

# **Acushnet Youth Soccer Association**

## **AFC Travel Rules and Regulations**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 Introduction

2.0 General Structure

3.0 Rules and Regulations

4.0 Registration

5.0 Coaches

6.0 Placement

7.0 Fundraising

8.0 Waivers

9.0 Soliciting, Poaching, Recruitment

# **Acushnet FC Rules and Regulations 2024**

## **1. Introduction**

The Acushnet Football Club shall be in accordance with rules and regulations tailored to the Town Travel Soccer Program otherwise known as AFC. Town Travel Teams shall play in the South Shore Soccer League in the fall and spring seasons. During the winter season it is at the discretion of the AYSA Board of Directors to approve which facilities the teams shall play in for the winter season. AFC shall host home games/tournaments and also play at locations outside of Acushnet Ma. as set by the South Shore Soccer League and affiliates.

## **2. General Structure**

The Acushnet Youth Soccer Association shall be the presiding organization over that of AFC. All By-laws and rules and regulations shall not be less stringent than those imposed by AYSA (revised 2024). In addition, both Acushnet programs shall adhere to the laws set forth by the S.S.S.L Organization, MYSA and affiliates in accordance to AYSA By-laws and Rules and Regulations (2024).

## **3. Rules and Regulations:**

The overall breakdown of the AFC shall be in accordance with the following rules and regulations tailored to the Town Travel Soccer program otherwise known as AFC. These rules shall be set to accommodate the specific needs of each season.

Any change to any of the rules and regulations shall and will follow the guidelines set by the AYSA By-law, Rules and Regulations (2024).

## **4. Registration:**

All AFC players shall properly register through the SportsPilot system. All payments are non refundable upon registration of each player for Fall, Winter, and Spring Town Travel Seasons. The registration cost shall be provided to all AFC players prior to the following season as set by all involved affiliations.

In the event a player's registration has not been acquired or proper arrangements made with the treasurer, that player shall be removed from the team and may not return to any AYSA or AFC activities until paid in full. Each arrangement shall be heard by the Board of Directors prior to being acknowledged as such.

#### 4.01 Uniform

The Adidas style uniform shall be the only uniform utilized during all sanctioned games within the S.S.S.L. All players shall be provided with the following listed items in order to be considered a uniform: (1) navy and (1) white Adidas jersey; (1) pair of navy Adidas socks; (1) pair of navy Adidas shorts. Each Jersey shall be customized with the players last name only. No alterations are to be made to any uniform items.

#### 4.02 Apparel

AYSA shall provide all AFC teams with the approved AYSA/AFC apparel at the player or teams' expense. All items shall be presented to each player prior to each season.

### **5. Coaches:**

All sanctioned AFC teams shall have on their coaching staff a minimum of (1) and maximum of (3) people acting as coach/staff. The staff shall be comprised of the following 3 people; (1) head coach, (1) Asst. coach and (1) team parent. There shall be no additions to the coaching staff unless that team has a coaching staff of less than three persons.

All Coaches will be required to adhere to strict CORI laws and be SafeSport Certified. In addition coaches shall properly complete all coaching applications. Once completed all applications will be addressed by the Travel Coordinator through the AYSA Board of Directors. At no time shall a coach become the head coach without Board Approval.

All coaches shall adhere to the practice schedules and sanctioned fields allowed by the AYSA Organization. At no time will practices be allowed in the form of a scrimmage without consulting the Travel Coordinator. Failure to do so shall result in immediate disciplinary action.

All scheduled games shall adhere to S.S.S.L rules, by-laws and schedules.

Any change to any of the rules and regulations shall and will follow the guidelines set by the AYSA By-laws and Rules and Regulations (2024).

## **6. Placement:**

Town Travel soccer is age and grade based, therefore all participating players shall be placed accordingly, NO EXCEPTIONS!! In the event that there is only one team in a division, this team shall host tryouts every season unless the current roster is at its maximum. At the conclusion of the tryout the coaching staff shall have sole discretion to field the best team possible.

If a secondary team in the same division arises the second team shall too host a tryout to best field that specific team. No team shall recruit from within any AFC existing team with the attempt to form a secondary team. All process must be heard by the governing body of AYSA prior to any formation.

No player that plays for any other town travel soccer program will be allowed to play for AFC. A player may play club and town soccer, but not town and town. AFC is not a pay and play team, however if you feel as though your child is not playing a sufficient amount of time we ask that you please inform the Travel Coordinator.

## **7. Fundraising**

All fundraising shall be approved by the AYSA Board of Directors. A process shall be made by properly completing the required fundraising form. Funds acquired during the fundraiser may be utilized on any apparel, tournaments, indoor soccer practices/leagues, or team parties. Funds acquired shall **NOT** be utilized for any fall/spring registrations, nor for the purchase an official uniform.

Each team will be limited to (1) approved Fundraiser per PLAYING SEASON and must advise as to the set reason for such fundraiser. If the fundraiser is not utilized during the allotted season it shall not be available or carried over to the next season. All players shall be advised of the specific reason for the fundraising event and where the funds shall be utilized.

All fundraising and allocations of funds are subject to the Travel Coordinator's approval through the AYSA Board of Directors

## **8. Waivers**

Any player not residing in the town of Acushnet must obtain a waiver from the city/town in which they reside in order to play unless their residing town does not have a town travel team in that specific age group. All waivers are to be directed to the AYSA Registrar

## **9.0 Soliciting, Poaching, Recruitment:**

### 9.01 Player Registration and Binding to Team

A town travel player's registration binds him/her to their town travel team for the soccer playing year from League's Registration date until the end of the playing year (the following August 31st) and any releases to transfer to another town travel team will be allowed in limited circumstances.

### 9.02 Transfers

A written request for a release for the purpose of being allowed to transfer to another town travel team along with the Player Transfer Form must be filed with the AYSA Board of Directors, approval or denial shall be made by the AYSA Board of Directors. Any appeal of the decision must be made within the guidelines of the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Bylaws.

### 9.03 Poaching

Any coach, who by his/her actions, or any club which, through its responsible officers or representatives attempts to recruit or induce a registered player of any team of this league to leave his/her team without prior consent of the players present club shall be deemed to have committed an offense of poaching and shall be subject to disciplinary actions by the AYSA Board of Directors. This shall also apply to the borrowing of players for town travel tournament play without the prior consent of the present town travel program.

### 9.04 Guest Players

Coaches using guest players must first secure the written approval from the coach of the team from which that player is registered prior to that player's participation. This written approval must be attached to any Permission to Travel request for out of state play prior to submission for approval. It must also be presented at all sanctioned events within the state association

### 9.05 Solicitation of Players

Players are free to move to any organization at the start of the soccer year, however no soccer organization may solicit a player registered to another town travel team or induce

them to participate in a tryout either directly or indirectly through intermediaries. This includes invitations to camps, tournament teams, training programs, etc. Such conduct will be considered poaching and will be subject to disciplinary actions by the AYSA Board of Directors.

AYSA President Christina Paiva

---

Print Name

---

Signed Name