



**CHARLOTTE COUNTY SOCCER FEDERATION**

**Charlotte County Soccer Federation**

# **Modified Rules of Play**

**By CCSF BOD**



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## **Recreational & Competitive Seasons**

### **Executive Board of Directors**

President	Charlie DiMonda
Vice President Recreational (North)	Blake Bettis
Vice President Recreational (South)	Carol Nevling
Vice President Competitive	Gerald Mauger
Secretary	Kristie Lawson
Treasurer	Tiffany Morse
Registrar	Stacey Brown
Assistant Registrar	India Nelson
Executive Fundraiser	Luanne Greenberg
Equipment Operator	Open
Communications/PR	Open
Field Operator (South)	Open
Field Operator (North)	Open
At Large 1	Shana Baxter
At Large 2	Mercedes Butler

### **Board of Directors**

Team Coordinator (North)	OPEN
Team Coordinator (South)	OPEN
Assistant Equipment Operator	OPEN
Assistant Fundraiser (North)	OPEN
Assistant Fundraiser (South)	OPEN



## **Committees**

### **Budget:**

Tiffany Morse--Chairperson  
Charlie DiMonda

### **Bylaws, Rules and Regulations**

Tiffany Morse --Chairperson

### **Competitive Programs**

Charlie DiMonda--Chairperson  
`Stacey Brown

### **Recreational Programs**

Carol & Blake-Chairpersons  
DOC

### **Protest and Appeals**

Appointed by Board

### **Registration**

Stacey Brown--Chairperson

### **Fundraising:**

Kristie Lawson --Chairperson

### **Recreational Rostering**

Blake & Carol--Chairpersons  
Stacey Brown

### **Tournament & Travel**

Charlie DiMonda--Chairperson

### **Elections AGM**

Tiffany Morse--Chairperson  
Open (3)

### **Review and Discipline**

Appoint by Board  
Charlie DiMonda  
Open (4)

### **Equipment**

Gerald Mauger--Chairperson  
Charlie DiMonda

### **Competitive Rostering**

Charlie DiMonda- Chairperson  
Stacey Brown

### **Communications/PR**

Gerald Mauger--Chairperson  
Blake Bettis





## CHARLOTTE COUNTY SOCCER FEDERATION

Dear Parents/Guardians/Players/Coaches/Sponsors:

As President of Charlotte County Soccer Federation I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in our ever growing soccer club. Our goal is to provide the children of SW Florida the best possible training, sportsmanship and knowledge for the game of soccer. We also teach the youth of our area positive lessons in an encouraging environment. These lessons they can apply now and later in other aspects of their lives.

We have gone to great lengths to put in place many opportunities for the children and the parents to get involved in our club. We provide classes for potential referees, clinics & training for potential coaches as well as Brazilian Soccer camps for the children. We want the children and the parents from our community to get involved in every portion of the club, because together we will keep Charlotte County Soccer Federation successful in the future. We are an all volunteer organization and are grateful for the many coaches, parents, directors that give countless hours to our club. This year we have over 750 kids in our programs and have added several new professional trainers to assist in player & coach development.

We have been very busy in the off season getting our club prepared for the future. The club also has obtained some of the areas high school coaches to work with our Recreational & Competitive kids to further advance their training. The County Parks & Rec has been hard at work replacing field surfaces, parking lot lighting and painting all the buildings. We hosted 2 Region C Cup tournaments in February that drew teams from all over the SW FL region and they were a big success and brought much needed revenue to our local businesses. All of our travel teams competed in the Sarasota Cup Tournament in March. Tampa Bay Rowdies has partnered up with our club and is offering discounted tickets and CCSF Day where our club walks out onto the field during the opening ceremonies. FC Porto International has also partnered with our club and will be offering European style teachings in the near future.

Our club is dedicated to seeing that Charlotte County Soccer Federation becomes one of the most successful soccer organizations in the Region. Together we can ensure that our children have all the opportunities that a soccer club can provide, but most importantly their experience with us will be one that they will always remember.

Please visit our website for all the latest information. [www.ccsfsoccer.com](http://www.ccsfsoccer.com)

Sincerely,



## Modified Recreation Rules

ARTICLE IV. GOVERNANCE; The Association shall be governed by its Charter, Constitution, Bylaws, and **Playing Rules**, except when these provisions are superseded by the governing authority of USSF and its divisions USYS or by FYSA with whom the Association is affiliated.

Rules of play, except as modified herein, shall be in accordance with FIFA “Laws of the Game” as modified by FYSA By-Laws and Rules 2013-2014.

### Law 1 – The Field of Play

- A. The field of play will vary depending on the age group and game location. (See table 1)
- B. One touchline will be for the sole use of the players and coaches, with each team occupying a separate technical area in their half of the field. (See **Miscellaneous Federation Rules – F. Technical Area.**)
- C. The other side of the touchline will be designated as a spectator area. A restraining line will be drawn at a minimum of two yards from the touchline. **All spectators must remain in the designated area.** (See **Miscellaneous Federation Rules – G. Spectator Area.**)

### Law 2 – The Ball

See Table 1.

### Law 3 – The Number of Players

- A. See Table 2.
- B. Unlimited substitutions at the following times with the permission of the referee. For ball out of play situations, the substitute must be positioned at the half way line prior to the ball going out of play.
  - (1) Ball out of play
    - a. Prior to a goal kick by either team,
    - b. Prior to a throw in by the team in possession,
  - (2) After a goal by either team,
  - (3) Between periods by either team,
  - (4) After an injury, either team if the referee has stopped play.
    - The injured player must be substituted. Parent of player must fill out incident report.**
    - a. Following issuance of a caution, the cautioned player only may be substituted at the discretion of the referee.
    - b. Substitute a goalie on a penalty kick with referee’s permission with only a player that is already on field.
    - c. Notify referee when changing goalie otherwise both players will be cautioned.
  - (5) Each coach must present a valid team roster prior to the start of each scheduled game. A valid roster is one that is signed by the Registrar. Changes to the roster must be made by the CCSF Registrar. **Pen and ink changes are not allowed.**
  - (6) A player who arrives at the playing field after the pre-game ceremony may enter the game **only** after being checked by the referee/assistant referee and verified against the roster.



#### Law 4 – Player’s Equipment

- A. Metal tips on molded cleats and metal screw-in cleats are not permitted.
- B. No caps permitted
- C. **No jewelry permitted**. This includes no earrings of any sort.
- D. All players must wear shin-guards **under** uniform socks.
- E. Players with oral braces must wear mouth guards in order to play
- F. Shirts must be tucked into the pants at all times.
- G. Sleeves may be rolled up but not cut off.
- H. Socks should match and be the same color as those provided with the team uniform.
- I. Captain bands can be on arm or leg.
- J. **NO HARD CASTS ALLOWED**. Soft cast only with written permission from doctor.
- K. **Head gear is permitted for concussion prevention with approval from referee.**

#### Law 5 & 6 – Referee and Assistant Referee

- A. Every attempt will be made to have one neutral referee for each game in U5, U7 and U9.
- B. Every attempt will be made to have three neutral referees for each game in U11 and older age groups.
- C. 15 minutes prior to game start time, the referee will
  - (1) Check team roster to ensure each player is properly registered with CCSF and FYSA,
  - (2) Check the equipment of each player,
  - (3) Perform the coin toss. The visiting team will call the coin toss. The home team is the team listed first on the schedule.
- D. Immediately following the game, the referee will
  - (1) Complete the Referee Game Report, to include player name and registration number, and deliver it to the Concession Stand unless there is disciplinary action then proceed as directed below.
  - (2) Deliver disciplinary report concerning any send off, to the Referee Assignor before turning into the Concession Stand.

#### Law 7 – The Duration of the Match

- A. See Table 1.
- B. A game called by the referee prior to the start of the second half may be rescheduled and played in its entirety subject to field and date availability, **except in the case of Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct, item B.** A game called by the referee after the start of the second half will constitute a full game and will not be rescheduled.
- C. Goal differential (U9 and up) at the end of the first half if one team has gained an **8 goal differential** or it secures such differential during the second half, the **match can continue with the agreement between the 2 coaches otherwise the match will be ended.**
- D. Tie games.
  - (1) Regular Season. Games tied at the end of regulation play will remain tied.
  - (2) Post Season. If the game is tied after regulation play, the teams will proceed to overtime (see table 1). If still tied, then a 5-player penalty-kick shootout until a winner is decided and if still tied then sudden death will apply.



## **Law 8 – The Start and Restart of Play**

- A. Each team shall have the minimum number of players at the scheduled game time in order for the game to begin. (See Table 2.)
- B. The schedule start time of a game is the time indicated on the league game schedule. Teams will be afforded a 15-minute grace period in which to field a team. Any team delaying the start of a scheduled game, beyond the grace period, shall forfeit the game.
- C. In the event that both teams fail to appear for a scheduled game and the referee rules the grounds playable, then both teams will be assessed with a loss.

## **Law 9 – The Ball In and Out of Play**

No change.

## **Law 10 – The Method of Scoring**

- A. No score is kept for U5 and U7. Goal kick to opponent's goal is NO GOAL.
- B. Standings and score are kept for U9 and up.
- C. Game scores cannot be protested.
- D. U11 Drop kick to opponent's goal is NO GOAL, but indirect free kick for opposing team from the center circle.

## **Law 11 – Offside**

No offside for U5 and U7, but offside will be used for U9 and up.

## **Law 12 – Fouls and Misconduct**

- A. Each team is permitted up to **three** (Head & two Assistants U10 and up) coaches in their technical area and on their team. If all three are “send off”, the game will be forfeited.
- B. Players, managers, coaches and spectators are expected to conduct themselves within the letter and spirit of “The Laws of the Game” **and the CCSF Coaches, Players and Parents Codes of Conduct and Ethics**. CCSF officer and/or the Field Marshal have the authority and responsibility to remove any person(s) from the vicinity of the playing field for abuses to good conduct. In addition, they can enforce any disciplinary action brought about by other authority (law enforcement).
- C. Any player, coach, or manager ejected from a game will be automatically suspended for at least the next scheduled league game. He/she may be subject to further disciplinary action in accordance with FYSA By-Laws and Rules 2013-2014, Section 502.
- D. For U5 and U7, all infractions must be explained to the player/s with one retake (i.e. throw-in, kick-off, goal handling ball outside of box, etc).
- E. **SLIDE TACKLING** is not **ALLOWED IN ANY AGE GROUP**. Player will be verbally warned by Referee, but if player continues player will be carded.

## **Law 13 – Free Kicks**

For U5 and U7 all kicks form outside the goal area.

## **Law 14 – The Penalty Kick**

None for U5 and U7; direct kick from outside the goal area.

## **Law 15 – The Throw in**

U5 receive as many chances as needed until they know what to do (kick in)

U7 receive a second chance after explanation of proper method. (throw in)

No change U9 and above.

## **Law 16 – The Goal Kick**

U8 cannot score from goal kick.

## **Law 17 – The Corner Kick**

No change.



<b>TABLE 1 - SPECIFICATIONS</b>					
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Game Length</b>	<b>Overtime Periods</b>	<b>Size Ball</b>	<b>Field Size (Yards) &amp; Goal Size</b>	<b>Free Kicks &amp; Distance</b>
U5	32 Minutes 4x8	None	3	25x15 4x6	Direct 3
U7	40 Minutes 4x10	None	3	35x25 6x12	Direct 5
U9	50 Minutes 2x25	None	4	50x40 6x18	Indirect/ Direct 8
U11	70 Minutes 2x35	None	4	50x40 6x18	Indirect/ Direct 10
U13	70 Minutes 2x35	None	5	70x50 6x18	Indirect/ Direct 10
U15	70 Minutes 2x35	None	5	100x70 8x24	Indirect/ Direct 10
U17	70 Minutes 2x35	None	5	100x70 8x24	Indirect/ Direct 10

<b>TABLE 2 - NUMBER OF PLAYERS, GAME SIZE, ROSTER</b>			
<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Game Size</b>	<b>Roster Size</b>	<b>Minimum Players Playing</b>
U5	4v4 (No Goalie)	7	3v3
U7	5V5 (No Goalie)	8	4V4
U9	7v7	12	5v5
U11	9v9	15	8v8
U13	11v11	18	8v8
U15	11v11	18	8v8
U17	11v11	18	8v8



## Miscellaneous Federation Rules

- A. **Scheduled Games.** The Federation Vice President of Recreation or his designee is the only individual authorized to reschedule games prior to their schedule start time. They will coordinate with their division coordinator who will contact the appropriate team (s) to notify them of the change.
- B. **U5 On-Field Coach.** U5 teams will have one Referee. Coaches should refrain from being present on the playing area during games, if referee needs assistance please coordinate with referee for children that need more attention. **NEW::: U5 will be allowed to change sides during the halftime to encourage proper learning of rules.**
- C. **Weather.** Please use the weather HOTLINE 941-621-2161, All teams must come to the field on game day where it will be decided by the Vice President of Recreation if games will be canceled due to the weather (rain) and/or to include lightning (please see Lightning Policy). All **U8 teams and below** games will not be rescheduled if cancelled.
- D. **Water Breaks.** All teams will have water breaks. FYSA have mandated that at the mid point of each half a water break will be given for all teams in U14 and below. During periods of excessive heat (85 Degrees), either coach may request of the referee that a two minute water break be taken every 15 minutes for U15 and up.
- E. **CCSF Incident Reports.** Incident reports are available upon request and there are located with the Field Marshal, Coaches and at the Concession Stand. They can be filled out by anyone (such as a parent, league official, coach, etc). An online version is available on our website at <http://www.ccsfsoccer.com>.
- F. **Technical Area.** During the game, the coaches and players must remain in their Technical Areas. Coaches are not permitted to roam the touchlines. The technical area shall conform to FIFA specifications of “1 yard on either side of the designated seated area and extends forward up to a distance of 1 yard from the touch line.”
- G. **Spectator Area.** All spectators must view the game from the designated spectator area, no closer than 5 feet from the touchline. Spectators are not permitted to coach the players or move up and down the touchline, nor sit or stand behind the goal lines or player bench area, regardless of whether or not they are behind a fence.
- H. **In the U5 and U7 age groups,** a coach cannot place a player in a “goal keeper” position as a “defensive player.” (This is not in keeping with the intent of not having a goal keeper in this age group.) All players must be involved in the entire field of play.
- I. **Slide Tackling is NOT** allowed in the U5, U7, U9, U11, U13 and U15 age groups.
- J. **Heading the Ball - Players are not allowed to intentionally head the ball in the U5, U7, U9, or U11 age groups. Players are only allowed to head the ball in the Senior Age Groups, U12 and above.**



K. **Player Participation.** Soccer is a team sport and practices are a vital part of the game. As such, players are expected to attend scheduled practices. **Each player on the team must be allowed to play a minimum of half (50%) of each game**, including play-offs, **provided the coach has not imposed restrictions on playing time for disciplinary reasons.** In such cases the coach must inform the division coordinator by filling out incident report outlining why the restriction was imposed.

L. **ARTIFICIAL NOISE MAKERS:** **No artificial noise makers are allowed in any CCSF Sanctioned events including Recreation or Competitive groups.** Anyone using artificial noise makers may be asked to leave the field area or the complex, if the person or persons do not cease immediately after a request from any Referee, Board Member, Coach or the site director they will be faced with disciplinary action including suspension from CCSF. Artificial noise makers include but are not limited to bells, whistles, horns, air-horns, clackers, drums etc. The coaches and/or managers are responsible for their fans.

M. **Charlotte County North Regional Park and South Regional Park    Field Rules.**

(1) **No Tobacco Products allowed.** This includes, but is not limited to

- i. Chew
- ii. Cigarettes
- iii. Cigars
- iv. Pipes

(2) **North County is a dog friendly park** (please see the CC Parks & Recreational website for rules and regulations [www.CharlottecountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlottecountyFL.gov)) No Dogs are permitted on the playing field area. **No Dogs allowed in South County.** Please refrain from bringing your pet to the park. They are not allowed on the fields and it is not advisable to keep them locked in a vehicle.

(3) **Park in designated areas only.** Please refrain from parking in areas marked as NO PARKING.

(4) **Stay within the confines of the park.** Park borders several different environmental areas and they may have potentially hazardous sections and are marked No Trespassing. Parents are responsible to closely supervise their young children to make sure they stay within the park area.



**PLEASE DO NOT LITTER**

If you bring it with you, take it home with you    Or    Place your trash in a trashcan.



## **Coach Responsibilities and Rules**

1. Coaches must provide to the referee a **TEAM ROSTER**, valid player and coach identification prior to the start of each game. A valid roster from the registrar will be that verification.
2. Coaches should make every effort to ensure each player plays a **minimum** of half of each game. (See **Miscellaneous Federation Rules J. Player Participation**)
3. We suggest you review the **Parents Code of Ethics** with your parents and emphasize the positive attitudes we want to display for the benefit of our players. Parents are encouraged to cheer for their teams, but using vulgar/insulting language and jeering at other players, coaches, and the referees is not acceptable. CCSF officials may have parents removed for violating any part of this code.
4. Please ensure that **your team technical area is cleaned-up after the game prior** to you is leaving the field. We should take enough pride in our teams and our club to clean up after ourselves.
5. Incident reports are to be used to report all problems. The federation can only deal with issues if they are presented in writing. They may be filled out online on our website, or downloaded and mailed to our P.O. Box or turned in at our concession stand. At games incident reports can be obtained from the Field marshal, Coaches and at our Concession Stand.
6. Please, review your **Coaches Code of Conduct** and **Code of Ethics**. We will not tolerate coaches teaching or encouraging players to play rough to the point of injurious play. We are supposed to be setting a good example to our players, teaching them fair play and wanting them to have fun.
7. U5 players that are on the field should be directly involved in the game and there should not be any player guarding the goal.
8. U5 and U7 will not keep any score, but U9 and up will keep standings. Coaches should refrain from emphasizing goals scored during a game, rather elaborate on overall player performance. This includes excessive scoring opportunities, if a score does get lopsided please use the respect of moving players around or enforcing 2 or 3 passes before scoring to help with fair play, nobody likes to lose 10-0. The max amount of points that will go towards standings is 4 per game.
9. **If a coach plays a player who is under suspension, that player will not be allowed to play for the remainder of the season and the head coach will be removed from coaching at a minimum of; the rest of the season.**
10. Coaches are responsible for informing their spectators to move to the designed spectator area in order to watch the game. If a coach is unable to control a spectator then that spectator may be removed from the park by federation officers, or the field marshal, lastly through the use of law-enforcement personnel if necessary.
11. Coaches should contact division coordinators with any questions they may have. This includes questions about uniforms, trophies, and plaques. Please do not contact vendors directly. They cannot produce our work if they are busy dealing with coaches. We have Board Members set up to handle all functions of the federation and the committee heads are the only ones with the authority to deal with our vendors. Also, please provide your division coordinator with requested information and items



(logos, uniform sizes, etc.) in a timely manner. This will facilitate smooth running of the federation functions. Your coordinator will need to know your team name, sponsor, and practice location as soon as you have that information.

12. Any roster changes need to be accomplished through your coordinator, one week after you have received your roster. The change must be approved by the registrar and a new roster signed by the Registrar before any new player can participate. No refunds after uniforms are ordered.

13. **Some of our teams may be short the maximum number of players during the season. In the spirit of fair play, when possible, please match the number of players the other team has fielded (playing down) if the other team has fewer than the maximum. Note: *While you do not have to play down to your opponent's strength if it would prevent any of your players from playing half a game, you should match it as close as possible.***

14. As a sign of good sportsmanship immediately following the game, both teams shall congratulate each other for a game well played by lining up and shaking hands of their opponent. **Any coach or player that does not do this will be suspended for the next scheduled game unless that coach or player is injured. It is strongly recommended that when a player is injured all players should take a knee to show good sportsmanship.**

15. **Goals must be anchored at practices and on game day (otherwise no play).** Teams that come to play first on game day **must ensure that your field is set-up with goals, anchors and flags before game starts.** Last Teams that play **must move goals, benches, sandbags off of the field to sideline in the common area after their game.**



# CCSF Lightning & Inclement Weather Policy

Lightning strikes are a difficult thing to predict, below is a National & State standard for youth sports in the event of severe weather that is used in the absence of electrical detection systems, recently there are some apps that are pretty good (SPARKS from Weatherbug has been pretty successful).

In the event of lightning, the guidelines below will be followed during **Charlotte County Soccer Federation sanctioned events**:

## **Suspension and Resumption of Activity**

Outdoor activity must be suspended when lightning is a maximum of **10 miles away**. The "30/30 Rule" should be followed when evaluating lightning danger: if lightning is 30 seconds away, it is too close, and do not resume play for **30 minutes** from the last seen flash or last heard thunder. Please use South County Park siren system, North county use phone apps.

## **Suspension**

For suspension, follow the 30 second "flash-to-bang" rule. The "flash-to-bang" method is the easiest and most convenient means for determining distance to the lightning flash, which is integral to assessing the need to postpone or suspend an activity:

Lightning should be monitored with the first flash of lightning or clap of thunder, no matter how far away the storm is. It is critical to monitor how far away the lightning is occurring and how fast the storm is approaching, relative to the distance of a safe shelter.

In the event that play is suspended, all individuals, including athletes, coaches, referees, and spectators, **should immediately go indoors or to their cars to wait for the storm to pass**. If unable to reach safe shelter, stay away from the tallest trees or objects (such as light poles or flag poles), metal objects (such as fences or bleachers), individual trees, standing pools of water, and open fields.

## **Resumption**

For resumption follow the 30-minute rule: Play should not be resumed until 30 minutes have passed since the last flash of lightning or clap of thunder within 10miles..

## **Chain of Command**

The team coaches are responsible for ensuring that their players are safe during the storm. If lightning occurs during a practice or a clinic, the team coaches and/or the technical staff coaches are responsible for monitoring weather conditions. The coaches are responsible for ensuring that all players are safe during the storm.