

Johnston United Soccer Association (JUSA)

Rules and Regulations

Part 1 - Proof of Age

All players will be called upon to prove his or her legal age. A legal Birth Certificate, a Certified Notification of Birth, a Certificate of Naturalization issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Services, a United States Alien Registration Card or Driver's License shall be sufficient proof of age.

Part 2 - Rules of Play

Section 2.1 The Rules of Play shall be the "Laws of the Game" as published by FIFA with those modifications stated herein. All matches sanctioned by the Johnston United Soccer Association (JUSA) shall abide by the "Laws of the Game" and the modifications as published by the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association (NCYSA) and Johnston United Soccer Association (JUSA).

Section 2.2 All matches shall be played under the Rules and Regulations of the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association, as amended each year.

Section 2.3 Team sizes are established per NCYSA guidelines with the exception of U8 and younger. JUSA allows the use of goalkeepers for these age groups.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Match</u>	<u>Min. Roster Size</u>	<u>Max. Roster Size</u>
U6	5v5	7	10
U7/U8	5v5	7	10
U9/ U10	6v6	8	12
U11/12	8v8	10	14
U13 – U17	11v11	12	18
U18	11v11	12	22

Section 2.4 Only players and coaches are allowed in the team's technical area. The technical area is defined as the area in front of a team's bench extending along the touchline from the midfield stripe to the top of the penalty box.

In Recreation play, both team's coaches and players shall occupy one side of the pitch. Spectators shall occupy the side opposite the teams. In U6 play, one coach per team will be permitted on the spectator's side.

Section 2.5 In Challenge and Classic play, both team's coaches and players shall occupy one side of the pitch. Spectators shall occupy the side opposite the teams.

Section 2.6 No spectators, players or coaches are allowed behind the goals.

Section 2.7 Air horns or other noisemakers are not allowed at JUSA matches.

Part 3 – Conduct

Section 3.1 No coach, player or spectator is to make derogatory remarks or gestures towards match officials, players or spectators. No coach, player or spectator is to use profanity, incite disruptive behavior or act in a manner that is offensive or embarrassing to others at a JUSA event.

Section 3.2 The penalty for any of the above infractions shall be ejection and/or removal from the match and premises. The Director of Discipline and Appeals will investigate the incident in questions and recommend disciplinary action to the Board of Directors.

Section 3.3 The Referee shall have the authority to remove any coach, player or spectator from the premises. The Referee shall also have the authority to end the match if he or she deems it necessary to protect the well-being or safety of the participants, or the spirit of the game. The score at the time of stoppage will stand.

Section 3.4 The consumption and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or unlawful substances is prohibited at all JUSA events.

Part 4 - Matches

Section 4.1 The Referee at all times has the safety of the players as his or her primary concern and shall enforce the "Laws of the Game."

Section 4.2 Any team delaying the start of a scheduled match more than 10 minutes without the sanction of the proper authority shall forfeit the game to the opponent by a score of 1-0. NCYSA rules for the minimum number of players applies.

Part 5 – Match Participation

Section 5.1 In Recreation play, it is required that all youth play no less than one-half of each match whether it is a scrimmage, friendly, regular season or tournament match.

Section 5.2 In Challenge play, it is required that all youth play no less than one-half of each match as long as the player has made every effort to attend all practices during the week.

Section 5.3 In Classic play, match participation is not guaranteed by the Rules and Regulations of the JUSA.

Section 5.4 Parents shall be made aware of these policies at the beginning of each season.

Part 6 – Protests and Appeals

Section 6.1 Only violations of the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and FIFA "Laws of the Game" are subject to consideration for action. Missed calls or the misinterpretation of rules are not cause for protests and appeals.

Section 6.2 Protests or Appeals are to be in writing and delivered to the Director of Discipline and Appeals with two calendar days following the date of the disciplinary decision being protested or appealed. With the written protest or appeal, a \$100 fee must be paid. The fee shall be returned if the protest or appeal is upheld. The fee shall be retained by the JUSA if the protest or appeal is denied.

Section 6.3 The Director of Discipline and Appeals shall investigate the cause for the protest or appeal and consider all information arising out of cause for the protest or appeal. The Director of Discipline and Appeals will then render a decision and convey, in writing, to the party initiating the protest or appeal his or her finding. The finding shall be filed with Secretary of JUSA.

Section 6.4 Any decision rendered by the Director of Discipline and Appeals may be appealed to the full Board of Directors. Such appeal must be in writing and postmarked within 48 hours of the receipt of the finding of the Director of Discipline and Appeals.

An additional \$100 fee must accompany such appeal. The Secretary shall then set a date, with concurrence from the President, for a hearing before the Board of Directors, of the appeal of the decision of the Director of Discipline and Appeals. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board of Directors will render a final decision either upholding or denying the appeal.

Section 6.5 No state association, commissioner, league official, coach, team, referee, player or parent may invoke the aid of any lawyer or courts without first exhausting all available remedies within the body of organized soccer (i.e. NCYSA).

Part 7 – Disciplinary Rulings

Section 7.1 The Director of Discipline and Appeals will investigate all disciplinary incidents and render all disciplinary actions with approval from the Board of Directors.

Section 7.2 Players guilty of fighting before, during or after matches shall receive two game suspensions.

Section 7.3 Players, coaches, referees, team officials or spectators guilty of using profanity, either by word or sign, against other players, coaches, spectators, referees or any league official shall receive a two game suspension.

Section 7.4 Players guilty of making threatening gestures or use threatening language toward other players, coaches, spectators, referees or any league official shall receive a two game suspension.

Section 7.5 Players, coaches, referees, team officials or spectators guilty of pushing or striking any coach, referee, team official or spectator shall receive a one year suspension.

Section 7.6 Red Card offenses to players, and ejections of coaches, team officials, and spectators and the infractions stated in Sections 7.2,7.3,7.4 and 7.5, shall be disciplined according to the following schedule in addition to standards set down by the FIFA Laws of the Game and as modified by NCYSA:

- a. First Red Card Offense or Ejection– The offender will be suspended for one game, a letter will be sent to the offender, NCYSA, and other soccer organizations affected by the infraction and he or she will be placed on probation for the remainder of the season.
- b. Second Red Card Offense or Ejection – The offender will be suspended for one calendar year from the date of the infraction.

The standards and rulings set forth in Section 7.6 apply per season (Fall or Spring).

Section 7.7 Classic and Challenge coaches must report all Red Cards and ejections to the Director of Discipline and Appeals that occur during regular season and tournament matches.

Section 7.8 The Board of Directors reserves the right to implement special rules on coaches and players who have displayed unsportsmanlike conduct, and to impose penalties for failing to abide by said rules. The Board of Directors also reserve the right to suspend for life players, coaches, team officials, referees, spectators, league officials and parents for blatant violations of JUSA Rules and Regulations.

Part 8 Special Rules for Challenge and Classic Teams

Section 8.1 The Director of Challenge, and the Director of Classic shall be responsible

for overseeing all Challenge and Classic play, respectively, and represent JUSA to NCYSA.

Section 8.2 JUSA provides for two levels of travel soccer teams, Classic and Challenge.

a. Classic soccer is the highest level of league play in North Carolina. It is the mission of the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association (NCYSA) classic program to provide an environment to foster play at this level. JUSA classic soccer provides an opportunity for players to participate at this highest level. There is a considerable time and financial commitment required from the players and families participating in Classic soccer. Players typically train for 10 months per year in the U-11 through U-14 age groups, and five months in the U15-U18 age groups. In addition to competitive league play, JUSA classic teams will participate in tournaments to enhance the competitive experience. Classic teams typically enter two or three tournaments per season (four or six tournaments per year for those teams playing with the U11- U14 ages. The Director of Coaching, with assistance from the Director of Classic, shall determine how many Classic teams will compete in each age division dependent upon the pool of talent available in the Challenge and Recreation divisions. If the DOC deems there is a large enough pool of talent to field two competitive Classic soccer teams, an A team and a B team will be fielded.

b. Challenge soccer is designed to be a mid-level competitive youth soccer program filling the competitive gap between recreational soccer and classic soccer. Technical development, tactical understanding, and a positive fun environment is the focus of challenge level soccer. Challenge teams typically train for eight months a year in the U-10 through the U-14 age groups. Some tournament play is expected; however, this varies among teams. The Director of Coaching, with assistance from the Director of Challenge, shall determine how many Challenge teams will compete in each age division dependent upon the pool of talent available in the Recreation division. The DOC will then conduct a draft to determine which Challenge team a player joins. There will be no A, B and C..... Challenge teams.

Section 8.3 The Director of Coaching will coordinate and schedule tryouts for all Challenge and Classic teams. Players shall be selected for a team by means of a tryout before the Fall season begins. Players earning a spot on a Challenge or Classic team have earned that spot on that team for the Fall and Spring season.

Section 8.4 The Director of Coaching may schedule supplemental tryouts as he or she sees fit.

Section 8.5 Challenge and Classic teams shall follow NCYSA Recruiting and Transfer Guidelines.

Section 8.6 Should a Classic team experience multiple-rostered players, a team official shall notify the Director of Classic as to the player's needs so appropriate action can be taken.

Section 8.7. Recreation, Challenge and Classic teams that choose to compete in NCYSA "Cup" events shall deposit with JUSA prior to the "Cup" event an amount of money equal to the maximum fine that NCYSA may levy for forfeiture of any "Cup" matches. After the team participates in the "Cup" event, the money will be refunded to the team.

Section 8.8 JUSA will not be responsible for any debts incurred by any Challenge or Classic team.

Section 8.9 All Challenge and Classic teams shall wear uniforms approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 8.10 All Challenge and Classic team transfers, whether interclub or intraclub, must be approved by the Director of Coaching. JUSA rules on transfers are governed by the NCYSA and are therefore limited to five (5) per seasonal year. The addition of a non-carded player to a team is not considered a transfer. NCYSA imposes various playing restrictions and fees for transferred players. Details are contained in the NCYSA Classic Manual.

Section 8.11 Challenge and Classic divisions have additional rules and regulations that are unique to each program. These additional rules and regulations are defined in the NCYSA Challenge and Classic handbooks. All rules and regulations listed in these handbooks shall fall under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors. The Directors of Challenge and Classic and the Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining the most current copy of the Challenge and Classic handbooks.

Section 8.12 Naming Conventions

Boys Classic teams are annotated by the birth year followed by Johnston and United or Arsenal – for example, 92 Johnston United. Girls Classic teams are annotated by the birth year followed by Johnston and United Pride or Arsenal Pride. United indicates the highest skill level.

Boys and Girls Challenge teams are annotated by the U followed by age, JUSA, and team name – for example, U12 JUSA Revolution. Names do not indicate skill level. The Board of Directors has final approval of all team names.

Section 8.13 Uniforms

All travel teams are required to wear the JUSA board approved club uniform. The club colors are red, white and black. A uniform committee, made up of interested Classic and Challenge parents and administrators, will choose the club uniform. The uniform committee will meet in March prior to the Fall season when the uniform is to be introduced. This committee will then make its recommendation in April to the Board of Directors for approval.

Part 9 Fees

All players are required to register prior to the beginning of each season (Fall and Spring). The registration fee covers the following expenses for each player: NCYSA registration, insurance, administration fees, grounds maintenance and referee fees.

Section 9.1 Fee Schedule

The following registration fees apply to each level of JUSA soccer.

Recreation	\$75
Challenge	\$130
Classic	\$150

Part 10 Coaches

Section 10.1 All coaches, at the Recreation, Challenge and Classic levels, will be named by the Director of Coaching and report directly to him or her. The Director of Coaching may with or without cause relieve any coach from his or her duties at any time.

Section 10.2 All Board of Directors, additional directors, team officials, coaches, referees, employees and contractors of JUSA club shall submit an online registration to NCYSA's Risk Management program. These individuals are also subject to additional background checks and drug testing. The Director of Risk Management will oversee this process.

Section 10.3 All persons desiring to coach a JUSA Recreation team must submit a coaching application form to the JUSA Director of Coaching between May 1 and August 1 for the following Fall and Spring seasons. All persons desiring to coach a JUSA Challenge or Classic team must submit a coaching application form to the JUSA Director of Coaching between January 1 and May 31 for the following Fall and Spring seasons. The Director of Coaching reserves the right to extend the time period set forth by Section 10.3.

Section 10.4 The Director of Coaching shall review all applications with assistance from the Directors of Recreation, Challenge and Classic. The Directors shall investigate the qualifications of all applicants. The following items will be considered in the evaluation process of the candidates:

- a. Coaching experience
- b. Coaching licenses
- c. General soccer knowledge and experience
- d. Character and reputation of the candidate
- e. Review of training sessions and matches.

Section 10.5 Recreation coaches must attend and complete a NCYSA Youth Module Clinic during his or her first season as coach of a Recreation team provided JUSA hosts and covers the cost of the Youth Module.

Section 10.6 Challenge coaches must hold a NCYSA "E" License or obtain an "E" License within one year of his or her selection as a Challenge Coach. JUSA will cover the cost of the "E" license.

Section 10.7 Classic coaches must hold a NCYSA "E" before he or she will be considered for a Classic coaching position. Classic coaches must also hold a NCYSA "D" License or obtain a "D" License within one year of his or her selection as a Classic Coach. JUSA will cover the cost of the "D" license.

Section 10.8 Applicants for Classic or Challenge team coaching position who do not have a current "E" or "D" license but have equivalent experience, may appeal to the DOC for an exception to the requirement. The DOC will make recommendations for coaches to the JUSA Board of Directors for approval. Any Board of Directors members also applying for a coaching position may not be involved in evaluation discussions for themselves or another coach of their age bracket. All head and assistant coaches must complete all paperwork that is required by both NCYSA and JUSA.

Section 10.9

Player evaluations should be a continuous process. Each Classic and Challenge coach is required to complete one player evaluation per year. The evaluation can be either verbal or written, but must be private. It is recommended that a second evaluation be conducted near the conclusion of the spring season in order to prepare the player and parent for the upcoming tryouts.

Section 10.10 The Director of Coaching will also conduct evaluations of coaches during the course of a season(s). Parents are also encouraged to provide evaluations of coaches.

Evaluations by parents shall be forwarded directly to the Director of Coaching, and are exclusively for the coach's and Director of Coaching's use. Evaluations shall be signed by the parent. This evaluation should not be used as an opportunity to voice serious complaints or grievances. Any parent who has a serious complaint concerning an action of a coach should contact the Director of Coaching.

Part 11 Team Administrative Policies Section 11.1 Team and Club Officials

Director of Coaching – The DOC's responsibilities include overseeing the development of coaches and players from the Recreation through Classic level. The DOC shall work with all coaches to further develop their understanding of the game and to improve their coaching skills. The DOC shall also be responsible for identifying the specific needs of all players from the Recreation through Classic level and see that they are receiving the proper level of technical and tactical training. The DOC is responsible for organizing and hosting annual recreation coach training clinics – the NCYSA Youth Module, and providing Challenge and Classic coaches with the information necessary to obtain the required NCYSA coaching licenses.

Coach - The coach's responsibilities include:

- a. Provide training sessions for the team during the season at a minimum of two times per week for Classic and Challenge teams.
- b. Prompt attendance and preparation for all practices is required. The coach must notify the Team Manager prior to any absence from practice. Every attempt to make up the missed practice must be made.
- c. Maintain a sufficient number of players to field a competitive team.
- d. Select new players for the team as needed through the approved tryout process.
- e. Select an assistant coach if desired.
- f. Select tournaments.
- g. Prepare and present evaluations for each player.
- h. When requested, attend team meetings upon reasonable notice by the team manager.
- i. Follow all JUSA Policies.
- j. Sign and adhere to the JUSA Coach's Agreement.
- k. Provide a copy of coach's resume to be kept on file.

Team Manager - The Team Manager shall be the official team representative. Managers can be nominated by the coach and approved by the team. Responsibilities include:

- a. Designate team volunteers and delegate responsibilities as needed.
- b. Ensure that all player passes and required JUSA and NCYSA forms are properly executed including: medical waivers and insurance information.
- c. Coordinate required additional paperwork and tournament applications.
- d. Serve as the primary liaison between the coach and the parents of the players.
- e. Participate in the development of the team budget.
- f. Arrange, schedule and conduct all meetings with parents.
- g. Distribute practice and game schedules and keep clear communication with families and coach.
- h. Obtain team supplies, i.e. uniforms and equipment.
- i. Ensure referees are paid at each game.
- j. Appoint a team representative in the event that you are not able to attend a game or tournament.

Treasurer - The team shall appoint a team treasurer to be responsible for its financial management. It is recommended that neither the manager nor the manager's spouse shall

be the treasurer. It is the responsibility of the treasurer to ensure the following:

- a. Develop budget with the head coach and manager to address all team expenses for which money is collected from the player's parents.
- b. Be responsible for all team income and expenses.
- c. Collect payments from player families.
- d. Keep accurate records and be able to show for sources of income and expenses.
- e. Provide a copy of team financial summary for any team member who requests it.
- f. Keep all individual family information confidential.
- g. Make reasonable effort to help families in need with an alternative payment arrangement.

Part 12 Precedence

FIFA and NCYSA rules take precedence over JUSA Rules and Regulations.