

Baytown 7v7 Adult Men's Soccer Rules

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1. FIFA laws will be followed in all matches with the exception of the following:
 - a. **Unlimited substitutions** will be permitted in all league matches.
 - b. There will be no off-side penalties.
 - c. All fouls will be indirect unless a penalty kick is awarded. There will be **no direct kicks except at kick off and corner kicks**.
 - d. At the discretion of the referee, a referee may award a penalty kick for an infraction that occurs in the penalty area. A penalty kick shall be taken at a distance of 12 yards from the goal line. Any indirect kick awarded inside the penalty area shall be placed at the top of the penalty area.
2. All matches will be played in a 7v7 format.
3. All matches will start promptly as scheduled. A minimum of **5 players constitutes a team** for a regularly scheduled match to begin. Teams should report to the field a half hour before the scheduled start. A team shall be allowed a **ten (10) minute grace period** after the scheduled start time before the game is forfeit.
4. All regularly scheduled matches shall be played in **two 25 minute halves** with a 5 minute half time. There will be no overtime during the regular season. Tournament matches will go straight to a shootout from the penalty spot.
5. **Shooters must chase any ball that is shot over a fence.**
6. **It is strongly suggested that shin guards be worn by each player.**
7. No team is permitted to cancel, postpone, or reschedule any league match without the consent of a league representative. The referee may postpone a match due to unsafe condition based on his judgment. The referee may suspend a match due to inclement weather; however, if the match has completed one-half, the score will stand as final. The referee may, at his discretion, suspend a match due to team misconduct which would result in a forfeit (violation by one team) or voiding of the match (violation by both teams).
8. **Fighting at any Baytown match and foul language will not be tolerated. The Baytown Recreation Department reserves the right to bar any player or coach from participating in any or all league matches. Criminal Charges will be filed.**
9. **Slide tackling is not permitted; however, slide tackling from a goalie is allowable.** Any slide tackling is a yellow card at the discretion of the referee, any slide tackling from behind is an automatic yellow card; intent to injure is an automatic red card.
10. Any player receiving a red card from a match will be suspended for the next league match. Any player striking or attempting to strike a referee will be indefinitely suspended until reviewed by the commission
11. Any player accumulating 3 yellow cards in consecutive matches or accumulating a total of 4 yellow cards in nonconsecutive matches will be suspended from the next match.
12. The competitive standings of teams shall be determined through accumulation of points earned in all scheduled matches during the season. Points shall be awarded as follows:
 - 3 points for each match won or decision won
 - 1 point for each tie
 - 0 points for each match lost
13. In the event that a tie develops in accumulated points at the end of the season, the tie breaker shall be determined by the Head to Head match up.
14. In the event that the scheduled referee does not show, an acting referee may be used, but must be approved by both team captains. Outcome of the match is final.
15. If a player gets injured on the field or is bleeding, the player will be escorted off the field until able to continue.
16. The league reserves the power to enforce any and all law.
17. **Yellow Cards are a \$5.00 fine and Red Cards are a \$10.00 fine.** All fines are team fines and **must** be paid prior to team's participation in the next match.
18. **Punts, throws, or dropkicks by the goalie or ANY goal kick may not go over the midfield line in the air. However, indirects are allowed to pass the midfield line through the air.**
19. All balls that cross the sideline may be thrown or kicked back into play. Midfield air rule does not apply for any throw-in or restarted indirect kick. Any indirect kick that passes into the goal without touching any player including the goal will be rewarded a goal kick.