

ST CHARLES COUNTY YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION (SCCYSA)

RECREATIONAL SOCCER



COACH & PARENT HANDBOOK

League Admin

Who to contact

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Definitions, Information & Laws of the Game

The rules we follow to
create a fun
developmental
environment for all
players

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Frequently Asked Questions

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LEAGUE ADMINISTRATION

Board of Directors

Executive Board

President	Tom White	president@sccysa.org
Treasurer	Kathi Christianson	treasurer@sccysa.org
Secretary	Judi Fuenfgeld	secretary@sccysa.org
Vice President, Girls' Division	Vacant	vpgirls@sccysa.org
Vice President, Boys' Division	Tanya Muhm	vpboys@sccysa.org

Board Commissioners

Girls' Commissioner U4 thru High School	Ron Edele	redele@sccysa.org
Boys' Commissioner U4 thru High School	Cody McCallister	cmccallister@sccysa.org
Referee Commissioner	Todd Volmert	referee@sccysa.org
Field Commissioner	Sarah Kroll	skroll@sccysa.org

The SCCYSA Board of Directors is here to assist with questions regarding rules, conflict resolution, team bracketing, recruiting of volunteer coaches, coaching concerns, using Team Central, and provide general information about our league to assist / guide our parents and volunteers in the processes of the league in order for all of our players to develop in a safe and fun environment.

League Staff

Executive Director	Nicole Limpert	director@sccysa.org
Girls' Activities Admin		
Boys' Activities Admin		
Office Admin		
Scheduler (Independent Contractor)		scheduler@sccysa.org

We welcome your questions.

To contact the St. Charles County Youth Soccer Association,
Call **636-498-1056** or Email office@sccysa.org

Our Mailing Address:
SCCYSA, 221 Spencer Rd. Suite A, St. Peters, MO 63376

SCCYSA LEAGUE DEFINITIONS

The following definitions are used to facilitate communication and understanding among SCCYSA's membership regarding the definitions of the state association and **SCCYSA's adaptation** of the rules aligned with the state association.

- 1) "**Federation**" means the United States Soccer Federation, Inc.
- 2) "**FIFA**" means the Federation Internationale de Football Association of which the Federation is the national association member for the United States.
- 3) "**USYSA**" means the United State Youth Soccer Association – the national administrative body that is determined to govern programs for youth players in the United States.
- 4) "**State Association**" means the administrative body within a territory determined by the National Council to carry out programs for youth players.
- 5) "**MYSA**" means Missouri Youth Soccer Association - the administrative body within the state of Missouri determined to govern programs for youth players in the state of Missouri.
- 6) "**Organization Member**" means an organization that is classified as such as a member of MYSA in administering programs for youth players in the state of Missouri.
- 7) "**SCCYSA**" means the St. Charles County Youth Soccer Association
 - (a) SCCYSA is an organization member of MYSA that has an identifiable membership of youth soccer players on whose behalf the organization conducts or engages in youth soccer activities;
 - (b) and sometimes referred to as a "league" or "local association".
- 8) "**Seasonal Year**" means the Seasonal year shall be from August 1 to July 31 of the following year.
- 9) "**Membership**" means any parent / guardian of a player that has provided the necessary materials for player registration and current with all fee's or volunteer who has registered and completed the necessary certifications is considered a member of SCCYSA.

Fees must be paid in good standing. Returning players who do not meet the published deadline will not be guaranteed they will return to their previous team. New players who do not meet the published deadline will not be guaranteed team placement.

- 10) "**Youth player**" means an individual who is an amateur player and who has not reached 20 years of age prior to August 1 of the current seasonal year registered in accordance with USYSA and State Association Rules.
- 11) "**Club**" means an organization that is a member (directly or indirectly) of a State Association
 - (a) that has an identifiable membership of youth soccer players on whose behalf the organization member conducts or engages in youth soccer activities
 - (b) and sometimes referred to as a "league" or "local association",
 - (c) **SCCYSA** is a "club" / administrative unit of MYSA,

- 12) **“Pool player”** means an individual youth player who is a registered amateur youth player who has not reached 20 years of age prior to August 1 of the immediately preceding seasonal year assigned to a new or existing team to complete a roster.
- (a) *Pool players are sorted by gender, age, school and geographical area.*
 - (b) *Girls may request to be on boys’ teams, but SCCYSA will never arbitrarily place a girl on a boys’ team.*
 - (c) *Any team with a member of the opposite gender will play in the boys’ division.*
 - (d) *All requests of players to return to their previous season team will be honored when submitted by the published deadline with the exception of documented discipline problems, and approval from the SCCYSA Board of Directors.*
- 13) **“Team”** means a group of youth soccer players defending or attacking the same goal playing on the same side in soccer games.
- 14) **“League”** means a structured group of 4 or more teams joined for the purpose of inter-team play under a common set of administrative and competition rules
- (a) and is differentiated from another league by the rules that govern the rostering of players to each league’s teams.
 - (b) and the different terms used to describe each league do not necessarily reflect the level of ability or talent of teams participating in the league.
- 15) **“Recreational league”** means a club or intraclub league in which
- (a) the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting, or any similar process to roster players to any team on the basis of talent or ability **is prohibited**
 - (b) the club administering the league accepts as participants in the league any eligible youths (subject to reasonable terms on registration)
 - (c) a system or rostering players is used to establish a fair or balanced distribution of playing talent among all teams participating.
 - (d) and league rules require that each player must play at least one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline.
- 16) **“Recreational team”** means a team that participates in a recreational league in which
- (a) the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting, or any similar process to roster players to any team on the basis of talent or ability **is prohibited**
 - (b) the club administering the league accepts as participants in the league any eligible youths (subject to reasonable terms on registration)
 - (c) a system or rostering players is used to establish a fair or balanced distribution of playing talent among all teams participating
 - (d) and league rules require that each player must play at least one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline.
- 17) **“Recreational plus league”** means a club an interclub or intraclub league in which
- (a) the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any similar process to roster players **selectively** to any team on the basis of talent or ability **is prohibited**
 - (b) the club or clubs administering the league accept as participants in the league any and all eligible youths (subject to reasonable terms of registration)
 - (c) and the league does not otherwise meet the definition of a recreational league.
- 18) **“Recreational plus team”** means a team that participates in a recreational league in which
- (a) the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting, or any similar process to roster players **selectively** to any team on the basis of talent or ability **is prohibited**
 - (b) the club administering the league accepts as participants in the league any eligible youths (subject to reasonable terms on registration)
 - (c) a system or rostering players is used to establish a fair or balanced distribution of playing talent among all teams participating

- (d) and league rules require that each player must play at least one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline.
- 19) **“Classic league”** means an interclub league in which
- the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting, or any similar process to roster players **selectively** to any team on the basis of talent or ability, **is permitted**
 - and one or more league rules restrict the manner in which players may be rostered to participating teams
- 20) **“Classic team”** means a team that participates in a classic league.
- 21) **“Premier league”** means an interclub league in which no rule restricts the manner in which players may be rostered to participating teams, except for rules that—
- define and prohibit unethical recruiting behavior; or
 - limit the participation of players previously rostered to another team.
- 22) **“Premier team”** means a team that participates in a premier league.
- 23) **“Age divisions / groups”** means a minimum structured group of 4 or more teams joined for the purposes of SCCYSA league play by age under a common set of administrative and competition rules.
- 24) **“Brackets”** means a structured group of teams aligned with their age division and or skill level within an age division for the purposes of SCCYSA league play under a common set of administrative and competition rules.

TEAM BUILDING / DIVISION BRACKETING AND TEAM MANAGEMENT

Team Building / Player Allocation

Players are placed on teams based on a few factors. We have a team placement guarantee deadline for a reason, to ensure returning players can get back to their team from the previous season. If a parent does not register before that deadline, priority is given based on the day/time they register their player(s). After the deadline date, any new players will be placed on teams that have spots available to fill the roster, based on the location, school, or skill level to fit well on a team.

A lot of time and consideration goes into the sorting of players out of the 2000 - 2500 registrations that we receive each season. We cannot hold spots on teams for players that have not registered, especially when there is no guarantee that they will register, when we have players that have registered and need a team. Sorting and Allocation of players is as follows:

- Pool players are sorted by gender, age, school and geographical area.*
- Girls may request to be on boys' teams, but SCCYSA will never arbitrarily place a girl on a boys' team.*
- Any team with a member of the opposite gender will play in the boys' division.*
- All requests of players to return to their previous season team will be honored when submitted by the published deadline with the exception of documented discipline problems, and approval from the SCCYSA Board of Directors.*
- SCCYSA reserves the right to add players to teams in the Recreational Divisions, up to roster limits as stated in the SCCYSA rules. Pool players may be added to Recreation Plus Division teams with the consent of the parents of the player to be added.*

- (e) Any team with more than three club players of any given age can automatically be assigned up one age division and bracketed at the discretion of the age division Commissioner.
- (f) SCCYSA reserves the right to move any team up a division or age.
- (g) Team placement in a division can be appealed to the Division Commissioner, Division Vice President (Girls / Boys), and the Board of Directors in that order.
- (h) Team standings for all ages will be kept by the division commissioner and published by the end of the season.
- (i) All parish teams or teams originating from another organization will be required to provide a copy of their roster and have their most recent season record verified by a league official of the initial league / organization. If this is not provided by the league deadlines, the team will be automatically moved up to the next division.
- (j) Any team who holds tryouts (outdoor or indoor), hand selects players, or whose jerseys have any advertisement will be automatically bracketed up one year, assigned to the REC-PLUS division, or Competitive Division (if available). This will be decided at the discretion of the Division Commissioner.
- (k) Teams playing in tournaments may request official id cards at an additional cost.
- (l) Gender of Team
 - SCCYSA (Aligned with USYSA) recognizes 2 types of team genders:
 - Teams with females only are girls' teams.
 - All other teams are boys' teams.
 - Any team with a member of the opposite gender will play in the boys' division.
- (m) Players may only play up 2 age groups. Ex. U8 player can play up on a U10, but never U11 or higher.

DIVISION BRACKETING

- (a) Age divisions shall be comprised of players who are, before the first day of August of the immediately preceding seasonal year.

Under 4	Under 5	Under 6	Under 7	Under 8
Under 9	Under 10	Under 11	Under 12	Under 13
Under 14	Under 15		Under 16	Under 17
Under 18	Under 19			

- (b) Teams will be assigned to a division based on the experience of the team and their individual players.
- (c) If not enough teams are available to form a single year age group, divisions will be merged by age groups in the following manner U4/5, U7/U8, U9/10, U11/12, U13/14, HS etc.
- (d) Any placement in a division can be appealed to the Division Commissioner, Division Vice President, and the President in that order.
- (e) SCCYSA reserves the right to move any team up a division or age.
- (f) All parish teams or teams originating from another organization will be required to provide a copy of their roster and have their most recent season record verified by a league official of the initial league / organization. If this is not provided by the league deadlines, the team will be automatically moved up to the next division.

Team Management

Head Coach and Assistant Coach

Parents of players should be contacted promptly (within 1 week) after registration has closed. Please be sure that you make contact or receive a response from everyone. Don't assume that parents received your email or voice message. Ask for a response from parents to confirm that your message got through. If you have problems with contacting any of the families, please notify the Division Commissioner.

The purpose of contacting the parents in a timely manner is to assure them that their player has been assigned to a team and to introduce yourself as the coach. This is also a great time to ask if anyone is willing to serve as an assistant coach or team manager if needed.

Schedule a team meeting to take place before your first practice. The purpose of the team meeting is to give out the team roster, introduce coaches and team parents, explain your team philosophy, and generally set player and parent expectations for the upcoming season. Stress that our primary goal is for every player to develop their knowledge of the game of soccer and to have fun.

Team Manager (Strongly encouraged for each team)

Team manager duties will vary from age group to age group, but these duties will include managing the team's online mini site via Team Central through www.sccysa.org, supplying uniform info, game, snack, and practice schedules, and to assist the coaches with any other organizational duties required for the team.

Risk Management

All coaches, assistant coaches, and team managers are volunteers. If any parent is interested in helping on the field during games or practice, they must pass our risk management procedures.

- (a) Pass a Background Check. These must be completed ONCE each seasonal year and are valid for the entire seasonal year.
- (b) Concussion Certification
- (c) Safe Sport Certification – (Initial or Refresher Course)
- (d) SCCYSA requires **all** coaches to have a current "Youth" coaching license.

Coaches: You will not be assigned to a team or be sent any coaching information from SCCYSA until registered as a volunteer and all required certifications are complete.

Information on and links to these Coaching Requirements can be found by going to: missourisoccer.org/coaching

For step by step instructions on how to complete the **Background Check** and **CDC Concussion Certification**, please see the **Volunteer Registration Steps** tab located under "Coaches" "MYSA Coaching Requirements" on our homepage.

Playing Time

Each player shall play the same amount in each game. Coaches not following this rule will be subject to Protest, Appeals, and Discipline (PAD) Committee review.

Any player not wanting to play or injured during the game will not be subject to this rule. Coaches – please do not abuse your position and please play all your players equally. No single game win is worth humiliating a child.

Recreational only:

- (1) All players must play at least 50% of each scheduled match. Exceptions are injuries, sickness, practice participation, or absence.
- (2) Abusing the fifty percent playing time of a player by a coach will result in a one-game suspension of the coach.

Team Equipment

All coaches will be given:

Two game balls

Additional equipment such as bibs and cones will be available to meet the needs of your team within defined limits to be determined at the discretion of the league.

Player Equipment

All players must have shin guards, socks worn over the shin guards, and soccer shoes for all practices and games. No exceptions.

Jewelry of any sort is not allowed except for medical alerts. No necklaces, rings, bracelets or earrings will be worn. Serious injury can result from jewelry, especially earrings. **Earrings must be removed for all practices and games.**

Players must bring their own water to practices and games.

Uniforms

The league will supply every Recreational soccer player a team jersey, shorts, and socks as needed for each team. Teams can choose to provide their own uniforms.

Practice

All teams will select practice locations and times.

Emergency Protocol

In the case of an emergency during any SCCYSA related event, please follow these procedures:

In the event of a medical emergency or need for police/ranger involvement, please call 911 and follow the League Play Incident Procedure (LPIP).

Important Contact Information:

- St Charles City Police Dispatch 636-949-3300
- St Charles Park Rangers 636-949-3309

- St. Peters Police Dispatch 636-278-2222
- St Peters Park Rangers 636-278-2244

League Play Incident Procedure

All incidents, injuries, or altercations must be reported to the on-duty Field Marshal the day of the incident. The appropriate Division Commissioners, Division Vice President, League President, and Executive Director must also be notified within 24 hours of the incident.

Insurance

Players are covered by a secondary medical insurance for SCCYSA-authorized events. Families must use all other insurance coverage before using SCCYSA coverage. There is a deductible and claims received more than 24 hours following the incident may be disallowed.

Refund Policy

Recreational Refund Policy

In order to receive a refund, you must fill out a Refund Request Form using the link on our website under the “Parent Tab.”

The deadline to request all refunds is posted on our website under the “Parent Tab.” Players who become injured after the beginning of the season or who need to withdraw due to medical reasons may receive a partial credit with the presentation of a doctor’s note.

If at any time a player is on the waiting list and is not able to be placed on a team, a refund will be given less a 5% transaction fee.

On the Field Basics

We want to ensure that games are fair, positive, and enjoyable experiences for all of the children and adults involved. A soccer game should be friendly and unifying - a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, referees, and spectators.

To clarify expectations of coach conduct, we jointly expect all coaches to conform to this code of conduct. Before, during and after the game, be an example of dignity, patience, and positive spirit.

Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee.

Once the game commences, when requested or authorized by the referee a coach may enter the field of play only to administer aid to an injured player. Any coach who goes onto the field uninvited by the referee will automatically be ejected from the game and will receive a minimum of one match suspension starting with the next league match.

During the game, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players. If one of your players is disrespectful, irresponsible, or overly aggressive, take the player out of the game at least long enough for him or her to calm down.

During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of the parents of your players. It is imperative to explain acceptable player and parent behavior in a preseason meeting. Excessive celebration or negative behavior is not allowed. This is to include waving of flags, signage and/or taunting.

Encourage them to applaud and cheer for good plays by either team. Discourage them - and you may need to be forceful and direct - from yelling at players and the referee.

Sportsmanship / Code of Conduct

During the game, you are also responsible for the conduct of spectators rooting for your team.

During the game, do not address the referee at all. Coaches are reminded that referees are mostly freshmen and sophomores in high school and are sometimes easily intimidated by adults. Therefore, harassment of referees by spectators and coaches is not allowed. In case of excessive spectator and or coach harassment, referees are instructed to stop the game and request coaches of both teams to quiet spectator(s). If you have an issue, discuss it with the referee calmly and patiently after the game. If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit, or incompetent, report your opinion to the league or the Field Marshal. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.

Explain to parents that the referee is trained in the laws of the game and is almost always better positioned than a spectator to see what has actually happened. Point out that much of refereeing is judgment and that while the referee is neutral, parents are not. Let them know that

all referees miss calls in every game; for instance, three people watching 22 players in constant motion over two acres cannot see everything.

Coaches' refusal or inability to control their team's spectator(s) can result in termination of the game and the score will stand.

It should be no surprise the following are prohibited:

- a) Foul language, acts of aggression towards or by players, coaches, referees or spectators will result in a determination by the referee or SCCYSA Board of either a warning, yellow or red card, or field ejection.
- b) Spitting at another player at post game line-up is an automatic red ejection for the following game.
- c) All participants and spectators are required to remain at least two yards from the sidelines and may not be present behind the goal lines.
- d) Consumption of alcohol at any league match.
- e) Smoking by coaches in the coaches' technical area.
- f) If a coach plays any illegal or unregistered players, those games will be forfeited.

After the game, thank the referee and ask your players to do the same.

We Stress two points with regards to Referees:

- 1) Referees - especially young and inexperienced ones - are like your players and yourself, in that they need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them to improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes and by offering constructive post-game comments.
- 2) On the other hand, you could discourage and demoralize the referees by criticizing their decisions, by verbally abusing them and inciting - or even accepting - your own players' overly aggressive behavior.

Your example is powerful, for better or worse. If you insist on fair play, if you concentrate on your players' enjoyment of the game and their overall long-term development, and if you support the referee, your players and their parents will notice. If you encourage (or allow) your players to play outside the rules, if you're overly concerned about results, if you criticize the referee harshly, your players and their parents will also notice.

Think about what you're doing during a game! REMEMBER, THIS IS YOUTH SOCCER!! Uphold the spirit of the game! If you follow the expectations described above, the spirit of the game will be alive and well in Missouri, and will grow, along with the enjoyment of all.

Coaches, players and spectators who don't follow the expectations described above will be disciplined or removed.

Referee Interactions

Our referees are valuable assets to our organization. They are members of our League just as Coaches and players and they will be treated with respect. There will be no yelling at refs or questioning of calls and there will be as little communication in general with referees as possible during games. Calling for subs and notifying ref of injured player down on field are the only acceptable communication with referees.

Contrary to popular belief, no player or coach has the right to speak to an official unless given permission by that official. This is not professional soccer and we do not imitate pro coaches by talking to referees. They go through many hours of training to earn the right to ref our games. There will be a **zero tolerance policy** on referee abuse and coaches can be removed from games and serve a suspension determined by SCCYSA's Board of Directors.

If you have questions about specific calls or rulings during your games, please find an adult referee, the referee coordinator, the assignor or send an e-mail to our referee commissioner at referee@sccysa.org after the completion of your game. If you still remember the question by that time, it is worth asking. Do not approach youth referees with questions after the games. An adult approaching them even if it is with the best intentions can intimidate them. We will bring the question or comment to the referee in question.

Zero Tolerance Policy

It is expected that every person responsible for a team and each and every spectator and player will support the referee. This support is essential to the proper play of the game and to the development of our players. Failure to support the referees, especially by the person (s) responsible for the team,

- undermines the authority of the referee,
- sets a bad example for everyone else, especially the players, and
- can rapidly lead into a hostile, negative game environment which is entirely inconsistent with the sportsmanship goals SCCYSA is trying to promote.

Therefore, the basic rule is that persons responsible for a team and spectators will not address the referee at all during the play of the game. This prohibition, its exceptions, and the penalties for violating it, are described below.

Persons Responsible for a Team

1. With the exceptions of responding to a communication initiated by the referee, making a substitution, or pointing out an emergency safety issue, during the play of the game the persons responsible for the team **should not say anything to the referee, nor should they do anything which in any way conveys any criticism of the referee.**
2. Coaches may ask questions before the start of the game.
3. Coaches may not approach the referee at half-time or at the end of the game.
4. Coaches who have concerns about a referee's officiating may express those concerns orally to the Field Marshal and or in writing to the SCCYSA Referee Commissioner and Division Commissioner. They may not express those concerns directly to the referee.

SCCYSA recommends that the referee deal with infractions of this rule in the following manner:

1. As to the first infraction, the referee should determine if the conduct involves serious misconduct under the ordinary FIFA rules. If it does, a caution (optionally showing a yellow card) or a dismissal (optionally showing a red card) should be awarded, depending on the nature of the conduct. (For example, a threat of bodily harm or an obscenity directed at the referee should result in a dismissal. A prolonged, significant outburst of dissent should result in a caution.)
2. On the other hand, the first instance of a short, reasonably low-keyed referee criticism by a person responsible for the team should be ignored. The second instance should result in a warning, the third in a caution, and the fourth in an ejection. In giving the warning, the referee should make clear the next instance of dissent of any sort will result in a caution. Similarly, after a caution, the referee should make clear that the next instance of dissent of any kind will result in an ejection.

Spectators

With the exception of responding to a communication initiated by the referee or pointing out an emergency safety issue, spectators should not say anything to the referee, nor should they do anything which in any way conveys any criticism of the referee.

SCCYSA recommends that the referee deal with infractions of this rule in the following manner:

1. As to the first infraction, the referee should stop the game and ask the person responsible for the team to quiet the offending spectator.
2. As to the second infraction, the referee should stop the game and ask the person responsible for the team to warn the spectator that the next infraction will result in the spectator leaving the game; otherwise, the referee will abandon the game, and file a report with the SCCYSA. SCCYSA's policy will be to generally impose a forfeit on the team with which the spectator is affiliated, and the referee should so inform the person responsible for that team.
3. As to the third infraction, the referee should instruct the person responsible for the team to direct the spectator to leave the field. If the spectator does not leave, the referee should abandon the game, and file his/her report.

The referee may need the assistance of the responsible persons from both teams if the spectator is not affiliated with either team.

Disciplinary Action - SCCYSA Board retains the authority to invoke more/less severe punishment for any form of misconduct.

- (1) Any player or coach ejected from a league match will receive a minimum of one match suspension starting with the next played league match.
- (2) When a player is issued a red card, they must leave the field for the duration of the match and they must miss the next played league match for that team. There will be no substitution for the ejected player.
- (3) Any player who accumulates **three** cautions during a season (fall season and / or spring season) will automatically be suspended from the next match, and any further cautions will result in an additional one-match suspension.
- (4) Any coach, player or spectator who uses substantiated foul language, acts of aggression or inappropriate behavior towards players, officials, opposing coaches, spectators or SCCYSA officials and is reported through written documentation will carry the following disciplinary actions:
 - a. First Written report will result in an immediate one game suspension from the next SCCYSA league match. The SCCYSA board will review the referee report, field marshal report, as well as any other witness documentation pertinent to the incident. The SCCYSA board will then vote on any additional disciplinary action and will notify those parties involved on the SCCYSA board's final decision.
 - b. Second written report will result in a three (3) game suspension. Notification will be sent by certified mail.
 - c. Third written report results in termination of offender for SCCYSA for one (1) full soccer season or no less than a six (6) month period. Notification will be sent by certified mail.

Build-out Line (U7 - U10)

The spirit of this rule is to encourage the U7 - U10 teams to learn how to play the ball forward from the first third. Traditionally, keepers have been able to just punt the ball across the midway line, which was a detriment to the players learning how to progress the ball forward from defense to midfield to the attackers.

- When the goalkeeper has the ball in his/her hands during play, the opposing team must move behind the build-out (blue) line until the ball is released from the goalkeeper's possession and is touched by another teammate (2-touch).
- Once the opposing team is behind the build-out line, the goalkeeper can release the ball by passing (NOT dribbling), throwing, or rolling the ball to a teammate who is on his/her side of the build-out line or beyond the build-out line.
- The goalkeeper may roll (not bounce) the ball and then pass the ball to a teammate on their side of the build-out line.
- PUNTS and DROP KICKS are not allowed from the keeper.
- After the ball is released from the goalkeeper's possession and is touched by another teammate, the opposing team may cross the build-out line and play resumes as normal.

- The goalkeeper releasing the ball from possession or the player taking the goal kick does not have to wait for the opposing players to move behind the build-out line (quick restart).
- The play from the goalkeeper or from the goal kick can be played to a teammate beyond the build-out line.

Thunder / Lighting Policy

The United States Soccer Federation (USSF) position is that if you can hear thunder, you are within reach of lightning and that referees must protect the safety of all participants by stopping game activities quickly, so that participants and spectators may retire to a safer place before the lightning threat becomes significant. Applying the 30-30 rule is recommended and to wait 30 minutes or more after hearing the last thunder before leaving shelter.

SCCYSA may not cancel entire days or remaining games due to active thunderstorms in our area as these storms may pass through quickly. Regardless of the weather overhead, when thunder is heard and/or lightning is seen, suspend play and direct participants to a safe area by following the guidelines below. Play may resume 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard, or lightning seen.

Areas considered safe

- Inside a fully enclosed metal vehicle with windows up
- Inside a substantial building (roof and four walls)

Unsafe Areas

- Small buildings including picnic shelters and the open area of a concession stand
- Anywhere near metallic objects like flagpoles, antennas, towers, underground watering systems, soccer goals, metal bleachers, electric equipment
- Open fields, trees, and water

Open area without shelter

- Avoid standing in groups
- Spread out to reduce risk
- Crouch on your feet, keep your head low
- Avoid being the tallest object
- Avoid lying on the ground

If a strike occurs to an individual

- Call 911
- If you are qualified to do so, apply First Aid or CPR immediately
- People struck by lightning do not carry an electrical charge and are safe to touch.

Restarting after the All-Clear (30 minutes after the last boom is heard or strike is seen)

- Games which have completed the first half will be considered finished and the score at the time play was suspended shall be the final score.
- Games which have completed less than one half; the referee will resume by starting the second half and reducing the remaining time, if necessary, so that the match ends at the scheduled time.
- ***Referees do not have the authority to cancel games without first consulting with the Field Marshal and or Board member on duty.***

Games may be canceled at the discretion of the league for weather conditions. This includes but is not limited to:

- Temperature of 32 degrees and below with wind chill for U4 through U8.
- Temperature of 22 degrees and below with wind chill for U9 through U18

Protests & Appeals

There will be no formal protests accepted on game results. Even in professional matches results do not get overturned.

Concerns – Any concerns, questions or problems within the seasonal year should be addressed in the following order:

- (1) Coach
- (2) Division Commissioner (Boys' / Girls' as appropriate)
- (3) Division Vice President (Boys' / Girls' as appropriate)
- (4) President

This order of notification must be followed to be considered for Board disposition.

Fair Play

“It is better to win ten times 1-0, than to win once 10-0.”

*Vahid “Vaha” Halilhodžic’ (*1952: former Bosnian football player)*

If the score differential reaches 5 goals, then the coach of the team with the LEAST goals may ADD one player to the field. If the goal differential returns to 4 goals, then the ADDED player must be REMOVED from the field.

It is the responsibility of the coach to adhere to this Fair Play Rule. Our referees may remind the coach, but it is NOT their responsibility to bring this to the coaches' attention. Please take the lead and do not put the referee in an awkward situation.

The following provides a list of potential “necessary steps” that coaches can take to keep the score differential reasonable, while still providing their team with the opportunity to learn different aspects of the game and provide a fun environment for all. These are guidelines and tips only- these are not a component of the Fair Play Rule.

Ideas to avoid running up the score:

- (1) Play 3-touch soccer –Don't allow your players to take more than 3 touches once they are in the opponent's half of the field.
- (2) Instruct your team to:
 - (a) Pass a minimum of 5 times on each possession prior to shooting.
 - (b) Take all shots from outside the penalty area.
 - (c) Ask players to work on taking shots with their weaker leg.

All of these things can be done subtly so that the other team can feel good about their increased competitiveness. Please don't ask your players to play "keep away," as this can be viewed as rubbing it in.

Other ethical coaching practices:

- (1) Encourage your player to quietly celebrate goals in a sportsmanlike manner.
- (2) Remind sideline supporters to cheer/celebrate in a sportsmanlike manner and be supportive of both teams.
- (3) Play a low-key role from the sideline. Avoid the temptation to keep coaching vocally from the sideline.

Field Use

Games are usually held on Saturdays and Sundays. The fields used are located at St. Charles Mueller Soccer Complex and Woodlands Sports Complex. Please see the website www.sccysa.org for directions.

Detailed and updated information about Field Use and Guidelines is posted on the Coaches page of the SCCYSA Website. Please note that we are limited to specific fields, times, and dates. Usage of unapproved fields, or during unapproved dates or times, may result in fines, penalties, or usage charges being assessed the persons or teams using those fields. School teams have priority over SCCYSA on all school fields. Please respect this policy at risk of penalty.

Parking

Please note, the Parks Department has asked us to warn families against illegal parking, double-parking, speeding, etc. at Woodlands Sports Park. For our families at Mueller we ask you to please notify your team parents to be considerate and **do not use the Fountain Lakes business parking lots** that are adjacent to Mueller fields as a means of getting players and equipment onto the playing fields or for general parking on game day or during practices. Please be sure to pass this on to your team parents. These businesses operate on the weekends.

Game Balls

Home teams are responsible to supply game balls for each game. Please have them properly filled with air and ready to go well before game time. Collect your game balls immediately after each game.

Scheduling Policy - Cancellation & Suspended Games / Forfeits / No Shows and Weather

SCCYSA anticipates the published schedules to be played as published at the beginning of the season.

Coaching Game Conflict?

Have your Asst. Coach take charge of coaching that game or have a parent register as SCCYSA Team Manager and complete the minimum MYSAs requirements. SCCYSA strongly encourages Coaches to have multiple volunteers registered for each team that have completed

the minimum requirements to volunteer and work with children to avoid games being forfeited due to a coach's schedule or unplanned conflict.

Game Swapping

Game Swaps involve exchanging your game date with another game scheduled in your age division (**Boys or Girls**) (**can occur in any age division that uses the same fields i.e. U4 and U5**) at a future date acceptable to all coaches involved with the swap.

For this to occur look at the game schedules in [Team Central Calendar](#) to see if there is an already scheduled game acceptable to you (**and your opponent- CHECK WITH THEM FIRST!**) and then you contact the other team's coach / assistant / manager to ask if they will switch dates. If all four (4) parties agree, then notify the league scheduler and the scheduler will make the switch in the system. (**Training sheet/tutorial on how to look up games as well as coach contact list will be provided.**)

All parties will then be notified of the change. This is most effective at the beginning of the season as there will be more options available from which to choose. ***Game swapping has to occur fourteen (14) days out.***

Game Cancellation Due to Weather - Games will be rescheduled

The league and/or Parks Department will determine playability of the fields for games daily and will update our rainout line. The Rainout Line www.rainoutline.com is updated the same day as the game and normally 1.5 hours before the games start. So, on Sat. / Sun the hotline should be updated by 6 a.m., and any weeknights by 4 p.m.

- Games may be canceled at the discretion of the league for weather conditions. This includes but is not limited to:
 - a. Temperature of 32 degrees and below with wind chill for U4 through U8.
 - b. Temperature of 22 degrees and below with wind chill for U9 through U18

Re-scheduled Rainout Game Conflicts – Will be considered for reschedule prior if written request for cancellation is made 10 working days prior to the re-scheduled game to the Scheduler. **Scheduler email:** scheduler@sccysa.org

In Order to re-schedule a rainout game conflict:

1. You must first contact the opposing team manager and/or coach.
2. BOTH coaches will need to agree on two (2) available re-schedule dates that suit both teams.
3. Once you have agreed on two (2) dates, both teams must contact the scheduler scheduler@sccysa.org to confirm field availability and time.
4. The game will then be posted on Team Central with the new information.
5. If the opposition will not agree to the reschedule, the game will be played on the original date and location, or it will be regarded as a forfeit.

SCCYSA reserves the right to move games as needed throughout the season due to circumstances such as field playability, referee shortage, staff shortage, etc.

SCCYSA will try to make up all rained out games unless the coach/coaches do not want to continue playing. Games will be filled in throughout the season, when possible, otherwise games will be added to the end of the season. Make-up games due to weather are updated online through Team Central. Games will be rescheduled around original conflicts.

Game Suspensions

Due to Weather – Games will be rescheduled unless the game is at the end of the first half. The score will stand without a reschedule.

Due to Violation of FIFA rules, and is protested, the hearing procedure will be invoked per Article VII of current SCCYSA by-laws. Re-scheduling of game is not guaranteed

Forfeits

If a team does not show up to the game or does not have the minimum number of players after a five minute grace period, the team forfeits the game. **The game will not be rescheduled. Coaches are encouraged to use the field and scrimmage.**

- In order for a team to be awarded a forfeit win in this situation, at least the minimum number of players needed to play and 1 registered coach must be present at the appointed field at game time.

If a team contacts the opposing coach and does not contact the scheduler at scheduler@scysa.org and both agree to not play the game, and neither team shows up for the game, **it will be considered a double forfeit and will not be rescheduled.**

If a team does not contact the opposing coach, and neither team shows up for the game, **it will be considered a double forfeit and will not be rescheduled.**

If a coach plays any unregistered / non-rostered player or players, those games will be forfeited.

Failure to produce a league issued ID card will result in removal from the sideline and or forfeit of the game if a responsible registered volunteer with SCCYSA is not available or able to produce a league issued ID card that verifies the individual has been properly vetted to be on the sidelines and working with children. The game will not be rescheduled.

Division Explanation and SCCYSA Amended Laws of The Game

The SCCYSA Board of Directors reserves the right to change any of these rules at its discretion.

The “Laws of the Game” authorized by the Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) and printed by the United States Soccer Federation (USSF), are the rules adopted by SCCYSA. Changes to these rules as adopted by SCCYSA start on the following pages.

U4 and U-5 [3 v 3] 3 field players**Encourage players to spread out****Law 1 – Field of Play**

- Goals shall be 3.5' high by 6' wide.
- Field shall be minimum 25 yards long by 16 yards wide.
- Parents are required to be on one side of the field and coaches/players on the other side of the field.

Law 2 – The Ball

- Ball size to be used is a number 3

Law 3 – Number of Players

- Game must start with, be played with, and end with at least 3 players.
- There must be no more than 3 players on the field of play for either team. There **shall not** be a designated goalkeeper.
- No players shall stand in front of goals.
- The maximum roster size is six (6) players. Contact Division Commissioner to request an increase in the maximum roster size.
- All players will be registered with MYSA and SCCYSA.
- Free substitution for both teams during any stoppage of play.
- No guest players allowed.

Law 4 – Players' Equipment

- All players must wear shin guards.
- No Hard Casts allowed.
- No jewelry is allowed by players during games. NO earrings, NO necklaces, NO rings, NO watches, NO bracelets, etc.
- Players must all have numbered jerseys of a like color and style. Duplicate numbers are allowed on SCCYSA uniforms.
- Each coach is responsible to check players' equipment prior to the game.

Law 5 – The Coach/Referee

- The home team coach referees the first half of the game and the visiting team coach shall referee the second half of the game.
- *****No more than two coaches allowed during the game per team.**

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees

- No linesman

Law 7 – Duration of the game

- Game length is two 20-minute halves, with a 5-minute break at half time.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game. Exceptions are injuries, sickness, practice participation, or absence.

Law 8 – Start and Restart of Play

- Home team kicks off the ball at the start of the first half, and the visiting team kicks off the ball at the start of the second half. Opponents must remain 1.5 yards from the ball until played.

Law 11 – Offside

- No offside

Law 12 – Fouls & Misconduct

- No cautions or ejections will be issued at this age. Both coaches will handle each issue in a mutually agreed manner that teaches the player good sportsmanship.

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- All free kicks shall be indirect kicks. No goal can be scored on a free kick unless touched by a second player, of either team including the goalkeeper. Opponents must remain 1.5 yards from the ball until played.

Law 14 – Penalty Kick

- No Penalty kicks.

Law 15 – Throw-in

- Second tries on foul throw-ins.

Law 16 – Goal Kick

- Goal kicks shall be taken at the nearest point on the goal line where the ball crossed goal line. Opposing players must remain 1.5 yards away from the ball until played.

Law 17 – Corner Kick

- FIFA guidelines, except opposing players must remain 1.5 yards from the ball until played.

Additional Rules

HEADING THE BALL -- Deliberate heading is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games. If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

SLIDE TACKLING -- Slide tackling is not allowed in U12 age group and younger.

U-6 [4 v 4] 4 field players**Encourage positions & defending their side of the field.**

Law 1 – Field of Play

- Goals shall be 4' high by 6' wide.
- Field shall be minimum 25 yards long by 20 yards wide.
- Parents are required to be on one side of the field and coaches/players on the other side of the field.

Law 2 – The Ball

- Ball size to be used is a number 3

Law 3 – Number of Players

- Game must start with, be played with and end with at least 3 players.
- There must be no more than 4 players on the field of play for either team. There **shall not** be a designated goalkeeper.
- The maximum roster size is eight (8) players. Contact Division Commissioner to request an increase in the maximum roster size.
- All players will be registered with MYSAs and SCCYSA.
- Free substitution for both teams during any stoppage of play
- No guest players allowed.

Law 4 – Players' Equipment

- All players must wear shin guards.
- No Hard Casts allowed.
- No jewelry is allowed by players during games. NO earrings, NO necklaces, NO rings, NO watches, NO bracelets, etc.
- Players must all have numbered jerseys of a like color and style. Duplicate numbers are allowed on SCCYSA uniforms.
- Each coach is responsible to check players' equipment prior to the game.

Law 5 – The Referee

- This age will be refereed by a SCCYSA Sub-Contractor or certified Referee.
- *****Coaches are not allowed on the field during play ***No more than two coaches allowed during the game per team.**

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees

- No linesman

Law 7 – Duration of the Game

- Game length is two 20-minute halves, with a 5-minute break at half time.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game. Exceptions are injuries, sickness, practice participation, or absence.

Law 8 – Start and Restart of Play

- Home team kicks off the ball at the start of the first half, and the visiting team kicks off the ball at the start of the second half. Opponents must remain 3 yards from the ball until played.

Law 11 – Offside

- No offside

Law 12 – Fouls & Misconduct

- No cautions or ejections will be issued at this age. Both coaches will handle each issue in a mutually agreed manner that teaches the player good sportsmanship.

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- All free kicks shall be indirect kicks. No goal can be scored on a free kick unless touched by a second player of either team including the goalkeeper. Opponents must remain 3yards from the ball until played.

Law 14 – Penalty Kick

- No Penalty kicks.

Law 15 – Throw-in

- Second tries on foul throw-ins.

Law 16 – Goal Kick

- FIFA Guidelines, except Goal kicks shall be taken anywhere along the **TOP** of the goal area. Opponents must remain 3yards from the ball until played.

Law 17 – Corner Kick

- FIFA guidelines, except opposing players must remain 3 yards from the ball until played.

Additional Rules

HEADING THE BALL -- Deliberate heading is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games. If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

SLIDE TACKLING -- Slide tackling is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games.

U-7 , U-8 [6 v 6] 5 field player and 1 goalkeeper Referee used Encourage positions & passing.**Law 1 – Field of Play**

- Goals shall be 5' high by 10' wide.
- Field shall be minimum 50 yards long by 40 yards wide.
- Parents are required to be on one side of the field and coaches/players on the other side of the field.

Law 2 – The Ball

- Ball size to be used for U7 is a number 3 and U8 is a number 4

Law 3 – Number of Players

- Game must start, be played with and end with at least 3 players.
- There must be no more than 6 players on the field of play for either team. One of the players shall be a designated goalkeeper.
- The maximum roster size is ten (10) players. Contact Division Commissioner to request an increase in the maximum roster size.
- All players will be registered with MYSA and SCCYSA.
- Free substitution for both teams during any stoppage of play, with the permission of the Referee.
- No guest players allowed.

Law 4 – Players' Equipment

- All players must wear shin guards.
- No Hard Casts allowed.
- No jewelry is allowed by players during games. NO earrings, NO necklaces, NO rings, NO watches, NO bracelets, etc
- Players (except the goalkeeper) must all have numbered jerseys of a like color and style. Duplicate numbers are allowed on SCCYSA uniforms. Goalkeeper must wear a color that distinguishes them from the rest of the players and referees.
- The Referee is responsible to check players' equipment prior to the game.

Law 5 – The Referee

- Referee must explain all infringements to the offending player.
- The referee may issue yellow and red cards for misconduct.

*****Coaches are not allowed on the field during play*** Only 2 coaches allowed in the technical area per team.**

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees

- No linesman

Law 7 – Duration of the Game

- Game length is two 22.5-minute halves, with a 5-minute break at halftime.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game. Exceptions are injuries, sickness, practice participation, or absence.

Law 8 – Start and Restart of Play

- FIFA guidelines, except opponents must remain 4 yards from the ball until played.

Law 11 – Offside

- No offside

Law 12 – Fouls & Misconduct

- FIFA

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- All free kicks shall be indirect kicks. No goal can be scored on a free kick unless touched by a second player of either team including the goalkeeper. Opponents must remain 4 yards from the ball until played.

Law 14 – Penalty Kick

- No Penalty kicks.

Law 15 – Throw-in

- Second tries on foul throw-ins.

Law 16 – Goal Kick

- Goal kicks shall be taken anywhere along the top of the goal area. The goal area is the first box outside the goal. The ball must leave the second box before another player can kick the ball. Opponents must remain 4 yards from the ball until played.

Law 17 – Corner Kick

- FIFA guidelines, except opposing players must remain 4 yards from the ball until played.

Additional Rules

HEADING THE BALL -- Deliberate heading is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games. If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

SLIDE TACKLING -- Slide tackling is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games.

U-9 & U-10 (7 v7) 6 field players and 1 goalkeeper**Encourage players to be in an on-side position.**

Law 1 – Field of Play

- Goals shall be 7' high by 12' wide.
- Field shall be minimum 65 yards long by 50 yards wide.
- Parents are required to be on one side of the field and coaches/players on the other side of the field.

Law 2 – The Ball

- Ball size to be used is a number 4

Law 3 – Number of Players

- Game must start with, be played with and end with at least 5 players.
- There must be no more than 7 players on the field of play for either team. One of the players shall be a designated goalkeeper.
- The maximum roster size is twelve (12) players. Contact Division Commissioner to request an increase in the maximum roster size.
- All players will be registered with MYSA and SCCYSA.
- Free substitution for both teams during any stoppage of play, with the permission of the Referee.
- No guest players allowed.

Law 4 – Players' Equipment

- All players must wear shin guards.
- No Hard Casts allowed.
- No jewelry is allowed by players during games. NO earrings, NO necklaces, NO rings, NO watches, NO bracelets, etc.
- Players (except the goalkeeper) must all have numbered jerseys of a like color and style. Duplicate numbers are allowed on SCCYSA uniforms. Goalkeeper must wear a color that distinguishes them from the rest of the players and referees.
- The Referee is responsible to check players' equipment prior to the game.

Law 5 – The Referee

- Referee must explain all infringements to the offending player.
- The referee may issue yellow and red cards for misconduct.

*****Coaches are not allowed on the field during play.*** Only 2 coaches allowed in the technical area per team.**

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees

- No linesman

Law 7 – Duration of the Game

- Game length is two 25-minute halves, with a 5-minute break at half time.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game. Exceptions are injuries, sickness, practice participation, or absence.

Law 8 – Start and Restart of Play

- FIFA guidelines, except opposing players must remain 5 yards from the ball until played.

Law 11 – Offside

- No offside

Law 12 – Fouls & Misconduct

- FIFA guidelines.

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- All free kicks shall be indirect kicks. No goal can be scored on a free kick unless touched by a second player of either team including the goalkeeper. Opponents must remain 5 yards from the ball until played.

Law 14 – Penalty Kick

- No Penalty kicks.

Law 15 – Throw-in

- Second tries on foul throw-ins.

Law 16 – Goal Kick

- Goal kicks shall be taken anywhere along the top of the goal area. The goal area is the first box outside the goal. The ball must leave the second box before another player can kick the ball. Opponents must remain 5 yards from the ball until played.

Law 17 – Corner Kick

- FIFA guidelines, except opposing players must remain 5 yards from the ball until played.

Additional Rules

HEADING THE BALL -- Deliberate heading is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games. If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

SLIDE TACKLING -- Slide tackling is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games.

U-11/12 [9v9]

Law 1 – Field of Play

- Goals shall be 7' high by 21' wide
- Field shall be 85 yards long by 55 yards wide.
- Parents are required to be on one side of the field and coaches/players on the other side of the field.

Law 2 – The Ball

- Ball size to be used is a number 4

Law 3 – Number of Players

- Game must start with, be played with and end with at least 6 players.
- There must be no more than 9 players on the field of play for either team. One of the players shall be a designated goalkeeper.
- The maximum roster is fourteen (14) players. Contact Division Commissioner to request an increase in the maximum roster size.
- All players will be registered with MYSA and SCCYSA.
- Free substitution for both teams during any stoppage of play, with the permission of the Referee.
- **No guest players allowed.**
- **Only 3 coaches allowed in the technical area per team.**

Law 4 – Players' Equipment

- All players must wear shin guards.
- No Hard Casts allowed.
- No jewelry is allowed by players during games. NO earrings, NO necklaces, NO rings, NO watches, NO bracelets, etc.
- Players (except the goalkeeper) must all have numbered jerseys of a like color and style. Duplicate numbers are allowed on SCCYSA uniforms. Goalkeeper must wear a color that distinguishes them from the rest of the players and referees.
- The Referee is responsible to check players' equipment prior to the game.

Law 5 – The Referee

- Follow FIFA guidelines
- The referee may issue yellow and red cards for misconduct.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees

- Linesman shall be used.
- If linesmen are not available, then club linesmen will be used in place of an official linesman for boundary calls only.

Law 7 – Duration of the Game

- Game length is two 30-minute halves, with a 10-minute break at halftime.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game. Exceptions are injuries, sickness, practice participation, or absence.

Law 8 – Start and Restart of Play

- FIFA guidelines

Law 11 – Offside

- FIFA guidelines

Law 12 – Fouls & Misconduct

- FIFA guidelines

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- FIFA guidelines

Law 14 – Penalty Kick

- FIFA guidelines

Law 15 – Throw-in

- FIFA guidelines

Law 16 – Goal Kick

- FIFA guidelines

Law 17 – Corner Kick

- FIFA guidelines

Additional Rules

HEADING THE BALL -- Deliberate heading is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games. If a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at nearest point to where the infringement occurred.

SLIDE TACKLING -- Slide tackling is not allowed in U12 age group and younger at practice or games.

U13 and U-14 [11 v 11]

Law 1 – Field of Play

- Goals: FIFA guidelines
- Field: FIFA guidelines
- Parents are required to be on one side of the field and coaches/players on the other side of the field.

Law 2 – The Ball

- Ball size to be used is a number 5

Law 3 – Number of Players

- Game must start with, be played with and end with at least 7 players.
- There must be no more than 11 players on the field of play for either team. One of the players shall be a designated goalkeeper.
- The maximum roster size is eighteen (18) players. Contact Division Commissioner to request an increase in the maximum roster size.
- All players will be registered with MYSA and SCCYSA.
- Free substitution for both teams during any stoppage of play, with the permission of the Referee.
- During the fall season, boys who are in the 8th grade, required to play U15 due to their legal age, may play on a U14 team in league matches. During the spring season, girls who are in the 8th grade, required to play U15 due to their legal age, may play on a U14 team in league matches. Report card required.
- **No guest players allowed.**
- **Only 3 coaches allowed in the technical area per team.**

Law 4 – Players' Equipment

- All players must wear shin guards.
- No Hard Casts allowed.
- No jewelry is allowed by players during games. NO earrings, NO necklaces, NO rings, NO watches, NO bracelets, etc.
- Players (except the goalkeeper) must all have numbered jerseys of a like color and style. Duplicate numbers are allowed on SCCYSA uniforms. Goalkeeper must wear a color that distinguishes them from the rest of the players and referees.
- The Referee is responsible to check players' equipment prior to the game.

Law 5 – The Referee

- Follow FIFA guidelines
- The referee may issue yellow and red cards for misconduct.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees

- Linesman shall be used.
- If linesmen are not available, then club linesmen will be used in place of an official linesman

Law 7 – Duration of the Game

- Game length is two 35-minute halves, with a 10-minute break at halftime.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game. Exceptions are injuries, sickness, practice participation, or absence.

Law 8 – Start and Restart of Play

- FIFA guidelines

Law 11 – Offside

- FIFA guideline

Law 12 – Fouls & Misconduct

- FIFA guidelines

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- FIFA guidelines

Law 14 – Penalty Kick

- FIFA guidelines

Law 15 – Throw-in

- FIFA guidelines

Law 16 – Goal Kick

- FIFA guidelines

Law 17 – Corner Kick

- FIFA guideline

U15/U16/U17/U18 [11 v 11]

Law 1 – Field of Play

- Goals shall be regulation size
- Field shall be regulation size.
- Parents are required to be on one side of the field and coaches/players on the other side of the field.

Law 2 – The Ball

- Ball size to be used is a number 5

Law 3 – Number of Players

- Game must start with, be played with and end with at least 7 players.
- There must be no more than 11 players on the field of play for either team. One of the players shall be a designated goalkeeper.
- The maximum roster size is eighteen (18) players. Contact Division Commissioner to request an increase in the maximum roster size.
- All players will be registered with MYSAs and SCCYSA.
- Free substitution for both teams during any stoppage of play, with the permission of the Referee.
- **Registered guest players allowed. Only 18 players may dress per game. SCCYSA reserves the right for approval, with a minimum of two (2) days' notice.**
- **Only 3 coaches allowed in the technical area per team.**

Law 4 – Players' Equipment

- All players must wear shin guards.
- No Hard Casts allowed.
- No jewelry is allowed by players during games. NO earrings, NO necklaces, NO rings, NO watches, NO bracelets, etc.
- Players (except the goalkeeper) must all have numbered jerseys of a like color and style. Duplicate numbers are allowed on SCCYSA uniforms. Goalkeeper must wear a color that distinguishes them from the rest of the players and referees. Home team or a non SCCYSA uniforms must change colors/scrimmage vests.
- The Referee is responsible to check players' equipment prior to the game.

Law 5 – The Referee

- Follow FIFA guidelines
- The referee may issue yellow and red cards for misconduct.

Law 6 – The Assistant Referees

- Linesman shall be used.
- If linesmen are not available, then club linesmen will be used in place of an official linesman

Law 7 – Duration of the Game

- Game length is two 40-minute halves, with a 10-minute break at halftime.
- Each player shall play a minimum of 50% of the game. Exceptions are injuries, sickness, practice participation, or absence.

Law 8 – Start and Restart of Play

- FIFA guidelines

Law 11 – Offside

- FIFA guideline

Law 12 – Fouls & Misconduct

- FIFA guidelines

Law 13 – Free Kicks

- FIFA guidelines

Law 14 – Penalty Kick

- FIFA guidelines

Law 15 – Throw-in

- FIFA guidelines

Law 16 – Goal Kick

- FIFA guidelines

Law 17 – Corner Kick

- FIFA guidelines

Quick Reference Rule Matrix

Age Group	U4 / U5	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11/12	U13 / U14	High School
Game Style	3 v 3	4 v 4	6 v 6	6 v 6	7 V 7	7 v 7	9 v 9	11 v 11	11 v 11
Field Size	25 x 16	25 x 20	50 x40	50 x 40	65 X 50	65 x 50	85 x 55	Regulation	Regulation
Goal Size	3.5' x 6'	4' x 6'	5' x 10'	5' x 10'	7' x 21'	7' x 21'	7' x 21'	8' x 24'	8' x 24'
Ball Size	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5
Keepers	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Minimum to Play	3	3	4	4	5	5	6	7	7
Roster Max	6	8	10	10	12	12	14	18	18
Referee	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Linesmen	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Game Time	2 x 20	2 x 20	2 x 22.5	2 x 22.5	2 x 25	2 x 25	2 x 30	2 x 35	2 x 40
Off-sides	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y
Free Kicks	Ind, 1.5 yds	Ind, 3 yds	Ind, 4 yds	Ind, 5 yds	FIFA, 8 yds	FIFA, 8 yds	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA
Penalty Kick	N	N	N	N	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA
Throw-ins	Y,2	Y,2	Y,2	Y,2	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA
Goal Kick	TOP	TOP	FIFA, 4yds	FIFA, 5 yds	FIFA, 8 yds	FIFA, 8 yds	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA
Corner Kick	Y, 1.5 yds	Y, 3 yds	Y, 4 yds	Y, 5 yds	FIFA, 8 yds	FIFA, 8 yds	FIFA	FIFA	FIFA
Head Ball	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Slide Tackle	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Build Out Line	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N

The Weekend of Champions (W.O.C.)

The Weekend of Champions is SCCYSA's end of season tournament for U9 thru High School. Schedules for W.O.C. will be determined pending end of the regular season schedules.

The format of the tournament will vary with each age group and will be determined by the number of teams in that age group.

Frequently Asked Questions on Coaching

SCCYSA Coaching FAQ

How do I become a coach, asst. coach or team manager? Your best approach is to check the box on the player registration form and complete the “Coach Registration” under “Registration” tab on our website.

What coach qualifications do I need?

- Seasonally, each coach, asst. coach, and team parent must register as a Volunteer on sccysa.org by the registration deadline. You can complete this while you are registering your child ONLINE or can complete separately. All registrations must be completed online.
- Formal knowledge of soccer and or playing background is preferred but not required.
- Every coach, asst. coach, and manager involved with youth teams must complete:
 - MYSAs Criminal Background Check
 - CDC Concussion Protocol
 - Safesport Certification
 - Coaching License, minimum Foundations of Coaching (Head and Assistant Coach requirement only)

Where / How do I obtain coach qualifications? All coaches, assistant coaches, and team managers can obtain the necessary qualifications by going to: missourisoccer.org/coaching.

For links to complete the **Background Check** and **CDC Concussion Certification**, please see the **Volunteer Registration Steps tab located under "Coaches" "MYSAs Coaching Requirements" on our homepage** and you will be directed to the Missouri Youth Soccer Associations Website to:

- (a) Complete a MYSA Background Check
- (b) Concussion Certification
- (c) Safe Sport Certification – (Initial or Refresher Course)
- (d) SCCYSA requires **all** coaches to have a current “Youth” coaching license.

Coaches: You will not be assigned to a team or be sent any coaching information from SCCYSA until registered as a volunteer and all required certifications are complete.

I registered to be a head coach? Is that a guarantee that I will be a head coach?

No, it is not guaranteed. Head coaches are needed based on the quantity of players registered and if there aren't enough to field an entire extra team, your registration will be deleted.

Do I have to attend the Coaches Meeting each season? The league requires that each team send a representative to their designated coaches meeting each season. This representative does not have to be the coach but at least someone who is familiar with the operations of your team. These meetings are important for discussing new information from the league, picking up game cards, and receiving new handouts for the upcoming season.

When and where are practices held? You are a volunteer and are donating your time; you may select a practice time and location or take a poll from the parents. Suggestions: we put teams

together geographically so the team can practice closer to home. Please try to pick a school yard, park, field closed to your team's homes. If your team is a mixture of areas, try to pick somewhere geographically centered to all players if possible. You can select an area that does not require a permit like a school yard or park; but remember that most places that do not require a permit are first-come, first-serve. Or you can obtain a permit from the local cities. Check with the school or parks department and see what their requirements are for practice. Practice spots for spring are hard because of daylight, so try getting a gym or use your basement. If your practice time or day does not work for a player or family, we can try to move the player to a different team, or we will give a refund (minus a processing fee) up until the games start.

When do we receive schedules, uniforms, & game balls? All schedules, uniforms, & game balls are handed out to the coaches prior the season (see Event Calendar). All teams receive new uniforms (jersey, shorts, and sock) each Fall season and will use these jerseys for that season and the following Spring season. If a team is new to the league in the Spring (which means they didn't play the previous Fall season), they will receive new uniforms for that season. Also, any individual players who are new to a team in the Spring season will receive a new uniform for that season. If a player needs a replacement jersey, they are available from SCCYSA for a nominal fee. A player requesting to change teams between fall and spring season will have to pay the new player fee because they will receive a new uniform.

When are field closings and game cancellations made by? The league and/or parks department will determine playability of the fields for games daily and will update our rain out line. The Rain Out Line is updated the same day as the game and normally two hours before the games start. So, on Saturday and Sundays, the hotline should be updated by 6 am, and weeknights by 4 p.m.

Rain-Out Line? Rain-Out Line information is located on our home page...you can call, view online, get email and/or text alerts or download the app for your phone. If a game rains out, do we make it up? Our rain-out policy states that we will try to make up all rained out games unless the coach does not want to continue playing. We will try and fill in games throughout the season when possible, otherwise games will be added to the end of the season. Games cancelled due to weather are updated online. Games will be rescheduled around original conflicts.

If I have a problem with another coach or with something that went on in a game or practice, what should I do? If you need assistance at the field, please get the field marshal. Please contact your commissioner (click on Contact Us on the website). We cannot help you resolve a problem if we are not aware of the situation. If the problem requires action by the Board of Directors, we ask that a statement be put in writing describing the situation. Player/parents' names will be kept strictly confidential, unless noted.

What about Team/Individual Photos? Team/individual photos may be taken at the team's discretion. Our current photo company is STL Digital www.stldigital.com. They do provide SCCYSA with a donation based on total SCCYSA sales!

Cold and inclement weather? Warm-ups, sweats, and/or warm clothing containing non-metal zippers, or other hard or sharp parts may be worn. Jerseys and shorts must be visible, and number must not be covered. Gloves and head coverings (no hard-brim hats) are permitted. NO hooded sweatshirts or jackets with hoods for safety reasons.

What if I have a game conflict? Have your Asst. Coach take charge of coaching that game or have a parent register as SCCYSA Team Manager and complete the minimum MYSA requirements. SCCYSA strongly encourages Coaches to have multiple volunteers registered for each team that have completed the minimum requirements to volunteer and work with children to avoid games being forfeited due to a coach's schedule or unplanned conflict.

