

# SEWICKLEY SPORTS ARENA: SOCCER RULES AND PROCEDURES

## FACILITY HOUSE RULES

- Coaches are responsible for themselves, players, other coaches, parents and fans at all times. This includes all actions on the field, on the bench, in the stands or in the facility before, during and after all games. The failure to follow all rules and procedures listed may result in coaches, players, fans or teams suspended from the facility or removed from the schedule. No refunds will be given
- No smoking, vaping, use of tobacco, drugs or alcohol is permitted in the arena
- No chewing gum or bubble gum is permitted on the carpet, on the bench, in the bench area or in the penalty box.
- No Food or Sunflower Seeds are permitted on the field, on the bench, in the bench area or in the penalty box.
- No soccer balls or any other type of sporting equipment is permitted to be used outside of the playing area.
- No player may play while wearing any type of cast
- All players are required to wear AGE APPROPRIATE Shin Guards. Any player observed not wearing shin guards or not wearing AGE APPROPRIATE Shin Guards by the officials will be assessed a 2 minute penalty
- Players may wear indoor, turf, running or tennis shoes while playing. No type of cleated shoes are permitted
- Goalkeepers are required to wear helmets while playing. If needed, Helmets will be provided by the facility
- Games will consist of Two (2) / 24 minute halves, a Two (2) minute half time and a period of Four (4) minutes between games.
- Time will be kept with a running clock at all times, except in the case of a serious injury
- No spectators or fans are allowed to be seated or standing in the penalty box, in the bench area or on the bench during the game. Players and Coaches Only.
- No spectators or fans are permitted to stand and watch games from behind the penalty box or bench area.
- A Maximum of TWO (2) coaches are permitted in the bench area during games. Coaches are not permitted to stand on the bench or dasher boards to coach during games. Coaches should be seated while on the bench or may stand in the bench area adjacent to the bench
- A player receiving a Two (2) minute penalty for a flagrant or violent foul in the last Two (2) minutes of a game will receive a Red Card infraction and will be suspended for the remainder of the game being played and a Minimum of One (1) game that follows on the schedule of the team the player is playing with. A player MAY NOT play for any teams at the facility until this suspension is served.

| Age Group          | Number of Players           |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Under 8            | 7 players plus a Goalkeeper |
| Under 10 and 12    | 6 players plus a Goalkeeper |
| Under 14 and Above | 5 Players plus a Goalkeeper |

| Age                | Soccer Ball Size |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Under 8            | Size 3           |
| Under 10 and 12    | Size 4           |
| Under 14 and Above | Size 5           |

## FACILITY GAME RULES

- ALL RESTARTS will be taken on the officials whistle
- No Offsides
- No slide tackles
- No boarding
- No soccer ball may travel over Three (3) lines in the air without hitting the playing surface or being played by a field player. A player may not play the soccer ball off the dasher boards or glass to avoid the Three (3) line rule. If a Three (3) line violation occurs, an Indirect restart will be awarded to the opposing team from the Yellow Restart

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spot on the White Field Stripe from the end of the field the infraction occurred

- No soccer ball will be considered in play after hitting the netting on the ceiling. A restart will be awarded to the opposing team for soccer balls hitting the ceiling. An Indirect free kick will be taken from the Yellow Restart Spot on the White Field Stripe in the half of the field from which the soccer ball was originally played.
- If the goalkeeper has any part of his / her upper body in contact with the ball, this will be considered possession by the goalkeeper and the play will be considered "Over" to all field players. SAFETY FIRST!!!
- The goalkeeper must distribute the soccer ball within Six (6) seconds of gaining possession with his / her hands or an Indirect Kick will be awarded to the opposing team on the Yellow Restart Spot on the White Field Stripe on that end of the field
- The goalkeeper may not cross the White Field Stripe on his/her own end of the field to play the ball. If so, an Indirect Restart will be awarded to the opposing team which will be taken from the Yellow Restart Spot located on the White Field Stripe.
- To distribute the ball, the Goalkeeper may punt, drop kick, throw, roll or play the ball with their feet.
- Goalkeepers may not slide, use a slide tackle or "go to ground" outside of the Goal Box to play the soccer ball. The infraction will result in a Restart from the point of contact and will be either an Indirect or Direct Restart based upon the Officials Discretion.
- At the discretion of the officials, play can stop play at any time due to an injury on the field or to check on a player who may have been injured through the run of play. This player MUST leave the field of play for a minimum of One (1) minute before returning to the field. The restart will be a drop ball

given to the team in possession of the ball at the time of the injury or stoppage.

- All opposing players at a minimum, must be at least 5 yards away from the soccer ball on all restarts. Additional distance may be added at the discretion of the official.
- A player may not score directly from a drop ball
- All players are permitted to head the ball.

## **DIRECT KICKS**

- All Direct Kicks will be taken on the officials whistle
- Direct Kicks will be awarded for, but not limited to the following fouls at the official's discretion: Kicking / Tripping / Pushing / Charging / Slide tackling / Handling / Boarding / Any foul deemed reckless, violent, with intent, overly aggressive or dangerous to an opposing player by the official
- The following restarts are Direct Kicks: Corner Kicks / Goal Kicks / Kickoffs after goals / Kickoffs at the beginning of the game / Kickoffs at half time
- All Direct restarts may be played forward, backwards or sideways.
- Any ball hitting the side netting above the goal will be considered out of play and a goal kick will be awarded.
- Goal kicks can be taken anywhere inside the goal box.

## **INDIRECT KICKS**

- All Indirect Kicks will be taken on the officials whistle
- Indirect Kicks will be awarded for but not limited for: Three (3) Line Passes / Soccer Balls Hitting the Ceiling / Soccer Balls hitting the side netting / Goalkeepers crossing the White Field Stripe / Goalkeepers misplaying the ball with their hands
- On Indirect Restarts, to put the soccer ball into play, the soccer ball must roll a full rotation on the first touch. If an infraction

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occurs, an Indirect Restart will be awarded to the opposing team from the same spot.

- All Restarts in the U8 Division are Indirect Kicks
- The Soccer ball for all Indirect Restarts that occur along the boards will be placed no further than One (1) yard from the boards or at a distance based upon the officials discretion.
- Slide tackles deemed not dangerous by the officials will result in an Indirect Kick from the spot of the infraction
- Any soccer ball hitting the side netting or going out of bounds will be put back into play with an Indirect Kick. The restart location will be along the boards where the ball hit the netting or went out of play.

## **SUBSTITUTING**

- All Restarts will be taken on the Officials Whistle
- Substitutions can be made during the run of play ("On the fly"), however players being removed from the field must be in the bench area of the field, Five (5) feet, prior to the new players entering the field of play. If deemed an illegal substitution by the officials, a Penalty for "Too Many Players On The Field" will be whistled and a Two (2) minute bench penalty will be assessed, which can be served by any player on the field at that time.
- Guaranteed substitution will be given on Corner kicks, Goal Kicks, Kick offs, Injury stoppage, Indirect Kicks and when a penalty is issued. The restart will be on the officials whistle.
- Goalkeepers may be substituted for either on a stoppage of play or during the run of play. The entering goalkeeper must already be wearing a helmet and a jersey with a color that does not conflict with either team. Play will not be stopped to exchange goalkeeper equipment.
- During a substitution, the player entering the field is not permitted to be the first player to

touch the soccer ball through the run of play. The entering player must engage in the play. This call will be determined by the officials discretion. If deemed to be a violation, an Indirect Restart will be awarded to the opposing team at the spot of the infraction.

## **TWO MINUTE PENALTIES**

- Too many players on the field
- Boarding
- Slide Tackles
- Unsportsmanlike conduct by a player or coach
- Dissent by a player or coach
- Not wear shin guards or age appropriate shin guards
- The use of profanity, tainting or abusive language by a player or coach
- Any foul, infraction or act which is considered violent or reckless in the officials discretion
- The Two (2) minute Penalty Box time will begin on the Official's Whistle for the restart after the infraction
- If the opposing team scores a goal during the Two (2) minute penalty before the penalty expires, the player serving the penalty may re-enter the game at that point.
- If a player receives Two (2) box penalties in One (1) game, this will be considered a Red Card and that player will be ejected for the remainder of the game and will be suspended for his / her next scheduled game with that team. A Five (5) minute penalty will be assessed and must be served by a player on the bench, The same player will serve the entire Five (5) minute penalty. The entire Five (5) minute Major Penalty will be served regardless of the number of goals scored by the opposing team.
- If a coach receives a Two (2) minute penalty, a player from the team will serve the penalty and that coaches team will play a man down during the penalty

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## **FIVE MINUTE PENALTIES AND EJECTIONS**

- Any player or coach who is involved in a fight or physical altercation
- Any player or coach who spits on or at another player, coach, official, fan or on the carpet
- Any player or coach who receives Two (2) box penalties in the same game
- The use of racial, ethnic or gender based slurs, tainting or excessive abusive language by a player or coach
- Any foul, infraction or act which are deemed overly aggressive, reckless, violent or with the intent to hurt another player in the officials discretion
- Ejections and Five (5) penalties will result in players or coaches missing the remainder of the game being played and ALL OTHER SEWICKLEY SPORTS ARENA games until a minimum of a One (1) game suspension is served with the team the suspension was assessed.
- For all ejections of a player or coach, a Five (5) minute major penalty must be served by a player other than the ejected player and this player will serve the entire Five (5) minute penalty. The entire penalty will be served regardless of the number of goals scored by the opposing team.
- If a player or coach receives Two (2) box penalties in One (1) game, this will be considered a Red Card and that player or coach will be ejected for the remainder of the game and will be suspended for his / her next scheduled game with that team. A Five (5) minute penalty will be assessed and must be served by a player on the bench, The same player will serve the entire Five (5) minute penalty. The entire Five (5) minute Major Penalty will be served regardless of the number of goals scored by the opposing team.
- Any player or coach who throws a punch, starts a fight, joins a fight or leaves the bench or bench area during any type of

altercation will be suspended for a minimum of One (1) game and MAY BE SUSPENDED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SESSION. NO REFUND WILL BE GIVEN.

## **PENALTY SHOTS**

- A Penalty Shot will be called for all infractions or violations which occur in the Goal Box which would be deemed Direct Kicks on the playing field
- Penalty Shots will be taken from the Yellow Penalty Spot at the top of the Goal Box
- During a Penalty Shot, all players must be outside of the goal box and behind the White Stripe on the top of the Goal Box
- All Penalty shots will be taken on the officials whistle
- If the shot is saved or missed, the game is resumed at that point. If a goal is scored, a Kick off will take place
- There will be a running clock during all Penalty Kicks
- There are No Penalty Shots in the Under 8 Age Group. The resulting restart will be an Indirect Kick from the Yellow Penalty Spot located at the top of the Goal Box.

## **UNIFORMS**

- Teams must have shirts have the same color
- Numbered shirts, matching shorts or socks are not required
- It is recommended by Sewickley Sports Arena that each team bring an alternate colored shirt in the event of a uniform conflict.
- If teams have similar colored shirts and the officials feel a team needs to put on an alternate color, if no alternate shirt is available, the team listed first in the score book will be required to wear pinnies which will be provided by the facility

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- Goal keepers will also be required to wear a shirt or pinnie which is not in conflict with either teams uniform

**SEWICKLEY SPORTS ARENA APPRECIATES YOUR PATRONAGE AND LOOKS FORWARD TO YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT. FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND THE SAFETY OF ALL, THESE RULES AND PROCEDURES MUST BE FOLLOWED BY TEAMS, PLAYERS AND FANS AT ALL TIMES.**

**THANK YOU  
SEWICKLEY SPORTS ARENA  
MANAGEMENT**