

SOCCER RULE BOOK



Last revised 09/19/08

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LIBERTY PARK OF AMERICA SOCCER RULES AND PROCEDURES

www.libertyparkofamerica.com

REGISTRATION PROCESS

A deposit is required to reserve your spot. This deposit is non-refundable unless Liberty Park cancels your age group for any reason. If Liberty Park cancels your age group, your deposit will be refunded by check.

The balance of your team fee must be paid before your first game. If your balance is not paid in full by your start date we reserve the right to replace your team with no refund of your deposit.

No team will receive their schedules until their fees have been paid in full.

GAME SCHEDULING are posted on www.libertyparkofamerica.com

If you have a specific date you cannot play, you must notify Liberty Park at the time of registration. We cannot guarantee requests, but will try to accommodate your team. No changes will be made to the schedules once they are printed.

ROSTER

Your completed Roster must be turned in to Liberty Park's office prior to the start of your first game. Every player on the Roster must sign the Waiver on the reverse side of the Roster. In the case of a minor child, a parent or legal guardian must sign the Waiver. No one will be allowed to participate who does not have a signed Waiver in Liberty Park's office.

Rosters must be turned in with complete information for each player. Coaches are responsible for the eligibility of the players on their Roster. In the case of a player's age being questioned, the Coach is required to provide proof of age within 48 hours of the game.

Roster Protest

Coaches must inform Liberty Park of a protest prior to the completion of the game. If for any reason the team being protested has not submitted a Roster, the protest will be upheld. No protests will be accepted after completion of the game.

Any team found playing an ineligible player would forfeit that game.

Any changes to your Roster must be made prior to the start of your third game.

BASIC REGULATIONS OF LIBERTY PARK

No alcoholic beverages are allowed in the dome or in Liberty's parking lot.

No smoking is allowed anywhere in the dome.

Absolutely no gum, chew, seeds or spitting are allowed in the dome. Violation of this rule could result in ejection from the dome. This rule is in effect to protect the Sprinturf field. The turf can be severely damaged as a result of violations of this rule so we ask for everyone's cooperation to maintain the field in its present condition.

Absolutely no fighting. *Fighting will result in immediate ejection from the dome and may result in ejection from the league.*

Absolutely no FOUL LANGUAGE. *It will result in immediate ejection from the dome and may result in ejection from the league.*

AWARDS

First place teams will receive 15 individual awards.

AGE ELIGIBILITY

Cutoff date for age eligibility is August 1, for all age groups 19 & under. Any player over the age of 19, the cutoff date will be January 1.

RULES

Home team must provide game ball. Each coach is allowed to bring two soccer balls into the facility to be used only on the field.

Teams U6 through U19 must have an adult (21 years of age or older) in the team box at every game.

Only players on teams playing a game are allowed on the field before the start of the game or at half time. The coach, assistant coach and manager are the only people other than players allowed in the player area.

Each team must wear the same color jersey. Numbered shirts are recommended, but not required. Goalkeepers must wear different color jersey than the playing field. Players can wear sweatpants, including the goalkeeper. Home team will change jerseys in case of same color uniforms.

SHIN GUARDS ARE REQUIRED!

GAME TIME

Facility will open one-half hour prior to game. Teams will not be allowed on the field until your scheduled game time and must be accompanied by a coach, assistant coach or manager. If you are unable to field five players within 10 minutes of the start of the game, the game will be forfeited. Team that shows will receive points for the standings and may use the field. Games will not be rescheduled. There will be no referees at forfeited games.

LENGTH OF GAME

The game will consist of two **25 minutes** halves with two minutes for half time. Teams may warm up prior to the game on the sidelines. Referee will stop clock in the event of a serious injury.

SUBSTITUTIONS ON THE FLY

Substitutions on the fly may be made as long as the player coming off the field has crossed the dotted kick-in line immediately in front of his own bench prior to the player coming on to the field of play. The goalkeeper may also be substituted without notifying the referee, providing the substitute goalkeeper is wearing a goalkeeper jersey. The game must not be delayed due to substitutions.

GUARANTEED SUBS

At all goal kicks, corner kicks and kick-ins.

Anytime the referee stops the clock.

When a time penalty is issued.

When a time penalty is being served, the offending team can only sub on the fly.

Last two minutes of the game, sub only on the fly.

Boys/Girls U11-U12-13, OffSides Rule

Because the dome's field is the same (official) size field used during outdoor play, all "outdoor" rules will apply for these age groups **only**.

THROW-INS

All teams will have throw-ins when the ball goes out of bounds.

FREE KICKS

Free kicks are either direct or indirect. The referee indicates an indirect free kick by raising his arm above his arms.

All opposing players must remain at least ten feet away until ball is kicked for an indirect free kick.

FOULS

An indirect kick is awarded for kicking, tripping, jumping at an opponent, holding, pushing, charging violently, striking and spitting.

A time penalty must be assessed at referee discretion.

A yellow or red card may be issued.

A two-minute time penalty will be assessed for all yellow cards and a five-minute time penalty for all red cards.

RED CARD RULING

Player sits out one game automatically on the first red card. A two game suspension will be given for a second red card or possible suspension from Liberty Park depending on the severity of the offense.

Any player given a red card for fighting and or retaliation will be suspended for the remainder of the year with NO REFUNDS. Any player leaving the bench area to join a fight will lead to an individual and/or team suspension with no refunds!

INTENT TO INJURE

Any player who intends to injure another is automatically given a five-minute penalty. The penalty is a full five minutes and is not shortened for any reason. Any player receiving two, intent to injure penalties in the last game of the season must sit out the next season.

Any player who throws a punch will be suspended for a minimum of the remainder of the season. If the incident occurs during the last game of the session, the player will be suspended for the next session.

TECHNICAL FOULS

All fouls for which a free kick is awarded plus a two-minute time penalty is given to the guilty player.

The following are considered technical fouls:

- 1) Intentionally or carelessly propelling the ball to the ceiling or light fixtures unless the ball is deflected.
- 2) Intentional dangerous play
- 3) Obstructing in an unsportsmanlike manner
- 4) Encroachment – MANDATORY TO GIVE 10 FEET TO ALL FOULS
- 5) Dissent (Minor)
- 6) Delay of game
- 7) Slide Tackling – MANDATORY TWO MINUTE PENALTY

BENCH PENALTIES

Misconduct from the bench (coaches, players or spectators), delay of game, illegal substitutions, and too many players on the field. Violations will result in a two-minute penalty. Any player may serve the bench penalty unless a specific player is deemed guilty of violation, in which case that player must serve the penalty. If a coach or non-playing person on the bench is yellow-carded, a player must serve a five-minute penalty and the person must leave the dome. If the individual refuses to leave the dome when ejected, the team will forfeit the game.

TIME PENALTIES

All penalized players must report to the referee's table and remain there until penalty is served. Failure to do so will result in a red card.

The time for all penalties will start at the moment the game has been legally restarted.

The player serving a two-minute time penalty shall return to the field of play at the time a goal has been scored against his time, if playing short. If an equal number of players from both teams are in the penalty box, no one will be allowed to return to the field as both teams were at equal strength.

A player serving a five-minute major penalty for an ejected player may return to the field when a goal is scored only if the ejection was for a red card due to an accumulation of penal time penalties. All other five-minute penalties must be served completely, no matter how many goals are scored against his/her team.

If a player is ejected for an accumulation of penal time penalties or for any reason and is guilty of further infractions before leaving the field, the full five minutes must be served no matter how many goals are scored against his/her team.

A player may receive more than two (2) minute time penalties at one time. (A player received a two minute time penalty and on his way to the box he dissent. He may then receive an additional two minutes for dissent). If a goal is scored against his team during his first two minutes, he MAY NOT return to the field. His second two minutes will start at the time the game has restarted. Again, this is only in effect if the team is playing short.

On a penalty kick, the guilty player may return to the field of play immediately after a goal has been scored DIRECTLY from a penalty shot even if the opposing team has a player in the penalty box.

If a team is playing two men short and a third player is sent to the penalty box, the third player's time shall not start until the first player's time has elapsed. The guilty third player must enter the box immediately and his team must put a substitute on the field. Remember, the guilty team must be two men short.

GOALKEEPER RESTRICTIONS

Goalkeepers have five seconds to distribute the ball after recovering from making a save. If the goalkeeper maintains possession of the ball for longer than five seconds, an indirect free kick shall be awarded from the penalty spot. The goalkeeper from U10 and up may not play the ball with their hands on any passback from the foot of a teammate. U8 and U9 goalkeepers CAN play the ball with their hands on any passback from the foot of a teammate.

U10 teams through U14 teams are allowed to have the goalies punt the ball. U15 teams and up must have the goalies play the ball from the ground, or a half-volley (when the ball takes a bounce before kicked), or can toss the ball with their hands. They are not allowed to punt the ball! U8 and U9 goal keepers may NOT kick the ball past mid field.

Time Penalties

Charged to the goalkeeper must be served by a teammate. The penalty may be served by a substitute off the bench. However, the team must play one man short. The penalty is not charged to the player who serves it, but is charged to the goalkeeper. The same rules are in affect on penalty and misconduct offenses for the goalkeeper as for other players.

POINT SYSTEM

Win	3 points
Tie	1 point
Loss	0 points
Forfeit	3points (+3 goals on score card for winning team)

TIE BREAKER

Winner of head to head competition (tie between two teams)

Team with most wins in the win column

Goal differential (between the tied teams)

Most goals scored for (between the tied teams)

Least goals scored against (between the tied teams)

Shoot out! (Between the tied teams)

ABUSE OF REFEREES

Verbal abuse of the referees by coaches, players or spectators will not be tolerated. Coaches are responsible for their spectators. Appropriate action will be taken based on each situation.

NUMBER OF PLAYERS

U8, U9 and U10 teams will play 6 V 6 on the small fields (5 players plus a goalie).

U11 teams and up play 8 V 8 on the full field (7 players plus a goalie).

COED PLAY

Play will be 8v8 with two 25 minute halves, two minutes for half time.

Teams must play 4 women and 4 men, a male must play goalie at all times. If a women scores a goal it will count as 2 points, if a male scores it will count as 1 point.

BASIC REGULATIONS OF LIBERTY PARK

NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED INSIDE THE DOME.
Anyone suspected of being under the influence of alcohol will immediately be ejected and the team could face a five-minute penalty.

NO SMOKING in the sports dome.

NO gum, chew, *seeds* or *spitting* are allowed in the dome.
Violation of this rule could result in ejection from the dome. This rule is in effect to protect the Sprinturf field. The turf can be severely damaged as a result of violations of this rule so we ask for everyone's cooperation to maintain the field in its present condition.

NO FIGHTING is allowed.
Fighting will result in immediate ejection from the dome and may result in ejection from the league.

Absolutely **NO FOUL LANGUAGE**
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Team Schedules and Team Standings
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GOOD LUCK TEAMS!
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