RECREATIONAL/DEVELOPMENTAL/ COMPETITAVE /AMATEUR

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF

PONCA CITY SOCCER, INC.

SECTION I – CLUB BOUNDARIES

1. The Ponca City Soccer, Inc. (PSCI) boundary is defined in the PSCI Bylaws (see Article III) to include all Ponca City school boundaries, plus all participating adjacent school districts (i.e., Newkirk, Tonkawa, etc.). The purpose of defining school areas is to facilitate team formation. The PSCI Board of Directors shall resolve any boundary disputes brought up by the Recreational Commissioner. Plays shall initially be assigned to teams in accordance with natural school boundaries. Developmental, Competitive, and Amateur Division boundary includes Kay County and adjacent areas in North Central Oklahoma.
2. All Recreational teams will be reformed each Fall season.
3. Players living outside of any school district defined in the rules and regulations may be assigned to the next available team, as assigned by PSCI.

SECTION II – REGISTRATION

It is the intent of PSCI that a player should be initially assigned to play on a team from his/her own school area and in the appropriate age division (see II.G.2).

1. All teams and players shall be registered by season (fall and/or spring) through the PSCI in accordance with established procedures outlined below.
2. Players shall be registered with the PSCI during the registration period, which shall be established and publicized prior to each session.
3. Individual players shall be registered using the official PSCI registration form, plus additional forms as periodically required (i.e., USYSA Form, USASA Form, Volunteer Form, etc.) by the League Commissioner.
4. Individual registration fees shall be paid at the time of registration. (No player will be prevented from playing due to lack of funds. Where genuine need exists, the program will subsidize the applicant’s entry.)
5. Upon acceptance of the player registration by PSCI, a player may not participate in practices or games until officially assigned to a PSCI team. The team coach will be notified of players placed on his/her team, as outlined by the standing resolutions.
6. A player may be refused registration if he/she fails to register during the registration period. Late registrations will be taken for potential placement without any guarantee of team assignment.
7. Player Eligibility – Youth Division
8. Definition

PSCI will follow US Soccer guidelines on age divisions. Guidelines set forth by US Soccer Birth year registration will be followed.

1. Age divisions shall comprise players who are of proper birth year registration:
2. Under 19 years of age\* and not eligible for Under 16.
3. Under 16 years of age\* and not eligible for Under 14.
4. Under 14 years of age\* and not eligible for Under 12.
5. Under 12 years of age\* and not eligible for Under 10.
6. Under 10 years or age\* and not eligible for Under 8.
7. Under 8 years of age\* and not eligible for Under 6.
8. Under 6 years of age\* and not eligible for Under 4.
9. Under 4 years of age, 3rd birthday by April 1st and September 1st.

\*Teams in these age groups will be assigned only if sufficient players register to field a recreational league.

1. Any player may be required to prove his/her legal age, school district, or legal residence to PSCI.
2. Proof of age shall consist of a birth certificate or passport issued by a government authority. Hospital, baptismal, or religious certificates shall not be accepted.
3. Legal residence is the true domicile of the player and his/her family/legal guardian. This is the place where the player and his/her family/legal guardian have their permanent resident to which, if absent, they have the intention of returning.
4. Players may be registered and play in only one league during any season (this does not apply to high school players). The intent is that players cannot participate in more than one age group/league/program in a single season.
5. Playing Up
6. “Playing Up” refers to playing in an older age division than the player’s age would otherwise make him/her eligible (see II.G.2).
7. A recreational player shall not be allowed to play up more than one age group, and that player shall remain in that older age division for the remainder of that entire season (fall or spring).
8. Requests for playing up shall be submitted in writing by the parent/legal guardian on the prescribed PSCI form (Appendix IV) at the time of registration, stating the reason the request is being made. The approval is required by the Director of Coaching and Registrar, to allow the play up. Requests for playing up in the Amateur Division must be submitted to the Amateur Division, and the application approval is required by the Amateur Board.
9. Teams

1. The seasonal year shall begin August 1 and end July 31 of the following year. During this seasonal year, PSCI has two playing seasons, Fall and Spring. All recreational teams shall be registered with PSCI prior to each season.

2. An official PSCI Roster (Appendix V) will be provided to the coaches at least 14 days prior to the start of the season. The Registrar will sign these rosters. No changes to these roster forms shall be made without the Registrar’s signature.

3. A player CANNOT be added to teams by coaches or parents.

4. All players added to a roster shall only be added by the Registrar in accordance with specific procedures (see Appendix I).

1. Coaches
2. All coaches shall be registered with the PSCI prior to the first scheduled date of PSCI play on the approved PSCI Coaches Registration Form (Appendix II).
3. PSCI can refuse to register a coach for just cause, and this requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board (see IV.A.2). Just cause is considered that if for any reason the coach’s involvement is considered detrimental to the children, the proper functioning of the program, or the spirit or intent of fair play. Any coach who has been suspended by PSCI or any other affiliated organization shall not be registered by PSCI during his/her period of suspension.

SECTION III – TEAMS

1. In order to assure maximum opportunity for each individual to play, recreational teams shall normally be limited to the following number of players:

11 v 11- Max Roster 18

9v9- Max Roster 14

7v7- Max Roster 12

4v4- Max Roster 8

3v3- Max Roster 6

-Because of insufficient number of players in the recreational program for this league, special arrangements (smaller size teams and rosters, and smaller fields, etc.) are sometimes necessary to provide the opportunity for players to participate in soccer.

1. Team Formation Guidelines Youth Division
	1. All players shall be originally assigned to teams by the PSCI in the priority sequence listed below. These criteria are established as best meeting the special needs of the Ponca City area, where single-school teams are not possible the majority of the time. (See Team Formation Procedure in Appendix \*). Exceptions may be required where the availability of coaches requires slight deviations from these guidelines. Both the Registrar and the Recreational Commissioner must approve any such deviations.
		1. All recreational teams will be reformed in the fall.
	2. Efforts by coaches and others to recruit players onto recreational teams are prohibited and will not be tolerated. Violations of this resolution can be forwarded to the Disciplinary Committee for action.
	3. As players leave PSCI-formed teams after each season, additional players will be added the next season by PSCI according to the procedures in Section II. Below are general philosophies for team continuity:
		* 1. Teams will be formed each fall season and remain intact thru the spring season as long as following criteria are met:

-Each player meets the eligibility for that league.

-All players are registered during the registration period.

* + - 1. The coach from the previous season is remaining as coach. A parent or other interested individual may replace the previous coach in order to allow the players to remain together, as long as the replacement coach is named prior to the close of scheduled registration. The replacement coach cannot automatically bring a player with him/her to the team.
			* A player MAY NOT be assigned to an existing team because his/her parent is planning to “help coach” the existing team.
			* Two or more tams MAY NOT combine teams under the guidelines meant to allow a single team to stay together.
		1. After players from previous season teams (see a. above) have been assigned by PSCI, all remaining players shall be held in a player pool an assigned by PSCI team formation guidelines.
		2. Those players who sign up after the official close of registration, will be assigned within their respective age group to the team in that league, with the fewest number of players on the roster as the primary consideration with school being secondary. If several teams have openings, every attempt will be made to place late registrations on teams with members from their own school.
		3. All siblings playing the same league will be assigned to the same team (if properly identified on registration form. Other relationships (cousins, etc.), do not guarantee the same team assignment, but will be considered.
		4. If the only way for the team to be formed is to be a Coed team, that team can make and be placed in the age appropriate boys division.

SECTION IV - COACHES

1. Selection
2. Coaches are all volunteer in the Recreational League, no paid coaches are allowed.
3. PSCI has the authority to deny a coach a team by either lack of players available for the number of coaches, or by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board, based on findings from disciplinary committee including failure to complete or pass background check. (see Bylaws Article XII).
4. All coaches are encouraged to seek instruction in The Laws of the Game and coaching techniques.
5. Only coaches and assistant coaches allowed on the coaching sideline and allowed to assist in practices.
6. All youth recreational coaches are encouraged to take the Grass Roots under USSF website under coaching modules.
7. Responsibilities and Duties
8. Each coach shall be responsible for being familiar with the PSCI Bylaws, Rules and Regulations and Playing Rules (see Age Group Playing Rules supplied by League Commissioner, i.e., Under 8, Under 12, etc.). Each coach is also responsible for obtaining a copy of the Rules and Regulations, and the Playing Rules and ensuring that everyone associated with his/her team is advised of appropriate sections.
9. Each coach shall be responsible for ensuring that the PSCI Rules and Regulation and Playing Rules are complied with by players, spectators, and for maintaining order and respect by players and spectators for referees, players, and others involved with the game (see Code of Conduct).
10. Each coach shall be responsible for conducting practices.
11. Recreational team activities shall be limited to three (3) during any calendar week with the exception of games (Sunday through Saturday).
12. No recreational team practice, scrimmage, or instructional meeting shall exceed 90 minutes in duration.
13. The home team shall change colors if uniform colors conflict. See the referee hut for “Pennies”.
14. The decision to postpone scheduled games in the Recreational Youth Division will be made by at least two (2) members of the current Board or Directors. Coaches CANNOT decide not to play games based on weather, missing players, conflicts with other activities, etc. All rescheduled games are the responsibility of the Area Referee and League Commissioners. Coaches will be notified of rescheduled games through their respective League Commissioner.
15. In the event that no referee appears for a game, it is the responsibility of the home team coach to select a referee suitable to both coaches (Under 6 and under).
16. Failure of a coach to uphold PSCI Bylaws, Rule and Regulations, or Playing Rules can result in disciplinary action by the Disciplinary Committee.

SECTION V – RULES OF RECREATIONAL COMPETITION

All PSCI Recreational Competition shall be in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game except as noted in the current playing rules for each league (see age group playing rules supplied by League Commissioner). These playing rules will be revised and reissued by the Recreational Commissioner (with two-thirds {2/3} majority Board approval) as deemed appropriate to meet the needs of the PSCI and the size of the Ponca City program.

SECTION VI – GAMES

1. Players Right to Play

The PSCI believes that the sport of soccer is best promoted by maximum participation.

1. A registered player on a recreational team shall play at least one-half (1/2) of each game scheduled for his/her team that he/she attends except for injury of team/parent disciplinary reasons.
2. A parent may, for medical reasons, place limitations on the time his/her child shall play in a game.
3. Parents/legal guardians also have the right and responsibility to withhold their child from any soccer activities (including games) in which they personally believe conditions (i.e., weather, field conditions, etc.) are unsafe. (Parent’s or coach’s interpretation of “unsafe playing conditions” for their individual child, do not dictate the canceling of any scheduled game.
4. Official Game
5. PSCI scheduled league games.
6. Rescheduled PSCI league games.
7. PSCI tournament games
8. Schedules
9. The PSCI Game Scheduler is responsible for scheduling all recreational league games prior to the start of each season.
10. Every attempt will be made so that coaches that coach more than one team do not have conflicting games scheduled.
11. Conflicts with other individual non-soccer activities cannot, and will not be scheduled around, due to the complications that it creates in coordinating all league and fields together within the limited season length.
12. Game Results and League Standings
13. Area Referee will be responsible for the following:
14. Maintaining an accurate record of game results
15. Current team standings
16. Cautions and ejections
17. League Standings Youth Division
18. No league standings are kept for Under 6 and under
19. Under 8 and older league standings are determined by most points in the following manner:

3 points for each win

1 point for each tie

0 points for each loss

1. Tie-breaker for final league standings is determined as follows:

 1st Head-to-head competition

 2nd Least amount of goals allowed during league play per season

 3rd Goals scored minus goals allowed maximum of 3 goal differential per league games played per season.

 4th Red cards deduct 1 point, two yellow cards equal 1 red card

 5th Penalty Kicks (PKs)

 Forfeit is scored as a 3-0 win (duplicate trophies will not be given).

1. The referee is responsible for the reporting of games’ results at the end of each game.
2. Uniforms

All members of a team during a scheduled game shall wear uniforms in accordance with the following requirements:

1. Matching team jersey worn on the outside of any additional clothing so as to be readily distinguishable by the referee.
2. At least a six-inch (6) high contrasting number shall be on the back of all jerseys, with no duplication among team members.
3. If two (2) teams with similar jersey colors are to play each other (see Section IV.B.6)
4. Shin guards are required to be worn by each player for practices and games.
5. No metal accessories, jewelry, or pointed sharp finger nails.

1. League Commissioners

The league will have an assigned boys and girls League Commissioner. Their duties will be as follow:

1. The PSCI Registrar and the League Commissioners will complete team rosters. No changes on the player assignments are allowed unless approved by Registrar and League Commissioners.
2. Contact all coaches to advise of roster completion and notify of Coaches’ Meeting date, time, and location.
3. Assist coaches in their respective leagues in scheduling workdays at the soccer fields to get their field ready for the upcoming season.
4. Coordinate the organization of each team’s coach’s name, phone number, and team name. These must be forwarded to the Game Scheduler nine (9) days prior to the start of the season for inclusion on the schedules.
5. Provide official rosters signed by the PSCI Registrar and League Commissioner.
6. Provide a copy of League Rules for appropriate league.
7. Coordinate any roster problems between the coach and the PSCI Registrar and Recreational Commissioner. No player can be added or dropped from the official roster except by the Registrar.
8. Communicate any information, such as rescheduled games, between the coaches and the Recreational Commissioner and/or Game Scheduler throughout the season.
9. Cancellation, Postponement, and Rescheduling
10. Postponement of league games is the responsibility of the head referee and field commissioner. In the absence of the aforementioned a board member may serve in this capacity. Notice will be made through social media (Facebook and PCSI website), and league commissioners will notify coaches by phone or text.
11. Games postponed in accordance with, above, shall only be rescheduled by the Ref Assignor. Coaches will be notified of rescheduled game dates/times through their League Commissioner.
12. Game postponement and/or rescheduling games by the coaches is strictly prohibited. Coaches attempting to assume this responsibility are subject to disciplinary action and forfeiture by both teams of the subject game.
13. Forfeiture
14. If a team fails to appear or field a team of one less player than the number of players allowed on the field, within 15 minutes after game start time, the referee shall note this as a forfeit by the non-compliant team.
15. For any game that a player participates in and is not on the official PSCI roster for that team, that game will be declared a forfeit.
16. For any game in which an ineligible player participates in, that game shall be subject to forfeiture and addressed by the Discipline Committee.
17. A forfeited game will be scored 3-0 and 3 points awarded to the standings.
18. Cautions, Ejections, and Discipline
19. Both coaches and players shall be subject to caution and ejection by the referee for misconduct. The coach is also subject to caution or ejection for the behavior of spectators supporting his/her team on the sidelines.
20. An accumulation by a player or a coach of three (3) cautions (yellow cards) during one playing season shall result in an automatic suspension of such player or coach for the next official game.
21. A coach or player, who is ejected before, during, or after a game, shall leave the immediate area of the playing field before recommencement of the game. Failure to do so will result in review by the Disciplinary Committee, and the referee can suspend the game at that point.
22. A coach or player, who is ejected, shall be suspended from participation in at least the next official game, and reviewed by the Discipline Committee.
23. All assaults upon a referee (verbal or physical), and all assaults by a referee, are solely within the jurisdiction of PSCI and the Oklahoma Soccer Association (OSA). Any individual cited for alleged assault upon a referee shall be suspended from participation in all soccer activities, until a determination is made by PSCI or the OSA.
24. At the referee’s discretion, a game can be terminated for flagrant violations by coaches, players and/or spectators, and a report presented to the Board for disposition through the Competition Committee or the Disciplinary Committee.
25. Team and/or player breaches of the rules or regulations will be dealt with by the Board and can be remanded to the Disciplinary Committee. The Committee and/or the Board have powers to deal with these issues to include suspension of the team, players, coaches, and forfeiture of games.
26. Game Protests/Appeals

The Protest Committee shall address protests affecting the outcome of games, whether completed or suspended. The Committee shall be comprised of the Board Members, Recreational Commissioner, and the Director of Referees with any involved individuals.

1. The Protest Committee will only hear protests if both of the following requirements are met:
2. A FIFA Law or PSCI Rule must have been violated; and
3. The outcome of the game (win/lose) must have been affected.
4. Protests concerning the dimensions or condition of the pitch, goals, or other equipment must have been brought to the referee’s attention and duly noted on the game card before the start of the game in order to be considered by the Committee.
5. Procedure for filing a protest is as follows:
6. The protesting coach must put his/her protest in writing, sign, and deliver it with a $100 check (payable to PSCI) to the Recreational Commissioner within 24 hours of the completion of the match. The $100 check is refundable only if the protest is upheld.
7. If the protest meets the requirements as previously outlined, the Protest Committee Chairman (Recreational Commissioner), will notify the other members of the Protest Committee, both coaches, and the referee of the game, of the hearing to be held within five (5) days following the game. (If the Recreational Commissioner is considered an involved individual, then the PSCI President shall appoint a replacement Committee Chairman from the remainder of the Committee).
8. Both coaches and the referee must be invited to the hearing. If either team is not represented, the Protest Committee will decide the matter based on the written protest and the referee’s report.
9. The Protest Committee may uphold the game result, alter the game result by declaring a forfeit, or cause the game to be replayed. These are the ONLY options.
10. A verbal decision shall be given at the hearing, followed by written confirmation within seven (7) days of the hearing. The Head Referee, the involved coaches, and the PSCI Board will receive a copy of the decision. The Protest Committee may recommend further action, but such a recommendation is not binding.

SECTION VII – PLAYER DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE

1. Purpose?
2. Team formations will depend on number of signups and follow league guidelines.
3. Teams will be placed in a division/league that promotes competition and growth.
4. Players are required to play 40% of the available minutes of the games they attend.
5. The developmental program is designed for U9 and U10 age groups

SECTION VIII – COMPETITIVE DIVISON

1. Purpose?
2. Tryouts will be held in May after the conclusion of the State Tournament.
3. DOC committee will hold tryouts and form teams to present to Board.
4. Teams will be formed according to numbers to allow for player development and quality club representation.
	1. Players cannot be placed on a team until they are in good standing with the club and can be withheld from practice/games if they fall out of good standing with the club.
5. No restrictions on playing time.
6. A player can not go back to our recreational league during the term of their contract.
7. A player who is playing up into competitive can go back to there natural age group but only to our Player Development League, provided they are in good standing with the club.

SECTION IX – DEVELOPMENTAL LEAGUE/COMPETITIVE LEAGUE COMMON RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All teams will have a designated head coach
	1. Coaches will hold a National “D” license (OSA Policy) with the following exceptions for our club
		1. Developmental League and U11/U12 Competitive League coaches will be working on obtaining the “D.”
		2. Competitive teams can be coached with board Approval without a “D” license.
			1. Coaches without a “D” license must have a proven record of developing players with PCSI and in good standing.
2. Coaches are paid a set amount that has been approved by the board
3. Coaches will follow current league rules and policies in which the teams are registered
4. All uniforms are to be board approved and feature the club logo.
5. Any game cancelled or reschedule request must happen 72hrs before original game schedule or Referee’s fees will be collected.
6. No restrictions on playing time.

SECTION X – AMAUTER LEAGUE

1. Purpose?
2. All players must be out of Highschool and 18 years of age or older.
3. Team formations will depend on numbers of signups and follow league guidelines.
4. No restrictions on playing time.
5. In all instances the rules of the league that the teams are registered in will be followed.

SECTION XI – TOURNAMENTS

1. Any tournament held at PCSI will follow the current LOTG and subsequent league rules for all divisions in participation.
2. Tournaments held by outside venders will follow the vender’s organization rules.
3. Game times can be modified from league rules to accommodate time restrictions.

SECTION XII – PAID POSTIONS

1. A board member shall not hold a paid position with the following exceptions.
	1. Club Coaching Positions depending on board approval.
	2. Referee
	3. If there is no person qualified to hold such a position and only till such a person becomes available, depending on board approval.
2. List of all paid positions held within PCSI and defined in the by-laws.
	1. Executive Director
	2. Director of Coaching
	3. Director of Player Development League
	4. Director of Referee/Assignor
	5. Referee Administrator
	6. Club Amateur Coach
	7. Club Competitive Coach
	8. P.D. Coach
	9. Referee’s
3. Each position will be paid in accordance with what the board has been approved and is subject to change only by board approval.
4. Current Pay Scale:
	1. All paid positions will be paid by the end of the season for which they hold the position, except for the Executive Director who will be paid for the months they hold the position in the calendar year.
		1. Executive Director - $3600 year/ $300 a month
		2. Director of Coaching - $1 per every player signed up with club.
		3. Player Development League Director -$5 per player signed up.
		4. Director of Referees/Assignor - $400 per season
		5. Referee Administrator $300 per season
		6. Amateur Coach– ½ of player signup fee
		7. Competitive Coach – paid according to age division (have that in minutes from last year) and players on roster. Two seasons per year, except U16/U17/U18/U19 who play an extended season. Coaches who do the extended season will be paid for the year.
			1. U11/12- $130 per player per year
			2. U13/U14- $140 per player per year
			3. U15/U16- $150 per player per year
			4. U17/U18/U19- $160 per player per year
		8. Player Development League Coach - $20 per player on roster
		9. Referee’s – paid per division and age group.

SECTION XIII - MODIFICATIONS TO RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. These Rules and Regulations of PSCI are intended to identify the operational issues of the Program. The procedure for making changes to these Rules and Regulations is as follows:
2. Recommended changes to the Rules and Regulations must be presented to the Board in writing at least one (1) week prior to a scheduled Board meeting. Any recommendations for changes must include the following information to be considered:
3. Identify the section in which the change is requested.
4. Identify why the change is being requested.
5. Identify the supposed benefits of the recommended change and identify potential disadvantages of the change.
6. Provide recommended section, rewording of the proposed change, consistent with the existing format.
7. The Board will place the recommended change on the next regular meeting’s agenda for review and advise the interested individual of when and where the next meeting will be held.
8. After review of the recommended changes of the Rules and Regulations at the regular Board meeting, The Board will make a decision on action. Such action can include: (a) bringing the recommendation to a vote at that meeting; (b) withholding action on the item to the next regular meeting; (c) calling a special meeting to address the proposed change; or (d) withholding action on the item until the next Annual General Meeting (AGM). The action on the proposed change must take into account the impact on the overall program.
9. Recommended changes to these Rules and Regulations must receive a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board with a Quorum present. If the Board feels that a proposed change should be dealt with by the entire membership, then by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, they can remand the issue to the full membership at the next AGM. Proposed changes to the Rules and Regulations brought before the AGM for a full membership vote, will require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership for passage with a Quorum present.
10. Changes to the Rules and Regulations will normally become effective on the next regular seasonal year (i.e., Fall Season). If the Board feels that the issue is minor and/or beneficial enough to implement earlier, they may do so with a two-thirds (2/3) vote.