

RECREATIONAL SOCCER PROGRAM CLUB RULES

The game of soccer is governed by the Laws of the Game as published by FIFA. It is often necessary to make modifications and allowances in the interest of the players concerned. Such is the case here, and except as noted in these guidelines and rules, the FIFA laws shall be applied.

It should be noted that these rules and guidelines apply to the recreational programme wholly controlled by WISC. Where interlock leagues exist, or for games involving teams from other clubs, additional and superseding rules may exist.

1. Playing Divisions

U4 - Players turning 4 years old during the current calendar year
U5 - Players turning 5 years old during the current calendar year
U6 - Players turning 6 years old during the current calendar year
U7 - Players turning 7 years old during the current calendar year
U8 - Players turning 8 years old during the current calendar year
U9 - Players turning 9 years old during the current calendar year
U10 - Players turning 10 years old during the current calendar year
U11 - Players turning 11 years old during the current calendar year
U12 - Players turning 12 years old during the current calendar year
U13 - Players turning 13 years old during the current calendar year
U14 - Players turning 14 years old during the current calendar year
U15 - Players turning 15 years old during the current calendar year
U16 - Players turning 16 years old during the current calendar year
U17 - Players turning 17 years old during the current calendar year
U18 - Players turning 18 years old during the current calendar year
Senior - Players turning 19 years old or older during the current calendar year

Playing outside of the assigned age division is not allowed unless approved by the applicable Director or designate.

At its discretion, the Club may combine certain older age divisions to form multi-age divisions. The Club shall determine the regular days of the week when games will be played. In some instances, the Club may choose to enter a specific age division in the "interlock" system with other clubs in the region. Interlock teams play within Durham Region but travel outside of Whitby to some games. Should that happen, game days are determined by the Durham Soccer League (girls and boys division).

In order to achieve more balanced teams, and as required, WISC reserves the right to re-assign players to different teams.

2. Field of Play

Micro Soccer - U4, U5, U6

The field of play is approximately 30 x 20 yards. Each coach will be provided with a goal net which must be returned to WISC at the end of the season.

Mini Soccer - U7, U8, U9

The field of play for mini soccer shall be smaller than regulation size. Where play is on a regulation size field, only one third or one half (as suitable to the age division) shall be used, across the width of the regulation size field, between the centre and goal lines.

Regulation size field goals shall not be used in mini soccer. On permanent mini soccer fields the existing goal sizes are appropriate for the level of play and shall be used. When play is on a subdivided regulation field, or when proper permanent nets are not available, nets, pylons or markers, duly spaced 3

yards (9 feet) apart, shall be used as goals or goal posts. The goal area extends around, and in front of, the goal markers for 6 yards (approx 6 meters or 6 adult average stride sized steps). This area also serves as the equivalent of the penalty area on regulation sized fields.

3. Recreational game format, duration, ball size, number of players and equipment

BALL SIZE	
Age Group	Ball Size
U4	3
U5 to U12	4
U13 and older	5

DURATION OF GAME			
Age Group	Pre-Game/ Warm-up	Game duration	Half-time Break
U4, U5, U6	20 Mins	2 x 20 mins	5 mins
U7, U8, U9 (7 v 7)	n/a	2 x 25 mins	5 mins
U9, U10 (9 v 9)	n/a	2 x 30 mins	5 mins
U11, U12 (11 v 11)	n/a	2 x 35 mins	5 mins
U13 (11 v11)	n/a	2 x 40 mins	5 mins
U14 and older (11 v 11)	n/a	2 x 45 mins	5 mins

Game durations may be modified during cup competition play

NUMBER OF PLAYERS & FORMAT			
Age Group	Format	Maximum Players per Team	Goalkeeper
U4	3 v 3	9	No
U5	4 v 4	12	No
U6	5 v 5	12	Yes
U7, U8, U9	7 v 7	14	Yes
U9, U10	9 v 9 *	16	Yes
U11 and older	11 v 11	18	Yes

***9 v 9 games will be scheduled based on field availability.
Where required WISC reserves the right to re-assign players
to different teams in order to achieve better balanced teams.***

4. Game sheets, points and standings

U6 up to senior

- a) The team listed first on the schedule is considered to be the home team
- b) The home team coach is responsible for providing the game ball and for presenting the visiting coach with a game sheet to completed.
- c) Both coaches must complete one (and only one) game sheet for each game played. The information to be included is the date, time, location, team identification and coach names, team colours. Game sheets must properly identify the first and last names and numbers of players. No other comments are to be placed on the game sheet, except by the referee for official purposes.
- d) The referee may note reasonable protests on the game sheet. If other objections or points of view arise which, in the opinion of the referee, are not worthy of noting on the game sheet, the coaches may voice their concerns in writing to the Club.
- e) The game sheet is to be submitted to the Club Office within 48 hours of the completion of the game, by the home team coach or Division Convener. In the event of any discipline, the referee will complete his reports and submit them along with the game sheet to the club office within 48 hours of the game.
- f) For children playing 9 v 9 and older, three points are awarded for a win. One point is awarded for a tie.
- g) League standings shall be recorded by the Convener and submitted in proper format to the Club

- office once in June, once in July and twice in August during the regular season.
- h) League standings are determined as follows:
- Total points
 - Most games won
 - Better record in head to head games
 - Goal difference (goals for, minus goals against, for ALL games played - maximum 5 goal difference)
 - Least goals scored against
 - Deciding game
- i) The standing will reflect the results of game sheets actually received by the Club office. No points will be awarded for game sheets not received.

5. Cancelled and Postponed Games

In the event a referee fails to show up for a game, every attempt must be made to complete the game. Provided both coaches agree, one or more volunteers may be elected to referee the game. However, it should be understood beforehand that such replacements acquire the same status, and must be given the same courtesy as any club or league appointed official.

Any referee failing to show up for a game must be reported to the club office who will take appropriate action. This should be noted on the game sheet.

For U6 and older divisions, once a game has started, only the referee may abandon the game due to severe weather conditions. Under no circumstances should the game be allowed to continue if lightning is present. If the game is abandoned by the referee after the start of the second half, the game is considered complete and the result will stand, and it will not be rescheduled.

From time to time, the Town of Whitby may issue a Field Closure directive. When this occurs, the Club field permits are withdrawn until further notice and Town fields will NOT be used by the Club or its members under any circumstances.

A game should be started on time if both teams have the minimum number of required players. A grace period of 15 minutes is allowed for the minimum number of players to arrive before a default will be given. A loss of 1-0 will be registered against the defaulting team that could not field the minimum number of players after the grace period.

Games may be rescheduled only when a referee has abandoned a game prior to the start of the second half and the Club office is notified by the Convener immediately.

Substitutions

Age Group	Timeouts	Substitutions may be called by
U6		Referee at 4 minute intervals
U7, U8, U9		<p>Referee</p> <p>Permission shall not be denied to substitute for a player who is injured, ill or who leaves field of his/her own accord, or who is sent off for severe misconduct, provided the referee has first been made aware and has indicated acceptance of the substitution. A substitution is allowed for a player sent off for misconduct, but the offending player will not be allowed back on the field. Play will be stopped by the referee at approximately 5 minute intervals for player changes. So as not to interfere with the goalkeeper or play, no one, including spectators, is allowed behind the goal line. With this playing format, the time taken by play and rests amounts to about 60 minutes. Coaches are encouraged to set aside at least 15 minutes preceding kick-off time for warm-up and skill development. Players substitution takes place from the sideline – since the duration of games is slightly longer in this division, it is also recommended that practice sessions, if held, take place on non-playing days. The coach shall remain on the sidelines during play in close proximity of the location they designate as their bench (i.e. coach must stay off the field and not move up and down the sidelines).</p>
U10 and older		<p>Referee</p> <p>In the interest of promoting fair distribution of playing time, an unlimited number of players may be substituted as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) At the start of each half b) After a goal is scored c) On any goal kick d) On your own team's throw-in and any team can piggy-back e) To replace an injured player

Provided both coaches and the referee agree BEFORE the start of the game, additional substitutions may be allowed at other stoppages in play to provide relief from exhaustion during unreasonably hot weather.

Except for half-time, no substitution shall be made unless the referee is first notified, and then, only after the referee has signaled consent.

U6 and U7

One coach from each team is permitted on the field. Coach must not interfere with play. No coaching permitted from behind the goals. Coaches are required to manage the game and ensure the exercise of fair play.

6. The Referee

There will be no referees for the U4 and U5 age divisions. All other divisions will have referees.

The referee will ensure that no player is wearing any dangerous articles, which could injure a player or themselves. The referee shall not allow any player without shin pads to play. A player wearing protective devices (i.e. Casts, braces etc) will not be allowed to play unless written approval is received from the Club Head Referee or his designate.

Gross disregard of the Laws of the Game or Rules herein, whether committed by players, coaches or spectators, will not be tolerated. If, after having issued warnings, this type of misconduct persists, the referee shall request that the coach remove the offenders from the vicinity of the field of play. Failure to obey the referee's request may result in abandonment of the game and subsequent disciplinary action.

7. Call-up Players

U4, U5, U6, U7, U8 – call-ups are NOT permitted.

U9, U10 - guest players NOT permitted unless permission is granted by the appropriate Youth Recreational Director - i.e. Mini, Girls or Boys.

U11 and older

In the event a team is short of players, guest players may be called upon subject to the following conditions:

- a) the player is properly registered with the WISC
- b) the player comes from a recreational team in the division directly below the requesting team (1 year younger). No competitive level players are allowed as guests.
- c) The maximum number of guest players is 3 and only enough to field a maximum of 14 players
- d) The aggregate maximum number of times a player is allowed to be called up is 6 (this means by all teams, not just yours)
- e) All guest players must be noted on the game sheet, with specific and clear indication of their guest status
- f) The opposing coach must be informed when guest players are being used PRIOR to starting the game. Any objections must be noted on the game sheet by the referee
- g) Illegal use of a guest player will result in loss of points and discipline
- h) Call-ups or Guest players are NOT permitted during playoffs

Coaches, other team officials and parents shall encourage all players, at all times. The coach is responsible for the overall conduct of his/her team officials, parents and supporters.

