



## Recreational League Guidelines

### General

The rules of play shall be the Laws of the Games as published by FIFA, except as modified for small-sided games. Field sizes are based on modifications for small-sided games.

### Game Requirements.

*For the Players.* Tennis shoes or soccer shoes are required.

As much as possible, members of the team should wear the same color jerseys or T-shirts with a different number for each player. The goalkeeper should have a different color shirt than those of his/her teammates and the opposing team.

Shin guards are mandatory. Socks must completely cover shin guards.

**Dangerous Equipment.** A player must not use equipment or wear anything dangerous to him/herself or another player. Jewelry is considered dangerous equipment. The referee has the final determination if the equipment is safe on the field of play.

### *Coach Needs.*

Official current roster; it may be electronic. Players must be listed on the roster. If player cards are used, the card must be complete with a picture and laminated. All coaches must be listed on the roster to be on the player side of the field during a game.

Game ball if the Home Team.

If Home Team, pinnies, if needed.

### *Home Team.*

The home team is noted on the game schedule.

Home team should wear light blue jerseys.

The home team provides the game ball

Size 3 U7/8

Size 4 U9/10/11/12

Size 5 U13 and above

The Home team changes jerseys or wears pinnies if the referee deems necessary.

### *Pre-Game Check-in.*

Referee checks rosters (or player cards) for players and coaches.

Referee checks player equipment (jewelry removed, shin guards and socks in place).

Referee conducts the coin toss. The winner of the toss selects "goal to attack" or the kickoff.



### ***Game Length.***

7U/8U - four 10-minute quarters; time between quarters is 1-2 minutes.

9U/10U - two 25-minute halves

11U/12U - two 30-minute halves

13U/14U - two 35-minute halves

15U/16U - two 40-minute halves

Time between halves is 5 minutes.

### ***The Game.***

All players play at least 50% of the game.

Respect the decisions of the referee.

Be responsible for controlling yourself, your players, and your spectators and see they behave in a sportsmanlike manner.

Spectators must remain at least six (6) feet back from the touchline to avoid injury, to allow players adequate room to play, and to allow room for Assistant Referees.

All spectators will be seated on the opposite side of the field from teams. Spectators are not allowed on the sideline with teams, or standing or sitting behind the goal lines.

### ***After the Game.***

Shake hands with the players and coaches of the other team. No matter what happens during the game, this is the time to acknowledge the game is over and anything negative that happened on the field can be left on the field.

Thank the referee(s).

If desired, have a post-game meeting with your players.

Review the game: what went well and what needs improvement.

Pass on information about practices and games to your players and/or parents.

Clean up your bench area.

Enjoy the treats.

## **Other Factors That May Affect the Game**

### ***Referee No-show***

If the referee does not show up, locate the staff person on duty and inform him/her of the situation. The staff member MAY referee the game, find another referee for the game, or, in rare cases, cancel the game.

If the game is cancelled, the coaches should contact the Referee Assignor and let him/her know the referee did not show up. Then work with the other coach to reschedule the game.

If the game is played:

- Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their players and spectators during the game.
- Contact the Referee Assignor to notify of the no-show
- The winning coach, or home coach in case of a tie, turns in the game report and score to the Referee Assignor.



### ***Team No-show***

If a team does not show up, the referee will wait 10 minutes past game time. If the team does not arrive, the referee will complete the game report and will record the game as a forfeit against the team that did not show. The coach should contact the Game Scheduler so he/she can follow up with the missing team to make sure there aren't any issues.

If the team arrives within the 10-minute grace period, the referee may shorten the periods of play in order to stay on schedule with other games at the complex.

### ***Termination/Cancellation***

Call for game status every day to check for cancellations and field changes.

3:00 PM on weekdays  
7:30 AM on Saturdays  
11:00 AM Sundays

Call no matter what the weather conditions are on game day.

Cancellations will be on the answering service at Parks and Recreation (712-890-5290).

If weather conditions are questionable and Parks & Recreation has not cancelled the games, the Referees will have the final decision at the field.

### ***Severe Weather.***

If there is a "Tornado Warning" or other severe weather before or during a game, the game will be cancelled immediately.

Thunder/Lightning. If there is thunder or lightning in the area, the game will be suspended immediately by the Referee.

Darkness. It is the Referee's discretion to shorten quarters/halves in case of darkness. The Referee will advise both coaches that the game is being shortened.

Heat. US Soccer guidelines.

### ***Forfeits.***

Any team refusing to play a scheduled league game or failing to field the minimum number of players within 10 minutes (the allowed grace period) forfeits the game to the opposing team with the score of zero (0) to two (2). The minimum number of required players is 5 (U9/10), 6 (U11/12), and 7 (U13 and up).

If a scheduled game is fully or partially played and is forfeited as a result of an infraction of the rules or a protest, the forfeiting team shall lose that game with the score of zero to two.

Grounds for Forfeit:

1. Refusing to play a scheduled league game or failing to field a team within 10 minutes after scheduled game time.
2. Leaving the field of play before completion of the game and without approval of the referee.
3. A team shall forfeit if its players, coaches, or spectators create a disturbance that warrants the termination of the match by the referee.



## Reschedules.

**Emergency Cancellations.** If you need to cancel within 48 hours of game-time, do this:

1. Contact the coach of the other team
2. Contact Referee Assignor
3. Follow the Reschedule Process to reschedule the game

**Cancellations by the League.** If your game is cancelled, rained out, or terminated prior to the end of the first half (for reasons other than misconduct), the game may be rescheduled. It is the responsibility of the coaches to request the reschedule.

**Requested Reschedules.** Schedule changes should be requested only as needed or in the case of a cancellation prior to the end of the first half (see above).

1. Contact the coach of the other team.
2. Get 2-3 possible dates from the other coach.
3. Complete and submit the Reschedule Form.
4. Game Scheduler contacts the Referee Assignor to cancel the original game, if needed.
5. Game Scheduler reschedules the game and posts the game on the website.

## Game Reports.

### *Reasons to complete a game report:*

- The referee was outstanding and you want him/her to know you appreciated it.
- You have concerns about a referee's performance. Be specific with your feedback.
- The field was not in perfect condition.
- The other coach exhibited less than appropriate behavior.
- *You* exhibited less than appropriate behavior.
- Some of the spectators were more "exuberant" than necessary.
- Players did not exhibit sporting-like behavior.
- The game was "awesome", and you want someone to know.
- You have questions about the rules.

## Send-Offs and Dismissals.

Players, coaches, and team officials can be sent off (red card). Spectators can be dismissed from the field of play and its immediate surrounds.

CBSC feels strongly that all participants must conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Unsporting behavior is not tolerated. Send-offs and dismissals are tracked by CBSC.

Player, coach, team official, or spectator dismissal from a game: One additional game suspension. Subject to review by Executive Board for possible further sanctions.

No alcoholic beverages are allowed at the complex.

As of July 1, 2008, all Parks and Recreation facilities and programs must adhere to the Iowa Smokefree Air Act. Smoking is prohibited at all outdoor events including sidelines for sports fields, concession stands, and seating.

