

2021 NBAA Soccer Rules and Procedures

The purpose of the New Berlin Athletic Association Soccer program is to teach soccer, good sportsmanship and to HAVE FUN! We expect the coaches to be the leader of the team in this regard and convey these goals to the parents.

I. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

A. Tots (Co-ed)

- Maximum number on the field will be **4**
- There will be NO goalie, even for penalty kicks

B. Minis

- Boys - maximum number on the field will be **5**
- Girls - maximum number on the field will be **5**

C. Minors

- Boys - maximum number on the field will be **7**
- Girls – maximum number on the field will be **6 (note this is 3/4th grade girls)**

D. Juniors

- Boys - maximum number on the field will be **9**
- Girls - maximum number on the field will be **10 (note this is 5-8th grade girls)**

E. Majors

- Boys - maximum number on the field will be **7**

Notes regarding MAJORS Division: Given that we are playing smaller-sided games on a condensed field, **punting by the goalie will not be allowed.** The goalie must place the ball on the ground to kick or throw the ball out of the penalty box once they have obtained possession.

A “build out/break out line” will be used on the major’s field and will be approximately 6 yards outside of the penalty area. All attacking players must be behind the build out/break out line after the goalie obtains possession. Once the ball leaves the goalie’s possession, the attacking team can cross the build out/break out line. They do not have to wait for the ball to cross the build out/break out line to play. The goalie may choose, at their discretion, to pass the ball before the attacking players are behind the build out/break out line, but does so with the risk that the attacking players can intercept the pass immediately.

On goal kicks, the attacking team must also be behind the build out/break out line before the kick is taken. Once the ball is kicked, the attacking team may play the ball. The ball must still clear the penalty box to be a valid goal kick, it does NOT have to cross the build out/break out line to be a valid goal kick. Defending players may remain in the penalty box or behind the build out/break out line (closer to the defending goal).

A team must field at least 3 players less than the maximum number for an official game. If a team cannot field the minimum number of players, a forfeit will be awarded. The procedure for the forfeit will be as follows:

- Both teams must line up for pre-game inspection
- After inspection, both teams line up for the start of the game. When the referee discovers one team does not have enough players, that team will be asked to leave the field. There will be no grace period given.
- When the forfeiting team leaves the field, the game will begin with the remaining team kicking off.
- Once the kicking team scores a goal, the game will be over and the final score will be 1-0.

A scrimmage game will then be played using the losing team's number of players as maximum.

II. PLAYER EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS

Uniforms (consisting of a T-Shirt, shorts, and socks) are supplied by the NBAA and must be worn at all games in order to play.

While soccer cleats are not required, they are recommended. Parents will supply soccer cleats or athletic shoes. The use of shin guards is required for all players. Shin guards must be worn under the uniform socks.

Goalies must wear a color that distinguishes them from other players. A goalie jersey will be provided to each team. If a goalie jersey is unavailable, an alternative such as a colored pinny would suffice. **Player shorts, goalie jerseys, and any other TEAM equipment issued by the NBAA must be returned at the end of the season.**

Players are not required to have a facemask, but are encouraged to have one with them and wear it while on the sidelines, and before and after games.

III. REFEREES

If referees are not present, we ask that parents or managers act as the referee. Games must be played at their scheduled times.

Referees will all have facemasks on them. They will be required to have the mask on when social distancing cannot be maintained and/or there is direct contact with a player (injury, instruction on a rule or call, tying a shoe, etc.) and during pre-game inspection. Referees are instructed to not touch the ball during the game. **COACHES – Please talk to your players about this change.**

IV. SPORTSMANSHIP

Foul or abusive language during the game will result in the ejection of the player with no substitution allowed. Coaches are also subject to immediate ejection for foul language.

A. Red Penalty Card

Automatic ejection from game with no substitute player allowed.

B. Yellow Penalty Card

Caution; only one (1) per game per player. Player receiving a yellow card must be substituted for immediately but may re-enter the game later. If the same player receives a second yellow card, he/she is ejected for the remainder of the game with no substitution allowed.

After the game, team line-up is the place for congratulating your opponents on their skill, effort, and spirit. Any negative comments or crude actions will result in a one game suspension. The referees will monitor this line-up.

V. PLAYING TIME & FIELD

Coaches and players must be on the field for inspection and pre-game information 5 minutes before the start of the game.

Coed Tots AND Boys and Girls Minis - Games will consist of two (2) 20-minute periods with a 5-minute half time break.

Boys and Girls Minors - Games will consist of two (2) 25-minute periods with a 5- minute half time break.

Boys and Girls Juniors AND Majors - Games will consist of two (2) 30-minute periods with a 5-minute half time break

All players should play at least one-half of the total game. It is the coach's responsibility to make sure all of the players play at least one-half of the game.

No coaches are allowed on the field at any level during the game, except for injury.

No coaches or spectators are allowed behind the goal lines. Brief picture taking, however, will be permitted.

Both teams will share one side of the field and spectators will be on the opposite side. Coaches may only coach from their half of the field. Coaches, please help us in directing parents to their side of the field prior to games beginning.

Coaches are required to wear a facemask during all games. Coaches are required to wear a facemask during practice when social distancing cannot be maintained.

VI. SUBSTITUTIONS

Other than during a Free Kick or Penalty Kick, either team will be allowed to substitute players during stoppage of play, granted they notify the Referee FIRST, AND are given permission by the Referee. The referee has the discretion to not accept a coach's request for a substitution should it impede the flow of the game or result in wasted time or unnecessary delays.

Substituting players should be standing near midfield to allow the Referee a greater opportunity to be notified of an upcoming substitution. Excessive substitutions that can be construed as wasting time may be subject to yellow and red cards.

VII. LEAGUE STANDINGS

Game points will be awarded on the point system of 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss. Position within the division is based on total game points for all games played. Standings will be posted at the Concession stand each week.

There will not be any league play-offs. The standings after week 6 are final.

Championship tiebreakers will be determined as follows:

- Head to head competition
- Goal Differential (Goals scored minus goals allowed)
- Least goals allowed per season
- Sudden death play

VIII. LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

The final weekend of the season will be a mini league tournament for the Minors, Juniors and Majors divisions (grades 3 through 8). Grades K-2 will play a normal game as scheduled.

Format will be determined based on the number of teams in the league. Schedules are determined PRIOR to season and are not based on regular season standings or seedings.

The tournament will begin Saturday morning and finishes up on Sunday afternoon. No Sunday games will begin before noon.

IX. AWARDS

At the Tots and Minis levels, scores are kept during the game, but standings are NOT kept. Each player will get a participation award.

At the Minors, Juniors and Majors levels where standings are kept, trophies will be awarded as follows:

- Leagues with 4 or 6 teams – Individual Championship and 2nd place trophies
- Leagues with 8 teams, 2 divisions – Each division winner will receive a division championship trophy.
- Tournament champions will also receive awards.

X. RAIN-OUTS

Do not assume that rain cancels a game. Field conditions will dictate cancellations. League directors will cancel games as early as possible. Remember canceling morning games does not mean that afternoon games will be canceled. The make-up game will be played as time allows, possibly during the week. Please check the NBAA Soccer Facebook page for weather updates or contact a Coordinator.

XI. ROSTERS

One completed roster (with uniform number and complete player listing) must be turned in to the referee prior to the start of your first game. This game will not start until the roster is turned in.

No coach may add or drop players to their rosters, so do not promise players that they can be on your team. The NBAA soccer coordinator will maintain a waiting list of players who sign up late. They will be assigned to teams in need of players on a first come, first serve basis without regard to geographic area.

XII. UNIFORM RETURN

Player shorts are to be collected from your players and returned, along with all team equipment issued to you from the NBAA, to the Hickory Grove School (the NBAA office) on Cleveland and Sunny Slope. Uniform and equipment collection date will be Saturday, November 14rd from 9 am to 10:00 am.

Please use the entrance on the FAR NORTH end of the building. Please make sure that all shorts and goalie jerseys are cleaned prior to return.

XIII. DRESS CODE

Any headwear worn must be of a functional nature, used for warmth or to keep the hair back. Decorative headwear (bandanas, baseball caps, etc) is not allowed. The use of face paint and/or spray on hair paint is not allowed. Players with hair or face paint will receive a yellow card and be removed from the game. The offending player may return as soon as the paint is removed.

No jewelry of any kind is allowed. ALL jewelry, including starter earrings, must be removed prior to the start of the game.

XIV. SLIDE TACKLES

Slide tackles will not be permitted at the Tots or Minis levels. They will be permitted at all other levels provided that they are done properly.

XV. HEADING

Recent US Soccer guidelines restrict heading in youth soccer. With this in mind, and with the goal of reducing the risk of head-related injuries, **the NBAA will restrict coaches at ALL LEVELS OTHER THAN MAJORS** from practicing heading skills to their players, and heading will not be allowed during games. Majors coaches are allowed to teach this skill, but it must be limited to 30 minutes or practice per week and 20 headers per player per week.