

## HEADWATERS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 1045 EAGLE RIVER, WI 54521

Headwaters Youth Soccer Association (HYSA) is governed by the rules and regulations of the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association (WYSA) unless otherwise stated. WYSA and HYSA are both committed to developing and delivering quality youth soccer programs where everyone builds positive character through participation in a fun, family environment based on the WYSA and HYSA philosophies.

### Everyone Plays

The goal is for children to enjoy playing soccer. We mandate that every player on the team must play at least half of every game. If there is a concern about this, mention it to the coach or coordinators.

### Balanced Teams

We strive to keep our teams evenly balanced (i.e., not “stacking”). This isn’t always possible, but we do our best.

### Positive Coaching

The way to make winning children is by building them up, not down. We train and encourage our coaches to make the extra effort with positive instruction. Those on the sidelines should remain positive also. If you are not that familiar with the game, ask your coach what you should be cheering for. Sometimes players are confused when the parent side is saying something other than the coach.

### Open Registration

Our programs are open to all children, 4K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade who desire to have fun learning and playing soccer. Interest and enthusiasm are the only criteria for registration and parent volunteer involvement.

### Good Sportsmanship

We create a positive environment based on mutual respect, rather than a win-at-any-cost attitude. All our programs are designed to instill good sportsmanship in every facet of HYSA. Running up the score at all costs defeats the purpose of building positive character in our children. Try to rearrange your team players or change strategies if you are in the lead by several goals. Good Sportsmanship is also encouraged for sideline guests.

### Scheduling

Scheduling is now easier with computer technology but will vary with the number of teams in each level. We do our best to schedule equitably.

Soccer is played under almost all-weather conditions. However, we will not play during lightning storms, snow or ice blizzards, tornadoes, or other dangerous weather conditions. Players may wear layers under their regular uniforms. The HYSA coordinators will call games before teams arrive at the field. If weather conditions develop once the teams are at the field, the referee may delay or cancel games. It is recommended that **coaches and their teams should be at the field 15 minutes before game time to allow coaches to organize their teams and for proper warm-up.**

### Practices

Each team should practice at least once a week **but no more than twice a week**. One scrimmage game may also be scheduled during the first two weeks of practice. We recommend scheduling practices with the convenience of the player and their parents in mind. We would also suggest avoiding Wednesday evenings once school starts, due to church activities. Team players should participate in the practice sessions scheduled by the coaches. Our coaches have volunteered a great deal of time and effort to ensure that your child may participate in WYSA-HYSA soccer. Team players participation is important in building a positive team attitude. Team players that are unruly and disruptive will have to be

monitored by their parents during practice sessions. Should the team player continue to be unruly and disruptive, then disciplinary action will be taken by the HYSA Board of Directors.

### **Uniforms**

It is the referee's responsibility to ensure that all players have proper equipment. Every player is required to wear his or her team's HYSA jersey. Jerseys must be worn to display their number. Shin guards are mandatory during games and practice sessions. Soft padded kneepads are optional. Each player should have a couple pairs of socks of their team's color. During cold weather, sweatshirts/knit tops may be worn under the team jersey. Sweatpants, long underwear, or tights may be worn under shorts, but must be inside socks. No jewelry or sharp objects in the hair will be allowed. No earrings, nor taping of earrings, are allowed during play and must be removed to participate. Shoes are the round soccer style rubber cleats, rubber turf shoes, or athletic shoes. No boots, baseball/football cleats or any dangerous footwear will be allowed. Players are not permitted to play wearing a hard cast or brace. A soft brace is ok if the doctor and parent approve of play.

### **Field Conditions and Coaching**

All fields will have properly anchored goals, nets, and corner flags. All fields will have the proper line markings that are in conjunction with WYSA regulation. All fields will have a coach box for each team properly marked. The coach box is located 10 yards on either side of the mid-field line. Home team coaches are responsible for the game ball. Coaches are required to have each player's registration forms in case of emergency at all practices and games. During games coaches should refrain from coaching, they may however, encourage and support players. Coaches and players not on the field during games need to be in the coach box. Coaches may not march up and down the field with the flow of the game. Standing behind the goal is prohibited during the game. Coaches will be responsible for completing a player card roster to give to the center referee. All parents and spectators will be on the opposite side of the field. There will be no exceptions! Coaches are responsible for the conduct of themselves, players, parents, and spectators. If coaches, players, parents, and spectators cannot control themselves, the referee may suspend play. Misconduct will not be tolerated and may be dealt with by coordinators or the board.

### **Referees**

The number of certified referees required each Saturday is very difficult to find. When possible, a certified center referee and two certified assistant referees will be placed for each U-10, U-12, and U-14 level. U-6 and U-8 games can be refereed by the coaches. Flags will be provided for each game. The referee's job includes, but is not limited to, ensuring safety for the players, proper utilization of the equipment, act a timekeeper, enforce regulations, penalize players, inspect fields, inspect players, observe post-game handshake, and keep score. Prior to the beginning of play the referee will do a coin toss with the captains of each team. Visiting teams will call the toss. The winner of the coin toss will choose which goal they will defend the other team will kick off. Teams will switch sides at half time. Referees may add time for injuries and other lengthy stoppages of play. There will be no penalty kick shootouts during the regular season play. If the game ends in a tie that is how it will be recorded. Final calls are up to the discretion of the referee. Sideline guests or coaches should not interfere with play or the referee during the game. If you do so, next week, you will be refereeing. It is not as easy as some referees make it look.

### **Disputes**

Headwaters Youth Soccer Association (HYSA) Board of Directors will oversee all disputes. The Board will determine the proper course of action, should one be necessary.

### **Special Playing Rules**

Games are conducted in accordance with HYSA by-laws, WYSA, and USYSA rules and regulations, and FIFA Laws. **Slide tackling will NOT be allowed. It is considered dangerous play when not properly done. Slide "tackling" implies that another player is in the area and involved in the play. Sliding to save a ball from going out of play or when no other**

**players are around is allowed.** Goalkeepers may not be charged, interfered with, or impeded in any manner while in possession of the ball. Players may be ejected for kicking or striking the ball while the ball is in the possession of the goalie. A player must strike all balls when going after it and NOT another player. Girls may cross their arms to their chest to protect themselves as long as they do not direct or propel the ball away from themselves, otherwise it will be a handball violation. Hand ball violations are when the ball is directed by a player from their shoulder (shirt sleeve level) down to their hand when the arm is in an unnatural position; it is not a handball just because it hits somebody's arm/hand. This is at the referee's discretion.

### **Ball Sizes**

U-6 = size 3

U-8 = size 3

U-10 = size 4

U-12 = size 4

U-14 = size 5

### **Length of Games**

Level	Halves	Substitutes	Half-Time Break
U-6	10-minute periods (no halves)	Free Substitutions	No half in 10-min periods
U-8	2- 15-minute halves	At 7.5-minute quarters	5 minutes
U-10	2- 20-minute halves	Free Substitutions	5 minutes
U-12	2- 25-minute halves	Free Substitutions	5 minutes
U-14	2- 30-minute halves	Free Substitutions	5 minutes

### **Team Rosters and Players on Fields**

Level	Grades	Max Team Roster	Max # of Players on Field	Goalie	Additional Info/Rules
U-6	4K-K	6 Players	3 Players	NO	
U-8	1-2	8 Players	4 Players	NO	
U-10	3-4	14 Players	7 Players	YES	No punting & retreat back to blue line when goalie has the ball. No off-sides between the blue lines
U-12	5-6	18 Players	9 Players	YES	Goalies can punt. No heading the ball.
U-14	7-8	22 Players	11 Players	YES	Heading and punting allowed.

### **Offside Position**

An offensive player is offside if he/she has less than two defensive players between him/her and the goal (including the goalie) when the ball is kicked to him/her in a pass play situation; NOT when the receiving player gets the ball. A player cannot be offside on his/her side of the field or during a throw-in. This will only be enforced for the U-10, U-12, U-14 age groups. U-10 cannot be offside between the blue lines.

### **Misconduct**

Yellow and Red cards will be used for misconduct. 2 yellows in a game equal a red card and you are ejected from the game, and you must also miss the next game. Referees must report all yellow and red cards to the Referee Administrator. This too is only for U10, U12, and U14. U6 & U8 players with misconduct will be required to have parents at all games. If misconduct continues, the coordinator and/or board may be notified, and action may be required.

### **Board Meetings for Headwaters Youth Soccer Association**

Board meetings are held monthly from April to November. Feel free to attend as input from everyone is always welcomed. If you wish to present a topic, please contact your town's coordinator so it can be added to the agenda. Also, please contact your coordinator to check with time and location of the meetings as these sometimes change.

**Headwaters Youth Soccer Association Board**

John Welsh, President

Brad Camp, Vice President

Ryan Glembin, Sugar Camp Coordinator

Lauren Welsh, Treasurer