecuing or tailgating allowed.



Coach, Player and Spectator Conduct

The MYSL Zero Tolerance Policy will be strictly enforced throughout the tournament weekend.

All coaches please click on the following links to review the [MYSL Coaches Code of Conduct](#) and the [MYSL 2022 Spring Rules](#). The MYSL Coaches Code of Conduct and related MYSL 2022 Spring Rules are also attached at the end of this document. Please be aware, if you get ejected from a game you will automatically be suspended for the remainder of the tournament and potentially any follow on MTOC playoff games.

It is the responsibility of ALL coaches to maintain the highest standards of conduct for themselves, their players and spectators (supporters) in all matches. Abusive and obscene language, violent play, violent conduct, fighting, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation and other behavior detrimental to the game will not be tolerated. A coach's responsibility for referee support and spectator control includes the times prior to, during and after the game at the field and surrounding areas. Failure to do so will undermine the referee's authority and has the potential of creating a hostile environment for players, the referee and all other participants and spectators. Verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated. Let the officials do their job.

The persons responsible for a team and spectators will not address the referee at all during the play of the game.

Exceptions for persons responsible for a team (Coaches and Assistant Coaches)

During the game:

- Responding to a referee initiating communication.
- Making Substitutions.
- Pointing out emergencies or safety issues.

Exceptions for Spectators:

During the game:

- Responding to a referee initiating communication.
- Pointing out emergencies or safety issues.

MYSL recommends that the referee deal with coach(es) and spectator(s) infractions in accordance with FIFA Law 5 of the Game.

If the referee abandons the match, directs a person to leave the area, or issues a caution; the referee shall send a misconduct report for review – see MYSL Rule 29. MYSL asks that the information provided by the referee in the misconduct report be sufficient and detailed to determine follow-up actions required by the Commissioners, Age Directors and/or Sportsmanship Committee.

Any player, coach or team official physically or verbally assaulting a referee will be suspended a minimum of one (1) year. If the incident is considered serious, the Commissioner and Sportsmanship Committee may impose an indefinite suspension.

Please see the [MYSL 2022 Spring Rules](#) for the complete Rule 21 - Coach and Fan Conduct (Zero Tolerance Policy), Rule 22- Ejections and Rule 23- Player/Coach Infractions.

MYSL Post Season Qualifying Rules

Post Season Eligibility:

Four teams in each Division will be eligible for post season play in either the MYSL Championship Playoffs (MTOC Qualifier) or the MYSL Commissioners' Cup at the conclusion of the Spring Season, based on the final standings

- i) A Division with a single bracket or section: top 4 finishers qualify for the postseason.
- ii) A Division with 2 brackets: top 2 finishers in each bracket qualify for the postseason.
- iii) A Division with 3 brackets: winner of each bracket qualify for the postseason.
The 4th playoff spot will be determined by a playoff of the three 2nd place teams.
Rankings for play in games to determine who plays in which games follow the standard tie breaking procedures – points, then head-to-head (which doesn't apply in these cases), least goals allowed, tie breaker game. Once determined, the 2nd place team with the most points will have a bye. The other two 2nd place teams will play on the Monday following the last game of the season, weather permitting. The winner of that game will play the team with the bye on Wednesday of that week, weather permitting. Both of these dates are subject to change; your team must be available every day of the week following the end of the season.
- iv) A Division with 4 brackets: winner of each bracket qualifies for the postseason.

Any variations of eligibility must be agreed upon by the Age Director, Vice President of Development and MYSL President, and clearly communicated to all the teams in that division at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the Tournament

MTOC Qualifier & Commissioner's Cup Eligibility Tie Breaker Rules:

The following are the rules for tie breakers in determining which team goes to the MTOC Qualifier / Commissioner's Cup Tournament.

- i) If two teams are tied in points, the following tie-breaker rules will be used, in order:
 - head to head competition by points
 - least goals allowed head to head
 - goal differential head to head - maximum differential of 3 goals per game
 - least goals allowed – all regular season games
 - goal differential, - all regular season games – maximum differential of 3 goals per game
 - tie-breaker game.
- ii) If more than two teams are tied, the tie breaker rules will be used to determine a clear winner or eliminate one or more teams. If more than one team remains, the tie breaker rules will be applied again, starting from the top with the remaining teams to determine the clear winner
- iii) The Age Director will organize all tiebreaker and playoff games in order to determine a division champion. Tiebreaker and playoff games shall be played on neutral fields (whenever possible).
- iv) The Age Director has complete authority in these matters and shall use his/her best judgment in complicated matters taking into account that tournament bound teams shall be determined at least three (3) days before the tournament starts.

2022 Commissioner's Cup Rules:

Commissioner's Cup Tournament for Grade 34, all divisions:

- The MYSL will hold an end of season tournament among the top finishers in Divisions 1- 5.
- Additional teams may be included according to the eligibility rules established by the MYSL.
- Each team will play three games in a Round Robin format.
- Each team will be awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie.
- The Grade 34 tournament will be for enjoyment and fun – no champion will be crowned.
- Participating Grade 34 team players and coaches will receive Commissioner's Cup Final Four awards.
- Town Player Pass is not allowed for Commissioners' Cup games.
- The Commissioner's Cup Director will have the final say on any and all discrepancies that may occur.
- Protests will not be entertained

Commissioner's Cup Tournament for Grade 56 and Grade 78 Divisions 3, 4 and 5:

- The MYSL will hold an end of season tournament among the top finishers in Divisions 3, 4 & 5.
- Additional teams may be included according to the eligibility rules established by the MYSL.
- Each team will play three games in a Round Robin format.
- Each team will be awarded 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie.
- Grade 56 & 78 Champion and Finalist (Runner Up) team players and coaches in the Commissioner's Cup divisions will receive awards.
- Town Player Pass is not allowed for Commissioners' Cup games.
- The Commissioner's Cup Director will have the final say on any and all discrepancies that may occur.
- Protests will not be entertained

Commissioner's Cup Rules of Competition

Grade 78 Division 3, 4 & 5 Match Rules

- Halves are 25 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- Games need to be started on time. Teams should be warmed up ready to begin when the game ahead of them ends.
- Ties stand in all matches.
- All games are played with running time.
- Unlimited substitutions on throw-ins for both teams if the team in possession substitutes first, on goal kicks, and after a goal.
- An injured player must be replaced if the referee stops play due solely to the occurrence of serious injury or if the referee signals for the coach or medical personnel to enter the field to attend to the injury. The opposing team may have an equal substitution. Goalkeepers are exempt from this requirement.
- A player issued a yellow card MAY be substituted at the option of the coach.
- Sent-off players or dismissed team officials must leave the playing area and may not remain with their team.
- A player sent-off for serious foul play or violent conduct will be disqualified for the remainder of the tournament.
- Any coach who is dismissed from any match is disqualified for the remainder of Tournament.
- FIFA Laws of the Game and MYSL 11v11 playing rules are in force for anything else not mentioned above.

Grade 56 Division 3, 4 & 5 9v9 Match Rules

- All of the above Grade 78 rules apply.
- MYSL Grade 56 Playing Rules.

Grade 34– All Divisions 7v7 Match Rules

- All of the above Grade 78 rules apply.
- Halves are 20 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- MYSL Grade 34 Playing Rules.

Commissioner's Cup Tie Breaker Rules:

In determining final standings of Commissioner's Cup when teams are tied in points following the conclusion of their games, the following tie breaker rules will be used to determine the champion, in the following order:

- i.) Head to head competition
- ii.) Least goals allowed in all tournament games
- iii.) Goal differential, maximum of 3 goals per game
- iv.) If more than two teams are tied, the tie breaker rules will be used to determine a clear winner or eliminate one or more teams. If more than one team remains, the tie breaker rules will be applied again, starting from the top with the remaining teams to determine the clear winner.
- v.) If teams are tied at the end of all the tie breaker rules, they will be declared tied for that position in the standings.



2022 MTOC Qualifier / MYSL Championship Rules for Divisions 1 and 2 (Grade 56 and older):

- The MYSL will hold playoffs among the top finishers in each division for Grade 56, Grade 78, Grade 911 in Divisions 1 and 2 and Grade 12PG+1 in Division 1.
- The winners of these playoffs will represent the MYSL in their respective age groups at MTOC.
- Additional teams may be included according to the eligibility rules established by the MYSL.
- All Champion and Finalist (Runner Up) team players and coaches in the MTOC divisions will receive awards.
- Town Player Pass is not allowed for Championship Playoff games
- The Commissioner's Cup Director will have the final say on any and all discrepancies that may occur.
- Protests will not be entertained.

MTOC Qualifier Rules of Competition:

Grade 12PG+1 Match Rules

MYSL 11v11 Playing Rules are in effect.

- Halves are 45 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- Games need to be started on time. Teams should be warmed up ready to begin at the designated time.
- A winner must be determined. Therefore, overtime, 15 min halves, and kicks from the penalty spot, if necessary, will be used. If overtime is needed, both halves will be played to completion. If the score is still tied, then teams will proceed immediately to kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with FIFA rules. All matches unfinished due to any cause shall be replayed if neither team is at fault. However, if play is stopped at any time due to one of the teams being adjudged to be at fault, it shall be at the discretion of the Cup Director whether the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit.
- Sent-off players or dismissed team officials must leave the playing area and may not remain with their team.

Grade 910 Division 1 & 2 Match Rules

- All of the above U18/19 rules apply.
- Halves are 40 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- Overtime of two 15 min halves followed by kick from the penalty spot if needed.

Grade 78 Division 1 & 2 Match Rules

- All of the above U18/19 rules apply.
- Halves are 35 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- Overtime of two 10 min halves followed by kick from the penalty spot if needed.

Grade 56 Division 1& 2 9v9 Match Rules

- All of the above U18/19 rules apply.
- Halves are 30 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- Overtime of two 10 min halves followed by kick from the penalty spot if needed

**BE SURE TO FOLLOW US
ON ALL OUR SOCIAL
MEDIA PAGES TO STAY
UPDATED ON THE
COMMISSIONER'S CUP!**

Facebook:

@middlesexyouthsoccer

Instagram:

@mysleague



Twitter:

@mys_league



**FEEL FREE TO SEND IN
PICTURES AND VIDEOS TO
BE FEATURED ON OUR
PAGE AND MAKE SURE TO
TAG #MYSLCHAMPS ON
YOUR POSTS!**

GET YOUR EVENT SHIRT NOW!

Create Memories With Custom Apparel



**Customize Online
or at the Event**



1. Choose the Shirt
2. Choose the Size
3. Choose the logos to Customize



Get Your Event Shirt Now!

create memories with custom apparel



SHOP NOW



You can choose what logo you want on your shirt and where you want it printed. Fine Designs also will be onsite, just stop by and see the magic of custom t-shirts.





Coaches' Code of Conduct

The Board of Directors of Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association, Incorporated (Mass Youth Soccer) and the Middlesex Youth Soccer League and the leaders of the affiliated Leagues are concerned about the conduct of all coaches and referees during games at all levels, from recreational to premier to ODP.

We want to ensure that games are fair, positive and enjoyable experiences for all of the children and adults involved. A soccer game should be friendly and unifying - a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, referees and spectators.

To clarify expectations of coach conduct, we jointly expect all coaches to conform to this code of conduct.

- Before, during and after the game, be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
- Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee.
- During the game, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of your players is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him/her to calm down.
- During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of the parents of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting.
- Encourage them to applaud and cheer for good plays by either team. Discourage them and you may need to be forceful and direct from yelling at players and the referee.
- During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of spectators rooting for your team.
- During the game, do not address the referee at all. If you have a small issue, discuss it with the Referee calmly and patiently after the game.
- If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion to your League. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.
- After the game, thank the referee and ask your players to do the same.

We stress two points:

1) Referees - especially young and inexperienced ones - are like your players and yourself, in that they need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them to improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes and by offering constructive post-game comments. On the other hand, you could discourage and demoralize the referees by criticizing their decisions, by verbally abusing them and inciting - or even accepting - your own players overly aggressive behavior.

2) Your example is powerful, for better or worse. If you insist on fair play, if you concentrate on your players enjoyment of the game and their overall, long term development, and if you support the referee, your players and their parents will notice. If you encourage (or allow) your players to play outside the rules, if you are overly concerned about results, and if you criticize the referee harshly, your players and their parents will also notice.

Think about what you are doing during a game! Uphold the Spirit of the Game! If you follow the expectations described above, the spirit of the game will be alive and well in Massachusetts and will grow, along with the enjoyment of all.

Coaches who don't follow the expectations described above will be disciplined or removed .

MYSL Rules 21, 22 & 23

21. Coach and Fan Conduct (Zero Tolerance Policy)

- a) It is the responsibility of ALL coaches to maintain the highest standards of conduct for themselves, their players and spectators (supporters) in all matches. Abusive and obscene language, violent play, violent conduct, fighting, harassment, intimidation and other behavior detrimental to the game will not be tolerated. A coach's responsibility for referee support and spectator control includes the times prior to, during and after the game at the field and surrounding areas. Failure to do so will undermine the referee's authority and has the potential of creating a hostile environment for players, the referee and all other participants and spectators.
- b) The MYSL Zero Tolerance Policy regarding Misconduct towards Referees requires that persons responsible for a team and spectators will not address the referee at all during the play of the game.
- i) Exceptions for persons responsible for a team (Coaches and Assistant Coaches)
- During the game:
- Responding to a referee initiating communication
 - Making Substitutions
 - Pointing out emergencies or safety issues At half-time or at the end of the match:
 - A coach/manager can ask a referee to explain a rule(s) in a polite and constructive manner.
 - Polite and friendly feedback can be given to a referee.
 - Absolutely NO sarcasm, harassment, or intimidation.
- ii) Penalties for coaches:
- Referees may use their best judgement on how to discipline a coach who is violating this policy in the course of a league match. This includes following the "Ask, Tell, Dismiss" protocol as defined in USSF policy, abiding with IFAB Law 5 of the Game, and issuing the appropriate cards (i.e. Yellow and/or Red). It is hoped that these actions will be documented and provided to the appropriate MYSL authorities.
- iii) Exceptions for Spectators: During the game:
- Responding to a referee initiating communication.
 - Pointing out emergencies or safety issues
- iv) Penalties for Spectators:
- Referees may use their best judgement on how to discipline a spectator who is violating this policy in the course of a league match. This may include the following:
- 1st Infraction: Referee shall stop the game and ask the coach(es) to quiet the offending spectator.
- 2nd Infraction: A verbal warning. The referee shall stop the match and ask the coach(es) to warn the spectator that the next infraction will be an ejection or the referee will abandon the match.
- 3rd Infraction: The referee shall instruct the coach(es) to direct the spectator to leave the area. The referee shall abandon the match if the spectator does not comply.
- c) Coaches are highly encouraged to submit referee evaluations (good and bad) with-in 48 hours of the completion of the match – see MYSL rule 31.

- d) MYSL recommends that the referee deal with coach(es) and spectator(s) infractions in accordance with IFAB Law 5 of the Game.
- e) If the referee abandons the match, directs a person to leave the area, or issues a caution, the referee shall send a misconduct report for review – see MYSL Rule 29. MYSL asks that the information provided by the referee in the misconduct report be sufficient and detailed to determine follow-up actions required by the MYSL Commissioners, Age Directors, and/or Sportsmanship Committee. A review of the reported incident may result in a penalty up to and including suspension, and/or forfeit of the match. Additionally, unsporting behavior from coaches, players, referees, or spectators towards others will also not be tolerated and shall be reported to the MYSL Commissioners, Age Directors, and/or Sportsmanship Committee for review. This review may result in a penalty up to and including suspension and/or forfeit of the match. If it is found that multiple incidents involving coaches, spectators, players, teams from the same organization have violated this policy, additional penalties, including monetary fines, may be assessed toward the organization.
- f) Referee abuse and assault (USSF Policy 531-9—Misconduct Toward Game Officials)
 - i) Referee assault is defined by USSF as:
 - 1. Referee assault is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon a referee.
 - 2. For purposes of this policy, “intentional act” shall mean an act intended to bring about a result which will invade the interests of another in a way that is socially unacceptable. Unintended consequences of the act are irrelevant.
 - 3. Assault includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; head butting; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee’s uniform or personal property, i.e. car, equipment, etc.
 - ii) Referee abuse is defined by USSF as:
 - 1. Referee abuse is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee’s property or equipment.
 - 2. Abuse includes, but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee: using foul or abusive language toward a referee that implies or threatens physical harm; spewing any beverage on a referee’s personal property; or spitting at (but not on) the referee.
 - iii) When any amateur or professional player, coach, manager, club official or game official assaults or abuses a referee, the original jurisdiction to adjudicate the matter shall vest immediately with Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association.
 - iv) When an allegation of assault is verified by Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association, the person is automatically suspended until the hearing on the assault.

22. Ejections

- a) In the case of a player or coach ejection, the referee shall send the passcard (Spring Season only) to the respective Commissioner immediately following the game. At the same time, the referee shall also submit a USSF misconduct report to the Commissioner and other appropriate League Officials.
 - i) An ejection not covered by Rule 23 will carry an automatic one (1) game suspension, unless the Commissioner imposes additional suspensions.
 - ii) The suspension will start with the first game following the ejection.
 - iii) The Commissioner will hold the passcard and the player (or parent) shall make arrangements to pick-up his/her passcard.
 - iv) If the Commissioner considers the offense to be of a more serious nature, he/she shall refer the matter to the Sportsmanship Committee who will hear the case of all parties concerned and decide upon appropriate action.

- b) Coaches or assistant coaches who are ejected from a game/dismissed from the match must leave the playing complex and may not in any way continue to coach. Failure to comply could result in permanent suspension from the MYSL.
- c) A coach, assistant coach or player who has been ejected or suspended may not return to any team in any capacity until such time as the suspension has been lifted. Failure to abide by this could result in permanent suspension from the MYSL.

23. **Player/Coach Infractions**

- a) **Yellow Cards**
 - i) In the case of a player, coach, or team official receiving a yellow card, the referee shall submit a misconduct report to the respective Commissioner and other appropriate League Officials immediately following the game.
 - ii) The accumulation of yellow cards by any player, coach, or team official in a specific season shall be subject to an additional suspension per the schedule below:

Total Yellow Cards	Additional Suspension
4	one (1) game
5	two (2) games
6	one (1) year from date of last infraction

- b) **Red Cards**
 - i) Any player receiving a red card will be immediately suspended for the remainder of that game and for one (1) additional game.
 - ii) Any coach or team official receiving a red card will be immediately suspended for two (2) games.
 - iii) Any coach or team official receiving a second suspension during the season will be suspended indefinitely. Said coach must appeal to the Commissioner and Sportsmanship Committee for reinstatement.
 - iv) The Commissioner and Sportsmanship Committee will suspend any player receiving a second red card during a season indefinitely pending a hearing.
- c) **Fighting**
 - i) In cases of fighting, a player shall be suspended for three (3) or more games and the coach may be suspended pending a review of the Commissioner and Sportsmanship Committee. A decision must be rendered prior to the next scheduled game.
 - ii) In the event of players leaving the bench area to enter the field to participate in a fight, the coach and assistant coach must appear before the Board of Directors for a hearing to determine whether or not the team should be suspended for the remainder of the season.
 - iii) If a player leaves the bench area to participate in a fight on the field and is ejected by the referee, he/she shall be suspended for three (3) or more games pending a review of the Commissioner and Sportsmanship Committee.
 - iv) If a coach leaves the bench area to take part in a fight, the Commissioner and the Sportsmanship Committee may suspend him/her indefinitely pending a hearing. A decision must be rendered prior to the next scheduled game.
- d) **Referee Assault**
 - i) Any player, coach or team official physically or verbally assaulting a referee will be suspended a minimum of one (1) year. If the incident is considered serious, the Commissioner and Sportsmanship Committee may impose an indefinite suspension.