



Everything you wanted to know about AYSO Postseason Play

Riveting answers to the question: What comes after the Fall Season?

Coaches, Parents and Players,

It is commonly believed that once our Regional Playoffs end, the season is over. Nothing could be further from the truth. Since only a few teams advance, what comes next is more of a mystery than anything else – especially for those who move on!

Here is a quick recap of the various playoff levels:

- **Regional Playoffs – Late November/early December for all Fall Regional teams.**
- **Area 10S Playoffs – Weekends during of January for all teams that advance from Regional Playoffs**
- **Section 10 Playoffs – Late February, early March for all teams that finish 1st or 2nd at Area Playoffs**
- **State Cup – Late March/early April for the Section 10 division champion only.**

The Big picture: Region 678 is part of Area 10S which encompasses Newhall, Valencia and Stevenson Ranch as well as Canyon Country (Region 677), Castaic (Region 1441), Saugus (Region 46). Area 10S is part of Section 10, which spans from Victorville to San Luis Obispo to the San Fernando Valley and a lot of places in between.

How do I advance past Region 678 playoffs? If you finish 1st, 2nd or 3rd (and sometimes 4th) in the championship bracket of our Region 678 Playoffs, you qualify to play in the Area 10S Playoffs against the best teams from Country, Castaic and Saugus. Note: On rare occasions, the champion from the friendly bracket will earn a berth as well.

What are Area 10S Playoffs? This is a tournament played during the month of January at a site to be determined in the Santa Clarita Valley. Unlike our “knockout-style” Region 678 playoffs, Area 10S Playoffs is a tournament-style format, meaning you will play three games in pool play against our rival regions over two weekends (Regional teams play on Saturday; All-stars on Sunday) and based on your win-loss-tie point total, you may or may not advance to the semifinals, which are played on the third weekend. If you advance from pool play and finish at least 1st or 2nd in the medal round (semis and finals), you will qualify for the Section 10 Playoffs

What are the Section 10 Playoffs? This is a Saturday and Sunday tournament played in late February (usually for Regional teams) or early March (for All-stars) in Bakersfield. It is played on one weekend, rain or shine. All the top teams in Section 10 show up and you play a tournament-style format. You will play three games on Saturday, and if you win your pool, you play on Sunday. All other teams go home. To advance to the State Cup, you must win the Section 10 championship.

What is the State Cup: Only the Section 10 first place teams will move on to the State Cup championship, which is the AYSO “final four” with a team from San Diego/South Bay, the Inland Empire/Los Angeles, Northern California and Northern L.A. County vying for the crown. This is a one-day, semi-final and final format. The location varies. Two games and it’s all over.