

Dec. 12-13, 2026

Presented by

AYSO Region 678

Chance Schultz – 661-210-6966

tournament@ayso678.org

Sponsored by AYSO Region 678, Newhall/Valencia, California

2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Team Invitation

AYSO Region 678 is proud to invite your team to the AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Scope:	AYSO Invitational – open to AYSO teams only from all Sections for the **Fall 2026 season**.
When:	**Saturday & Sunday, December 12-13, 2026**
Where:	The tournament will be held at **Santa Clarita Central Park, 27150 Bouquet Canyon Rd, Santa Clarita, CA 91350**. There is no charge for parking.
Who:	AYSO boys and girls teams in age divisions: 13U/14U (11v11) 17 players max. 11U/12U (9v9) 15 players max. and 9U/10U (7v7) 12 players max. All players must be AYSO registered and have played in the **Fall 2026** season. Guest players will be allowed (3 maximum per team). Co-ed teams will be accepted in boys' divisions only. **Teams bringing a referee team will be given priority placement; teams with no referees are subject to being waitlisted.**
What:	Pool play tournament. Each team will be guaranteed 3 games in pool play. The top teams based on format will advance to the trophy round on Sunday. Pool play duration: 60 min. for 13U/14U, 60 min for 11U/12U, and 50 min for 9U/10U. **Players must play a minimum of two quarters (half game) per game.**
Why:	The Santa Clarita Gold Rush is being conducted as a fundraiser by Region 678 to purchase equipment, maintenance and provide fundraising for EPIC and Youth Referee programs.
Awards:	All players on the 1st, 2nd place teams will receive trophies as will players in consolation games, if applicable. All teams that participate in the tournament will receive a commemorative pin.
Entry Fee, Refunds:	**$600 for 13U/14U, $575 for 11U/12U, and $550 for 9U/10U**. A full refund will be issued if tournament is canceled/cannot be rescheduled. If a team withdraws 30 or more days before the tournament, a full refund is given. Within 30 days of the tournament, no refund is provided unless a PAID replacement team is found.
Referee Fee, Refunds:	$**300**, refundable within 14 days after tournament, if ALL referee assignments have been completed. Each team is asked to provide a qualified 3-person referee team to cover 3 games during the tournament. Partial refunds will be given based upon the number of game assignments completed.
Rules:	A full set of tournament rules are posted on the tournament website at www.ayso678.org/gold-rush
Acceptance:	**The application deadline is Nov. 30, 2026. You may submit an application form and check without a signed roster to reserve your spot and then send in your roster.** All teams will be notified within 48 hrs after the application deadline or receipt of application (whichever is latest) as to their status. A list of accepted teams will be posted on the tournament website and updated as teams are accepted. Teams that are not accepted will be given the option to have their complete application returned or to be placed on the waiting list. The tournament reserves the right to move an accepted team with no referee crew to the waitlist if a team of same age/gender applies with referee crew.
How:	Team entry applications and all necessary forms are available on the tournament website. **Please send one check that covers both the Entry and Referee fees,** along with the tournament application, referee information form, and team Sports Connect or manually filled in signed roster to the Tournament Registrar address below. Regional commissioner must sign application and team roster. Referee administrator or RC must sign referee information form. **Make region check payable to: AYSO Region 678 - Gold Rush**
Address:	Tournament Registrar / Santa Clarita Gold Rush PO Box 220307 Newhall, California, 91322-0307
Information:	Email: tournament@ayso678.org Web site: www.ayso678.org/gold-rush

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2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Team Application Form

Application Instructions

Applications are now being accepted for entrance into the AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush Tournament, **Dec. 12-13, 2026**.

The deadline to enter the tournament is **Nov. 30, 2026**. **You may submit an application form and check without a signed roster to reserve your place (for core, all-stars, Extra, and tournament) and send in your roster later.** Applications accepted by that date will be given priority for acceptance into the tournament; all others will be accepted based on any available openings.

Applications will be accepted on a first-come basis, based on a completed application. To be considered complete, your application must include all of the following:

1. Team Application Form, signed by the Head Coach and the Regional Commissioner.
   - Team Sports Connect rosters will be accepted, it must include the names of the Head Coach and Assistant Coach and be signed by your Regional Commissioner.
   - Rosters must be comprised solely of players who were AYSO registered and played in the **2026 Fall season**. AYSO Extra teams will compete in the age-appropriate division, See Below.
   - Player roster limits are as follows (All players must play minimum 50% of each game):

13U & 14U	17 players max	11-v-11 play
11U & 12U	15 players max	9-v-9 play
9U & 10U	12 players max	7-v-7 play

   - Roster changes will be allowed up until check-in, **Dec. 12, 2026**; after that, no roster changes. All roster changes must be approved by your Regional Commissioner and a new roster or roster change form signed and dated by RC must be submitted.
2. The Referee Form signed by your Regional Referee Administrator or Regional Commissioner. **Referee assignments are on Saturday and Sunday and assigned at the tournament's discretion. Teams with referee crews are given priority placement. Teams without crews are subject to being waitlisted.**
3. A single check for the total amount of the Team Entry Fee and the Referee Commitment Fee.

Team fees are:

Age Division	Team Entry Fee	Referee Fee	Total Fee
13U/14U	$600	$300	$900
11U/12U	$575	$300	$875
9U/10U	$550	$300	$850

Send your completed application and Regional Check to:

Tournament Registrar
c/o AYSO 678 - Santa Clarita Gold Rush
PO Box 220307
Newhall, California, 91322-0307

If accepted, it will be assumed that you intend for your team to play the entire tournament.

If your application is not accepted, you will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list, or if you prefer, we will return your application to you.

Refund: If you withdraw your application 30 or more days from the start of the tournament, a full refund will be issued. If you withdraw after that time, we will only issue a refund if a PAID replacement team can be found, less any cost to register that replacement team.

All information about the tournament can be obtained by visiting our website at www.ayso678.org/gold-rush

Please note that email and the internet will be the primary means of communication for this tournament.

We will be sending out information via email once your application is received. In the meantime, if you have any further questions, you may contact us as follows:

E-mail tournament@ayso678.org
Web site www.ayso678.org/gold-rush

2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Team Application Form

Please complete entire form

Application Date: _____

Section: _____ Area: _____ Region #: _____ Region Name: _____

Team Name: _____

Age Division (circle): | **9U** | **10U** | **11U** | **12U** | **13U** | **14U** | | **Boys** | **Girls** |

Coach Name:	**Asst. Coach Name:**
Email:	Email:
Evening Phone Number:	Evening Phone Number:
Emergency Phone Number:	Emergency Phone Number:
AYSO ID#:	AYSO ID#
Certification Level:	Certification Level:
Safe Haven Date:	Safe Haven Date:
Coach #1 Shirt size: AS AM AL AXL AXXL	**Coach #2 Shirt size:** AS AM AL AXL AXXL

APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF INFORMATION BELOW IS INCOMPLETE

WE WILL BRING A REFEREE CREW (3 person for Sat & Sun). Initial one: Yes_____ No_____

OUR REFEREE CREW CAN REFEREE AT THIS LEVEL: Check one: 14U_____ 12U _____ 10U_____

TEAM RATING REQUIRED – You must rate your team by checking one of the following:

____ All-Star/Select – A-team B-team C-team

____ Tournament -- A-team B-team C-team

____ All-Star/Select/Tournament – Balanced

____ Extra: League / record: _____

____ Fall Regional Team

TEAM COMPETITIVE RATING: (1 to 10, 10 being highest) _____

TEAM COACH HEAD APPROVAL (Initial):

_____ Yes, I have read the tournament rules and I promise to abide by them. I also am committed to returning on the alternative dates, **TBD**, should the tournament be rescheduled due to inclement weather, etc.

_____ Yes, I understand that this is a 2-day tournament and that the medal round games are on the second day.

_____ I hereby notify you that I will NOT be able to complete the tournament for the following reason: _____

_____
Coach Signature

Regional Commissioner Approval: Yes, the above team has my permission to attend the Gold Rush Tournament. Please report any behavior problems to me immediately. I understand that players from outside my region (Guest Players) will need approval as from the Guest Player RC. I hereby approve _____ Guest players for this team.

_____ _____
Print Name Signature (in red or blue ink only, please)

Email: _____ Best Phone: _____

The Referee Refund Check should be mailed to:

AYSO Region # /Contact _____

Mailing Address: _____

City / State / Zip _____

4/21/26

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2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Team Roster

Roster Date:

Region: _____ **Team Name:** _____

Coach: _____

Asst. Coach: _____

Uniform Colors: Shirt: _____ **Shorts:** _____ **Socks:** _____

Age Division: | 9U | 10U | 11U | 12U | 13U | 14U | | Boys | Girls | Coed |

Maximum # of Players:			
9U/10U	11U/12U	13U/14U	
12	15	17	

Roster: It is strongly recommended you submit a Sports Connect roster in lieu of this form. If you do, make sure the Regional Commissioner or Club Director of Coaching signs that form. If you also will be bringing Guest Players, you will need to use the separate Guest Player Form.

Directions: *Player ID #*: The National AYSO Registration Number, *Region #*: Region in which player is registered.

(List In Order by Uniform Shirt No.)

Shirt #	Region #	Player ID #	Player's Name Last, First (please print)	Age	Date of Birth	Telephone Including Area Code

By my signature below, I certify that all players on this roster are valid registered players in my region and are approved to participate in this tournament:

Regional Comm.:
Or Club Director _____
Print Name ***Signature (Blue or Red Ink)***

Guest Player(s)
Regional Comm.: _____
Print Name ***Signature (Blue or Red Ink)***

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2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Guest Player Form

Borrowing Team Information: **Roster Date:**

Region: _____ **Team Name:** _____

Coach Name:

Age Division: **9U 10U** | **11U 12U** | **13U 14U** | **Boys** | **Girls** | **Coed**

The Santa Clarita Gold Rush Tournament rules allow teams to bring up to 3 "Guest Players" when they are unable to recruit sufficient players from their own region. These Guest Players must be properly registered AYSO players who were registered to play in their home region for the **2026 Fall season.**

(List In Order By Uniform Shirt No.)

Shirt #	**Region #**	**Player ID #**	**Player's Name** Last, First (please print)	**Age**	**Date of Birth**	**Telephone** Including Area Code

By my signature below, I certify that all players on this roster are valid registered players in my region and are approved to join the above team and participate in this tournament:

Guest Player(s) Regional Commissioner: _____

Print Name ***Signature (Blue or Red Ink)***

Email: _____ **Best Phone:** _____

By my signature below, I approve that these _____ (number of players) guest players are approved to join the above team and participate in this tournament:

Host Team Regional Commissioner: _____

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2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Roster Change Form

Region: _____ **Team Name:** _____

Coach Name: _____

Age Division: **9U** **10U** **11U** **12U** **13U** **14U** **Boys** **Girls** **Coed**

This form and/or new roster signed by RC with original signature is due no later than check-in, ***Dec. 12, 2026*** *to be considered for the tournament.*

***Maximum # of Players*:**		
9U/10U	**11U/12U**	**13U/14U**
12	**15**	**17**

Roster Note: You may submit a new Affinity roster in lieu of this roster change form. If you do, make sure the Regional Commissioner signs that form.

DELETE the following players from the previously submitted roster:

Shirt #	Region #	Player ID #	Player's Name Last, First (please print)

INCLUDE the following players from the previously submitted roster:

Shirt #	Region #	Player ID #	Player's Name Last, First (please print)	Age	Date of Birth	Telephone Including Area Code

By my signature below, I certify that all players added on this roster are valid registered players in my region and are approved to participate in this tournament:

Regional Commissioner: _____

Print Name ***Signature (Blue or Red Ink)***

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2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Referee Plan

The following are guidelines that the AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush apply for referees in our tournament:

Commitment Requirements	A. Each team participating in the AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush must provide at least 1 crew consisting of 3 qualified referees in **FULL UNIFORM WITH APPROPRIATE AYSO BADGE**. B. The AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush Referee Information Form must be completed, approved by the Region Referee Administrator and returned with the Team Application. C. Each referee team will be asked to officiate a minimum of 3 matches during the tournament. These may be game assignments or standby assignments, which will be consider equal in terms of earning the referee deposit refund. **ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.** D. If all assignments are completed, the entire referee deposit of **$300** will be refunded within 14 days of the completion of the tournament. Partial refunds will be given based upon the number of game assignments completed. E. The deposit refund check will be returned to the address shown on the Team Application form. F. Each referee may only represent one team in the tournament for each assignment served (Center or linesman) Regions may supply dedicated referees teams not affiliated with a particular team but each assignment served will be limited to credit to one team. G. If a team submits less than a full 3-person referee crew, these referees will be assigned to games, however only a proportion of the referee deposit equal to the number of assignments these referees complete will be refunded to the team.
Qualification Requirements	A. Each referee must be an AYSO registered volunteer and Safe Haven certified. FIFA referees who are qualified AYSO referees must wear their FIFA badge; however and be prepared to certify to the tournament staff that they are properly certified AYSO volunteer referees. B. Each referee must be versed in the Laws of the Game, including current law changes and capable of applying the laws according to the spirit of the game. C. Coaches in this tournament are strongly discouraged from officiating so that optimum scheduling of referees can be accomplished. Although every effort will be made to avoid conflicts, no schedule adjustments will be made to accommodate coaches who elect to referee. D. Youth referees are allowed to referee in this tournament. Care must be taken when considering whether to allow a youth referee to officiate in the heated environment of a competitive tournament. These referees must have their Youth Volunteer Application form with them at all times and present it to any Tournament official upon request. G. Youth referees must be approved by their Regional Referee Administrator. These referees must have their Youth Volunteer Letter with Youth Volunteer Application form attached with them at all times and present it to any Tournament official upon request. H. Youth referees will only be assigned to games where they are qualified and at least two years older than the age group they are officiating.
Uniform Requirement	A. All referees must be in **Full Uniform** as defined by AYSO and USSF, including the AYSO Badge. B. **The Gold uniform will be the primary color of referee uniform for this tournament. Black shorts and referee socks are required.** The referee crew will be expected to change to an alternate color in case of conflict with a teams' uniform. C. Referees not in uniform will not be permitted to referee games, and their team's referee deposit may be subject to full or partial forfeiture based on assignments missed. D. Black rain pants or black warm-up pants will be permitted in addition to the official uniform.
Competency Requirements	A. Referees will be assigned to games as follows: 9U-10U: AYSO Regional Badge or higher 11U-12U: AYSO Intermediate/Regional Badge or higher 13U-14U: AYSO Intermediate Badge or higher Any exceptions must have the prior written approval of the Gold Rush Referee Administrator. B. Every effort will be made to assign referees to neutral games at their level of competency or below. In rare cases, referee crews may be asked to split up in order to meet these goals.

Tournament Rules	A. Referees will be expected to familiarize themselves with and uphold the tournament rules, AYSO guidelines and FIFA laws. Any failure of the referee to uphold these rules may be cause for dismissal from the tournament and will place a team's referee deposit refund in jeopardy. B. Pool play games will consist of 25- to 30- minute halves depending on the age division with a five-minute half time. (See tournament rules) There will be a running clock during the match including substitutions. There will be no time added on for injuries or time wasted in qualifying rounds. Pool play games may end in a tie. C. Games will expect to start AND end on time and may be shortened so that the next match starts as scheduled. D. Only the diagonal system of control will be used. **E.** Referees will be expected to fill out the game cards and to keep track of substitutions. **Players must play a minimum of 2 quarters (half game) per game they are present.** If a player arrives after the start of the game but before the first-half quarter break, they are required to play at least two quarters. If a player arrives after the first-half quarter break has concluded and play has already resumed, they are only required to play one quarter. F. Referees will be expected to note on the back of the game cards and to fill out misconduct reports immediately after the game in which a misconduct (caution and/or send-off) was issued to a player or coach, or if there were spectator interference problems, or any other action that merits a report. G. Referees will be expected to turn in all completed game cards and misconduct reports to the Referee Tent immediately after each game.
Referee Schedules	A. Referee schedules will be made available on the tournament website within 1 week of the tournament. Each team will be expected to ensure that the referee schedule and check-in instructions have been provided to their referee crew. **Referees should expect and prepare to have game assignments on Saturday and Sunday based on need.** No special requests can be honored to be fair to all teams.
Use of Local Referees	A. Additional referees will be provided by the host region, including from the surrounding regions and Areas to ensure all games are covered by qualified referees. These referees will be provided assignments on a stand-by or fill-in basis. Priority will be given to referee crews to ensure an opportunity to earn their deposit refund.
Referee Check-In	A. All referees will be expected to check in at the Referee Station upon their arrival at the tournament, to register and to collect their Referee Voucher. B. At check-in, each referee team will be provided with a summarized set of tournament rules that they will be expected to administer. C. Referees are expected to **check in at the Referee Station at least 15 minutes prior** to their assigned game, including standby games. Failure to appear on time may result in a replacement referee crew being assigned to the field. Once a replacement crew has been assigned, they will have priority and the original crew must report to the Referee station for alternative assignment. D. Upon completing each game assignment (or standby assignment), each referee will have their Voucher stamped at the Referee Station. When all of their game assignments have been completed, the referee crew must turn in their completed Voucher at the Referee Station. This completed Voucher verifies your obligation has been met and a full referee deposit refund will be issued within 14-days of the tournament.
Referee Mementos	A. Referees will be provided with a meal ticket for food and drink at the concession stand for each day that they officiate. Chilled water will also be available at the Referee Station. B. Participating referees will receive a tournament t-shirt, flipping coin and pin as mementos to thank them for their contribution.
Address:	Referee forms must be mailed with the Team Application to: Tournament Registrar AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush PO 220307 Newhall, California, 91322-0307
Contact Information:	Questions regarding referee requirements should be directed to: Contact: Tournament Director email Tournament@AYSO678.org Web site www.ayso678.org/gold-rush

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2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Tournament Rules

CATEGORY	*RULE*
1) JURISDICTION	A. Unless otherwise noted, the current AYSO National Rules and Regulations, Section 10 and FIFA Laws of the game will be used for this tournament. The following rules are intended specifically for this tournament ONLY! B. The Tournament Committee (incl. Tournament Director, Assistant Director(s), Field Director, Referee Director and other designated staff) will have jurisdiction over all games played, and methods of tiebreaker of any nature. Disputes will be resolved by the end of the soccer day and ALL DECISIONS ARE FINAL. Referee judgment calls are NOT subject to dispute or protest.
2) FEES	A. Entire entry fee and referee deposit must accompany tournament application and will be returned if application is not accepted. Fee must be a single check issued from the respective Region's account (no personal checks). B. Fees are: 9U & 10U $850 (entry fee $550 plus referee deposit $300), 11U & 12U $875 (entry fee $575 plus referee deposit $300), 13U & 14U $900 (entry fee $600 plus referee deposit $300).
3) ACCEPTANCE	**A. Application & payment are due on November 30, 2026. Rosters may be submitted later as team is formed.** B. Applications will be accepted on a first-come basis, based on completed application (see Team Application Form for criteria). Teams will be notified by email within 48 hours of the receipt of their applications. C. Teams not accepted into the tournament will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. D. The primary form of communication between the Tournament and applying teams will be email and the Tournament website. Teams must designate a Team Contact on their application who has email and Internet access.
4) REFUNDS	A. Teams withdrawing 30 days or more before the tournament will be issued a full refund. B. Teams withdrawing less than 30 days before the start of the tournament will only be issued a refund if a fully paid replacement team can be found. C. If the tournament is canceled and cannot be rescheduled, a full refund will be issued. D. For teams that are eligible, referee deposit refunds will be mailed no later than 14 days after the end of the tournament. <u>There are partial referee deposit refunds, based on assignments served.</u>
5) RAINOUT/ CANCELLATION	A. If the tournament is cancelled due to weather after partially completing and it cannot be rescheduled to be completed, refunds will be made to teams on a prorated basis, based on the number of actual games played. B. If the tournament cannot be held due to weather or other conditions beyond the control of the tournament hosts, then full refunds will be sent to all teams, less the cost of any pre-ordered items, which will be sent to the team.
6) PLAYERS/TEAMS	A. Players on participating teams must be properly registered to play in AYSO and have played in the **Fall 2026** season on an AYSO team. Coaches are responsible to ensure that all players meet eligibility requirements and have the proper AYSO certification for the division they are coaching. Extra teams will compete in age-appropriate divisions. (9U in 10U Div.; 11U in12U Div.; 13U in 14U Div.) B. Team AYSO Affinity or manual signed rosters are accepted. All team rosters must be verified and approved by each player's Regional Commissioner and have an original signature. Roster changes may be submitted (with the written approval of the RC); Changes must be received by check-in on **Dec. 12, 2026 at team check in.** C. Coed teams will be accepted; however, they must play in the boy's divisions only. D. Division 13U/14U will play 11-v-11, and there will be a roster limit of 17 players per team. Division 11U/12U will play 9-v-9, and there will be a roster limit of 15 players per team. Division 9U/19U will play 7-v-7, and there will be a roster limit of 12 players per team. E. **All players must play at least half of each game.** Violation of these player rules exposes a team to protest and renders them subject to forfeiture of game and possible disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director. F. 3 Guest Players (players from a different region from the applying team's region) will be allowed for each team. However, the Guest Player will be required to have the approval of both the Guest Player's regional commissioner and the Host Team regional commissioner (see Guest Player Form). G. Players can only play on **ONE** roster. Teams with players playing on multiple teams in the tournament are subject to disqualification.
7) COACHES	A. Each team is limited to one Head Coach and one Assistant Coach only (must have one of each). These coaches must be the ones listed on the Official Team Roster. B. Each Coach must provide their AYSO Identification Number, be a currently registered volunteer, Safe-Haven certified and AYSO trained at the age-appropriate level. Your signed AYSO Affinity or manual-filled in signed team roster must include the head coach and assistant coach as well as appropriate coaching certifications C. Coaches are expected to set the example for their team in exhibiting proper AYSO behavior and Kid Zone behavior. Coaches are expected to remain in the technical area during games and enter the field of play only when requested by referee.

8) FIELDS	A. All fields will be set up and taken down by the tournament staff. **B. 9U-14U Fields are located at Santa Clarita Central Park, 27150 Bouquet Canyon Rd, Santa Clarita, CA 91355** C. Trash cans will be provided at each field. Teams will be expected to clean up all trash in their area before leaving. D. Please observe the posted Facility Use Rules while attending the tournament **(No pets, no smoking/alcohol, etc)**
9) CHECK-IN	A. **All check-ins will be held at the main tent.** Teams must check in 60 minutes prior to their first game and must present Lineup Cards for as many games as the team may play in the tournament (Four, including medal-round games). The Game Cards must be properly completed with players listed in uniform order (first name, last name). The players listed on the game cards must match the approved roster submitted with the team's application. B. Players must be "game ready" at check-in, wearing all equipment with shirts tucked in and jackets or other outerwear removed. **OPTIONAL: If team has AYSO ID with photo and Regional Commissioner signature players need not be present at check-in** C. Each coach or team representative must provide **Player Registration forms/medical releases** with original ink signatures for verification by tournament officials. D. Coach must have these Player Registration forms with them at all times for presentation to Tournament Officials. E. Late arriving players must be escorted to the check-in station by a team official along with their Player Registration Form and be cleared by the Tournament Staff before participating in any games.
10) UNIFORMS/SAFETY	A. All players must wear the approved, matching AYSO uniforms only. B. Each player's uniform must be marked with a permanently affixed unique number that matches the uniform number on the Game Card and may not exchange numbered jerseys with any other player during the game including the goalkeeper. C. Garments may be worn under the uniform (i.e. long sleeves, etc.) during inclement weather, however the match referee will be the sole judge of what should be allowed or not. D. Not allowed: jewelry, hard metal or plastic clips on clothing or hair. No player will be allowed to participate with any type of cast or splint. Removal of any type of cast or splint at the field or surrounding area in order to participate shall disqualify that team member from participation. E. AYSO will not prohibit the use of knee braces by players in AYSO events and programs; providing that the brace is adequately covered and padded in the judgment of the referee, so as to eliminate the possibility of its causing injury to the other players on the field.
11) FORMAT	A. This is a pool-play tournament. Format is subject to change based on number of teams entered in any division. B. Each age division will be bracketed into playing pools of three to four teams. Each team will play a minimum of 3 preliminary pools games. Teams will advance from qualifying pools based on pool play points (see 14. Standings). The number of teams advancing per pool will be determined by the number of pools in the division. All finalists will receive trophies. C. See #16 for details on Advancement.
12) GAMES	A. Pool play games will consist of 25 minute halves or longer depending on the age division (see chart below) with a five-minute half time. There will be a running clock during the match including substitutions. There will be no time added on for injuries or time wasted in qualifying rounds. Games will expect to end on time and may be shortened if they start late. Pool play games may end in a tie. B. Championship games will be full length for that division (see chart below). Championship games will be played until there is a winner (see Trophy Round rules below). Home team supplies games balls and chooses side to start final. C. Game duration shall be as follows: **Division** / **Pool Play** / **Trophy Rounds** 9U/10U: 25 minute half 25 minute half 11U/12U 30 minute half 30 minute half 13U/14U: 30 minute half 35 minute half D. The "home" team will be the first team or top team listed on the game schedule. **The home team will be situated on the North or West side of the field**, and the visitor will be situated on the South or East side. Spectators must remain on the side of the field designated for their team. The home team will change jerseys or don pinnies in the event of a color conflict with the visitor team. If any questions, the referee will determine whether this is necessary. E. **NO COIN FLIP:** During pre-game inspection, **home team selects which goal it wishes to defend** and supplies three game balls. The **visiting team will kick off** to start the first half. F. There will be no warming up on the field. Teams must warm up prior to taking the field. As soon as the previous game has ended, teams must clear the field and sidelines, and the teams for the next game must take their places. G. There will be a running clock during all pool play games. There will be no time added on for injuries or time wasted during substitutions. Each coach must have their team ready at the start of each half and break and to conduct substitutions in as expedient a manner as possible. A coach/team taking excessive time taking the field may be penalized for unsportsmanlike conduct at the referee's discretion H. FORFEITS: There will be a five-minute grace period at the start of the game for a team to take the field before a forfeit is declared. The score for a forfeit match will be 1-0 for the remaining team (See STANDINGS for the points to be awarded). For 9U/10U division teams, there is a minimum of 5 players on the field to continue a game. For 11U/12U the minimum number is 6 players. For 13U/14U, there must be a minimum of 7 players to continue a game. If a team cannot field the minimum number of players, the game will be abandoned, and a forfeit will be declared. I. SUSPENDED GAMES: The Tournament Committee may determine to end matches early if field schedule is behind due to game delays, interference, or if weather conditions provide unsafe conditions; and may distribute awards

	according to games played and points. The Tournament Committee will determine the outcome of any single game that is terminated prematurely (due to inclement weather, participant injury, or interference by outside party, etc.). J. ABANDONED GAMES: if any pool play games cannot be played due to circumstances beyond the control of the tournament, the final standings of the pool will be determined by applying the Winning Percentage formula (Total Points Earned in all Games Played divided by Total Points Possible for the Number of Games Played) to each team in the pool. Note. This does not apply to games that were shortened due to la late start. Only the Tournament Director or designee can declare a game to be abandoned or not played.
13) SUBSTITUTIONS	A. Substitutions shall be allowed approximately mid-way through each half, and at halftime for ALL divisions, and will be recorded on the game cards by the referee. B. All substitutions must be approved and recognized by the referee. Substitutions may be made for injured players; however, they may not return until the beginning of the next quarter and will be credited as having played the current quarter (exception: an injured player not replaced may return to play at any time with the referee's permission). C. Substitutions in all overtime periods of medal round matches will be at the beginning of the periods only.
14) STANDINGS	A. Standings for pool play games will be determined on the "ten-point system" as follows: WIN = 6 points TIE = 3 points LOSS = 0 points GOAL = 1 point (one point per goal scored up to a maximum of 3 per game, **win or lose**) SHUTOUT = 1 point (for an earned shutout, including a 0-0 tie) FORFEIT = 7 points (scored as a 1-0 win, no shutout points as it is not an "earned" shutout) CARDS = 2 point deduction for each player/substitute, coach or spectator sendoff B. Winners of ties in standings will be determined as follows: Head to head competition Fewest disciplinary points. 2 points for each red card/sendoff. Most number of wins Goals allowed – total (up to a maximum of three per game; fewest number advances) Goal differential (goals scored to three per game less total goals allowed; highest differential advances) Most referee assignments completed Coin toss at the end of pool play or shootout time permitting. C. Standings will be posted at the Tournament Scoreboard. The deadline to challenge the posted results will be at the conclusion of Pool Play.
15) ADVANCEMENTS	A. **Six-team flights:** Will play CROSS POOL play format; After pool play concludes, the six teams will be re-seeded based on total points. The teams with the most points, regardless of pool, will advance to the Championship for that flight. There is no 3rd/4th place game. Format is subject to change. B. **Eight-team flights:** "A" Pool winners will play "B" Pool winner for the championship, and the top runners-up in each pool will play for the 3rd/4th place. Format is subject to change. C. Format is subject to change based on number of teams entered in any given division.
16) TROPHY ROUNDS	A. All semi-final matches ending in a tie shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark following FIFA guidelines. All finals will have two full overtime periods of five minutes in length with teams changing field direction after the first five-minute period. If still tied after overtime play, the game shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark. Only players on the field at the end of the overtime can participate in the shootout. The tournament reserves the right to go directly to kicks on games ending in a tie and waive the two five-minute overtimes.
17) AWARDS	A. A commemorative tournament pin will be presented to each player B. Trophies will be presented to coaches and players for finalists, or 3rd/4th place teams where applicable.
18) CONDUCT	A. Coaches will be expected to set a positive example for the team and will be held responsible for the actions of their team including spectators. All spectators must remain behind the control line and between the 18-yard lines. No coaching from behind the goal. Two coaches maximum per team, and they must remain in the marked coaching area (within ten yards either way from midfield) and ONLY ENTER THE FIELD WHEN REQUESTED BY THE REFEREE. B. Referees will be required to complete a game misconduct report for all misconducts during the game, as well as any incidents of interference by spectators. C. Spectators are not allowed to enter the field during the match and immediately afterward. Any coach or spectator ejected must immediately leave the vicinity of the playing field (out of sight and sound) and will be prohibited from attending the next scheduled game. Any player sent off (red carded) must immediately leave the vicinity of the game (under supervision of their parent or Safe Haven-certified adult) and may not return to the field of play during the current game, including for the post-game handshake, and may not be substituted for, and is suspended from participation in the next game. There will be penalty point deductions for all send-offs (see Standings rules). D. A violent conduct red card/ejection will result in player/coach/spectator being barred from the tournament. E. If it is determined that an ineligible player has participated in a game, the team will forfeit all games in which that player participated illegally. Furthermore, if it is determined that the coach knowingly played a player illegally, that coach will be barred from further participation in the tournament. F. If it is determined that a coach played a player less than 50% of a game (not due to injury or late arrival/early departure), that game is subject to forfeiture. G. It is mandatory to play a scheduled game. If it is determined that a coach willfully fails to have his team participate in a scheduled game, the coach will be dismissed from the tournament and the incident will be reported to their respective Regional Commissioner.

	H. All conduct problems will be reported to the respective Regional Commissioner of that team. I. All Serious Incidents will be reported to the respective Regional Commissioner as well as Area, Section and AYSO National Office parties.
19) REFEREES	A. Each team in the tournament should provide a crew of 3 referees, who will be assigned up to 3 games, based on their qualifications. **Assignments will be on SATURDAY and SUNDAY.** No schedule allowances can be honored. A. All referees must be an AYSO registered volunteer and be Safe-Haven Certified. FIFA referees who are qualified AYSO referees must wear their AYSO badge; and be prepared to certify to the tournament staff that they are properly certified AYSO volunteer referees. B. Only the diagonal system of control will be used to referee the games. C. 9U/10U: AYSO Regional Badge or higher 11U/12U: AYSO Intermediate/Regional Badge or higher 13U/14U: AYSO Intermediate Badge or higher D. At the conclusion of the game, the match referees must return the completed game cards to the Referee Tent. E. Youth referees (center referees) must be at least two years older than the age group they are refereeing. F. **All referees must be in full uniform as defined by AYSO and USSF,** including the Referee Badge. Referees not in uniform (Including socks and black shorts) will not be permitted to referee games, and their team's referee deposit may be subject to full or partial forfeiture based on assignments missed. G. If assignments are successfully completed, the Referee Deposit will be refunded (see REFEREE PLAN for more details). Partial refunds will be given based on number of assignments served. H. Referees are expected to check in at the Referee Station at least 15 minutes prior to their assigned game. Failure to appear on time may result in a replacement referee crew being assigned to the field and may result in forfeiture of referee deposit. Once a replacement crew has been assigned, they will have priority and the original crew must report to the Referee station for alternative assignment. I. Coaches are strongly discouraged to serve as a referee. No schedule allowances will be given. J. Referees are expected to uphold the tournament rules, AYSO guidelines and FIFA laws. Any failure to uphold these rules may be cause for dismissal from the tournament and will place a team's referee deposit refund in jeopardy.
20) FIELD MONITORS	A. There will be a tournament Field Monitor at each field that will report to the Tournament Field Director. B. Field Monitors will be the first to respond to any incidents or injuries and will be in contact with the rest of the tournament staff by radio or cell phone. Tournament participants are encouraged to report any concerns immediately to the Field Monitor, and to respectfully follow any instructions given by the Field Monitor.
21) MEDICAL/FIRST AID	A. There will be a First Aid station at the main tent where participants may receive ice, etc. for minor injuries. B. EMT personnel will be available at each location. Field Monitors will communicate via radio to call EMT to the field where first aid is requested. C. If an injury is serious, the EMT or Safety Director will have a mobile phone to call 911 for emergency response. D. Directions to the nearest hospital/urgent care center will be available at the First Aid station.
22) PROTESTS	A. Protests will be considered only for the following reasons: • An ineligible player has played. • One or more registered player(s), present and in uniform, has not played the required one half of the game (except for illness, injury or late arrival/early departure as recorded by the game referee). B. All protests must be presented in writing to the Tournament Director within 1/2 hour of the completion of the game. C. All protests will be heard by a Protest Committee of at least three persons selected by the Tourn. Director. In all cases, the Protest Committee will be unrelated to either team involved in the protest. D. ALL PROTEST DECISIONS ARE FINAL E. Referee judgment calls are FINAL and are not grounds for, or subject to, protest or dispute.
23) RULES INTERPRETATION	The Tournament Director retains the right to interpret and apply the tournament rules to the optimum benefit of all tournament participants. All decisions are at the discretion of the Tournament Director and are FINAL.

Sponsored by AYSO Region 678, Newhall/Valencia, California

2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Referee Information Form

I plan to bring a referee team to the tournament Y/N:		Referee Information Form Date:	

Region: _____ Team Name: _____

Coach Name: _____

Age Division (circle):	**9U 10U**	**11U 12U**	**13U 14U**		**Boys**	**Girls**	**Coed**

Referee Team Contact Person

Name: _____ **Email Address:** _____

Day Phone: **Evening Phone:**

Provide the following information for each referee.

- For "Badge Level", insert R = Regional, I = Intermediate, A = Advanced, N = National.

	Referee Name	Badge Level	Highest level qualified/comfortable refereeing (age, B/G)	Player on Team (Y/N)	Cell Phone/ Email
1					
2					
3					

Note: Any Youth Referee on this team will be required to carry with them a signed Youth Referee Letter Form.

Each referee will receive a tournament T-Shirt. Please indicate sizes needed. All sizes are Adult.

	XXL	XL	L	M	S
Number of Shirts Needed					

Regional Referee Administrator's Name _____ Phone Number _____ Email _____

By my signature below, I certify that all referees listed are certified AYSO referees and qualified for officiating 10U through 14U games as indicated above.

_____

RRA Signature or Regional Commissioner and date (Blue ink please)

Area Referee Administrator's Name _____ Phone Number _____ Email _____

Sponsored by AYSO Region 678, Newhall/Valencia, California

2026 AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush

Youth Referee Letter

Youth Referee Name: _____

Current Age _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

AYSO Badge Level: _____ **Certification Date:** _____

Representing Tournament Team: _____

Region: _____ **Team Name:** _____

Coach Name:

Age Division:	**9U/10U**	**11U/12U**	**13U/14U**		**Boys**	**Girls**	**Coed**

Youth referees must carry a copy of this letter with them at all times and present it to any Tournament Officials upon request. Youth referees also must either have a parent/guardian present at all times or must have a copy of their Youth Volunteer Registration Form attached to this Letter.

- The AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush requires that Youth Referees have this letter of authorization from their respective Regional Referee Administrator, certifying that they are skilled and experienced to handle the rigors of a competitive tournament game.
- The AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush further requires that the Youth Referee be at least two years older than the age group for which they are officiating, and further that they are not a player on a team that is currently entered in the AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush
-

Regional Referee Administrator Information:

_____ Regional Referee Administrator's Name

_____ Phone Number

_____ Email

I understand that a highly competitive tournament like the AYSO Santa Clarita Gold Rush generates a great deal of excitement and rigorous play that present a unique challenge to any referee. As a youth referee, there is an increased level of challenge due to the scrutiny that a youth referee is subjected to.
Nevertheless, I certify that this Youth Referee is a member in good standing from my Region, that s/he is skilled and experienced to referee games up to the level indicated below, and that s/he is at least 2 years older than the age group indicated:

	G9/10U	**B9/10U**	**G11/12U**	**B11/12U**	**G13/14U**	**B13/14U**
Skill level as a Center Referee (check all that apply)						
Skill level as an Assistant Referee (check all that apply)						

_____

RRA Signature and date (Blue ink please)