



Barbers Hill Youth Soccer Club

Rules & Regulations

Revised June 2026

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1. Introduction & Statement of Policy

1.1 Purpose

The Barbers Hill Youth Soccer Club (BHYSO) is a non-profit organization established to provide youth soccer opportunities in Mont Belvieu and Barbers Hill ISD. The Club aims to develop soccer skills, promote teamwork and sportsmanship, and offer a structured and enjoyable playing environment.

1.2 Authority

BHYSO operates under the guidelines of the following organizations: HYSO, STYSO, USSF, and FIFA.

1.3 Code of Conduct

All players, coaches, managers, and spectators are expected to behave respectfully on and off the field. Conflicts must be addressed through official club channels. Board members may not vote on matters involving their own teams unless no other board members are available. Only Board members may vote on bylaws, rule changes, or Board elections.

1.4 Application

These rules govern all BHYSO-sanctioned activities and apply to all players and coaches.

2. Soccer Year

2.1 The soccer year runs from September 1 to August 31.

2.2 The fall season includes up to 10 games, and the spring season includes up to 8 games. These totals are not guaranteed and may be affected by weather or other uncontrollable factors.

2.3 Game schedules are planned with consideration for weather and school holidays.

3. Communication

3.1 Coach Communication

BHYSO uses the GroupMe app as the primary communication platform for coaches. GroupMe is used to share important updates, scheduling changes, field closures, reminders, and general club information. All head coaches are required to join the BHYSO GroupMe chat and ensure they receive notifications promptly. Assistant coaches may join with approval.

Coaches are responsible for regularly checking GroupMe messages and communicating updates to their teams.

3.2 General Coaches Meeting

A coaches meeting is held before each season. Attendance is required for head and assistant coaches. Topics include seasonal changes, rules overview, scheduling, and club updates.

4. Player & Team Eligibility

4.1 Player Age & Placement

Player division is based on birth year. Requests to play up or down require documentation and approval by the board. Players may not play down unless they have documented physical or cognitive limitations. Players who register to play up must remain at that level for the entire soccer year (fall through spring).

STYSA Age Chart can be found here - <https://www.stxsoccer.org/registrar/>

4.2 Registration Requirements

Registration must be completed by BHYSO deadlines for all coaches and players. This includes signed forms, full payment, age verification, coaches' training/backgrounds, and releases if coming from another association/club. Late additions require Board approval.

4.3 Team Formation

Returning players generally stay with their teams. New players enter a player pool and are placed at the discretion of the Board, based on registration timing, noted requests, and any history of misconduct. Coaches may not dismiss players without the Board's VP of A&D approval.

4.4 Coach Requirements

All coaches must complete background checks and required training in GotSport. Coaches must attend the pre-season meeting and receive a BHYSO Coach ID badge. Only rostered and badged individuals may be on the sideline during games. Rosters are emailed by the registrar once all requirements are met.

5. Games & Practices

5.1 Practice Guidelines

Teams may hold a maximum of two practices per week (U7/18), each up to one and a half hours long. With a maximum of one practice per week, 45 minutes for (U5/6). Practices must occur only on assigned fields and during scheduled times, which are communicated via GroupMe.

5.2 Games and Player Participation

Every player must play at least 50% of each season unless excused for illness, injury, or approved disciplinary reason. Failure to follow this rule may result in suspension of the coach.

5.3 Scheduling & Conflicts

Game schedules are final unless the Board approves a reschedule. Rescheduling is only permitted due to weather, referee no-show, BHYSC events, or referee abandonment.

5.4 Uniform Conflicts

The home team must change uniforms in the event of a color conflict. Failure to do so results in a forfeit. Players should bring both home and away uniforms to all games.

5.5 Game Reports & Standings

The home team coach must enter the game score within 24 hours using the GotSport QR code or instructions provided on GroupMe. U5–U7 divisions do not require score reporting. Tied games are recorded as 0–0.

Trophies and awards are not guaranteed and depend on Board resources and club finances.

5.6 Field Use

Unauthorized use of BHYSC fields may result in disciplinary action, including suspension of field privileges for the remainder of the season. Coaches are responsible for ensuring field cleanliness and spectator behavior.

6. Conduct Expectations

6.1 General Behavior

All participants must act respectfully. Profanity, abuse, or threats will result in disciplinary action. Coaches are responsible for managing spectator behavior.

6.2 Disciplinary Measures

- Yellow Cards (Communicates a caution): 3 per season = 1 game suspension
- Red Cards (communicates a removal from game): Automatic 1 game suspension
- Serious offenses may lead to lifetime bans

6.3 Coaches Misconduct

Where an offence is committed by someone from the technical area (substitute, substituted player, sent-off player or team official) and the offender cannot be identified, the senior team coach present in the technical area (teams' sideline) will receive the one or more of the Misconducts listed below.

Verbal Warning

The following offences should usually result in a warning; repeated or blatant offences should result in a Yellow Card or Red Card:

- entering the field of play in a non-respectful/confrontational manner
- failing to cooperate with a match official e.g. ignoring an instruction/request from a referee, field marshal or board member
- minor/low-level disagreement (by word or action) with a decision made by the referee, field marshal or board member
- occasionally leaving the confines of the technical area (Teams Sideline) without committing another offence

Yellow Card

Yellow Card offences include (but are not limited to):

- clearly/persistently not respecting the confines of their team's technical area (Teams sideline)
- delaying the restart of play by their team
- deliberately entering the technical area (Teams sideline) of the opposing team (non-confrontational)
- difference of opinion by word or action including:
 - throwing/kicking drinks bottles or other objects
 - action(s) which show(s) a clear lack of respect for the match official(s) e.g. Sarcastic clapping
 - excessively/persistently request and/or gesturing for a red or yellow card
 - gesturing or acting in a provocative or inciting manner
 - persistent unacceptable behavior (including repeated warning offences)
 - showing a lack of respect for the game

Red Card

Red Card offences include (but are not limited to):

- delaying the restart of play by the opposing team e.g. holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a player
- deliberately leaving the technical area to:
 - show dissent towards, or remonstrate with, a match official
 - act in a provocative or inciting manner
 - enter the opposing technical area (Team sideline) in an aggressive or confrontational manner
 - deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field of play

- entering the field of play to:
 - confront a match official (including at half-time and full-time)
 - interfere with play, an opposing player or a match official
 - physical or aggressive behavior (including spitting or biting) towards an opposing player, substitute, team official, match official, spectator or any other person.
- receiving a second caution in the same match
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or action(s)
- violent conduct
 - Violent conduct is when a player uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, team official, match official, spectator or any other person, regardless of whether contact is made.
 - In addition, a player who, when not challenging for the ball, deliberately strikes an opponent or any other person on the head or face with the hand or arm, is guilty of violent conduct unless the force used was negligible.

6.4 Player Misconduct

Yellow Card

A player is cautioned if guilty of:

- delaying the restart of play
- difference of opinion by word or action
- entering, re-entering or deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission
- failing to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a dropped ball, corner kick, free kick or throw-in
- persistent offences (no specific number or pattern of offences constitutes "persistent")
- unsporting behavior:
 - attempts to deceive the referee e.g. by feigning injury or pretending to have been fouled (simulation)
 - changes places with the goalkeeper during play or without the referee's permission
 - commits in a reckless manner a direct free kick offence
 - handles the ball to interfere with or stop a promising attack, except where the referee awards a penalty kick for a non-deliberate handball offence
 - denies the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick for a non-deliberate handball offence
 - commits any other offence which interferes with or stops a promising attack except where the referee awards a penalty kick for an offence which was an attempt to play the ball or for a challenge for the ball
 - denies an opponent an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by committing an offence which was an attempt to play the ball or challenge for the ball and the referee awards a penalty kick
 - handles the ball in an attempt to score a goal (whether or not the attempt is successful) or in an unsuccessful attempt to prevent a goal
 - shows a lack of respect for the game
 - verbally distracts an opponent during play or at a restart

- A substitute or substituted player is cautioned if guilty of:
 - delaying the restart of play
 - difference in opinion by word or action
 - entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission
 - unsporting behavior
- Where two separate cautionable offences are committed (even in close proximity), they should result in two cautions, for example if a player enters the field of play without the required permission and commits a reckless tackle or stops a promising attack with a foul/handball, etc.

Red Card

A player, substitute or substituted player who commits any of the following offences is sent off:

- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by committing a deliberate handball offence (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)
- denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by committing a non-deliberate handball offence outside their own penalty area
- denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick (unless as outlined below)
- serious foul play:
 - A tackle or challenge that endangers the safety of an opponent or uses excessive force or brutality must be sanctioned as serious foul play.
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 - Any player who lunges at an opponent in challenging for the ball from the front, from the side or from behind using one or both legs, with excessive force or endangers the safety of an opponent is guilty of serious foul play.
- biting or spitting at someone
- violent conduct
 - Violent conduct is when a player uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, team official, match official, spectator or any other person, regardless of whether contact is made.
 - In addition, a player who, when not challenging for the ball, deliberately strikes an opponent or any other person on the head or face with the hand or arm, is guilty of violent conduct unless the force used was negligible.
- using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or action(s)
- receiving a second caution in the same match
- entering the video operation room (VOR)
- A player, substitute or substituted player who has been sent off must leave the vicinity of the field of play and the technical area.

6.5 Referee Misconduct

Any reports of referee misconduct are forwarded to the appropriate state authority for review and possible disciplinary action.

7. Authority & Disciplinary Procedures

7.1 Jurisdiction

All participants agree to follow BHYSC, HYSA, STYSA, and USSF rules. BHYSC may deny participation for repeated or serious violations.

7.2 Appeals & Disciplinary (A&D)

The Boards VP of A&D handles all misconduct cases. Formal hearings involve written charges, witness testimony, and a decision process. Penalties range from warnings to suspensions.

7.3 Appeals

Decisions may be appealed to the BHYSC Board within 5 days of issuance and must include a \$50 fee. Further appeals must be submitted to the appropriate state body.

7.4 Suspensions

Suspensions must be served during active season play. Suspended individuals may not attend games.

7.5 Game Protests

Allowed only for:

- Use of ineligible players
- Referee admits to a rule error

Protests must be filed within 5 days with a \$50 fee.

Amended Record	
<u>Date of Revision/Amendment</u>	<u>Date of Board Approval</u>
November 2019	No record on file
06/04/2025	06/xxx/2025