

**SSC Laws of the Game
for
SSC Recreation U8 League Play**

1. LENGTH OF GAMES / BALL SIZE

4 – 12 minute quarters with a size 3 ball. The referee may add stoppage time to the end of each half. Players will switch side at the half. Matches which are temporarily stopped for inclement weather may be shortened by the referee in order to be completed on time.

* Compromises on overall field sizes are acceptable but the goal area and penalty area markings should be consistent with SCYSA recommendations.

2. FORMAT OF PLAY

5 v 5 Including Goalkeeper

3. PLAYERS and COACHES

All players shall be registered with SCYSA for a sanctioned game. All coaches shall have a SCYSA coach's card. One parent may remain on the bench as a player manager; all other parents must remain on the opposite side of the field. No parent or coach may coach from the end line (behind the goalie).

The number of players on the field shall be 3 Minimum, 5 Maximum (Including Goalkeeper)

4. SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions may be made as follows:

- Prior to a throw-in in your favor or when the opponent is subbing
- Prior to any goal kick
- After any goal
- At half time and quarters
- Following an injury (opposing team may also substitute on a one-for-one basis)

SSC and SCYSA recommend that all Recreation players participate in at least one half of the game time. If a player is present, but benched for disciplinary reasons, the referee and DOS must be informed prior to the start of the game.

5. OFFSIDE

Offside violations are not enforced but coaches should respect the spirit of the game and not allow players to "cherry pick" (hang around the opponents goal).

6. FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

No Slide Tackling.

The league has a zero tolerance policy with the use of foul language by all participants, spectators, parents, players or coaches. Referees are directed to send off any participant, spectator, parent, players or coaches who use foul language or behave in an unsporting behavior. A player may return after a cooling off period as long as the behavior does not continue. It is the discretion of the referee to allow the player to continue to play.

7. FREE KICKS

If an attacking player is fouled inside the GK line the free kick will be taken on or outside the GK line closest to spot of the foul and opposing players must remain 5 yards away. If the attacking team

commits a foul inside the line, restart (direct kick) will begin at the point of the foul opposing players must remain 5 yards away. On Goal kicks, the ball will be placed on the end line and the opposing players will remain outside the GK line. **Note: if the players are having issues getting the ball to travel to the GK line, the referee may allow the player to move the ball up to allow the game to resume as soon as possible.**

8. PENALTY KICKS

There are no penalty kicks

9. THROW INS

FIFA laws apply; however at the U8 age group any throw in will be considered legal as long as player is attempting to conduct a proper throw in. It is the referee's discretion to ask the player to re-attempt a throw in.

10. KICK OFFS

Opposing Players Must Remain 5 Yards Away

11. CORNER KICKS

Opposing Players Must Remain 5 Yards Away

12. GRACE PERIOD

Teams will be allowed ten (10) minutes after scheduled match time to field a minimum number of qualified players. Matches must start on schedule if the minimum number of players are present for each team. If the "no-show" team arrives before the referee leaves the pitch, the match may be played if both:

- The team that has won by a no-show elects to play the match with the final score deciding the winner of the match.
- The duration of the match is shortened by the amount of time between the scheduled match starting time and when the match actually starts.
- The spirit of the game compels the referee to allow the match to be played if at all practical.

13. BAD WEATHER

In the event of bad weather, the referee shall, upon arrival at the pitch, wait thirty (30) minutes from the scheduled match starting time before determining whether or not the field of play and weather conditions will allow for safe play.

To prevent undue damage to the pitch, a Club Representative may declare the pitch unusable due to bad weather. Prior to the start of the match all decisions regarding play will be made by SSC Representatives. Once the match begins the referee will make all decisions regarding stopping or continuing the match. When a match is abandoned due to severe weather all players must immediately return to their cars.

14. SPECTATORS' CONDUCT

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players and fans. Referees have full authority to terminate a match if fans become abusive and exhibit unsporting behavior. Coaches and teams will be located on one side of the field and parents/spectators will be located on the opposite side.

15. GAME OFFICIALS

All matches will use a single referee.

16. EJECTIONS

Suspended coaches are not allowed on any complex where a SCYSA game is being played until the suspension is served, regardless of the number of teams he/she coaches.

17. MATCH FEES

- If the referee has to discontinue the match for any reason, the match will stand and the officials will retain payment for the match.
- Officials will be paid full match fees for forfeited or cancelled matches if they are not personally notified of the forfeiture or cancellation at least two (2) hours prior to scheduled match time. DOS shall pay the referee at the field their normal fee (e.g. one-half of the total referee fee).
- If the officials for a match arrive at the pitch and the match must be cancelled due to technical malfunctions (e.g., lights, vandalism, etc.), then the officials shall receive one-half the match pay.
- For the 2010-11 seasonal year, fees for SSC matches are as follows, per match: Total \$18.00 to be paid by the DOS or designate.

18. MATCH RESCHEDULINGS/FORFEITURES

In order for a forfeit to count as a game, the team must report to the field and have the referee declare the game as a forfeit (after the ten minute waiting period), unless otherwise determined by the SSC DOS.

19. Behavior and Removal

The SSC commissioner, member of the SSC board, SSC DOS or referee may ask any person to leave the field or facility for what they deem unacceptable behavior.

20. PROTESTS AND COMPLAINTS

Protests of circumstances allegedly affecting the outcome of the game in youth soccer are discouraged. Protests contesting the outcome of any game may be lodged with the DOS through the coach. The DOS will review the protest and arbitrate a decision. It is at the discretion of the DOS to reschedule a contest. Note: Referee decisions are **not** disputable.

21. COACHING LICENSE

SCYSA has mandated that at least one (1) coach for each team be licensed for the 2010-2011 year. Youth Module or higher is required for all coaches. A one (1) year grace period may be allowed for coaches who have never coached or never registered with SCYSA as a coach.

22. RECRUITMENT

SCYSA recruitment policies apply.

23. GAME CANCELLATIONS DUE TO FIELD CLOSURE

Teams and referees are responsible to sign up at rainedout.com. All field closures will be reported through rainedout.com. Closure determinations shall be made by SSC or the referee if he/she believes the pitch is dangerous.

24. THE LAWS OF FIFA AND USSF SHALL GOVERN ALL SSC MATCHES EXCEPT AS MODIFIED HEREIN.

25. Have Fun and enjoy SSC Recreation SOCCER !!!