



## West Seattle Soccer Club Three Goal Policy

### Player Advantage for Trailing Team

If a "3-goal policy" is in place, then any time the goal differential exceeds three (3), the **Trailing Team** may add an extra player to the field. For example:

- If a team falls behind by **3 goals**, they may add **1 extra player**.
- If the deficit reaches **6 goals**, they may add **2 extra players**.
- This continues, allowing one additional player for every 3-goal increment behind.
- The number of extra players allowed **adjusts dynamically** based on the current goal differential, decreasing as the difference shrinks—for example, if the goal difference drops from 6 to 5, the trailing team reduces their bonus players from two to one.

The **Leading Team** may also choose to rotate players, reduce their numbers, or adjust tactics as they see fit. The game continues without a score cap, so final scores may exceed a 3-goal margin even while these balance adjustments are in place.

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### Alternative Policy for Teams Without the Ability to Add Players

When the trailing team **cannot add players** due to roster size or lack of substitutes, the **Leading Team** is strongly encouraged to demonstrate good sportsmanship by moderating their scoring methods once ahead by more than 3 goals. Specifically, the Leading Team should limit their goals to:

- One-touch shots and/or shots taken from outside the penalty area.

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### Pre-Game Protocol

The West Seattle Soccer Club recommends that coaches from both teams meet with the referee before kickoff to establish expectations regarding use of the three-goal policy for that game.

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### Sportsmanship and Respect

This policy aims to maintain a fun, fair, and respectful playing environment for all players, coaches, and families. Coaches on both teams are encouraged to apply these guidelines thoughtfully to foster positive competition and development.

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### Policy Acknowledgment

This Three Goal Scoring Differential Policy is a guideline established by the club to promote sportsmanship, player development, and the spirit of the beautiful game. It is important to note that this policy is **not an official rule of soccer** as governed by any national or international soccer authority. Teams, coaches, and officials who choose to disregard this policy do so at their own discretion and risk, and may face reputational consequences within the club community for failing to uphold the values of respect, fairness, and positive competition that this policy is designed to encourage.