

TORONTO CENTRAL SOCCER LEAGUE - OUTDOOR RULES 2023

1. GENERAL RULES

All clubs and teams are responsible for the conduct of their players, officials and spectators, and any team which fails to exercise proper control in this regard will be subject to disciplinary action. It is the responsibility of all clubs and teams to ensure that the League is notified of all changes in club or team names, addresses or telephone numbers in order that adequate contact may be maintained. Team representative must ensure that their game results are confirmed with referee at end of game. A team found to be guilty of using an ineligible player at any time shall forfeit the game to their opponents and will be subject to fines and further disciplinary action at the discretion of the Discipline Committee. The final date for registration of any team member shall be 31 July, or the final Friday in July in any given year. This deadline may only be extended by order of the League Executive.

2. REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

- a) Players must be registered a minimum of 48 hours with the club prior to the game and play on the field location the team is scheduled to play. Each player must sign the official OS registration form and the affirmation of understanding and commitment to Rowan's Law obtained from the registrar of the league to be eligible to play.
- b) Any team who has not paid their team registration fee in full by the deadline which is one week prior to the start of the outdoor seasons' first scheduled games, will not be permitted to play and shall have their scheduled games recorded as defaults until such time as their fees are settled in full. Default games are recorded as a 3-0 win for the opposing team.
- c) Home team is the first team listed the on schedule. If there is a conflict in jersey colours, the home team must change their jerseys or wear pinnies.
- d) The home team will be responsible for providing a game ball of regulation size 5 in a condition satisfactory to the referee.
- e) **There is no sliding tackling allowed in this league.** Rough and Serious foul play is not part of the game.
- f) A player under the age of 18 can join the league provided that player turns 18 during the calendar year of the season they registered for.
- g) The TCSC operates on a "Members Only" policy. All players must be listed on an active TCSC roster for a minimum of 48 hours prior to participating in a game to comply with insurance requirements. Any team who plays an ineligible player will be issued an automatic fine of \$25 payable to the club and a default will recorded for the game in which the player participated.

h) The maximum number of players to be registered at any one time, on any given team is 24. A team will be charged the player registration fee outlined in the fee structure for any player added to a team roster. The fee is applicable to players being moved from one team roster to another.

3. PLAYER EQUIPMENT

- a) Equipment must comply with FIFA rules. A player must dress with a jersey that has sleeves and their respective number in addition to shorts, shingards that are covered and footwear appropriate for the field conditions. NO METAL OR SIX STUD CLEATS are permitted.
- b) In the case of both teams wearing similar colour jerseys, it is the responsibility of the home team to change their jersey or wear pinnies.
- c) Goalkeeper must wear a colour distinct of their own players and the referee.
- d) **NO JEWELRY** allowed and this includes wrist rubber bands. Medic alert bracelets and or fit bits are an exception as long as they are covered over with tape.
- e) Bandanas and head gear are allowed as well as sport type eye wear or mouth guard protection.

4. DURATION OF GAME & GAME ADMINISTRATION

- a) Games are scheduled every 90 minutes therefore the game shall be (equal halves) 2 x 40 minutes depending if teams are on time on the field, with a five minute break between halves. Teams must have a minimum of 7 dressed players on the field to start the game. Grace period is 15 minutes after that the late team is considered a default or forfeit although the game should be played as a friendly only a defaulted game score is 3-0 and the game fee is full responsibility of the defaulted team. *If a game cannot be continued for any reason, in accordance with the TSA women's league rule [9.12], the score shall stand as is if more than 75% played unless so decided by the Executive Committee to reschedule.*

[9.12 Games that are abandoned after 75% of playing time due to weather and/or extenuating circumstances will be allowed to stand. The score at the moment the game is abandoned shall become the game's official, final score.)

- b) Each team must provide a completed TCSC designated game sheet to the referee prior to the start of each game or no later than the start of the second half. Each player name, number and signature must be legibly entered on the game sheet. Late players arriving must be on game sheet before they will be eligible to play and if they arrive after half time they must report to the referee before entering the field of play. **The failure to provide a TCSC designated game sheet will result in the team being imposed a \$20 fine payable to the club.**
- c) A team playing at 6:30 and a team playing at 9:30 will be designated responsible for equipment on the official league schedule. At EarlsCourt the nets and corner flags must be put up and removed

each week. Each team will take turns based on the season schedule, one team each week will be designated to put up the nets and flags that is playing a 6:30 game and one of the team that plays the 9:30 game will be designated to take them down at the end of each playing night. Best efforts will be made to give each team an equal number of dates for this responsibility. At Eglinton Flats, only corner flags need to be installed by the home team and again this will be indicated on the season schedule of which team is responsible on which playing nights to set up and tear down as per above. Nets are managed by the city at the Eglinton Flats field.

- d) Any defaulted game can be played as a friendly with agreement from both teams and the referee.
- e) In the event of a default less than 48 hours prior to scheduled game, the referee fees will remain with the club. The defaulting team will be imposed a fine equal to 50% of the referee fees to be payable to the club.

5. SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions are allowed with the referee's permission at a goal kick, team's own throw in, after a goal is scored, for an injured player, and at half time.

- a) At any one of the above stoppages the referee must be informed that a substitution is requested.
- b) The referee must grant permission for substitutions to take effect. Players may leave the field anywhere along the sideline at the referee's discretion. Players must enter the game at the **centre boundary line**.
- c) For substitution without permission, the referee has the authority to directly caution for repeated offenses or politely reminding a player of the procedure.
- d) Any substitute players (call-ups) must be registered as members of TCSC outdoor season on their field of play and listed on the game sheet to play.
- e) Teams can borrow up to three players from other teams to bring the number of players available to the team to 11, plus one additional player (a "sub") for a total of no more than 12. If players registered with that team arrive late then the borrowed players may no longer play unless there are still fewer than 12 players total. Players cannot be borrowed from other teams during playoffs.
- f) A goalkeeper can change places with any other player at any stoppage provided the referee is notified prior to. This would include the penalty kick.
- g) A goaltender is to be considered a specialty position. If a team's regular rostered goaltender is not available the team can borrow a player willing to play goaltender when required regardless of the number of rostered players available to play. If the team is requiring to borrow players due to having less than 11 available players, the goaltender is to be included within the total allowable callups (refer to 5 e). Goaltenders cannot be borrowed from other teams during playoffs.

6. SCORING & TEAM STANDINGS TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

- a) Teams will receive 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie and 0 points for a loss.
- b) The maximum amount of goal difference that will be recorded is 5 regardless of the number of final goals scored. For example, an outcome of 9-2 will be recorded as 7-2 to adhere to the maximum 5 goal differential rule.
- c) In the event of 2 or more teams finishing with the same number of points the final standings will be decided by the following tie breaking mechanisms applied in order:
 1. Total number of points from games played between those teams
 2. Goal differential from games played between those teams
 3. Goal differential from all games played
- d) The Earls court team to finish first in regular season will move to Eglinton Flats the following season. In turn, the last place team at Eglinton Flats will move to Earls court.

7. TCSC KNOCKOUT CUP COMPETITION (PLAYOFFS)

- a) During playoff games, teams will play 2 equal halves (2x30 minutes minimum).
- b) If the score is tied at end of the game, three (3) penalty kicks shall be taken alternatively by each team. Players must have been on the field at the conclusion of regular time to be eligible to attempt a penalty kick.
- c) If the score is still tied after three (3) penalty kicks, then an additional and equal number of alternate kicks shall be taken until a winner is produced. If no winner has been produced after all players on the field for a team have taken a penalty kick, then the same rotation will start over again until a winner is produced.
- d) A Goalkeeper substitution is permitted after notification of the referee at the end of regulation time.
- e) No player is eligible to play in the playoffs unless they have played at least 5 games in that season before the playoffs start and signed the game sheets they played.

8. DISCIPLINE

- a) Discipline meetings shall be held monthly during the playing season, in accordance with the schedule published on the TCSC website, except in exceptional circumstances. Misconduct which is covered by Mandatory Penalty is dealt with by Discipline by Review, (DBR), as per TSA/OS rules. DBR decisions will be communicated, in writing, to the Registrant and team representative within 4 days of the Panel meeting.
- b) Any Registrant called for a discipline hearing must attend or be represented by Proxy. A Registrant dismissed by a game official before, during or after a game will be subject to either DBR or Discipline by Hearing, (DBH), as appropriate. (The hearing schedule is published on the Toronto Central Soccer Club website with all pertinent information regarding those required to attend, the method of notification and the rights of the accused party.) Any penalty assessed by

DBH will be communicated, in writing, to the parties involved within 15 days of the conclusion of the hearing. The only exclusions to the above are in cases of Match Official Assault, Assault on a Minor, Moral Turpitude & Failing to Attend a Discipline Hearing: these are cause for Immediate Suspension from All Soccer Activities until a hearing has been convened and penalty has been assessed.

- c) A Registrant who accumulates three or more cautions/yellow cards in the same season will be subject to DBR. Written notice will be sent within 4 days of the DBR decision being rendered to the Registrant and team representative advising them of the findings and the date(s) of the applicable penalty.
- d) Except in cases of Ontario Soccer Misconduct type 1.3, 1.5 & 1.6 (misconduct regarding accumulated cautions/yellow cards), a Registrant shall have the right to request to be disciplined by the DBH system. The accused shall submit the request in writing (via letter, email or facsimile) within 3 days of receiving the dismissal. The request for a hearing must be accompanied by a \$50 Request for Hearing fee.
- e) A Registrant who is dismissed or reported for misconduct, (red carded), where a standard penalty applies for: denying a goal by handling, denying a goal by an offence punishable by a free/penalty kick, receiving two cautions/yellow cards in one game, spitting or re-entering the field of play after dismissal, will be subject to DBR . Written notice will be sent within 4 days of the DBR decision being rendered to the Registrant and team representative advising them of the findings and the date(s) of the applicable penalty.
- f) A Registrant dismissed or reported for Serious Foul Play will be subject to a minimum of a 2 game suspension dependent on referee's report and Discipline Panel's findings. The Panel will provide written notice of their findings to the Registrant and team representative within 4 days of a DBR or 15 days of a DBH being concluded.
- g) A Registrant dismissed or reported for using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gesture/actions directed at a Match Official(s) after having been previously dismissed will be subject to DBH. The Discipline Panel will provide written notice within 15 days of the hearing advising the Registrant and team representative of the panel's findings and the length and timing of any suspension.
- h) A Registrant dismissed or reported for Violent Conduct will be subject to DBH. The Discipline Panel will provide written notice within 15 days of the hearing advising the Registrant and team representative of the panel's findings and the length and timing of any suspension.
- i) Failure to comply with the above paragraphs regarding a suspension notice will result in THE TEAM FORFEITING THE GAME.
- j) Any Registrant who has been suspended by any other League or Association shall be considered to be suspended by this league until such time as the suspension has been fully served.
- k) After a decision made by a Discipline Panel against any Registrant the following will apply:
All fines are to be paid by certified cheque, money order, Etransfer or cash. In the event of a

successful appeal made to a higher authority, the League will refund any monies as directed by the higher authority.

- l) In all cases of alleged physical assault on a game official by a Registrant, the Registrant shall be immediately suspended from all soccer activity until the case has been heard and a decision has been rendered by a special Discipline Committee of the presiding District Association.
- m) An automatic fine of \$10 for each yellow card and \$25 for each red card will be imposed by the league and issued to the team on which the offending player is registered.

Bench etiquette in the TCSC league is very important and all TCSC members are to help enforce the following:

- a) Technical area on each side of the field and no crossing over by players or Coaches
- b) Only one coach up at a time
- c) No profanity to be used by coaches, staff or athletes on the bench
- d) Eliminate any and all unsportsmanlike chatter between the benches
- e) Eliminate any coach addressing an opposing player with profanity or unprofessional chat.

Team representatives must approach the referee for assistance. These incidents have a negative impact on our attempt to promote recreational soccer in our community. Let's focus on the game and make it the event to watch and enjoy.

Drugs and Alcohol

The use of drugs and alcohol before or during sport activity is directly linked to health problems, dangerous play, and violent encounters and will not be tolerated. Furthermore, it is illegal to have drugs, (other than medically prescribed), or alcohol on any municipally owned premises, and it is a condition of our permits that members do not bring controlled substances onto facility grounds. Therefore, the use of drugs and/or alcohol is strictly prohibited while players are at any league facility or in that facility's parking lot, during or before any scheduled game, practise or friendly. As such, any player or team deemed to have used drugs or alcohol at a facility or facility parking lot, or any player deemed by the referee to have consumed a level of substance(s) which impairs their judgement or abilities, is subject to immediate ejection from the league without refund and may face possible prosecution.

It should also be noted that the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017 states: "You also cannot smoke or vape on publicly owned sporting areas, their fan/viewing areas, and public areas within 20 metres of these places."

Under the Act:

"smoking" means smoking (inhaling and exhaling) or holding lighted tobacco or cannabis (medical or recreational)

"vaping" means inhaling or exhaling vapour from an electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) or holding an activated e-cigarette, whether or not the vapour contains nicotine.

