

Fall 2010 OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

www.phillysoccer.org *The Casa Soccer League is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit entity*



About Casa: The Casa Soccer League (“Casa”) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to providing competitive and organized recreational adult soccer to the greater Philadelphia region. Run entirely by unpaid volunteers, Casa is always looking for assistance to help us improve the services we offer. All dues received by league members are used for running the organization. Currently the League offers full-length outdoor seasons in the spring and fall as well as an annual summer tournament.

General League Format:

- FIFA rules apply unless otherwise stated.
- Games are 11 v. 11, full field with 45 minute halves.
- Two certified referees are used for each game. **DISRESPECT TOWARDS REFEREES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** Only captains may question on-field calls, and only in a calm and courteous manner.
- Unlimited substitutions are permitted from either team on goals kicks and throw-ins. Note that referees may exercise discretion when granted substitutions based on the flow of play.
- The League is gender neutral. There is no gender minimum or maximum either for rosters or active players on the field.
- There are 11 games in the regular season. Primera division teams play in a post-season stand-alone cup. Other divisions have a postseason playoff including the teams that finish in second through fifth place.
- Players must show picture IDs to refs before each game. (If they do not own one, they should speak with their division commissioner to set up an arrangement for handling this.)

Equipment:

- Shin guards are required. Those not wearing shin guards will not be permitted to play.
- No jewelry, watches, chains, rings, etc. (Some refs are very strict!)
- Cleats are highly recommended.
- Captain armbands are recommended.

Division Promotion:

- The 1st ranked team at the end of the regular season of a lower division is promoted one division.
- The teams that finish in second through fifth place in the lower divisions play in a four-team postseason playoff. The winner is promoted. (If the season has too many rainouts, the postseason playoff could be condensed to two teams or eliminated altogether, with the second place team being promoted.)

Division Relegation:

- The 9th and 10th ranked teams in regular season will be relegated, with one exception. If one of them wins a postseason tournament, the 8th place team is relegated in their place.
- If a team retains fewer than seven (7) players from the previous season or does not participate continuously across the spring and fall seasons, the team is automatically relegated to the lowest division. (The league board has discretion to place teams in higher divisions, however, if there are slots vacated.)

Discipline:

- Four accumulated yellow cards over the course of a season (including playoffs) results in a one-game suspension (the game following the fourth card).
- Two additional cards yield another suspension.
- A red card or two yellows in a game is a minimum of a 1-game automatic suspension (the next game).
- Suspended players may not be present at game. Sent-off players must leave the premises (100yard radius).
- If sent-off player does not comply with referee instruction to leave premises, the team will forfeit the match and lose their deposit.

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- Sideline subs and team fans' behavior are subject to cards.
- The League's board handles additional warnings, probation, or discipline as situation warrants under the direction of the President and Division Commissioners.
- No one on the League's board – including the President – has the ability to overturn an in-game call by a referee under any circumstance.
- In instances of severe misconduct, the League reserves the right to issue multiple-game or permanent suspensions, team dissolution and/or all other available legal remedies.

Protests:

- If a team wants to protest a game based on an opposing team's use of an ineligible player, the team captain must contact the respective commissioner by noon on the Tuesday following the game.

Goalies:

- 6 Second Ball Holding Max (standard rule)

Jerseys and Numbers:

- All players must wear a number (COMMISSIONERS WILL BE ENFORCING).
 - Tape/draw one on if you don't have one.
- Home team wears alternate kits if color conflicts.
 - Number requirement relaxed for alternate kits.
- Captains must indicate names and numbers on roster.
- Any last minute changes are to be indicated on referee's roster.

Slide Tackling:

- Slide tackling by field players is prohibited. Goalies play by FIFA rules.
- Sliding is OK when no one else is near.
 - No contact or intent to make contact, even throughball is permitted. Referees have discretion.

Guest Player Policy:

- All guest players' full names and jersey numbers must be written on the game report prior to the start of the match. A guest player is defined as any person who is not on the team's official roster as of the day of the game.
- Guest players may not increase team past 15.
- No more than 2 guest players may be from a higher division (Abierto may use 3).
- Guest players may be from in or outside Casa.
- Guest players are prohibited during all rounds of the playoffs.

Playoff Eligibility:

- To be eligible for playoff participation, one must:
 - Be a paid, rostered member of only that team, or
 - Have played (and recorded as playing) in two regular season games or that team, and is not a member of any other team in Casa.
- All rosters are locked for editing at the end of Week 6 in Primera and Week 8 in other divisions.
- The use of ineligible players may result in forfeiting the match and loss of deposit.

Playoff Structure (Primera Cup)

- Wild Card Round: #7 v #10, #8 v #9.
- Quarters: #1 v #8, #2 v #7 etc.

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- Semis: #1 v #4, #2 v #3
- Finals: #1 v #2
- Note that each team is ranked based on their original playoff seed.

Playoff Structure (Promotion Playoffs)

- Semis: #2 vs. #5, #3 vs. #4.
- Finals: Winners of each game face off.

Statistics and Record Keeping:

- Captains (or other team administrators) are responsible for entering game stats (goals, assists, line-up, etc.) for their team.
- Casa maintains Man of Match and cards on website.
- Man-of-the-match awarded by referees.

Points and Scoring:

- 3 Points for a Win, 1 Point for a Tie (there is no overtime in regular season games), 0 points for a loss.
- Penalty Kicks break a tie ONLY in playoff games.
- Ranks and Seeds are sorted in this order:
 - Total Points Earned.
 - Forfeit losses.
 - Match Record against teams with same points. If ambiguous, skip this criterion.
 - Overall +/- (aka Goal Differential), max 5/game.
 - Number of Bookings (fewer is better).
 - Number of Goals Scored.

Forfeits:

- Failure to provide a minimum of 7 eligible players at any match will result in loss of \$300 deposit. If at least 72 hours notice is given only \$150 will be deducted. Notice *must* be given in writing (via e-mail) to both the president and respective division commissioner.
- A forfeit will result in disqualification from further play unless the \$300 deposit amount is restored in full within two weeks from date of initial forfeit.
- Forfeits are recorded as a 0-3 Loss.
- Any team that does not have the opportunity to play because of a forfeit (*not* a cancellation) will receive a \$45 credit.
- Once the season has begun, no team payments will be refunded unless it will not reduce the collected amount below the total fees owed for the season.

Rainouts:

- We cannot guarantee a rainout will be re-scheduled, however, we make every effort to do so.
- Rainout notifications will first be posted on the weather hotline (267.324.8272), then the homepage of the website.
- Due to the fixed-costs of the league, refunds cannot be issued in the event a rainout cannot be rescheduled.
- A game is considered "official" after 60 minutes of play have elapsed. If a game is called after this point for whatever reason, the score at the time of stoppage will be used as the final result. In the event the score is tied and it is a playoff match, the remaining time will be played.

Referee Payment Policy:

- Team captains are responsible for paying the referees at the coin toss of each match. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit and loss of the team's deposit.

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- Payment may be made either by cash or check. If a check is bounced the ref fee along with \$100 will be deducted from the team's deposit. The team is responsible for restoring this amount within a week of notification.
- If a game is cancelled prior to the start of the match teams will not be responsible for paying the refs. Likewise, if the game has started but was not played to a final result due to Casa canceling the match the teams will not be responsible for any further costs resulting from rescheduling.