

2021 GYSL CALENDAR

A league dedicated to being Good News in the way sports organization, training, attitude and community involvement is approached.

Wednesday, August 18th -

- Coaches Orientation at 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm (Two Rivers Bible Church Facility)
- Team assignments, equipment and instruction will be provided

Saturday, August 21st -

- Coach training for PeeWee 10 am, Juniors 11 am (Lions Park)

Week of August 23rd -

- Practice begins this week

Saturday, September 18th -

- First game with Opening Ceremony: Opening Ceremony starts promptly at 9am (Please have students be there between 8:15 am-8:30 am)
- 7 Games scheduled in 6 weeks (JUNIORS ONLY)

Sunday, September 19th -

- Pictures taken at Two Rivers Bible Church
- Schedule will be handed out at a later date

Saturday, October 9th -

- Junior make up games (Come & Take It weekend)

Saturday, October 30th -

- Last game of season
- Award Ceremony for each division.
- All student games should end by noon(ish)
- Junior Division All Star game will follow Junior closing ceremony
- The Senior closing ceremony will follow the Senior Division Championship game.

WELCOME:

Gonzales Youth Soccer League would like to welcome you and thank you for coaching a team. You play a critical role in the success of this league and we would like to help you as much as we can. Please call if you have questions at any time.

GETTING STARTED:

You will receive a list of each player on your team from your Division Team Lead. We recommend you make a list of the names/phone numbers of your players and parents to give to your parents. This allows them to be able to get in touch with one another and learn everyone's name. AS SOON as you receive your player's names/numbers, please contact them to introduce yourself and set up practice days/times. The parents start getting anxious if they don't hear from you. If you are fairly flexible on the practice schedule, you may want to have a team meeting first to get info from the parents on potential conflicts such as dance, church, etc. Most teams practice twice a week which is highly recommended. An hour is standard practice time for younger teams. If you cannot get in touch with a player, or they have not come to practice before the season starts, please be sure to contact your Division Team Lead. Your team lead will give you a copy of your game schedule once it has been determined. Please make copies for each of the parents.

RESCHEDULING/FORFEITS:

Games may be cancelled due to bad weather. Please call your Division Team Lead to see if games will be cancelled.

TEAM PARENT:

You will have plenty of things to do just being the coach. Most coaches ask for a parent to help coordinate other activities, such as pictures, post season party, refreshment schedule, communicating game/practice changes etc. We encourage parent participation and it will make your job a lot easier if you don't have to do everything. If you don't have a parent willing to assume all tasks, you might ask for several volunteers one to handle specific responsibilities, such as, pictures, arranging trophies, etc.

REFRESHMENTS:

Parents may want to provide a healthy half time snack (cut oranges or other fruit) and/or perhaps a treat after each game. Once you have a schedule of games, parents should sign up to bring refreshments. Please stress that parents should have plenty of water for their child at practice and games.

PICTURES:

We will let you know the time your pictures are scheduled to be taken.

REFEREES:

Please be an excellent role model to your players and parents by treating the referee with respect, even if you disagree with a call. These young refs (and the adult refs as well) are providing a critical service to youth soccer and we need them to continue providing this service. It's a tough job and we encourage you to support them. If you don't understand or disagree with a call, the appropriate thing to do is wait until half time or after the game to discuss it in private with the ref. We will not tolerate any abuse or disrespect directed towards the referees.

GAME BEHAVIOR:

As coach, you are responsible for the behavior of your players and parents. Please encourage fair play and good behavior. Sideline yelling should be positive and encouraging. The referee and board members have the authority to evict adults from the games. Coaches can receive a red card, which means you would have to leave the game immediately and not coach the next game as well. Please make sure your parents stay several feet back off the sideline. This ensures that the referee/linesman can see when the ball is out of play, allow room for throw-ins, and make substitutions clearer. No one should stand behind the goals or on the goal ends of the field. We ask that everyone refrain from smoking and drinking alcohol at practice or games. Also, please be aware of the language used around players and families, as being a positive role model is an important part of coaching. We also expect coaches to treat their fellow coaches with respect, and if you have any concerns, to discuss them in private and in a respectful manner. There should be absolutely no confrontations between adults anywhere on the fields/complex.

EQUIPMENT:

Shin guards need to be worn at every practice. Soccer shoes are not required. Regular sneakers are OK, especially for younger players. Baseball cleats are not allowed. Socks must be worn over the shin guards. Players should bring water and the correct size ball to each practice. The League will provide the socks, jerseys and shorts. The parents will need to provide shin guards, shoes and a ball for children in Peewee and Junior teams. As coach, you will be provided with cones and portable goals for practice. The association has a limited amount of portable goals available for loan. Older teams may want to have alternate shirts to distinguish the two teams during scrimmages but that is your option. The home team (distinguished on the schedule as the first team listed) needs to provide the game ball during games. Be sure it is the right size and properly inflated. No jewelry of any kind may be worn at a game. A whistle will be provided. The players need to learn to stop play when the whistle is blown.

TRAINING & INFORMATION:

The CAYSA and STYSA (South Texas Youth Soccer Association) web-sites have information on coach training in the area as well as other information and links. They can be found at www.caysa.org, and www.stxsoccer.org. The Laws of the Game may be found at www.fifa.com. Please look at www.soccerhelp.com (tons of great info for starting coaches). If you go on YouTube and do a search for soccer for 6 year olds, soccer drills, etc, you can find great ideas. Under STYSA regulations, all coaches U11 and up are required to complete a coaching clinic and obtain a coaching license within one year of beginning to coach in order to remain a coach.

BACKGROUND CHECKS:

All coaches/asst. coaches are required to complete and pass a criminal background check. Failure to submit to the check will automatically make the adult ineligible to volunteer/coach.

CARDS - GAME, PENALTY, PLAYER (AGES 10-13 ONLY):

A yellow card is held up towards the offending player by the referee as a warning. If a player receives a red card due to more serious misconduct, the player must leave the game and cannot play the next game as well. The player cannot be replaced. Therefore, the team will play one player short for the rest of the current game. Receiving two yellow cards in one game equals a red card for the player, or three yellows during the season equals a red. Red card consequences are ensued.

MISCONDUCT:

Penalty cards are generally not given to younger players. Instead, the referee may elect to speak to the child. However, if they continue to play in a dangerous or unsporting manner, they could be removed from the game. If you have a player who is expressing poor sporting behavior, it is correct to pull him/her out for a while and explain the misconduct to them and the consequences of that behavior. You may sit players out for misconduct, but the length of time should be appropriate for their age.

SOCCER TERMS & RULES (SIMPLIFIED):

- To start play: A captain or two (rotate the children through this honor) should be chosen each game to go out for the coin toss. The ball is placed in the center of the field and the appropriate team kicks off. The ball must go forward when kicked. Opposing players should stand back to allow room to kick (distance varies by age group). Same thing applies after each goal. Teams switch sides each half.
- Throw-in: A throw-in occurs when the ball has gone out of bounds on the sideline. The team who touched the ball last must turn the ball over to the other team. The referee/linesman will indicate who gets the ball by pointing in the direction that the ball will be

heading. In other words, if you are defending the north goal and he/she points north, the other team will be taking the throw-in. If he/she points south, it's your ball. A throw-in must be done with both feet on the ground, and the ball is thrown from behind the head directly over the head using two hands. This should be practiced. With older children, an incorrect throw-in turns the ball over to the other team. With the younger ones, they will be told to do it over.

- Goal kick/corner kick: These are called when the ball goes out along either goal line. If the defending team touched the ball last, it will be a corner kick. The referee will point to the appropriate corner. The idea is to kick the ball from the corner to somewhere in front of the goal. If the offensive team touched it last, it will be a goal kick. The ball is placed on the line in front of the goal and either the goalie or a defender kicks it to start play. The referee will point towards the goal line to indicate a goal kick.
- Offside: A difficult concept for many adults, much less children. Most often it means the ball cannot be passed from one offensive player to another unless there are at least two defenders between the front offensive player and the goal when the ball is kicked. Generally that means the goalkeeper and one defender must be behind your offensive player if you want to pass the ball to that player. There are several other situations that also can result in an offside call. However, players are allowed to be in an offside position on the field if they do not interfere with play or gain an advantage from being in that position. This often results in much jumping up and down and screaming "offsides" from the sideline when the referee correctly does not call it. Fortunately, offside is not called in ages 4-6 and ages 7-9 (although you should not station an offensive player down by the goal as a designated scorer). Blatant disregard of the offside law may result in a penalty for ages 7-9. The FIFA website (see Training above) shows the many possibilities under the Laws of the Game regarding offside. Coaches in older age groups should definitely look at and be familiar with it.

Again, we are very glad to have you as a coach. Please let us know if there is anything else you need to know and we hope you have a fun and rewarding season!

GYSL GENERAL RULES OF PLAY

BALL SIZE:

Ages 4-6=Size 3

Ages 7-9=Size 4

Ages 10-13=Size 4

NUMBER OF PLAYERS:

Ages 4-6: 4v4(no goalkeeper)

Ages 7-9: 5v5 (with goalkeeper: total of 6 players on field)

Ages 10-12: 6v6 (with goalkeeper: total of 7 players on field)

SUBSTITUTES:

Coaches must play each registered player that is present at least one-half of the game and in each half of the game unless unable to do so due to player's illness or injury or for disciplinary reasons. In the event that a player is present but will not be playing, the coach must inform the referee and the opposing coach as to the reason that player will not participate.

The prior permission of the referee is required in order to make any substitution at any time, except at the resumption of play after the half time break:

- On a throw-in (by the team in possession)
- On a goal kick (by either team)
- After any goal (by either team)
- After stoppage of play for an injury (either team)
- At half time (by either team)
- After a caution (the player receiving the caution)

EQUIPMENT:

All players will wear shin guards which are commercially produced and specifically designed to provide protection to the shins. No player will be allowed to play with a hard cast (padded or otherwise), nor will any player be allowed to play with any brace (knee or otherwise) that contains exposed metal or hard plastics, unless it is wrapped with a minimum of ½ inch high-density foam wrapping or the manufacturer's recommended protective covering.

Players may wear sliding, bike, cyclist, or tight fitting pants which do not protrude below the top of the knee and are the same color as the shorts. This does not prohibit players from wearing loose fitting, long-legged sweat pants or tights when it is cold or goalkeepers from wearing goalkeeper pants which may be tight and have padding.

Bandannas and jewelry of any style may not be worn during any game. Only preapproved jerseys that are provided by the league will be allowed.

REFEREES:

The referee's judgment decisions shall be final in all matters concerning the rules governing the playing of the game, the playability of the field and the appropriateness of the uniforms.

DURATION OF THE GAME:

- Ages 4-6: Two 15 minute halves (A Rotation every 5 Minutes for a total of 6 rotations)
- Ages 7-9: Two 21 minute quarters (A Rotations every 7 minutes for a total of 6 rotations)
- Ages 10-13: Two 25 minute halves

* The half-time interval shall be five minutes.

Charging the Goalkeeper:

There shall be no charging or intentional or reckless contact with the goalkeeper in any manner whatsoever. Any such conduct shall be considered as "dangerous play" at the least and be punished accordingly.

Forfeits:

The referee shall declare a forfeit if a team has fewer than the requisite number of players on the field ready to play within a reasonable time after the game was scheduled to start. The reasonable number of players shall be 4 players if playing 6v6. For 5v5, 3 players must be present. For 3v3, 2 players should be present. Coaches at the younger age groups should accommodate the situation to insure that the game is played by sharing players.

Offside:

Offside rule applies in **Ages 10-13**. However, no player may play in an obvious offside position in front of or near the goal such as a designated scorer..

Penalties for fouls:

Ages 7-9 There shall be no penalty shots for fouls within the penalty area. All fouls shall be penalized with indirect kicks.

From the point of taking an indirect kick or corner kick, opponents shall be no closer than the following distance from the ball:

- 6v6: nine yards
- 5v5: seven yards
- 4v4: three yards

Coaches on Field:

Ages 4-6 coaches may be on the field to facilitate substitutions and direct their players. They may not interfere in the play of the ball. All other coaches must stay off the field unless there is an injury to a player and their assistance is needed.

Ages 4-6

- Two 15 minute halves (A Rotation every 5 Minutes for a total of 6 rotations)
- The half-time interval shall be five minutes.
- 4 v 4 (4 players on field from each team)

- Ball size: 3
- No goalkeeper
- No offside penalty
- No direct penalty kicks
- No slide tackles
- Throw-ins
- No score is kept

Games can be played with fewer players on the field if necessary to avoid being unable to play due to a lack of players. Please discuss this option with the other coach.

No referees needed, coaches call their own games

If you need to cancel a game, please let the other coach and your Division Team Lead coordinator know as soon as possible so it can be rescheduled.

Ages 7-9

- Two 21 minute quarters (A Rotations every 7 minutes for a total of 6 rotations)
- The half-time interval shall be five minutes.
- 5 v 5 (includes goalkeeper: total of 6 players on field)
- Ball size: 4
- No offside penalty- however players should not be stationed near the goal or be "designated scorers"
- No direct penalty kicks
- No slide tackles
- Throw-ins implemented
- Goal kicks implemented
- Corner kicks implemented
- Hand ball implemented

- Score is kept and the game can end with a tie.

From the point of taking a kick or corner kick, opponents shall be no closer than the following distance from the ball:

5v5: seven yards

Games can be played with fewer players on the field if necessary to avoid being unable to play due to a lack of players-talk to the other coach and the referee.

If you need to cancel a game, please let the other coach and Division Team Lead know as soon as possible so it can be rescheduled.

Ages 10-13

- 2 - 25 minute halves
- The half-time interval shall be five minutes.
- 6v 6 including goalkeeper: total of 7 players on field
- Ball size: 4
- Offside penalty
- Direct penalty kicks allowed
- Scores are kept

Games ending with a tie, one- 10 minute period will be played, if the score is still tied each Kicks from the penalty mark will be taken. The referee will toss a coin and the team captain of the winning toss decides whether to take the first of second kick. Both teams will take 5 kicks alternating by teams. This will be done until a winning team is determined.

From the point of taking a kick or corner kick, opponents shall be no closer than the following distance from the ball:

6v6: nine yards

Games can be played with fewer players on the field if necessary to avoid being unable to play due to a lack of players-talk to the other coach and the referee.

If you need to cancel a game, please let the other coach and Division Team Lead know as soon as possible so it can be rescheduled.

Coach's Code of Ethics

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of any personal or parental desire to win.

I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development within the same age group.

I will do my best to provide a safe environment for my players during practice or games by checking player equipment and field equipment, and by insuring the area is free of any alcohol, tobacco or drugs.

I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players; making sure that all my players are fit for practice and competition; educating them on the technical, tactical, physical and psychological demands of the game for their level within the appropriate number of training sessions (not to exceed two) per week.

I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for the age level with which I am teaching while working in the spirit of cooperation with the officials, administrators, other coaches and spectators to provide the maximum opportunity for development, sportsmanship, and appreciation for the game.

I will supervise and control our practice and playing environment so as to avoid injury utilizing and teaching proper safety techniques and methods of play within the rules and policies set forth by the local, state and national organizations of soccer.

I will be sensitive to the player's needs, allow players to experience all positions, recognize the need to have fun and receive positive feedback, teach in the spirit of enjoyment and learning, and strive to help each player reach their full potential and assist them to be prepared for the next stage of development.

I will be knowledgeable in the rules of the game, encourage moral and social responsibility, and teach this to my players and their parents with my own behavior and positive guidance.

I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play, sportsmanship, maintaining integrity within our sport and being a good role model. I will be aware of the language use around players and families.

I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, keeping the games in perspective, and that the game is for the children not the adults. I will remember that we are here to help the children have fun and learn. I will help the parents and other spectators remember this as well.

I will agree to continue my coaching education to stay within licensing guidelines for the age group I am coaching.

Coach's Name

Signature

Date