

2021

# Spring 2021 Season Guidelines



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Oahu League

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## INTRODUCTION

### WELCOME

Welcome to the 2021 Pre-Season Series & Outdoor Soccer Season! After 13 months off, we are all excited to get back out on the pitch. Thank you again for being a part of the Oahu League, we would like to also extend a very warm welcome to our new coaches with us this year.

### OAHU LEAGUE OF HAWAII YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

**Our Vision Statement:** A league which shapes the future of youth soccer on Oahu by inclusive development of life-long members.

**Our Mission Statement:** Kūhanauna (A soccer generation on the rise) – Providing membership support through a player-centered approach to administrator, coach, and club development.

**Our Values:**

- Inclusion
- Intentional Skill Development
- Family Balance
- Promoting Life-Long Enjoyment of Sport

**Our Strategic Priorities:**

**Organizational Leadership** - A model soccer league, built on a foundation of transparent governance, staff professionalism, and financial sustainability.

**Developing the Game** - Committed to excellence in standards, growth of participation and strength in Hawaii's soccer community.

**Partnership & Engagement** - Working with volunteers, players, parents, coaches, referees, and club administrators, alongside community and corporate partners to foster enthusiasm and commitment to the game of soccer.

## Strategic Pillars

- Leadership
- Recruitment & Retention
- Education
- Mentoring & Assessing
- High Performance
- Partnership & Engagement

Being a member of US Youth Soccer, we will continue to provide you with qualified guidance from our parent organization. Our commitment to provide you with an exceptional soccer experience is stronger than ever. Our intention is to strive for continuous improvement on what we offer to our members. Please let us know how we are doing. You can reach me via mobile (808.352.0631) or email [ceo@oahuleague.com](mailto:ceo@oahuleague.com). My door is always open to all of you.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### PRE-SEASON SERIES

April 17/18 & 24/25<sup>th</sup>

### SPRING OUTDOOR COMPETITIVE SEASONS (U6-19)

May 8/9<sup>th</sup> through June 26/27<sup>th</sup> (u6-8 will end June 19/20<sup>th</sup>)

### CHAMPIONSHIP WEEKEND

We will be holding League Championship Playoffs on June 26<sup>th</sup>/ 27<sup>th</sup> for u9-19 age divisions.

### PROMOTION/RELEGATION PLAYOFF

Will be held the following week after the conclusion of the Championship Weekend.

## SAFETY

Coaches have many responsibilities and one of them is to ensure they provide a safe playing environment for the players. Please check the area that the players will be playing in and look for potential harmful objects on the field.

### EQUIPMENT

Without any of the mandatory equipment below, Coaches and Referees cannot allow a player to play. Absolutely no exceptions can be made as this would be a severe safety risk.

- Soccer Boots (soccer shoes)
- Shin Guards (must be worn under the socks)
- Matching Team Jersey

### PROHIBITED

A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself/herself or any other player. This includes, but is not limited to earrings, watches, fitness trackers, necklaces, rings, hair clips, hair braids, body jewelry, etc. Using tape to cover jewelry is not acceptable.

## ADDITIONAL SAFETY

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### COVID-19

Due to Covid-19 there are no spectators allowed at the facility. Parents are encouraged to drop their players off and come back when their game time is over. For those staying at any of the practice/game facilities permitted by Oahu League or HYSA, they must remain in their cars.

There will also be no potlucks at the facilities. Any team in violation will have their practice permits pulled.

### WARM-UP TIMES

during Covid-19 Seasons will be 20 minutes prior to your kick-off. Plan on having your players be ready to meet with their Covid-19 Team Manager to check in with the CDC screening questions 30 minutes prior to warm-up near the entrance to the fields.

### TENT SET UP

Teams will have 2-3 tents allowed on their technical area. Players/coaches/team managers must be 6ft apart.

Only the 4 adults (coaches/team managers) listed may set up the tents. Teams setting up the tents will set up on the opposite touchline from the game prior to expedite the changeover. For example, game 1, teams will set up on the left side of the field. Game 2, the teams will set up on the right side of the field and so on.

### CAMERA SET-UP

Teams setting up to record matches may only be set up from the 4 adults that are listed on game day rosters.

### BATHROOMS

Bathrooms will be completely cleaned in the morning and evening and during the day they will be fumigated multiple times by the parks department.

Oahu League will be providing soaps as always in the bathrooms.

Parents may use the bathrooms at the facility, but immediately return to their vehicle.

Players that need to be escorted to the bathroom, will be escorted by one of the four coach/managers allowed on the game day roster.

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## REFEREE SAFETY

Referees may use electronic whistles or use the whistle under their mask.

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## MASKS

Players/coaches/referees can wear cloth masks, gaiters, or surgical masks. Masks with any metal pieces will not be allowed.

Plan to have 4-6 masks available per game that can be changed during hydration breaks, or halftime of the match.

### Hydration Breaks

Coaches and Referees should pre-arrange hydration breaks to occur around a certain minute of the match prior to kick-off (this would happen when the ball is out of touch during that time discussed). Players should have their own water bottles to use to get a drink of water and change their masks. Referees are asked to be lenient while players change masks as they will have to go to their bag to get water and masks. This is not a time to have a team huddle.

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## PLAYERS NOT FOLLOWING THE MASK MANDATE

Will be asked to leave the field of play. Teams collectively not following the rules will be brought for discipline procedures as it puts the entire league in danger of losing permits.

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## THE COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Teams must follow the Covid-19 Guidelines to participate in the Oahu League. This are listed on our website here <https://www.oahuleague.com/schedule/covid19-guidelines/>

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## INCLEMENT WEATHER

The safety of players, coaches, management, and spectators (when they can return) is the primary concern in any weather event that occurs during all games.

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## RAIN

All soccer events will be played, rain or shine. The league will only cancel games ahead of their scheduled start time if the Parks Department closes the facility. If a field becomes unplayable during the day due to rain, we will look to move that match. This will be announced on our [Twitter](#) page and through our email system.

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## THUNDER/LIGHTNING

If there is no thunder/lightning before the beginning of the game; the referee will decide the course of action in consultation with both coaches before it starts. In our divisions without referees (u6-8), the coaches of both teams have the authorization to suspend play or cancel matches in the event of thunder/lightning.

When thunder roars, go indoors (or your car)! Once thunder/lightning occurs, the play must be stopped. We will strictly observe the 30/30 rule. If the "flash to bang" is less than 30 seconds, play will be suspended for 30 minutes timed from the last flash or bang observation. If a game is played at least 10 minutes into the second half, it will be counted as played and scores will stand. Any matches cancelled due to weather will be recorded as a 1-1 tie.

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## HEAT

Games are not cancelled due to extreme heat; however, extra water and rest breaks will be implemented by the referees. Coaches and referees should meet prior to the start of the game to ensure all parties have been communicated to on when the hydration breaks will occur.

## COACHING EQUIPMENT

Each team will receive a Nike Oahu League Game Ball to use during matches. They can pick these up on the first day of the season at the command center located near Field #4.

Additional balls can be purchased at cost.

## RULES MATRIX

Competitive League Seasons											
Age Division	Shake Out	Game Duration	Players	Ball Size	Game Day Roster Max/Min	True Age on Roster	Club Passes Allowed	GK	Build-Out Line	Refs	Offside
U17, U18 & U19	N	2 x 45 min	11AS	5	18Max / 7 Min  5 Girls Max on Boys Team	7 / 4EX	10	Y	N	Y	Y
U15 & U16	N	2 x 40 min	11AS	5	18Max / 7 Min  5 Girls Max on Boys Team	7 / 4EX	10	Y	N	Y	Y
U13 & U14	N	2 x 35 min	11AS	5	18Max / 7 Min  5 Girls Max on Boys Team	7 / 4EX	10	Y	N	Y	Y
U11 & U12	N	2 x 30 min	9AS	4	16Max / 6 Min  4 Girls Max on Boys Team	6 / 3EX	8	Y	N	Y	Y
9U* & 10U*	N	2 x 25 min	7AS	4	Max 12 / 5 Min  4 Girls Max on Boys Team	NA	No Limit	Y	Y	Y	Y
6U*#, 7U*#, 8U*#	NN	4 x 10 Min	4AS	3		NA	No Limit	N	N	N	N

\*No deliberate heading in 6u – 12u

# No Scores, No Standings



## CLUB PASSING/TRUE AGE LIMITATIONS FOR COVID-19 ENVIRONMENT

Understanding the issues that face our organizations we will be more lenient with the enforcement of the "forfeits" for this season. We will be checking game sheets still, but if problems become habitual with one of our members, we will address those issues then.

Club passing has been expanded for 11v11 and 9v9 teams, please see the matrix above.

We ask that you do not call your top players from an "A" team to the "B" Team/Select Division. It is not good for any sort of leadership/development purposes. Players on "A" teams looking to get additional matches should be called up to a higher age group. While we have explored many options with our clubs on closing this loophole it is still a work in process.

## ROSTERS

Digital Rosters will be the official team roster for matches. Teams can make alterations to their Digital roster up to check in with the referees.

Teams will still need to have a printed copy of their roster that matches the Digital version. This means teams will be allowed to physically alter (write in) players. The referee will take the physical roster as the record of the game and turn this into the executive secretary (Sayoko).

Your Team Player Pool Roster may have 10 Coaches/managers; however, you are only permitted four (4) on your game day roster. This may be adjusted on your physical roster to match your Digital Roster.

## BUILD OUT LINE

The Build Out Line is to help develop a young player's ability to play out from the goalkeeper and keep possession.

**GOAL KICK:** When a team is awarded a goal kick, the defending team must retreat past the build out line in a timely fashion. Once the ball is put into play (i.e., is kicked and clearly moves), the defending team may pressure the ball. The attacking team may choose to restart play before the defending team retreats to the build out line; when this occurs, the defending team may pressure the ball.

**GOALKEEPER POSSESSION WITH HANDS:** The same process that occurs with goal kicks (defending team retreats past the build out line) must also occur when the goalkeeper has possession of the ball in their hands. Once this occurs, the goalkeeper may distribute the ball by roll, throw, or kick. The defending team may pressure the ball once it is released from the keeper's hands back into play. The goalkeeper may choose to distribute the ball before the defending team retreats to the build out line; when this occurs, the defending team may pressure immediately.

The build out line provisions do not apply to other restarts between the build out line and the goal line (e.g., throw ins, free kicks, etc.).

## COACHING CLINICS AND EDUCATION

The Oahu League has a library of coaching magazines, books, and sessions available to all our coaches. For access to this, please email Chris at [ceo@oahuleague.com](mailto:ceo@oahuleague.com)

HYSA is running Grassroots (4v4, 7v7, 9v9, and 11v11) sessions, as well as the National "D" and National "C" License this year. Please contact Hawaii Director of Coaching George Kuntz [socdoc@cox.net](mailto:socdoc@cox.net) for more information on the coaching courses. More information can be found on US Soccer's site here: <https://www.ussoccer.com/coaching>

Oahu League is a member organization of the United Soccer Coaches. Each club receives one free membership as part of this partnership. All our coaches also receive a discounted membership. To become a member please fill out this form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/UNsqXLk0hN>

Oahu League is looking to start a Coach the Coaches Program in the Fall of 2021 to kick off our 25<sup>th</sup> season. We hope that you are excited about this and we hope it will bring value to your membership in our league.

## SCHEDULES

Once the game schedule is set, the League is the only one authorized to change scheduled games. If a coach (or team administrator) wishes to change a game, they must first receive approval from the League. [The form to request this change is here](#). To receive approval the following must occur:

- both teams must be agreeable to the schedule change
- the schedule change must be finalized two weeks in advance of the originally scheduled game.
- the team initiating the request must pay for all expenses incurred in the schedule change, i. e., field-setups, referee re-scheduling and any other costs. Upon approval of the schedule change the Scheduler will coordinate the change with the Referee Assignor and the Field Coordinator.

Coaches, team administrators or team members are not to change game schedules without the approval of the Scheduler.

1. The League will only approve schedule change requests for conflicts with other approved and/or sponsored Oahu League and HYSA activities.
2. The League will not approve schedule change requests for conflicts with other activities in other leagues, i.e., softball, baseball, soccer, track, and basketball, etc.

The League may reschedule make-up games due to emergencies from Covid-19.

## CERTIFICATIONS

Coaches need to have their risk management, Safesport Certificate, HCamp, and Covid Waiver completed. Information here: <https://www.oahuleague.com/registration/risk-management/>

Coaches need a minimum USSF Grassroots Certification to coach in the Oahu League. Coaches are encouraged to get their "D" license before it becomes mandatory.

To complete your coach registration, go here:

<https://www.oahuleague.com/registration/coach-and-admin-registration/>

## POLICIES

### ZERO TOLERANCE FOR ABUSE OR HARASSMENT

We at the Oahu League will have a positive, safe, and competitive environment for all. Coaches, Parents, Players, and Referees are reminded that competitive sports are fun! We are trying to create life-long enjoyment of sport. The league has a Zero Tolerance Policy for any type of physical and/or verbal abuse. All forms of harassment towards referees, coaches, players, spectators, club representatives, or league personnel will not be tolerated.

If a member fails to abide by the rules and guidelines, he/she will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning by league,
- Writing warning,
- Game Suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by the organizations involved.
- Game forfeit through the match official
- Season suspension

### RULE OF TWO

The Rule of Two serves to protect minor athletes in potentially vulnerable situations by ensuring that more than one adult is present. It is not expected that it will be always reached, but the alternatives presented below, although increasing risk, are acceptable and would be aligned with the Rule of Two. The one-on-one interaction between a coach and an athlete without another individual present, is to be avoided.

- 1 Coach to 2 Athletes
- 1 Trained Coach, 1 Adult, 1 Athlete
- 2 Certified Coaches and 1 Athlete.

### DUTY TO REPORT

If you suspect child abuse, contact your local Children's Services/Police Department.

- It is your legal duty to report suspected child abuse. You do not need proof, just a reasonable suspicion.

- You do not need permission to report, nor can anyone prevent you from reporting.
- The report must come from the person who receives the information firsthand, not a third party.
- All calls are important. Your piece of the puzzle could help tip the scales for a response.

## WHISTLE BLOWING

Oahu League supports and allows individuals the ability to disclose incidents of wrongdoing without the fear of unfair treatment or reprisal. This Policy applies to individuals that observe or experience incidents of wrongdoing and report such incidents/observations under the expectation of privacy. It is to provide individuals the opportunity to communicate their concerns confidentially and/or anonymously.

All submission of concern shall be treated as confidential, whether received anonymously or otherwise. All submissions of concern should be supported with as much factual detail as possible, including dates, names, and places. Inflammatory or biased commentary should be avoided.

We maintain an open-door policy and suggest that members share their questions, concerns, and suggestions with someone who can address them properly. Email Chris at [CEO@Oahuleague.com](mailto:CEO@Oahuleague.com) with any of those concerns.

## ANTI-BULLYING

Bullying of any kind is unacceptable and should not be tolerated. Bullying is counterproductive to team spirit and can be devastating to a victim. Oahu League is committed to providing a safe, caring, friendly, and competitive environment for all participants.

## OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ODP)

The goal of the Olympic Development Program is to identify players for the regional and US National Team Programs. We have had many players go onto National Team, Professional, and Collegiate programs from Oahu League. Hawaii has the most players per capita in Division 1 soccer! More information on the ODP program will be posted by HYSA shortly.

## NO KA OI CAMP

The No Ka Oi Camp is our College Showcase camp where we bring college coaches here to watch our players. More information will be on the [OahuLeague.com](http://OahuLeague.com) website regarding the No Ka Oi Camp for 2021.

Mahalo and have an amazing season!

If you have any specific questions, please contact Chris at [ceo@oahuleague.com](mailto:ceo@oahuleague.com)

