

No Blowout Policy



SAY East Cincinnati

www.sayeast.org

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A **fundamental** guiding principle of SAY Soccer is for kids to have fun **in a recreational soccer environment**. We have rules for creating teams using blind draws, equalized playing time and we do not turn away any child if they can be reasonably accommodated. Even though we only keep scores and standings for the Strikers Divisions and above in the fall, all the players, parents and coaches are aware of the score on the field.

Policy:

To discourage aggressive and unsportsmanlike behavior on the part of coaches, players, and parents, we believe it is in the best interests of SAY East **and shall be the league policy** to limit scores to a 5-point spread. Therefore, coaches must adhere to the No Blowout Policy. This policy is designed to help the kids have fun and enjoy the sport and their team experience. While one team will always lose the game, it is important that the losing team is not humiliated. All players, coaches and parents must always show respect and good sportsmanship towards each other and the referees. Coaches must make parents and players aware of this policy and avoid a blow-out of more than 5 goals.

Consequences of a Blowout:

- 1. Any Blowout win (goal differential of more than 5 goals) will only receive 2 points for that win in the division standings.**
- 2. The head coach of any team in any division that habitually or egregiously allows his or her team to win by a Blowout score (goal differential of more than 5 goals) may be suspended for the following game, including if the next game is a tournament game.**
- 3. The tournament seeding tiebreaker rules will include fewer goals allowed.**

Planning:

As there are no timeouts in soccer, coaches and their players should have a plan before the game to avoid a Blowout. Here are some suggestions to avoid a blowout:

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- Start managing the score once the goal differential reaches 3 or 4. Do not wait until you are up by 5 to pull back.
- Put your best players on defense and do not allow them to cross the midfield line. This will allow your less experienced players more playing time in offensive positions.
- Require any shots on goal to be from outside the penalty box and aimed at the goalie.
- Require all players to shoot only with their non-dominant foot.
- Require all players to touch the ball before a shot on goal.
- Play down a player or two.
- Change your formation to put more players on defense.

Coaches should implement their no Blowout plan in a respectful and discreet manner to avoid humiliating the opposition.