

SHAWNEE SOCCER CLUB RULES OF COMPETITION Recreation League

The recreational program of the Shawnee Soccer Club (SSC) shall adhere to Kansas State Youth Soccer Association's bylaws, rules, and policies and the "Laws of the Game" as prescribed by the Federation International De Football Association (FIFA, www.FIFA.com) with the following clarifications and modifications:

1. Recreational Team

The SSC administered league is a recreational program and all teams must adhere to the KSYSA definition of a recreational team. As such:

- (a) The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting *or any like process* to roster players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited, and the coach may not exclude any previously rostered player;
- (b) SSC accepts as participants in the league any and all eligible youths (subject to reasonable terms of registration) and will be responsible for assignment of players to teams;
- (c) Each player must play at least one half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness, discipline or reasonable cause; and
- (d) Teams are required to accept player assignments provided there is room on the roster.

Recreational soccer is an introduction to the game where the players face less pressure so they can learn, make mistakes and grow. It is also designed to be a social experience and children are often grouped by neighborhood and school. For these reasons, SSC recreational teams are to be open to ALL children. When a child is cut from a team these purposes are defeated and we risk child leaving soccer forever and the parents of that child defaming the soccer program and discouraging others from ever joining.

A coach who accepts a recreational team and then treats it as a competitive team by cutting players, or failing to give adequate playing time is to be removed as a coach and may face other penalties, including, but not limited to; suspension for up to one year from all involvement in

soccer, be it as a coach, player, referee or club official and/or total expulsion from SSC.

2. Coaching

Positive coaching from the touch-line is permitted. No one is permitted to coach or cheer along the goal-line.

3. Misconduct

Coaches are responsible for their fans. Coaches and parents may be cautioned or ejected for misconduct. Where the Laws state that a referee will penalize a player, those penalties are extended to include coaches, parents or other persons attending a Shawnee Soccer Club Game. Red cards issued against players, coaches, or fans will result in a one game suspension (the next scheduled game for the player, coach or fan). A suspension means the player/coach/fan cannot be present at the park while the game is taking place.

3. Substitutions

Substitutions shall be unlimited. For 3v3, either team may substitute on any stoppage of play. For 4v4 and older, substitutions may be made after the referee gives permission, at the following times:

- a. For 6v6 and older, prior to a throw-in in your favor. If the possession team substitutes, the other team may also substitute. For 4v4, either team may substitute on any throw-in.
- b. Prior to a goal kick, by either team
- c. For 6v6 and older, prior to a corner kick in your favor. If the possession team substitutes, the other team may also substitute. For 4v4, either team may substitute on any corner kick.
- d. After a goal, by either team
- e. After an injury, when the referee stops play and gives permission, the injured player may be substituted for. The opposing team may also substitute one player.
- f. Before the beginning of the half or quarter

Substitutions shall be completed in a timely fashion. Players shall enter at the halfway line, but may exit at the closest boundary line.

4. Maximum Number of Rostered Players Per Team

Players and substitutes are limited to rostered players only. Rostered players are players listed on the official team roster with the Club Registrar at the time of the game with player identification cards indicating that they are members of those teams. Maximum number of rostered players per team: 3v3 teams - 6 players; 4v4 teams - 8 players; 6v6 teams – 12 players; 8v8 teams - 16 players; 11v11 teams – 18 players

5. *Special Rules for Under 5 and Under 6 Division (3v3 format)*

See SSC '3V3 Rules of Play' for specifics.

6. *Special Rules for Under 7 and Under 8 Divisions (4v4 format)*

- Players will be allowed a second attempt at a throw-in if the ball was improperly thrown on the first attempt.
- There will be no off-sides called.
- No goal can be scored from the defensive half of the field.
- Teams will play without a goalie. An eight foot semi-circle will be drawn in front of each goal to represent the goal area. If a ball goes inside the goal area and stops before it goes in the goal, a goal kick will be issued. If an offensive player touches the ball inside the goal area, it is a foul and a goal kick is awarded to the opposing team.
- If a defensive player touches the ball inside their own goal area, a goal will be awarded to the offensive team. The goal area includes the line.
- Goal kicks will be taken from marks 6 yards up and 6 yards to the sides of the goals.
- All kicks (kick-offs, goal kicks, corner kicks) will be indirect. Opponents must be at least 5 yards from the ball on kicks.
- No penalty kicks.

7. *Special Rules for Under 9 and Under 10 Divisions (6v6 format)*

- Opponents must be at least 8 yards away on all kicks (kick-offs, free kicks, corner kicks).

- Players will be allowed a second attempt at a throw-in if the ball was improperly thrown on the first attempt.

8. Team format, Periods of Play, Minimum Number of Players, and Ball size

DIVISION	MIN # PLAYERS	FORMAT	PERIODS OF PLAY	BALL SIZE
U5 & U6	2	3 vs. 3	8 minute quarters	#3 ball
U7 & U8	3	4 vs. 4	12 minute quarters	#3 ball
U9 & U10	4	6 vs. 6	25 minute halves	#4 ball
U11 & U12	5	8 vs. 8	30 minute halves	#4 ball
U13 and Up	7	11 vs. 11	35 minute halves	#5 ball

The half-time interval shall be 5 minutes and quarter-time interval shall be 2 minutes. A longer half-time interval, not exceeding 10 minutes, may be allowed by the referee for half-time, if the time scheduled for games will allow. If playing cross-division games, the younger team's ball size and the older team's period of play will be used.

9. Referees and Game Time Deadline for Forfeit

All referees will be USSF certified. Referee's decision is final. SSC will not assign a referee for 3v3 games. 4v4 games will be assigned a Center referee only. All other games will be assigned a Center referee and two Assistant Referees.

If a team cannot field the required minimum number of players by game time, the game will result in a forfeit. The game will not be rescheduled. If a game is forfeited due to an insufficient number of players, a lack of player cards at halftime, terminated by the referee or Field Marshal before official time has expired, or any other action that results in the game being officially ended, the game is no longer an official match and referees will not be allowed to officiate.

10. Charging the Goalkeeper

The Club emphasizes the protection of the Goalkeeper while in the Penalty Area. Charging the Goalkeeper is not allowed while the Goalkeeper has **control** of the ball in the Penalty Area. The Goalkeeper is in control of the ball when touching the ball with **any** part of his/her

arm or hands. Once the Goalkeeper has rolled or dropped the ball deliberately to play with the feet (he/she cannot pick the ball up again), then the Goalkeeper may be charged as any field player. The Club follows the generally accepted rule in American youth soccer, which is that any charging of the goalkeeper is a violation that shall result in an indirect free kick. Highly dangerous or intentionally violent charges of the goalkeeper may result in the giving of a yellow or red card at the discretion of the referee.

11. Uniforms and Equipment

All players on Shawnee Soccer Club (“SSC”) teams are required to wear a uniform that clearly identifies the team as a Shawnee Soccer Club team. Clearly identifies means the Club logo with the name ‘Shawnee Soccer Club’ is on their uniform and visible while they are playing. If no SSC logo on the uniform is present, then the match will be forfeited. The SSC logo can be found on the club website at www.shawneesoccer.org. Players shall not be allowed to wear any type of jewelry, which includes earrings, watches, bracelets, and necklaces. Players who must wear medically required bracelets or necklaces shall be allowed to play after the device has been securely wrapped and protected with athletic tape. No toe cleats on shoes are allowed. Shin guards are required and must be fully covered by socks. The Referee has the final discretion to decide whether any equipment or clothing is safe.

12. Paid Coaches

Paid coaches are not allowed to coach at Shawnee Soccer Club recreational games.

13. Game time Sportsmanship

As the Shawnee Soccer Club is primary a recreational soccer club, we want to ensure that all players and teams enjoy their soccer experience. As a way for a team to enjoy their experience, we will allow a losing coach to call their game if they are losing by 10 or more goals at half-time. The referee should contact the losing coach at the half and verify whether or not they want to continue playing the game. If they want to continue playing after half time, they will not be asked again to call the game once the second half of play has begun. If the losing coach decides to call the game at half time, the referee will notify the other coach and the game will end.

14. Alcoholic beverages

NO alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are permitted at soccer games.

15. Goal Size, Field Area (feet) and Warm-Up

Game Format	Touchline	Goalline	Center Circle	Goal Size Width/height	Penalty Area	Goal Area
3v3	60	20	12	6 by 4	None	none
4v4	120	90	15	6 by 4	None	Arc
6v6	210	135	25	18 by 6	48 by 36	18 by 24

No team will be permitted to utilize the area in front of the goal for warm-ups on the game fields. Teams should utilize the area outside of the goal area for any pre-game activities to alleviate additional wear and tear on the fields. The only activity permitted will be one player or one coach warming up the goalie. At no time should more than one player be performing any drills, or practice shooting in the goal area. All activities prior to the game (first or second half) should be outside of the goal area.

16. Home Team Responsibilities

The Home Team shall be responsible for:

- The game ball
- Switching to their conflict jerseys, if instructed by the referee
- Choosing the side of the field their team and spectators wish to occupy

17. Spectators

Because the Shawnee Soccer Club is primarily a recreational soccer club, each team and their spectators shall sit on the same side of the field. No spectators are permitted to coach and/or watch the soccer match on the

opposing side of the field. It is the responsibility of the coach to monitor the actions of the parents attending the game.

18. Player Cards

Player Cards, laminated with player pictures firmly attached, are required by all Shawnee Soccer Club (SSC) teams. The club will require each team to present their player cards to the referees before a match is played. Teams without their player cards will be allowed to play one half of the game and must present the cards at half-time. If the team is unable to present them at half-time, the game will be forfeited. If any number of players do not have a player card, those players will not be able to continue playing the game after 1/2 time. If the team is no longer able to field the minimum number of players, then the game is forfeited. If the team can field the minimum number of players with player cards, the game will continue after 1/2 time. Teams missing their player cards should contact the club administrator in sufficient time to have the player cards reprinted.

19. Dual Rostering

At the end of the Spring of 2008, the SSC Board voted to not permit players registered with a competitive team in any organization to also roster on a recreational team. Therefore, no player registered/rostered on any competitive team will be permitted to compete on a Shawnee Soccer Club recreational team. This policy was made effective in the Fall of 2008.

20. No Pets at the Game Fields

Because of sanitary concerns and incidents of children being bit at the game fields, pets are not permitted at the game fields.