RECREATION SOCCER LEAGUE RULES

2011

Harford County Department of Parks & Recreation

B. If a team's scheduled field is unplayable, as determined mutually by the coaches, and another field is available at that site, the alternate field can be used. **Player safety MUST BE a primary concern.**

C. Both team areas shall be on the same side of the field. Parents and spectators shall be on the opposite side only. **Coaches are limited to fifteen (15) yards, on their side of the center line.** Home team shall be responsible for determining designated sides.

VI. CANCELLATIONS

A. **Local representatives will notify each other by 7:00 a.m. and all teams involved before 7:30 a.m. Saturday if the field is unplayable because of weather. The league will then notify the Official's Association no later than 7:30 a.m. Sunday times will be 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. respectively.**

B. The Soccer League will not schedule make up games.

VII. PROTEST PROCEDURE

A. The only item that can be questioned is the eligibility of a player. If a team wishes to contest the eligibility of a player, the concerned coach must arrange a meeting with program chairmen.

B. **The decision of the program Chairmen will be final.**

NORTHERN REGION SOCCER LEAGUE

LEAGUE RULES

I. LEAGUE AND ELIGIBILITY

A. The leagues of the Northern Region Soccer League for the season will be:

Recreation Leagues ▪ U9, U10 & U11 (8vs8). All others 11 vs 11. Age groups as follows: U13, & U15.

B. **Age Determination for the season is July 31st of the current year.**

C. Children may play in a higher age bracket, but not a lower age bracket. Any exception must be approved by the league and will be considered on a case by case basis.

D. Teams will be put in the age group of the oldest reported player on the team. Example: your team has ten eight year olds and one nine year old, the team would play in the Under 10 age group.

E. A team or player may play in a bracket higher than their age, but not lower. Teams playing up will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the league each year.

F. A player who **"Plays Up"** this season will not jeopardize eligibility in his/her regular age group in the future.

G. Each player must be listed on one (1) valid roster. A valid roster is the roster that has been submitted, by age group, and is on file with their program chairman.

II. ROSTERS

A. All rosters must be on file with the program chairperson by the first Friday in September.

B. Any additions or changes to the roster are to be made in writing with an updated copy on file with the program chairperson.

C. Each council will determine roster size for their teams.

D. A team may make individual player changes until **Sept. 30th** of the current year, when rosters will be frozen. **NO ADDITIONS AFTER THIS DATE.**

E. All team rosters will be distributed at the October NRSL Meeting.

III. PLAYING RULES

A. FIFA Laws of the game, except as modified herein, shall apply to all Northern Region Soccer League and Tournament play.

B. Under 9 and under 10 goal kicks may be taken from anywhere within the penalty area.

C. In full sided age groups (U-13 and older), there must be a minimum of nine (9) players present to begin a game. If a team has nine (9) players present, the game must begin. A team can finish with less than nine (9) players, (i.e., injuries). Any team that does not have a minimum of nine (9) players present will forfeit. It is recommended that each player receive an equitable amount of playing time. U-9, U-10 and U-11 league teams must have six (6) players present, minimum, to start a game. U-9, U-10 and U-11 teams may finish with less than minimum requirement as above.

D Forfeit time will be five (5) minutes after scheduled game time.

E. **The length of periods will be:**

Under 9 & 10 Leagues..... (4) 12-minute Quarters
NOTE: Kickoff – possession will alternate each quarter. Teams will change direction at the half.
Under 11 thru Under 18 Leagues .....30 minute Halves

F. **Game Balls:**

Under 9 thru Under 11..... #4 balls
Under 13 and older ..... #5 balls

G. For the **safety of players**, all players **MUST** wear shin guards, worn under socks, to be eligible to play, (also during practices). Jewelry, (i.e. earrings, rings and watches) may **not** be worn during the game. It is recommended that other safety equipment (i.e., mouthpieces, eye protection, cups, etc.) be worn. No hard casts, are allowed. Finger and hand splints/braces must be covered and padded.

H. Substitutions: U9 and U10 only. Both teams may substitute on all throw-ins and goal kicks.

I. The **HOT HEAD RULE** will be in effect for all leagues. If a referee places a **Yellow caution card** on a player, the coach will have the immediate right to make a substitution, for that player, without liability.

J. Referees shall eject from the game and the playing area, any player, manager, coach who commits a flagrant offense, such as the use of profanity, obscene gestures, or physical violence. **Coaches shall be responsible for the conduct of their spectators**. Referees shall have the prerogative to end the game for any violation of this rule. The referee's judgment concerning this rule shall be final and non-protestable.

K. Any player issued a **Red Card** will be suspended for the next league/tournament game. Any coach issued a **Red Card** will be suspended for the next two (2) league/tournament games. A **Red Card** suspension will carry over from one Fall playing season to the next Fall season. Area Representatives and Coaches will be responsible for ensuring league rules are followed with regard to Red Cards. <u>All Red Cards</u> must be reported to the Local Program Chairman (by Head Coach of team receiving Red Card) within 48 hours after the game. Program Chairmen must in turn report to their league within 48 hours upon receiving their notification of a Red Card violation. The program chairman must immediately notify the participant of their suspension. If, after return from suspension, a player or coach is **Red Carded** again during the season, that player or coach will be suspended from league play for one (1) calendar year from the date of the second incident.

IV. REFEREES

A. The association agrees, manpower permitting, to provide competent soccer officials for the council's League programs, according to the following:
Under 13 and older . . . . . .2 Officials per game
If the assigned association's referee fails to show up, the coaches can mutually agree on volunteer referees, one (1) from each team. If volunteer referees are used, the event shall be considered an official game.

B. Local recreation council officials. It is required that local councils provide officials for U-9, U-10 and U-11 age brackets. It is recommended that these referees attend a clinic provided by the officials association within two years.

V. FIELDS

A. **Under 9, 10 & 11 Leagues** will be scheduled to play on small fields (80 yards length x 50 yards breadth, where possible, and 6 ft. X 15 ft. goal posts, where possible).