

(a) **Article I. Governance & Authority**

(1) Authority of Greenville Parks & Recreation.

GPARD Shall:

- A. Enforce all Youth League By-Laws and this Constitution.
- B. Approve all officials, scorekeepers, coaches, referees, and managers.
- C. Any matter not covered herein shall be left to the discretion of GPARD.
- D. Enforce the Participation standard: if a player attends at least half of the scheduled practices, that player must play at least half of the game.
 - 1. Failure by coach to comply may result in disciplinary action, up to and including removal.
- E. Local League Rules.
 - 1. Each sport shall maintain a Local League Rules appendix approved annually by GPARD.
 - 2. Local League Rules may supplement these By-Laws but shall not conflict with them.
 - 3. In case of conflict, the By-Laws shall control.

(2) Amendments

- A. These By-Laws shall be reviewed annually by GPARD staff.
- B. Amendments shall be approved by the Athletic Supervisor and take effect upon publication.

(b) **Article II – Eligibility, Registration & Rosters**

(1) **Player Eligibility**

- A. Residency and age.
 - 1. Players must reside in Greenville or surrounding areas.
 - 2. Age requirements shall follow governing-body rules and GPARD division standards.
 - (i) Limited exceptions for siblings within one (1) year of the division age may be approved, except in the youngest division.
- B. Dual participation.
 - 1. Participation in overlapping outside leagues requires prior written approval from GPARD.

2. Approval may be conditioned or denied preserving team/league balance and safety.

(2) **Registration & Fees (Expanded)**

A. Registration requirements.

1. Players must be officially registered in GPARD's system by the published deadline.
2. Required items include payment (or approved fee waiver), consent forms, and any medical disclosures.
3. Late registrations may be accepted as Hat Players up to draft day, if space permits.

B. Methods & deadlines.

1. Registration may be completed online, by phone (card only), or in person.
2. Deadlines are published in advance; youth late registration may carry a late fee.

C. Fee structure.

1. Fees are set annually to balance cost recovery and subsidy goals.
2. Non-resident rates may include a premium above resident rates.
3. Advanced Play fee: players selected to state tournaments shall pay the posted per-player fee.

D. Refund Policy.

1. Full Refunds.
 - (i) A full refund shall be granted if GPARD cancels or reschedules a program beyond the participant's control.
 - (ii) A youth participant withdraws anytime prior to receiving his uniform.
2. Pro-Rated Refunds.
 - (i) After uniform distribution, refunds shall be pro-rated using the following formula:

Registration Fee – Late Fee (if applicable) – Uniform Cost – Game Fee

3. Non-Refundable Items.

- (i) Late registration surcharges are non-refundable under all circumstances.

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- (ii) Tournament/Advanced Play fees are non-refundable once rosters are submitted to the governing body.
 - (iii) No refunds shall be granted for missed sessions or for adult-league or youth team league withdrawals once schedules are posted.
 - 4. Processing of Refunds.
 - (i) All approved refunds shall be processed within the 14 business days.
 - E. Waitlist.
 - 1. When capacity is reached, a waitlist is established; GPARD may form additional teams if volume allows.
 - 2. If a waitlist reaches a material threshold, GPARD may create teams or backfill rosters using chronological order and league balance considerations.
 - F. Financial hardship.
 - 1. GPARD may offer fee waivers or scholarships where available; documentation and approval timelines shall be published seasonally.
 - G. Information accuracy.
 - 1. Parents/guardians must keep contact information current in the registration system; failure to do so may affect notifications and eligibility.
 - H. Accessibility and Inclusion
 - 1. GPARD will provide reasonable modifications or accommodations for youth with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), unless doing so would fundamentally alter the nature of the program or create undue hardship.
 - 2. Requests for accommodations should be submitted during registration or as early as possible in the season.
 - 3. GPARD staff will review all requests promptly and communicate determinations to families in writing.
- (c) **Article III – Team Formation**
- (1) **Team Formation & Rosters**
 - A. Divisions.

1. GPARD shall prioritize the operation of gender-specific divisions in all youth sports.
2. Girls' divisions shall be offered at all ages where participation levels allow, even if the division requires combined age groups or modified formats.
3. Co-ed divisions shall only be used in sports traditionally played in co-ed format.

B. Rosters.

1. Roster sizes are set annually by GPARD based on registration and sport-specific needs, ideally 3 more than required playing rules allow for play.

C. Returning players.

1. Returning players remain with their prior team unless they enter the Hat.
2. Teams shall skip draft rounds equal to the number of returning players (including protected players).

D. Combine & Hat Players.

1. New players (first time or moving up) must attend the Combine to be eligible for draft selection.
2. Players not attending the Combine shall be placed in the Hat and may not participate in the Combine.
3. Hat Players are not eligible to be protected by a different team.

E. Protected Players.

1. Each team may designate up to two (2) protected players. This is intended to be the coach's kids.
2. Participants who are already on a team in the same age division are not eligible to be protected.
3. If siblings are protected, they will count as 2 protected players.
4. Only teams with 2 protected player spots can protect siblings.

5. If a coach has triplets, they will protect 2 of the siblings and they will lose their first-round pick for the 3rd.
6. No roster may have more than two (2) protected players at any time.
7. Protected player cards must include parent/guardian signatures and be submitted by the published deadline (e.g., noon the day of the draft).
8. Protected status remains for the duration of the player's eligibility within the age division unless they choose to enter the Hat.
9. If a protected player enters the Hat, they are not eligible to be protected by another team.
10. If a team with existing protected players gets a new coach, GPARD will allow the coach the option to retain them. If a coach chooses to not retain the protected players, they will be notified and allowed to go through the Combine/Draft process. They do not have to go to the Hat.

F. Siblings & household members.

1. Siblings or players in the same household shall be placed on the same team upon request.
2. Siblings can be protected and will count as the 2 protected players.
3. If siblings attend the Combine, they are drafted together; if not, they are drawn together from the Hat and will count as 2 picks.
4. A younger sibling moving up into the division automatically joins the older sibling's team; this does not consume a protected slot.

G. New teams.

1. If new teams are formed, they begin with a returner count that is equal to the team with the fewest returning players.
2. Players are assigned via random draw from the draft/Hat pool to balance ages and team sizes.
3. New teams draft last in the first round, or as otherwise directed to maintain parity.

H. Draft administration.

1. GPARD conducts all drafts; draft order is reverse standings from the prior season unless otherwise posted.
2. Coaches receive final rosters post-draft and must contact all team members promptly.
3. Any draft disputes must be submitted in writing within the posted timeline.

(2) **League Operations**

A. Article 7. League Play

1. Scheduling Authority.
2. GPARD shall establish the official game schedule prior to the season.
3. Only GPARD may reschedule games due to weather, facility conflicts, or emergencies.

B. League format.

1. Round Robin - Youth leagues are based on a 6-game season + a Single Elimination Tournament with Consolation.

C. Standings and ties.

1. Standings will be kept in leagues 7U and up.

D. Tiebreakers:

1. Head-to-head record among tied teams.
2. Head-to-head points allowed.
3. Overall points allowed.
4. Overall points scored.
5. One-game playoff if still tied, scheduled by GPARD.

E. Divisions.

1. Leagues with teams (8) or more teams shall be split into divisions by draw.

F. Timeliness.

1. No grace period: games begin as scheduled.
2. Games may begin early only with both managers' consent and staff approval is required.

G. Weather-Related Cancellations.

1. If a game is canceled prior to becoming "official" as defined by the sport's governing rules, GPARD will attempt to reschedule if field space and season calendar allow.
2. Games canceled after becoming "official" shall be considered complete and not replayed.

H. Make-Up Procedures.

1. Make-up games will be scheduled at the earliest available time available.
2. Make-up games may be scheduled on non-traditional days (including weeknights or Sundays) as determined by GPARD.
3. Force Majeure.
 - (i) GPARD may cancel, suspend, or modify league activities due to city-wide emergencies, public health directives, or other events beyond the Department's control.
 - (ii) Such cancellations shall not be subject to refund unless specifically authorized under Article 5.

(3) Uniforms & Equipment (Parents, Coaches, Staff)

A. What GPARD provides.

1. League-issued uniform items are specified each season (e.g., jersey or dry-fit shirt); all players must wear issued items on game days.
2. Sport-specific provisions (e.g., baseball caps or visors and belts) will be published in the seasonal brief.

B. What teams/players provide.

1. Appropriate footwear required (sport-specific: e.g., molded cleats for outdoor sports; non-marking court shoes indoors).

2. The required protective equipment must be worn (e.g., mouthguards, shin guards, cups, masks) as sport-specific rules dictate.
3. Undershirts/leggings that are visible should be uniform in color when reasonably possible.

C. Numbering & appearance.

1. Jerseys must display legible numbers; duplicates should be minimized; conflicts handled by GPARD.
2. Jewelry and hard accessories are prohibited during play, except for medical/religious items that are secured and approved by officials.

D. Coaches & bench personnel.

1. Coaches must be identifiable per GPARD guidelines (e.g., lanyard/credential or team shirt).
2. Only rostered players and approved coaches/bench personnel may be in the team area.

E. Equipment standards & inspection.

1. Game balls and key equipment shall meet governing-body standards.
2. Officials and Site Supervisors may inspect and remove illegal or unsafe equipment at any time.
3. Non-compliance must be corrected before participation resumes; failure to comply may result in removal/ejection.

F. Color conflicts & replacements.

1. GPARD will do everything possible to ensure league uniforms are different colors.
2. In jersey-color conflicts, the designated home/away policy or GPARD direction shall control (e.g., pinnies).
3. Damaged or missing uniform be reported to the GPARD and items must be remedied before play when safety/identification is affected.

(4) Playing Field & Facility Rules

- A. Tobacco, alcohol, and profanity are prohibited for players, coaches, and spectators.
- B. Spectators must remain in designated areas, opposite the team benches where applicable.
- C. GPARD may preempt, relocate, or close fields/facilities as needed for safety, maintenance, or scheduling.

(5) Game & Practice Regulations

- A. Team area staffing.
 - 1. Coaches are limited to the designated team area (two in most sports; three in baseball/softball) unless otherwise posted.
- B. Curfew.
 - 1. On school nights, all games must end by 10:00 p.m.
 - 2. Curfew enforcement occurs at the conclusion of a completed inning or natural stoppage when applicable.
- C. Supervision.
 - 1. Coaches must supervise players until pickup; no child shall be left unattended after activities.

(6) Communication Standards (Parents, Coaches, Staff)

- A. Official channels & cadence.
 - 1. GPARD communicates via its website, email, SMS/alerts, social media, and phone tree.
 - 2. Weather/closure decisions will be posted by the published target time (e.g., 3:00 p.m. on weekdays) when feasible.
- B. Coach responsibilities.
 - 1. Coaches must relay schedule updates and closure notices to their teams promptly (generally within 24 hours for standard updates; immediately for day-of changes).
 - 2. Coaches must monitor GPARD Channels on game/practice days.

C. Parent responsibilities.

1. Parents/guardians must keep contact info current in the registration system.
2. Parents/guardians are responsible for checking GPARD Channels on event days.

D. Staff responsibilities.

1. Site Supervisors implement day-of decisions and ensure postings at the site as needed.
2. Staff log significant notifications (e.g., closures) per internal procedure.

(7) Staff & On-Site Authority

A. Jurisdiction.

1. Officials have on-field authority for rules/judgment during games.
2. Site Supervisors have facility authority for safety, conduct, and operations, including the power to stop play, clear areas, or close facilities.

B. Ejections & removals.

1. Officials and Site Supervisors may eject any participant or spectator for rules or conduct violations.
2. Ejected individuals must leave the facility immediately and may not return until cleared by GPARD (see Article 16).

C. Law enforcement.

1. GPARD may request police assistance when necessary to ensure safety or compliance.

D. Reporting.

1. Staff must file incident reports for ejections, injuries, or major disturbances per Article 20.

(8) Minimum Playing Time Requirements

A. General Participation Rule

1. All players listed on a roster and in attendance must participate in every game if they attended half the scheduled practices.
2. Playing time minimums may vary by sport, but no player shall be excluded from participation for reasons unrelated to discipline, injury, or safety.
3. Minimum Standards. (If the player attended half the scheduled practices)
4. Basketball – Each player shall participate in half of every quarter, provided the player is present at the start of the game.
5. Baseball/Softball – Each player shall have at least two (2) at-bats and three (6) defensive outs per game.
6. Soccer – Each player shall participate in at least one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the game.
7. Flag Football – Each player shall participate in at least one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the game.

B. Exceptions

1. A player may receive reduced playing time for disciplinary reasons only if documented and reported to GPARD.
2. Playing time standards may be modified for tournaments if roster sizes exceed governing-body minimums.

(9) **Officiating Standards**

A. Selection and Approval

1. All officials shall be trained and approved by GPARD or a recognized governing body.
2. GPARD reserves the right to assign, reassign, or remove officials as needed.

B. Authority of Officials

1. Officials have complete authority over the game once play begins.
2. Coaches, players, and spectators must respect officials' decisions; judgment calls are not subject to protest.

C. No-Show or Shortage of Officials

1. If an assigned official fails to appear, Site Supervisors may designate a qualified replacement.

D. Protection of Officials

1. Verbal or physical abuse of officials shall result in immediate ejection and may include suspension or removal from the league.
2. Coaches are responsible for assisting staff in de-escalating conflicts involving officials.

(10) Recognition & Awards

A. General Awards Policy

1. All youth participants will receive completion certificates provided by GPARD.

B. Championship Awards

1. Medals or trophies will be awarded to first and second place teams in league tournament play, as applicable.
2. Awards shall be presented immediately following the conclusion of championship games, unless delayed by weather or facility issues.

C. Consistency

1. Awards provided are standardized by GPARD; individual teams may not purchase or distribute alternative awards without GPARD approval.

(d) Article IV – Conduct & Discipline

(1) Code of Conduct (Players, Coaches, Parents, Spectators)

- A. All parties shall display sportsmanship, respect for officials, and adherence to safety.
- B. Parents/guardians must sign the GPARD Parent Code of Conduct before the first activity.

(2) Discipline & Enforcement (Progressive & Severe)

- A. Progressive discipline may include, in order: verbal warning; written warning; suspension; removal/ban.

- B. Severe conduct (e.g., violence, threats, intoxication, harassment) results in immediate ejection and GPARD review.
- C. Any person ejected must meet with a GPARD supervisor during business hours before returning to coaching, playing, or spectating.
- D. Team accountability: coaches are responsible for bench conduct and assisting in restoring order.

(3) Dispute Resolution

A. Scope of Protest

- 1. Protests may only be filed for misapplication or misinterpretation of rules.
- 2. Judgment calls by officials (e.g., fouls, violations, possession) are not subject to protest.

B. In-Game Procedure

- 1. The head coach must notify the lead official immediately of intent to protest.
- 2. The official with notify the other team and score sheet shall be marked “UNDER PROTEST.”
- 3. Play shall resume without further delay.

C. Protest Submission Written

- 1. The protesting coach must submit a written protest to the Athletic Supervisor (or Athletic Supervisor if delegated) within twenty-four (24) hours of the game’s conclusion.
- 2. The written protest shall include:
 - (i) Date, time, and location of the game.
 - (ii) Teams involved.
 - (iii) The specific rule is alleged to have been misapplied.
 - (iv) A description of the situation.
 - (v) Signature of the head coach.

D. Review & Decision

- 1. The Athletic Supervisor shall review the protest and may gather statements from officials, scorekeepers, or staff.

2. A written ruling shall be issued within seventy-two (72) hours of submission.

3. The ruling shall be final for purposes of the game result.

E. Grievances

1. Grievances unrelated to rules of play (e.g., eligibility, conduct, policy enforcement) must be submitted in writing to the Athletic Supervisor within forty-eight (48) hours of the incident.

2. Grievances must include date, time, participants, witnesses, and a description.

F. Appeals

1. Appeals of Athletic Supervisor decisions may be submitted in writing to the Parks & Recreation Director within five (5) business days.

2. Suspension or discipline remains in effect during appeal.

3. The Director's decision is final.

(e) **Article V – Safety**

(1) **Weather & Facility Safety (incl. Emergency Cancellations)**

A. Thresholds.

1. Activities are cancelled because of extreme temperatures (e.g., >100°F heat index or <32°F wind chill) or Severe Weather.

2. Lightning/thunder requires a thirty (30) minute hold from last strike/sound.

B. Authority.

1. Officials and Site Supervisors may suspend or terminate play for safety.

2. GPARD may relocate, postpone, or cancel events as needed.

C. Unsafe conditions.

1. If hazards are found, staff must relocate or cancel the programming immediately.

D. Emergency Cancellations.

1. GPARD may cancel or suspend games and practices due to non-weather emergencies, including but not limited to:
 - (i) Facility closures or utility outages
 - (ii) Public health emergencies or directives
 - (iii) Law enforcement advisories or security threats
2. Such cancellations shall be communicated via GPARD Channels and shall not be subject to protest.

(2) Concussion Protocol

- A. Immediate removal of any player suspected of concussion.
- B. Return-to-play requires written medical clearance from a licensed healthcare provider.
- C. Annual staff/coach awareness training is recommended and may be required.

(3) Emergency Procedures & Incident Reporting

- A. First Aid & AED.
 1. First Aid kits shall be available at event sites; AEDs at posted locations.
- B. 911 & scene control.
 1. In life-threatening situations, call 911 immediately and secure the area.
- C. Incident reports.
 1. Staff must file and notify supervisor immediately.
 2. Incident reports are due immediately for injuries, ejections, or major disturbances.
 3. Coaches should notify GPARD as soon as practicable when staff are not present.
- D. Injury/Return-to-Play (Non-Concussion).
 1. Removal.

- (i) Any player injured during a game or practice must be removed until evaluated by a parent/guardian.
- (ii) Players with visible injuries (fractures, sprains, bleeding, or other significant conditions) shall not return the same day without clearance.

E. Clearance.

- 1. Written clearance from a parent/guardian or licensed healthcare provider shall be required for serious injuries prior to return.

F. Documentation.

- 1. Coaches must report all significant injuries to GPARD within twenty-four (24) hours.

G. Record Retention.

- 1. All incident and injury reports shall be retained on file by GPARD for a minimum of five (5) years.
- 2. Reports shall be reviewed by the Athletic Supervisor and Parks & Recreation Director to ensure consistent enforcement and documentation.

(f) **Article VI – General Policies**

(1) **Non-Discrimination & Accessibility**

- A. GPARD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, or family status.
- B. Reasonable accommodations may be provided upon request where feasible and safe.

(2) **Coach Eligibility & Expectations**

- A. Requirements
 - 1. All coaches must complete a background check and required trainings before the first practice.
 - 2. Coaches must attend mandatory meetings, communicate proactively with families, and model GPARD values.
- B. Evaluation & Accountability

1. GPARD may evaluate coaching performance; failure to meet expectations or repetitive issues may result in progressive discipline or removal.

C. **Conflict of Interest**

1. Coaches shall not recruit or solicit players from other teams outside of the approved draft process.
2. Coaches may not offer gifts, incentives, or special treatment to influence player placement.

D. **Enforcement**

1. Violations shall be subject to discipline, including forfeiture of coaching privileges.

(3) Financial Transparency & Sponsorships

A. Covered Expenses

1. Registration fees shall cover league participation, officials, standard uniforms, and facility access.
2. Fees do not cover additional personal equipment (e.g., cleats, gloves, protective gear).

B. Tournament/Advanced Play Fees

1. Players selected for Advanced Play are responsible for the published per-player tournament fee of \$20.
2. Additional travel, lodging, and meal expenses are the responsibility of families.

C. Sponsorships & Fundraising

1. Teams may not solicit or accept outside sponsorships, donations, or fundraising for uniforms, equipment, or travel without prior written approval from GPARD.
2. All sponsorships and fundraising activities must comply with City of Greenville policies.

(4) Media & Technology Policy

A. Photography and Video

1. GPARD reserves the right to photograph, film, or record participants for promotional purposes.
2. Parents/guardians may opt out of promotional use during registration; GPARD will honor such requests when feasible.

B. Parent/Guardian Use

1. Parents/guardians may take personal photos or videos from designated spectator areas provided they do not interfere with play.
2. Livestreaming or broadcasting requires prior GPARD approval.

C. Social Media Conduct

1. Participants, coaches, and parents are expected to use social media responsibly.
2. Harassment, threats, or disparaging remarks about officials, players, or GPARD programs may result in discipline per Article 16.

(5) Facility & Equipment Damage

A. Participant Responsibility

1. Players, parents, coaches, and spectators are expected to treat GPARD facilities and equipment with care.
2. Any individual who willfully damages facilities or equipment shall be held responsible for repair or replacement costs.

B. Team Responsibility

1. Teams whose members, coaches, or spectators cause damage may face sanctions, including fines, suspension of practice privileges, or forfeiture of games.

C. Enforcement

1. GPARD reserves the right to suspend or remove individuals or teams for repeated or severe violations.
2. Law enforcement may be contacted if damage is intentional and rises to the level of vandalism.

- (6) **Volunteers (New Article 28 – Part VII General Policies)**
- A. All volunteers shall complete required applications, orientations, and background checks prior to service.
 - B. Volunteers shall work under the direct supervision of GPARD staff and shall not act independently of Department policies.
 - C. Volunteers are held to the same Codes of Conduct as coaches, players, and parents.
 - D. Volunteers may be dismissed immediately for failure to comply with policies, unsafe behavior, or misconduct.

Appendix A – Definitions Youth Sports By-Laws 2025–2026

The following terms are defined for use throughout the GPARD Youth Sports Constitution & By-Laws:

League Structure & Rosters

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| Protected Player – | A player designated to a specific team before the draft (typically a coach’s child) per Article 6(d). |
| Returning Player – | A player who played for the same team in the prior season and remains in the same age division. |
| Hat Player – | A player placed into the general draft pool per Article 6(c), including players who missed the Combine, opted out of returning to their previous team, or registered late. |
| Combine – | A GPARD-administered skills assessment used to help balance teams fairly. |
| Official Roster – | The team list in GPARD’s registration system (e.g., CivicRec), finalized after the draft and approved by staff. |
| Roster Lock – | The point at which rosters are considered final, absent GPARD staff approval to make changes. |
| Draft Order – | The sequence in which coaches select players, typically based on reverse standings from the prior season. |

Registration & Fees

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| Registration Fee – | The published cost to join a league, established annually by GPARD. |
| Uniform Cost – | The cost of GPARD-issued apparel that is deducted when calculating refunds once uniforms have been distributed. |
| Game Fee – | A portion of the registration fee that covers officiating, scheduling, and game administration; deducted in refund calculations. |

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| Late Fee – | An additional surcharge applied to registrations submitted after the posted deadline. Non-refundable under Article 5. |
| Refund – | A return of fees to the participant based on the circumstances outlined in Article 5 (full, pro-rated, or no refund). |
| Pro-Rated Refund – | A partial refund issued after uniforms are distributed, calculated as: Registration Fee – Late Fee – Uniform Cost – Game Fee. |

Roles & Responsibilities

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| Coach – | A volunteer responsible for leading a team, subject to background checks, required trainings, and GPARD expectations. |
| Volunteer – | An individual assisting in league operations (scorekeeping, support, etc.) who must complete GPARD requirements and follow the Code of Conduct. |
| Site Supervisor – | A GPARD staff member assigned to oversee a facility, event, or game with authority to enforce rules, handle ejections, and file incident reports. |
| Official – | A referee, umpire, or game administrator approved by GPARD to enforce sport-specific rules. |
| Parent/Guardian – | The adult legally responsible for a minor participant. |

Conduct & Discipline

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| Code of Conduct – | The behavioral expectations for all participants, parents, spectators, coaches, and volunteers. |
| Incident – | Any conduct issue, safety concern, injury, or violation that occurs during league activities. |
| Incident Report – | A written form completed by staff or coaches to document incidents, required within 24 hours. |
| Ejection – | Removal of a player, coach, parent, or spectator from a game or facility by an Official or Site Supervisor. |

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| Suspension – | Temporary loss of participation privileges imposed by GPARD staff or the Athletic Supervisor. |
| Ban/Removal – | Permanent or season-long loss of privileges, determined by GPARD for severe or repeated misconduct. |
| Grievance – | A written complaint submitted to GPARD requesting investigation or action, typically related to eligibility, conduct, or safety. |
| Protest – | A formal objection by a coach alleging a misapplication of rules during a game; must be filed immediately in-game and followed with a written protest within 24 hours. |
| Appeal – | A written request to overturn a decision made by the Athletic Supervisor, reviewed by the Parks & Recreation Director. |

Safety & Operations

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| Severe Weather – | Includes lightning, thunder, hail, tornado watches/warnings, or unsafe field conditions that require delays or cancellations. |
| Heat Index – | A measure combining temperature and humidity to determine safety; play is canceled if the index exceeds 100°F. |
| Wind Chill – | A measure combining temperature and wind speed to determine safety; play is canceled if the wind chill falls below 32°F. |
| Lightning/Thunder Rule – | A thirty (30) minute hold is enforced after the last strike or sound before play can resume. |
| Concussion – | A suspected traumatic brain injury requiring immediate removal and medical clearance before return. |
| Non-Concussion Injury – | A serious injury such as a fracture, sprain, or bleeding condition requiring parent/doctor clearance before return. |
| Emergency Cancellation – | Suspension of play due to public health emergencies, facility outages, law enforcement advisories, or other events beyond GPARD's control. |

Force Majeure – Events outside GPARD’s control (natural disasters, pandemics, major civic emergencies) requiring league suspension, modification, or cancellation.

Awards

Participation Award – Recognition provided to every registered player at the end of a season (certificate, medal, or ribbon as set by GPARD).

Championship Award – Medals or trophies provided to first and second place teams in postseason tournaments.

Standardized Awards – Awards provided only by GPARD, ensuring consistency and fairness across leagues.