

**ROCK SPRING SOCCER LEAGUE**  
**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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**ARTICLE 1. RESPONSIBILITIES**

**SECTION 1 - HOME TEAM**

- A. PREPARE THE FIELD FOR PLAY. ALL LINES SHALL BE MARKED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE GAME.
- B. SUPPLY GAME BALLS.
- C. MAINTAIN CROWD CONTROL. PROVIDE FOR THE SAFETY OF GAME OFFICIALS AND VISITING TEAMS.
- D. PAY ONE HALF THE REFEREE FEE AT HALFTIME. IF A REFEREE DECLARES A FIELD UNPLAYABLE, HE/SHE SHALL BE PAID HALF THE NORMAL FEE. (TO BE PAID BY HOME TEAM.)
- E. PROVIDE FOR FIRST AID AND/OR MEDICAL CARE AND ARRANGE FOR EMERGENCY AND/OR AMBULANCE SERVICE IF NEEDED.

**SECTION 2 - VISITING TEAM**

- A. CONFIRM PLAYING SITE AND TIME OF GAME. CALL THE HOME TEAM MANAGER OR COACH FOR DIRECTIONS TO PLAYING FIELD, IF NEEDED.
- B. ARRIVE ON TIME. ALLOW ADEQUATE TIME FOR TRAVEL.
- C. ASSIST IN MAINTAINING CROWD CONTROL BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE GAME.
- D. CLEAN TEAM AND SPECTATOR AREAS. PICK UP AND DISPOSE OF ALL TRASH.
- E. PAY ONE HALF THE REFEREE FEE AT HALF TIME.

**ARTICLE II. RULES FOR ALL TEAMS**

**SECTION I - TEAM AREAS.** TEAM AREAS WILL BE ON ONE SIDE OF THE FIELD AND SPECTATOR AREAS ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE FIELD. ONLY CARDED COACHES AND PLAYERS ARE PERMITTED ON THE "TEAM AREA" SIDE OF THE FIELD. ALL PLAYERS AND COACHES WILL STAY WITHIN 10 YARDS OF THEIR TEAMS RESPECTIVE SIDE OF MID-FIELD LINE. THIS WILL BE CALLED THE "TEAM AREA". THEY SHALL NOT MINGLE WITH SPECTATORS DURING THE COURSE OF THE GAME. COACHES ARE NEVER PERMITTED TO CROSS OVER THE MID FIELD LINE INTO THE OTHER TEAM HALF OF THE FIELD.

- B. ONCE A GAME HAS STARTED, NO PLAYER, COACH OR SPECTATOR MAY ENTER THE FIELD OF PLAY WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM THE REFEREE.

**SECTION 2 - COACHES AND MANAGERS**

- A. EVERY TEAM SHALL DESIGNATE AT LEAST TWO [2] PEOPLE TO SERVE AS COACHES OR MANAGERS. EACH SHALL HAVE A VALID COACHES PASS.  
NO GAMES WILL BE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF THE UNAVAILABILITY OF A COACH OR MANAGER.
- B. PASSES MUST BE PRESENT AT EACH GAME.
- C. PASSES MUST BE CHECKED AT EACH GAME, IF NOT DONE GAME PROTEST WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS****SECTION 3 - CAUTIONS**

- A. WITH THE ISSUANCE OF AN OFFICIAL CAUTION BY A REFEREE, THERE MUST BE A SUBSTITUTION MADE FOR THE CAUTIONED PLAYER IMMEDIATELY. THIS IS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED A ONE [ 1 ] FOR ONE [ 1 ] SUBSTITUTION AS IN AN INJURY SITUATION. ONLY THE CAUTIONED PLAYER SHALL LEAVE THE FIELD. THIS PLAYER MAY RETURN TO THE GAME AS SOON AS HIS/HER TEAM GAINS POSSESSION OF THE BALL THROUGH A NORMAL STOPPAGE OF PLAY. THIS RULE ONLY APPLIES WHEN THE TEAM IN QUESTION HAS MORE THAN THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF PLAYERS REQUIRED TO FIELD A TEAM WHICH IS SEVEN [ 7 ].

**SECTION 4 - REFEREE ASSESSMENT FORMS**

- A. EACH TEAM, WITHIN FORTY EIGHT [ 48 ] HOURS AFTER EACH GAME. WILL FILE A REFEREE ASSESSMENT FORM. IF REQUIRED.

**SECTION 5 - SCHEDULING**

- A. OFFICIAL SCHEDULES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL TEAMS BEFORE THE OPENING DATE OF COMPETITION IN EACH AGE DIVISION. GAMES ARE TO PLAYED AT THE TIMES AND SITES DESIGNATED IN THESE SCHEDULES.
- B. ONLY THE GAMES COMMISSIONER HAS THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE SCHEDULE.
- C. CHANGES WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED IF REQUESTED BY ONE [ 1 ] TEAM OR CLUB WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE OTHER. THIS LEAGUE WILL ONLY MAKE CHANGES FOR CUP PLAY.
- D. CHANGES ARE NOT TO BE REQUESTED IF A TEAM CAN FIELD A LEGAL TEAM OF THE REQUIRED MINIMUM OF SEVEN [ 7 ] PLAYERS NECESSARY FOR A LEGAL GAME.
- E. CHANGES FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF A COACH OR MANAGER WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.
- F. BEFORE GAME TIME, ONLY THE GAMES COMMISSIONER HAS THE AUTHORITY TO CANCEL GAMES BECAUSE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER. CHECK LEAGUE ANSWER MACHINE FOR CANCELLATION INFORMATION
- G. ANY TEAM NOT ABLE TO FIELD A TEAM ON GAME DAY WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A FORFEIT FEE ( \$50.00 ) AND FULL REFEREE FEE.

**SECTION 6 - UNIFORMS**

- A. WHEN THE COLORS OF UNIFORMS OF COMPETING TEAMS ARE THE SAME OR SO SIMILAR IN COLOR AS NOT TO BE DISTINGUISHABLE, THE HOME TEAM SHALL MAKE THE NECESSARY CHANGES THAT ARE REQUIRED.

**SECTION 7 - SUSPENDED PLAYERS**

- A. ANY PLAYER WHO IS UNDER SUSPENSION SHALL BE LISTED ON THE TEAM LINE UP SHEET. WITH A LINE DRAWN THRU THE PLAYERS NAME, AND MARKED SEVERING SUSPENSION. CLEARLY ON ALL THREE COPY'S.

**SECTION 8 - FEMALE SOCCER**

- A. U-16 AND YOUNGER TEAMS SHALL FOLLOW ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS SET FORTH HEREIN WITH THE EXCEPTION THAT GIRLS MAY USE THEIR HANDS AND ARMS FOR PROTECTION OF THEIR CHESTS.

**SECTION 9 - REFEREES**

- A. REFEREES WILL BE ASSIGNED TO EVERY LEAGUE GAME. IN THE EVENT A REFEREE DOES NOT SHOW UP, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES WILL BE USED
  - 1. THE HOME TEAM SHALL NOMINATE A CANDIDATE, PREFERABLY A MEMBER OF THE REFEREES ASSOCIATION WHO, IF ACCEPTABLE, SHALL REFEREE THE GAME.
  - 2. IF THE HOME TEAM'S NOMINEE IS UNACCEPTABLE, THE VISITING TEAM MAY NOMINATE A CANDIDATE. IF ACCEPTABLE TO THE OPPONENT, HE/SHE SHALL REFEREE.
  - 3. IF NEITHER NOMINEE IS ACCEPTABLE, A COIN SHALL BE TOSSED AND THE WINNER SHALL NOMINATE THE REFEREE.
  - 4. ANY REFEREE NAMED THROUGH THIS PROCESS SHALL HAVE ALL THE POWERS OF ANY REFEREE AS STATED IN THE LAWS OF THE GAME.
  - 5. IF THE GAME IS NOT PLAYED, THE TEAM REFUSING TO PLAY WILL BE CHARGED WITH A FORFEIT. IF BOTH TEAMS REFUSE TO PLAY, BOTH TEAMS WILL BE CHARGED WITH A FORFEIT.
  - 6. IF NO REFEREE IS PRESENT, AND NO SUBSTITUTE IS AVAILABLE PLEASE RESCHEDULE GAME BETWEEN BOTH COACH'S AND NOTIFY THE GAMES COMMISSIONER, OF TIME, DAY, AND PLACE.
  - 7 U-8 thru U14 will use a single referee system  
U-15 and up will use a 3 referee system

**SECTION 10 - IGNORANCE OF THE RULES**

- A. A PLEA OF IGNORANCE OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THIS ASSOCIATION SHALL NOT BE SUFFICIENT GROUNDS FOR APPEALS OR PROTESTS.

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## SECTION 11 - GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

- A. THE ROCK SPRING LEAGUE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE ACTING AS AN AFFILIATE OF THE EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SOCCER ASSOCIATION AND THE EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION ARBITRATION BOARDS, SHALL OPERATE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THEIR ESTABLISHED RULES.
- B. THE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF THE CHAIRMAN PLUS NO LESS THAN FOUR [ 4 ] ADDITIONAL MEMBERS REPRESENTING A MINIMUM OF FOUR [ 4 ] DIVISIONS.
- C. THE COMMITTEE SHALL TAKE PROMPT ACTION ON WRITTEN PROTESTS, APPEALS OR REPORTS PERTAINING TO PLAYER AND/OR CLUB INFRACTIONS EMANATING FROM CLUB AND/OR REFEREE REPORTS.
- D. THE COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE PENALTIES ON ANY CLUB, OFFICER, COACH OR PLAYER WHO IS AFFILIATED WITH THIS ASSOCIATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES VI AND VII.
- E. NO GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER SHALL VOTE AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE DURING ANY ACTION OR DECISION WHICH INVOLVES A DIVISION, TEAM OR INDIVIDUAL WITH WHOM THE COMMITTEE MEMBER IS AFFILIATED OR WHO IS A MEMBER OF A DIVISION WHICH STANDS TO BENEFIT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY FROM THE RESULTS.
- F. THESE ARE THE PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED:
  1. REFEREE GAME REPORTS SHALL AUTOMATICALLY INITIATE ACTION BY THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL AFFILIATED WITH THIS ASSOCIATION WHOSE CONDUCT WARRANTS SUCH ACTION.
  2. FORMAL PROTESTS.
    - A. LAWS OF THE GAME. COPIES OF THE PROTEST SHALL BE MADE IN DUPLICATE WITH ONE [ 1 ] GOING TO THE GAMES COMMISSIONER & ONE [ 1 ] GOING TO THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.
    - B. No protest will be accepted without a signed line up sheet from the referee of the game in question.
  3. APPEALS
    - A. ANY DECISION OF THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MAY BE APPEALED BY ANY AFFILIATED CLUB OR INDIVIDUAL WITHIN 48 HOURS OF THE RECEIPT OF SAID DECISION. APPEALS SHALL BE WRITTEN TO THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.

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- B. ANY CLUB OR INDIVIDUAL NOT WHOLLY SATISFIED WITH ANY DECISION OF THE COMMITTEE HAS THE RIGHT OF APPEAL TO THE EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SOCCER ASSOC. OR THE EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOC.
- C. NO APPEALS SHALL BE MADE ON ANY GRIEVANCE UNTIL SUCH GRIEVANCE IS RULED UPON BY THE COMMITTEE.

4. HEARINGS

- A. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUEST OF THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE TO PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT FOR A HEARING WILL RESULT IN A \$25.00 FINE.
- B. FAILURE TO APPEAR AT A HEARING WHEN REQUESTED BY THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE SHALL RESULT IN A \$50.00 FINE.

5. FAULTY FILING PROCEDURES

- A. PROTEST, CLAIMS, OR APPEALS NOT FILED WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME LIMIT, OR FILED WITHOUT SUFFICIENT SUPPORTING MATERIAL, OR FILED WITHOUT PROTEST, CLAIMS OR APPEAL FEE MAY BE REJECTED.
- B. TELEPHONE CALLS OR ORAL OR WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTED TO ANY MEMBER OF THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS OR EXPLAIN THE DETAILS OF A GIVEN CASE SHALL BE CAUSE FOR AN ADVERSE DECISION.

SECTION 12 - FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. SHALL CONSIST OF THE CURRENT COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL ROCK UNITED SOCCER ASSOCIATION.

SECTION 13 - LEAGUE REGISTRAR

- A. SHALL PROVIDE FOR AND DIRECT THE REGISTRATION OF ALL PLAYERS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THIS ASSOCIATION.

Section 14 - Ball size & game times.

U-8	3 or 4	2 - 25 min halves
U-9 thru U-11	4	2 – 30 min halves
U-12, 13, 14	5	2 – 35 min halves
U-15, 16 17/19	5	2 – 40 min halves