

Taylor Sportsplex Soccer Rules

UPDATED January 22, 2009

General Rules:

Players Equipment:

- **Footwear:** Indoor/Turf/Gym shoes are permitted. No cleats, of any kind, allowed! If cleats are worn, that player will not be allowed on the playing surface.
- **Shinguards:** Are required for age groups U-18 and below! Any player 17 years or younger playing in an Adult League is required to wear shin guards. Any player whose age is in question must be able to provide proof of age upon request.
- **Shorts:** Soccer or athletic shorts are permitted. Denim or Khaki/Dress shorts are not permitted.
- Make sure to bring 2 different color jerseys to every game, TSX will no longer supply pinnies to be worn. The Home Team is required to change in case of a conflict.
- Players can not wear anything that would be dangerous to themselves or to others:
 - o Jewelry of any kind (rings, watches, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, etc...)
 - o Barrettes, hair pins, or hard plastic hair clips are not allowed.
 - o Braces, casts, splints may be worn, but must be covered with at least 4 in. of foam and with no edges or hard surfaces exposed. Final decision lies with the referee.
 - o Bandannas, skull caps, baseball hats, visors, etc... are not permitted on the field. (Religious affiliations are the only exception.)

Coaches:

- A maximum of 3 coaches are allowed on the bench, no exceptions.
- Children not playing on the team are not permitted on the bench and, must be seated in the bleachers.
- Coaches are responsible for the actions of both players and fans of their team. Penalties can be assessed for player's/fan's actions.
- At least one coach must be present on the bench for age groups U-18 and below, no exceptions. The coach must be 21+ years of age and able to provide proof of age upon request.
- Protests and/or complaints can be addressed to the soccer director **by the coaches only!** Protests must be submitted to the soccer director in writing.
- **Reschedules will only be granted if a mistake was made by TSX on the schedule, no exceptions!**

Referees:

- A referee will be provided by TSX for sanctioned games. Scrimmages and practices are not sanctioned and therefore no referee will be provided unless prior arrangements have been made.
- **All referees' decisions are final!** Any questions or concerns regarding the referee and/or rules can be directed to the soccer director, by

coaches only. If a parent has a problem, he/she must take the concern to the coach and the problem will be addressed then.

Gameplay:

Duration:

- For ages U-9 and above: the game will consist of two 25 minute running time halves with a one minute halftime.
- For ages U-8 and below: the game will consist of four 12 minute running time quarters with one minute breaks between quarters.
- Time will only be stopped in the event of a serious injury in which a player can not be removed from the field. This stoppage will only occur in the second half of the game.

Forfeits:

- Each team must have a minimum of 4 field players (at least one woman for coed) and one goalie to start a game. A team has 5 minutes after the start of the clock to get the minimum number of players required. During this time, the game clock will be running and will not be reset.

Balls:

- A game ball and one practice ball per team will be provided by TSX. Any outside ball that is brought in is brought at the patron's own risk and TSX is not responsible for lost or damaged balls.
- Ages U-13 and above will use a size 5 ball.
- Ages U-12 and below will use a size 4 ball.
- No ball play permitted outside of the dasher boards. Non-compliance will result in loss of ball.

Players:

- Ages U-13 and above will play with 5 field players and a goalie.
- Ages U-12 to U-9 and 30+ will play with 6 field players and a goalie.
- Ages U-8 and below will play with 7 field players and a goalie.
- Players of any age group are not allowed to play on multiple teams in the same division.

Substitutions:

- Substitutions may be made "on the fly," provided the player being substituted for is within 5 feet of the bench before the next player comes onto the field. If a player leaves the bench early, a "too many men" on the field penalty may result.
- Goalie substitutions can only be made after acknowledgement from the referee whether the sub is being made "on the fly" or on a stoppage of play.

Method of Scoring:

- The whole ball must completely cross the goal line for a goal to be awarded. The decision of the referee is final!

Extra Players

- Extra players are allowed only, **after a team is down by at least 5 goals and both coaches agree on the extra player to be brought onto the field.**

Start of Play and Restarts:

Kick-Off:

- All players must be on their own half of the field and the defensive team must be outside of the center circle.
- The ball does not have to travel forward to start play.
- A goal may be scored from the kick-off.
- After a goal, the game will be restarted from the center spot, by the team who has just been scored upon.

Restarts:

- All restarts are direct kicks and a goal can be scored from them.
- A team may build a “wall” for any kick other than a penalty kick.
- During a penalty kick all other players must start behind the ball.
- A player taking a free kick must ask for 10 yards from the referee. Quick kicks are allowed. Any player encroaching is subject to a card of any color.

Free Kicks:

- All free kicks will be taken from the point of the foul.
- The defensive team must be at least **10 feet** away from the point of the kick being taken.
- The offensive team has **10 seconds** to get the ball back into play after the allotted 10 feet has been granted by the defense.

Goal Kicks:

- Can be taken from anywhere inside the penalty area.
- The ball is not in play until it has traveled outside the penalty area.
- Opponents may not enter the penalty area during a goal kick.
- If the ball goes out of play **over the tall glass** off the opposing team a goal kick is awarded.

Corner Kicks:

- A corner kick will be awarded when the ball goes out of play **over the tall glass** after having last been touched by a defensive player.
- The ball will be placed on the white corner spot for the restart.

Ball out of Play:

- The ball is considered out of play when any of the following occur and are acknowledged by the referee: ball touching the net surrounding the field of play, ball touching the rafters, lights, or HVAC ductwork, or if the ball leaves the field of play through either the benches or over the netting.

- The ball will be restarted from the area designated by the referee, close to where the ball went out of play. The ball may not be placed more than 1 yard from the boards for any sideline out of bounds call.
- The ball remains “in play” until a stoppage is acknowledged by the referee. Play until the whistle.
- Any ball striking the ceiling or air ducked is considered out. The ball will be placed at the dot on the side of the field that the ball was kicked from.

Rules and Regulations:

Goalkeeping:

- The goalkeeper is restricted to “handling” the ball inside the penalty area. The ball is the reference point, not the goalkeeper’s body when deciding if a ball is handled outside of the box.
- The goalkeeper may slide as long as their slide begins inside the penalty arc.
- 10 feet must be awarded to a goalkeeper after the goalkeeper established possession. Once the goalkeeper drops the ball to the floor the goalkeeper gives up their right to possession and the ball becomes “live” again.
- The goalkeeper can not pick up a ball that is intentionally passed back to the keeper by his own teammates. It is the referee’s decision as to what is intentional or not.
- Balls passed back from any part of the body besides the foot, are legal to pick up.
- Once the ball is picked up by the keeper, he/she has 5 seconds to get the ball back into play.
- If a ball is thrown into the opposing teams net from the goalkeeper, a free kick from the top of the arc will be awarded.
- **Punting the ball is allowed in ages U-10 and below.**
- Goalkeepers must wear a color different than the color his/her team or the opposing team is wearing.

Offside:

- There is no offside rule.

5 Second Rule:

- Once the goalkeeper is deemed “in possession” of the ball by the referee, he/she has 5 seconds to put the ball into play. Failure to do so will result in a direct kick from the top of the arc.

10 Second Rule:

- A team has 10 seconds to get the ball back into play after the ball is set and the defensive players are at least 10 feet away. This rule applies to all restarts.

Penalties and Infractions:

2 Minute Penalties:

- A 2 minute penalty and a blue card will be issued for the following offenses:
 1. Too many players on the field.
 2. Unsportsmanlike conduct, this includes players, coaches, and fans.
 3. Persistent fouling.
 4. Intentional handball.
 5. Any foul deemed “hard” by the referee.
 6. Slide tackling (referee’s decision).
- If a goal is scored, the penalty is over.
- If two opponents are both given coinciding 2 minute penalties, a 4 v4 will result for the full 2 minutes.
- Goalkeepers do not serve 2 minute penalties. Another player must serve the 2 minute penalty in the goalkeepers place.

4 Minutes Penalties:

- A 4 minute penalty as well as a yellow card will be issued for the following offenses:
 1. Strong or foul language towards the referee.
 2. Persistent fouling after receiving 2 minute penalty.
 3. Boarding a player; this is checking or hitting an opponent into the boards.
 4. Any foul deemed “very hard” by the referee.
- The player receiving the penalty must serve the full 4 minutes even if your team is scored upon. You can bring another player on after being scored on, but not the player in the box.
- Receiving 2 yellow cards in one game will result in an expulsion from that game.
- Receiving 5 yellow cards in a single season will result in a suspension for the rest of that season and possibly the beginning of the following season. The suspension length will be determined by TSX management.
- Goalkeepers do not serve 4 minute penalties. Another player must serve the 4 minute penalty in the goalkeepers place.
- If a coach receives a yellow card his team must play down one player for 4 minutes. No player is required to serve that penalty.

5 Minute Penalties:

- A 5 minute penalty will be issued for any red card given out by the referee.
- During a 5 minute penalty, there is unlimited scoring allowed and the full 5 minutes must be served, no players can come back onto the playing field until that 5 minutes has expired.
- A red card given to a player will result in an expulsion from that game, a one game suspension, plus the team will have to serve the full 5 minute penalty.
- A second red card given to a player in a single season will result in a suspension for the rest of that season and possibly the beginning of the

following season. The suspension length will be determined by TSX management.

- A red card given to a coach will result in an expulsion for the remainder of that game and a one game suspension.
- A second red card given to a coach in a single season will result in a suspension for the rest of that season and possibly the beginning of the following season. The suspension length will be determined by TSX management.

Fighting:

- Fighting will result in an expulsion from that game and an automatic 2 game suspension for all players involved in the altercation.
- Any player or coach who leaves the bench area will be given an automatic red card, no exceptions.
- If the benches are cleared during an altercation, those teams will be suspended for the remainder of the season and no refund will be granted. Also, if this trend continues with a specific team, that team will be banned from TSX and possibly certain individuals also.

Taylor Sportsplex House Rules

1. Individuals utilizing this facility do so at their own risk. The management company, property owners, league operators, referees, and staff of the Taylor Sportsplex assume no liability for injuries or accidents that may occur.
2. Conduct within the facility should be in the spirit of good sportsmanship, as is on the field.
3. Players or spectators under the influence of alcohol or any illegal substance will be ejected from the facility.
4. Please keep hands and feet off the glass, boards, and netting.
5. The use of alcoholic beverages or tobacco is prohibited.
6. No food, drinks, chewing gum, or spitting is permitted on the playing surface or in the players' boxes.
7. No unsportsmanlike conduct including inappropriate language is permitted.

8. The soccer balls are to be used on the soccer field only. No ball play is permitted outside the playing surface.
9. Children must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or coach throughout the duration of the practice or game in which they are playing or watching.
10. The management of the Taylor Sportsplex reserves the right refuse play and/or service to anyone.