

MCAS Iwakuni Semper Fit Youth Sports Soccer Bylaws

Effective Date: [Insert Date]

Supersedes: All previous versions

1. Authority and Applicability

These bylaws are issued under the authority of:

- **MCO 1710.30A** (Marine Corps Child and Youth Programs)
- **NAVMC 1710.14** (Youth Sports Program Operations and Resource Management Protocol)
- **NAVMC 1710.1–13** (Protocols for background checks, child abuse prevention, inclusion, health, safety, supervision, professional development, etc.)
- **DoDI 6060.02** (Child Development Programs)
- **DoDI 6060.04** (Youth Services Policy)
- **DoDI 1402.05** (Background Checks)
- **US Youth Soccer (USYS) Policy and FIFA Laws of the Game**
- **National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) standards**
- **MCCS/Semper Fit Youth Sports policies**
- **Installation-specific directives**

All MCAS Iwakuni Youth Sports activities, staff, volunteers, and participants must comply with these bylaws and all referenced governing documents.

2. Program Structure and Age Groups

- **Age groups** are determined by USYS standards (age as of July 31 of the current year), but MCAS Iwakuni retains its local division structure and small-sided formats for all age groups.
- **Divisions:**
 - 5–6 (4v4/5v5)
 - 7–9 (8v8)

- 10–12 (8v8)
 - 13–15 (11v11 or 9v9)
 - **No-cut policy** for recreational sports; all eligible youth may participate.
 - **No standings or scores** are kept for ages 9 and under.
 - **Equitable playing time** is required for all participants.
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3. Eligibility and Registration

- **Eligibility:** Open to dependents of active duty, retired military, DoD civilians, and authorized local nationals per DoDI 6060.04 and installation policy.
 - **Registration:**
 - All registration and communication is conducted via **Eventbrite**.
 - Registration must collect all required health, emergency, and special needs information.
 - All records must be maintained in accordance with NAVMC 1710.10 and DoD/USMC records management protocols.
 - Parent/guardian must sign all required forms before participation.
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4. Background Checks and Supervision

- **All staff, coaches, and volunteers** with regular contact with youth must complete a Tier 1 background check (FBI fingerprint, state checks, installation records check) before unsupervised access to children.
- **Line of Sight Supervision (LOSS):**
 - Individuals awaiting final adjudication may serve only under LOSS and must be visually identified (e.g., red apparel).
 - Volunteers and contractors must always be under direct supervision until cleared.
- **Annual self-certification (DD 2981)** is required for all staff/volunteers.

- **Two-adult rule:** Two cleared adults must be present at all activities. No one-on-one unsupervised contact is permitted.
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5. Training and Certification

- **All coaches and volunteers** must complete NAYS certification (or equivalent DoD-approved youth sports training) prior to participation and annually thereafter.
 - **Required training topics:**
 - Child abuse prevention, identification, and reporting
 - Positive guidance and appropriate touch
 - Inclusion and accommodation
 - Emergency procedures
 - CPR/First Aid (at least one coach per team)
 - Concussion awareness and management
 - Sport-specific rules and safety
 - Working with athletes with special challenges
 - **Training must be documented** and tracked in the approved system (e.g., Ethos LMS).
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6. Child Abuse Prevention, Reporting, and Positive Guidance

- **Mandated Reporting:** All personnel are mandated reporters and must report suspected abuse to FAP, PMO, and CWS within 24 hours.
- **Reporting process** must be outlined in the parent handbook and staff training.
- **Positive guidance:**
 - Corporal punishment, humiliation, isolation, or negative discipline is strictly prohibited.
 - Only positive guidance and appropriate touch protocols are permitted.
 - All staff and volunteers must be trained annually on these protocols.

7. Inclusion and Accommodation

- **No eligible child may be excluded** based on disability or identified need.
- **Reasonable accommodations** must be made for all participants.
- **Inclusion Action Team (IAT):**
 - For complex cases, the IAT process must be followed as outlined in NAVMC 1710.5.
 - All requests for accommodation must be documented and reviewed.

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8. Health, Safety, and Risk Management

- **Immunizations and Health:**
 - All participants must provide proof of age-appropriate immunizations (or valid medical/religious exemption) per NAVMC 1710.4 and DoDI 6060.02.
 - Annual health screening is required for staff and volunteers.
- **Exclusion for illness:**
 - Follow NAVMC 1710.4 exclusion criteria for communicable diseases and illness.
- **Daily safety checks** of fields/facilities are required before each event.
- **Incident reporting:**
 - All injuries, illnesses, and incidents must be reported and documented per NAVMC 1710.4 and NAVMC 1710.14.
- **Concussion protocol:**
 - Immediate removal from play for suspected concussion.
 - Medical clearance required to return.
 - Coaches must complete annual concussion training.
- **No tobacco, alcohol, or drugs** at any youth sports event.

- **AED and first aid kit** must be on site for all activities.
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9. Records Management

- **All required records** (background checks, training, health, incident reports, registration, accommodations) must be maintained in accordance with NAVMC 1710.10 and DoD/USMC records management protocols.
 - **Records must be available** for inspection at any time.
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10. Oversight, Inspection, and Accreditation

- **Annual unannounced higher headquarters inspection** is required.
 - **Multidisciplinary team inspection** and local inspections must be conducted as required by NAVMC 1710.6 and DoDI 6060.04.
 - **Corrective action plans** must be developed for any deficiencies.
 - **Certification to operate** must be displayed in a visible location.
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11. Program Ratios and Supervision

- **Minimum staff-to-youth ratio:** 1:15 for school-age/youth sports, or as required by NAYS or national standards.
 - **Two-adult rule:** Two cleared adults must be present at all activities.
 - **No one-on-one unsupervised contact** between adults and youth is permitted.
 - **Coaches as referees** are permitted in the 5–6 division as a local exception, but must be trained and supervised.
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12. Emergency Preparedness

- **Written emergency plans** for fire, severe weather, active shooter, and medical emergencies are required.

- **Monthly drills** and documentation are required.
 - **Emergency contact information** must be collected and updated annually.
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13. Parent Engagement and Communication

- **Parent orientation** and handbooks must be provided before participation.
 - **Parent Board** must be established to provide input and recommendations.
 - **Eventbrite** is the official platform for registration and communication, but all data must be managed in compliance with DoD/USMC privacy and records requirements.
 - **Parent and coach codes of ethics** must be signed and enforced.
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14. Division-Specific Rules

Less than 7 Divisions

- Format: 4v4/5v5, min 4 to start, coach-as-ref permitted (local exception)
- Ball: Size 3; Field: 25×40 yds; Goals: 4×6 ft
- Duration: 2×15 min halves, running clock, 5-min halftime
- No scores/standings; no overtime
- No heading; no slide tackling; teaching second-chance throw-ins

7–9 Division

- Format: 8v8, min 6 to start
- Ball: Size 4; Field: 30×60 yds; Goals: 6×12 ft
- Duration: 2×20 min halves, running clock, 5-min halftime
- No scores/standings; no overtime
- No heading; no slide tackling; first improper throw-in retaken, second to opponent

10–12 Division

- Format: 9v9, min 7 to start
- Ball: Size 4; Field: 50×80 yds; Goals: 7×19 ft

- Duration: 2×25 min halves, running clock, 5-min halftime
- Scores/standings kept; no overtime in regular season (ties stand)
- Playoffs: 5-min OT, then Kicks from the Penalty Mark (5 per team) if needed
- No heading; no slide tackling

13–15 Division

- Format: 11v11 or 9v9 (local adaptation), min 7 to start
- Ball: Size 5; Field: 54×106 yds; Goals: 7×24 ft
- Duration: 2×30 min halves, running clock, 5-min halftime
- Scores/standings kept; regular season no overtime (ties stand)
- Playoffs: 10-min OT (2-min halftime), then Kicks from the Penalty Mark (5 per team) if needed
- Proper slide tackling allowed, heading permitted

15. Codes of Ethics

Parent Code of Ethics (NAVMC 1710.14 Appendix A)

- Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
- Place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of my personal desire to win.
- Insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- Require that my child’s coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the Coaches’ Code of Ethics.
- Support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- Demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- Remember that the game is for youth—not adults.
- Do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.

- Require that my child treats other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- Read the National Standards for Youth Sports and do what I can to help Youth Sports implement and enforce them.
- Supervise all of the children I bring to practices or games. They will be in my line of sight at all times.
- Handle any concerns or comments I have in a respectful manner, away from children, whether they involve staff, officials, coaches, or parents.
- Enforce the program rules with my child(ren).

Coaches' Code of Ethics (NAVMC 1710.14 Appendix D)

- Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
- Place the emotional and physical well-being of the children ahead of the desire to win.
- Do my very best to make Youth Sports fun for all children.
- Ask children to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials, with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- Supervise all of the children at practices or games. Children will be in my line of sight at all times.
- Handle any concerns or comments I have in a respectful manner, away from children, whether they involve staff, officials, coaches, or parents.
- Enforce rules with the child(ren) and help ensure that all participants follow the rules.
- Treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- Provide a safe playing situation for players.
- Set realistic goals with players.
- Review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of players.
- Organize practices that are fun and challenging for all players.

- Demonstrate fair play and sportsmanship to all players.
 - Be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players.
 - Permit athletes to share in the leadership and decision making for their team, including team rules.
 - Accept the “youth athletes first, winning second” perspective on youth sports.
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16. Amendments and Final Authority

- These bylaws may be amended by the Youth Sports Coordinator or Athletic Director to reconcile disputes or update standards, in accordance with MCO 1710.30A and NAVMC 1710.14.
 - The Youth Sports Coordinator or Athletic Director’s interpretation of these bylaws is final; they reserve the right to change or add rules to resolve sudden or unplanned disputes.
 - All amendments must be documented and communicated to staff, coaches, parents, and participants.
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17. References

- MCO 1710.30A
- NAVMC 1710.14
- NAVMC 1710.1–13
- DoDI 6060.02
- DoDI 6060.04
- DoDI 1402.05
- USYS Policy and FIFA Laws of the Game
- NAYS Standards
- MCCS/Semper Fit Youth Sports policies
- Installation-specific directives

These bylaws are fully compliant with all current Marine Corps, DoD, and national youth sports requirements.

For questions or clarification, contact the Youth Sports Coordinator or Athletic Director.