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2009 ADULT SOCCER LEAGUE INFORMATION / RULES

ALL LEAGUES ARE GOVERNED BY THE A.A. CO. REC. & PARKS GUIDELINE AND REFERENCE MANUAL.

1. The league will use FIFA rules as modified for play in Anne Arundel County, substitution is allowed. No Slide Tackling will be allowed for the B, Over 30, or Co-Ed Leagues. All leagues are prohibited from wearing metal spikes on his/her cleats.

2. TOBACCO-FREE POLICY

A person may not use any form of tobacco:

- a. In a restroom, at a spectator or concession area, dog park, aquatic facility, or playground in any County park;
- b. Within 100 yards of an organized activity at a County park.
"Organized activity," means an event that has a defined time for starting and ending and is in a designated or permitted area of a County park. "Organized activity" includes athletic events, concerts, and special events such as art fairs.
"Park" includes recreational facilities
"Tobacco" to include but not be limited to cigarettes, cigars, snuff, pipes, and spit tobacco.

Any person who violates the tobacco-free rule will be requested, by a Recreation & Parks staff member, to cease the use of tobacco and will be given a verbal warning. If the person refuses to cease, staff authorized by the Director may request that the person leave the park.

3. Division Requirements:

- a. All players **must** be 18 on game day.
- b. Players in the Over 30 division **must** be 30 years old on game day. Players can only be on 1 roster in the over 30 league. (**Can't play both A and B**)
- c. *Co-Ed:* There must be 4 women on the field (not counting the goalie). Teams may play with less than 4 women. However, they must play down 1 player

for each woman that is not on the field. At least 1 woman is required to start a game and she **cannot** be the goalie

4. Inclement Weather:

Weekend Leagues: Call the Recreation & Parks Hotline #: 410-222-7312, or check the web site at www.aacounty.org/recparcs/cancellation. If the game has not been canceled (the hotline will not be updated), *the official will decide playability at the game site*. Games will not be played if there is lightning.

Weeknight Leagues: Call the Recreation & Parks Hotline #: 410-222-7312, or check the web site after 4:30pm to determine if games are canceled due to inclement weather. If the game has not been canceled (the hotline will not be updated), *the official will decide playability at the game site*. Games will not be played if there is lightning.

5. Each team **must** provide 1 ball, 1 net, 2 corner (visible) markers/post for each game. Any team not adhering to this is in jeopardy of forfeiting the game.

6. Uniforms:

Team shirts must be identical with 6" numbers clearly visible on the back. Numbers must be permanent; no tape. Shin guards; mandatory. Jewelry is not allowed during games (at the discretion of the game officials). This includes hair jewelry, piercings and rings. This is a safety precaution.

7. All coaches are responsible for reporting the game results *within 24 hours* after the game with the following:

1. Score/Result of game 2. Red Cards given to players 3. # of officials

Games results not reported may result in a loss for each team. Standings can be found on the web site: www.aacounty.org/recparcs

8. **Sportsmanship is not an Option!!!!** Threatening the Official, Fighting or Profanity will not be tolerated and WILL receive disciplinary action.

9. 45-min halves for All Divisions. Half game constitutes a whole game and the final score is what exist at the point game ended

10. Clock will start at scheduled game time. Teams must have a minimum of 7-players (Co-ed at least 1 women on the field) to begin a game. If a team cannot field the minimum number of players after 15 minutes, the game will become a forfeit.

Forfeits: Any team forfeiting 2 games can be removed from the league. The team that forfeits will be responsible for the payment of **both** officials (\$106.00). The fee must be paid before resuming play in the league. The fee can be paid on the field or at the Bachman Sports Complex, or at Rec. & Parks Headquarters, 1 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis during business hours.

11. Substitutions allowed on own throw-in, goal kicks and injury (one for one).

12. Women may protect themselves.

13. Yellow and Red Cards:

- a. Yellow Cards - Any player who receives a yellow card must leave the field for 5 minutes. A player may be replaced. (2 yellow cards = 1 red card) Any player receiving 2 yellow cards in a game will be ejected from the game and will receive a 2-week suspension. The suspended player must leave the park during the suspension. Additional suspensions may be given. Good Sportsmanship is not an Option!!!
- b. Red Cards - Any player receiving a red card will be suspended for 2 weeks from ALL LEAGUES. The suspended player or coach must leave the park during the suspension. Any player or coach receiving 2 red cards will be suspended from all soccer leagues for the remainder of the season. Additional suspensions may be given.

During any suspension, the suspended person will be prohibited from all A.A. Co. R & P events. It is the coach's responsibility to report the player or coach to the Sports Supervisor. Any coach not reporting the cards/ejections will be subject to suspension.

- 14.** No alcoholic beverages are allowed on or near the fields at any time. Please take your team's trash with you when you leave. Please keep all vehicles off County Park or School property. Park only in parking lots. Each team is responsible for enforcing these rules.

- 15.** The Department of Recreation & Parks does not provide insurance for individuals participating in soccer leagues. It is recommended that each team carry some type of insurance for coaches, players and managers.

16. Point System:

Call in or email your game results. Games results not reported may result in a loss for each team.

- a. Game Won = 3 points
- b. Game Tied = 1 point
- c. Game Lost = 0 point

17. Playoffs:

A Single Elimination playoff will be offered after the regular season. Playoff brackets will be posted on the website after the regular season of league play. Tie Breaker Rule for Play-offs

- a. Coin Toss determines goal team will defend,
- b. 2 -10 minute Sudden Death Overtime. First score wins the game.
- c. Penalty Kicks (alternating teams after each kick), 5 kicks per team. If tied after the 5 kicks, 1 kick per team until tie is broken (i.e. 1 to 1). Note: players who kick must be on the field at the ending of the game. Players may not come off bench to kick.

18. All Rosters must be turned in prior to the first game .

NO NEW PLAYERS may be added after the roster has been submitted unless a Sports Add Form is received. No new *players may be added after September 18, 2009*. Roster is limited to 25 players.

In the event that a player's eligibility is questioned, the player(s) must provide proof of Identification. A valid state issued identification card with picture (Driver's License, Military ID, Passport or State ID card) will be accepted as proof. Coaches are

required to have a copy of their roster on hand and be given to the officials if a player's eligibility is questioned. If a roster can not be provided by halftime of the game, that game will be considered a forfeited game.

All Leagues: Identification will be checked prior to the start of the game if questioned by opposing team. Players **must** carry proof of ID to every game. *Failure to provide identification upon request will result in player not participating in the game. A player will have until halftime to provide identification if their eligibility is questioned, but the team will be subject to forfeit if said player is not on the roster.*

Language Rule Guidelines

1. Any foul language, which can possibly be heard in the stands or through the field area, will result in an ejection from the game and a suspension per the rules and regulations. The team will not play short.
Any player receiving a red card will be suspended for 2 weeks from ALL LEAGUES. The suspended player or coach must leave the park during the suspension. Any player or coach receiving 2 red cards will be suspended from all soccer leagues for the remainder of the season.
2. Foul Language that is regarded, as incidental, under the breath, or reflex action, will result in a verbal warning.
A second instance of the above (2), by the same person, will result in a yellow card.
The team will not play short.
Any player who receives a yellow card must leave the field for **5 minutes**. A player may be replaced. (2 yellow cards = 1 red card)
Any player receiving 2 yellow cards in a game will be ejected from the game and will receive a 2-week suspension from all leagues. The suspended player must leave the park during the suspension. Additional suspensions may be given.

These guidelines give the officials the tools they need to eliminate the foul language. It also allows room for warnings. If a player continues to use the foul language, he/she is "penalized", by the 5-minute penalty or ejection. The team is not necessarily penalized since they do not play short.