



July 29, 2026

Dear Club and League Representatives:

As you may know, U.S. Soccer, FIFA, and the International Football Association Board (IFAB) recently announced updates to the Laws of the Game. MSYSA implemented applicable changes effective July 1, 2026.

Please note that MSYSA has elected to adopt the 'Only the Captains' guidelines as of July 1, 2026, rather than July 1, 2027.

At this time, MSYSA has elected **not** to implement the following optional provisions:

- Competitions may provide referees, assistant referees, and fourth officials with body cameras.
- A player, substitute, or substituted player will be sent off for covering their mouth while communicating with an opponent in a provocative, derisory, or inflammatory manner.

Additionally, MSYSA will **not** implement the following competition options:

- A player who leaves the field in protest of a referee's decision will be sent off.
- A player, substitute, or team official who instructs or encourages players to leave the field in protest of a referee's decision will be sent off.

To learn more about the Laws of the Game, please click [here](#).

Should you have any questions, please contact the MSYSA State Office.

Sincerely,

Thomas Faro
Executive Director

cc.: MSYSA Board of Directors



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