

Nash County Recreation & Senior Services Co-Ed 7 V 7 Soccer Rules

DISCLAIMER: Participants, parents, family, and spectators engaging in any activities, do so with knowledge of the risk and potential exposure involved and agree to accept any and all inherent risks to their personal health.

General Rules

- Each team will place 7 players on the field. 1 goalie and 6 field players
- Minimum present to start game is **5 players**. If team does not have the minimum amount of players at game time, it will be a Forfeit by said team
- Goal sizes are 7 X 21.
- Games are played on U12/U15 field.
- Two official and site supervisor will be scheduled for all league games
- Offsides will be called under the discretion of the Referee
- **No slide tackling will be allowed. Repeat offenses will result in a yellow card (Exception goalkeepers are allowed to slide however not with their feet forward, and they are not making a dangerous slide base of the Officials. The 1st offense will result in a warning 2nd offense will result in a penalty pre referee discretion)**
- Once the goalkeeper obtains possession of the ball within the penalty area, the ball must be distributed outside the penalty area or to another player within six (6) seconds. Possession will be defined as control with hand.
- **When goalkeeper throws the ball out, the BALL CAN NOT CROSS OVER THE HALFWAY LINE while in the air.**
- **Goal kicks— The BALL CAN NOT CROSS OVER THE HALFWAY LINE while in the air.**
- For fouls inside the penalty box, penalty kicks will be awarded to the opposing team at the top of the box. For all other fouls, **indirect kicks will be awarded.**
- **All free kicks are indirect.**
- A goal cannot be scored directly from a kickoff or throw in.
- All players shall be responsible for taking reasonable precautions when initiating contact. Overly aggressive play or unnecessary contact will constitute in a foul.
 - Any player receiving a yellow card must come off the field **and cannot return for the duration of the half** (may be substituted).
 - Any player receiving a red card is ejected from the remainder of the game and must leave the field immediately. Player is not allowed to play (or be allowed at soccer field) for the next game. Players receiving yellow cards in consecutive games will be suspended for the next game.
 - **Players receiving more than 4 yellow or 2 red cards during the season will face a 1 year suspension from the sport.**
- **All rules are in accordance of FIFA, except as specified herein**

Game Duration

- Time will consist of two (2) twenty five (25) minute running halves. The official on the field will keep the clock.
- Half time last no longer than five (5) minutes
- Games may end with a tied score. No overtimes will be played in the Regular Season.
- **Mercy Rule** -- If a team is Up by eight (8) points at the Forty-Fifth (45) minute mark or after, the game will be called

Player Requirements/Composition

- Recommended to have 10 player on a Roster, at least 2 females, **Maximum 15 players** on a roster
- Teams must always have one (1) woman on the field. If a team cannot comply, **then they must play with a “1 player-down”**. Teams must have at least five (5) to start the game

Any rules may be changed without notice to program participants. If a change is made, each team will be notified as soon as it is necessary

- Goalkeeper may be of either gender
 - All players must have completed a Nash County Recreation & Senior Services Registration form and paid fee to be eligible
 - Players can not be added to teams past the date rosters are frozen (date to be determined)
 - Team Rosters must be turned in before the first regular season game. Adding players to roster must be done at the Nash County Administration Building in Nashville.
 - Every player will be **Required** to have a Photo ID (Example: Driver License, Work badge...) at every game for identification purposes.
 - **An illegal player is defined as:** a player participating under an assumed name and/or playing for a team in which he/she is not on that team's roster; or playing on more than one team in the same division.
 - **An ineligible player is defined as:** a player who does not meet the requirements of the NCPR code of conduct; or playing while under suspension.
- NOTE:** Any team found to be playing illegal players must forfeit the present game, and all games players have played. Those players will be suspended from league play for the remainder of the year, and the manager will be suspended from ALL league play for the next 2 scheduled games
- Team Captains are responsible for their team's behavior and their fans/spectators. If Team Member or a Fan/Spectator has been ejected, the Team Captain and Site Supervisor will be responsible to make sure they leave the premises
 - **NO CURSING** in any Language

Players and Substitutes

- Teams will be allowed unlimited substitutions.
 - **Throw in**—either team
 - **Goal Kick**—either team
 - **Goal**—either team
 - **Injury**—when the referee stops the play, the team with the injured player may substitute. The opposing team may substitute a single player after the injured player has been taken out of the game.
 - **Yellow Card**—the referee will allow for an immediate substitution of the carded player
 - **Red Card**—must leave field immediately and not allowed to play (or be allowed at soccer field) for the next game.
- During substitution players will be able to exit **Player-Side** or **Either Goal-Side only**.

Players Uniform & Equipment

- The required player equipment includes Jersey (provided by Rec Department), shorts/sweatpants, socks and soccer-type shoes.
- Metal cleats are not allowed, only rubber-cleated shoes are allowed. Soccer cleats that have metal tips will not be allowed.
- Shinguards are **REQUIRED**.
- No jewelry will be allowed.
- **Players can wear a(n) face mask if they choose to do so.**
- Players requiring use of medical protective devices, such as knee braces, may be allowed to do so at Referee's discretion. Braces made of plastic or including metal parts (hinges, etc) must be completely covered by a protective sleeve.

Forfeit Rule/ Rain out Rule

- Game time is forfeit time
- If a team is short players, or for any reason cannot field a team to play, the opposing teams **MUST** accept the win by forfeit. If this happens, the referee will assemble both captains and the field supervisor and clearly identify which team is forfeiting, and which team is winning by forfeit.

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- In this situation, it is NOT permissible:
 - For a team who is short players to accept players from the other team to play an official game
 - For a team with enough players to provide extra players to the opposing team to play an official game
- Even when both teams have enough players to play, it is **NOT** legal for someone to participate on your team who has not registered with Nash County Recreation Department.
- **In case of Server Weather/Rain Outs Cancellation, If field condition permit games will be played at later date.**

Disciplinary Actions by League

Examples of disruptive/unsportsmanlike act shall include, but are not limited to:

- loud or abusive language
- disrespectful comments to official(s)
- disrespectful comments to opposing teams
- throwing of objects
- displaying disgust in an overt manner
- interfering with proper officiating of the match

Ejections.

A.) player who is ejected from a game will be required to leave sight and sound of the facility within **2 minutes**. If a player fails to leave after an ejection, the game **will be forfeited by the officials**. Managers should see that your player leaves promptly.

B.) If any player is ejected from the game he/she shall be automatically suspended for a minimum of One game, additional punishment could be handed down pending review by NCPR staff.

Possible actions include: Multiple game suspensions and a meeting with the Recreation Staff, Season suspension and a meeting with the Recreation Staff Indefinite suspension

C.) If the player is ejected a second time, he/**she will be suspended for the remainder of the season**, or if circumstances so warrant, be suspended from participation in any program and/or facility of Nash County Parks & Recreation Department indefinitely, pending review by NCPR staff.

Champions and Playoffs

- A post-season tournament will be held after regular season is completed. Tournament seeding will be determined by points gained during the regular season using the following system:
 - Three (3) points for a win
 - One (1) point for a tie
- Overtime periods during tournament games will consist of two (2) **five minute periods**. If in tournament play the match is still tied after overtime periods, the game shall be decided by the taking of penalty kicks.

All Referee Rulings are Final, No Arguing Allowed

- Please respect the official on your field as well as the calls he or she makes. Absolutely no arguing with the referee is allowed.

Protest

- Allowing players to play who are not on your roster may result in forfeiting the game.
- Only the opposing team may protest illegal players. Protest of illegal player(s) may be done before or during the game (the game will be played under protest)
- Protest must be reported to the referee and site supervisor
- Written documentation of the protest must be received within 24 hours of the protest to the Recreation Department.
- Referee's decisions are final. No protest will be allowed concerning interpretations of rules by the referee

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