

BIG CHICAGO SOCCER RULES AND REGULATIONS

PLAYING RULES

A. SOCCER RULES:

1. The National Federation of State High Schools Association Soccer Rules shall govern the competition. Any exceptions to these rules are listed in the enclosed rules.
2. **Headers will be allowed for 7/8th Grade Soccer competition**

B. COMPETITION INFORMATION:

1. All games will be played 11v11 on regulation fields. Games not on regulation sized fields will be played with the number of players determined by the home team.
2. All teams must have 12 registered players on their roster
3. All games will consist of 2 x 25 minute halves. In the event of limited daylight games may be played at 2x20 minute halves. Both coaches and the ref must agree to the limited game time.
4. **Ball size will be a 5 for both divisions.**

C. NUMBERS OF PLAYERS:

PLAYERS: In order to have a recognized team (Minimum of 12 Student Athletes MUST be registered prior to the deadline in order to be awarded a team)

- a. Each team shall designate a team captain on the field who:
 - 1) Is the team's representative.
 - 2) May address an official to obtain essential information.
 - 3) May address an official on matters of interpretation.

D. FORFEITS:

1. A forfeit is defined as a team not having the minimum number of eligible players
2. 24 hour notice is required if a team is not able to make a game. If less than 24 hour notice is given the other coach has the option to take a win by forfeit or to reschedule the game.
3. If the coaches are unable to schedule a make-up game, the team originally unable to play will be charged with a forfeit.
4. Rescheduling:
 - a. The coach requesting the change must notify the league supervisor as soon as possible.
 - b. Both teams must agree on 2–3 potential make-up dates/times to submit to the league.
 - c. The league will review availability and confirm the new game date once a referee and field/gym are secured.
 - d. The new date will only be official once confirmed and added to the league's master schedule.

E. TIMING:

1. The referee serves as the official game time and score keeper.
2. All games shall consist of two (2) twenty five (25) minute halves with a three (3) minute half-time period.
3. **Regular Season:**
 - **No Overtime:** If the game is tied at the, the match ends in a **draw**. There would be no extra time or overtime periods.

- **Points:** Teams earn **1 point** for a draw, while the winning team gets **3 points**.

Playoffs:

- **Tied After Regulation:** If the game is tied at the end of regulation during the playoffs
 - There will be **no overtime**.
 - The match proceeds directly to **penalty kicks** to determine the winner.
- **Penalty Kicks:**
 - A **penalty shootout** involves each team taking **3 penalty kicks** (alternating shooters).
 - If the score remains tied after 3 penalties each, the shootout continues into **sudden death**, where the first team to score while the other misses wins.

F. EQUIPMENT:

1. Eligible players without appropriate size shin-guards will not be allowed to play (Soccer socks should be worn to cover shin-guards).
2. Eligible players without appropriate shoes will not be allowed to play. (ex. dress or casual shoes).
3. Sportswear glasses/goggles are allowed
4. Eligible players will be allowed to play with warm-up pants, skull hats and/or winter gloves.
5. Home team must provide and install soccer goal nets.
6. Home team must provide and install soccer corner flags and/or cones.

G. CORNER KICKS

1. A place kick taken by the attacking side from a corner of the field, where the sideline and endline meet, after the ball has been sent over the end line outside the goal by a defender.

H. SUBSTITUTIONS:

1. Substitutions will be permitted during the course of the game when the following conditions exist:
 - A. On a goal kick by either team
 - B. On a corner kick by either team
 - C. On a throw in by either team
 - D. Between halves
 - E. For injured players
 - F. After a goal is scored by either team
 1. Substitutions shall be unlimited.
 2. Substituting players shall be standing on the sideline by the midfield line.
 3. When the ball is not in play, the coach shall signal the Official for the substitution.
 4. In case the substitute reporting is a goalie, the player must identify herself to the official as the goalie.

I. SCORING:

1. The score for a forfeited game shall be 3-0.
2. A goal cannot be scored from a throw in unless the ball first touches a player in the field of play.

J. ROSTER UPDATES

1. One Team Only Rule:
Each player is permitted to be registered on only one team within the league. Players cannot appear on multiple rosters or play for more than one team in the same season.
2. Play-Up Restriction:
 - a. If a player chooses to play up from the 5th/6th Grade Division to participate on a 7th/8th Grade team, they are no longer eligible to return to play for a 5th/6th Grade team.
 - b. This decision is final for the duration of the season, including playoffs.

REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS AND PLAYOFFS

A. Regular season standings will be determined on the basis of:

- a. Three (3) points for a win.
- b. One (1) point for a tie.
- c. Zero (0) points for a loss.

B. If two teams are tied in the Regular Season Standings, final standings will be determined on the basis of:

- 1> Winning Percentage
- 2> Head-To-Head
- 3> Total Goals Against
- 4> Total Goals For
- 5> Coin Toss

C. Top four teams will make the playoffs in the 5th/6th division and top 6 teams will make playoffs in 7th/8th:

- a. Playoffs are a single elimination Tournament.