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NEXT LEVEL SOCCER LAWS

FIFA laws of the game will be enforced with the following exceptions.

The Game

* **8 game guarantees with 20-minute halves per game**
* **2-minute half time intervals**
* **No stoppage time**
* **Games are played 5 vs 5 including the goalkeeper**
* **The game ends when one team has a goal difference of 11, or when time expires**
* **( no mercy rule in youth, or coed matches. An extra player may be added when there is a goal difference of 7. If the difference is erased, the extra player will leave the field of play).**
* **One full period of overtime (no golden goal) will be added to games that require a winner and end in a tie (i.e. finals/Semi-Finals)**
* **A forfeit results in a 3:0 loss unless the game has started and the score differential is 3 or more in favor of the non-forfeiting team**
* **Rosters cannot be changed after the 2nd game unless they replace an injured player who cannot play for 3 or more months (with a doctor’s note). Considerations will be made for pregnancy. Work related absence, For any other reasons, please contact administration.**
* **Seasonal standings are determined by (1) points, (2) goal differential, (3) goals for, (4) goals against, (5) head-to-head competition, (6) least red cards, (7) least yellow cards, (8) coin toss**
* **Play-off participation in competitive divisions: Top 2 teams play in a final to determine a winner**
* **Standings are held in most divisions, first place in these results in medals and also a trophy for the top divisions of competition.**
* **The clock starts at the scheduled time**
* **A team forfeits if they are not ready to play within 10 minutes**
* **The seasons are year-round and ongoing**
* **A limited number of teams will be registered in any given season. First teams to turn in roster, registration, & fees will be considered for a division**
* **A minimum of 3 or a maximum of 5 players per team must be on the field to start or continue any game.**
* **Players serving penalty time for 6 fouls or a yellow card count towards the minimum**
* **Substitutions are done “on the fly”**
* **The referee’s permission is not necessary, With the exception of the goalkeeper**
* **Players coming off must be within 10 feet (3 meters) of the line and cannot interfere with play before the substitute can enter the field**
* **The substitution rule is players must sub in/sub out on your team’s side.**
* **Substitution on opponent’s side will result in an indirect free kick**

The Players

* **Metal cleats are not permitted**
* **Indoor or turf shoes, or molded plastic/rubber cleats are acceptable**
* **Shin guards are required**
* **All players must be 30 or older to be eligible to play in the 30 and older division**
* **Up to three players from a higher division are permitted for each team in the open divisions**
* **i.e. 3 “B” players can join the same “C” team. No “A” players can play a “C” team.**
* **Players may only play for one team in the same division**
* **Players may transfer to another team in the same division until the beginning of the 2nd game only if the coach of the team they are leaving agrees**
* **A valid issued ID must be available for any player if requested by the referee**
* **Only the opposing team can protest illegal players to the referee or league administrator no later than 10 minutes after the game ends**
* **League fees per team: $450.00**
* **No partial payments will be accepted.**
* **Teams that pay by due dates will be the only teams added to schedules. Games begin the following week**
* **Rosters are due at the time of registration to help ensure proper placement of teams**
* **We reserve the right to place teams in the appropriate divisions based on win/loss records or the roster from previous seasons**
* **A maximum of up to 12 players per team roster (only 10 can play in a single match)**
* **Jerseys must be matching color**
* **Numbers are encouraged on the back of jersey tops**
* **Each player is required to sign a roster before taking the field for the first game they play in a season**
* **Player "sharing" in any division is not permitted. You may play on one team per league division**
* **Players may join a team in a lower division, or higher division, but only 3 higher division players are permitted on a lower division team.**

(Mis)conduct

* **Fouls or abusive language from players or fans will not be tolerated**
* **No slide tackles**
* **This means that a player shall not slide if an opponent is close enough to be endangered through this action.**
* **The goalie may slide if the cleats are not up. A player is considered to be sliding if s(he) moves horizontally and touches the ground with any part of the body other than the feet**
* **No offside**
* **Opponents shall respect a distance of at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the ball on any restart**
* **Restarts must be kicked into play within 5 seconds, or the opposing team receives an indirect free kick**
* **Any PK or indirect free kick inside the penalty area will be taken from the middle of the top of the penalty area**
* **All balls leaving the field of play are kicked in and are indirect with these exceptions:**
* **Corner kicks are direct, kick-off are direct.**
* **goal kicks must be thrown in by the goalkeeper (indirect)**
* **Balls that touch any part of the building structure are out of bounds and are kicked in from the sideline**
* **Any ball thrown by the goalkeeper must touch the ground or another player before crossing the center line. A violation results in an indirect kick for the opposing team from the center line at either side of the field**
* **A player who commits 6th team foul must sit out for 2 minutes or until the opposing team scores**
* **Fouls that result in a yellow or red card don’t count for the team’s foul tally**
* **A player who is shown a yellow card must sit out for 2 minutes or until the opposing team scores**
* **Any field player can serve a 2-minute penalty for the goalkeeper**
* **In coed, the player must be the same gender as the goalkeeper**
* **A player who is shown a red card- MUST LEAVE THE BUILDING**
* **The team may replace the player after the full 5 minutes penalty has elapsed**
* **If a coach or substitute is shown a yellow or red card, a player must be removed from the field to serve the penalty**
* **3 yellow cards in the same season result in an automatic one game suspension**
* **A red card results in a minimum of 1 game suspension in the same division**
* **A red card issued for violent conduct results in a 5 game suspension**
* **3 accumulated RED cards in a 12 month period will result in the player’s suspension from league play for 1 year at Next Level Soccer**
* **A fight in which multiple blows are exchanged or perpetrated results in a 1-year suspension**
* **If additional time is added by the disciplinary committee or the facility/league administration for any other reason, the suspension will apply to all Next Level Soccer leagues and divisions**
* **2 red cards in the same season result in a minimum 5 game suspension**
* **3 red cards in the same season result in a minimum 8 game suspension and 6 months’ probation pending a 1-year suspension**
* **2 multiple game suspensions within 12 months result in a 1-year suspension.**
* **A second violation which results in a 1-year suspension will result in a permanent suspension from Next Level Soccer**
* **A player who is suspended for a third 1-year violation will be suspended indefinitely and will no longer be welcome to participate in Next Level Soccer leagues**
* **Children at Next Level must be always supervised. If a guardian is playing soccer, bring along another adult to supervise**
* **Children are not permitted to be on the sidelines during games for safety reasons**
* **Children are not permitted to be on the field before or after games**

**We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone**