

2011
HK YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE
Official Rules

FIELD OF PLAY All games will be played at either Sheldon Park, the New Middle School, or Great Hill Park.

THE BALL All Divisions will use #4 size balls. PLAYERS & SUBSTITUTIONS 1) Each team shall have 11 players including a goalie (**dressed in a different color than the rest of the players on either team**). If a team does not have 11 players, the game shall be played by 10 vs. 10, 9 vs. 9, or 8 vs. 8 until enough players arrive. If a team does not have at least 1 sub, they may request the game be played 10 vs. 10. Game times are not to be delayed due to late arriving players. This can jeopardize the entire day's schedule of games.

Note: Coaches will determine at game time if teams will play 11 v 11, 10 v 10, or 9 v 9 based on the number of players each team has available. This can change as more players arrive during the game. Some divisions have small rosters and we will need to be flexible. **We strongly suggest that coaches try to play with smaller sided teams (i.e. 8v8, 9v9, 10v10).**

- 2) Substitutions are allowed only:
- a. on a goal kick
 - b. after a goal
 - c. after an injury
 - d. after a player has been disqualified (although the disqualified player shall not be replaced)
 - e. after a yellow card
 - f. on your own throw-in (*The opposing team may also sub, but only if the team with the throw-in elects to sub.*)
 - g. on your own corner kick (*the opposing team may also sub, but only if the team with the corner kick elects to sub.*)

PLAYER EQUIPMENT Only regulation soccer cleats or sneakers are allowed. **NO JEWELRY. NO PIERCED EARRINGS.** Shin guards must be worn during all practices and games.

REFEREES 1) Referees shall conduct a coin toss to determine who kicks-off. Winner gets choice of direction of kick-off. 2) All rulings by referees are final; there are no protests! Arguing with a referee can result in a forfeit of the game (referee shall rule on this).

LENGTH OF PERIODS 1) There shall be 2 periods:

Boys Division I - 30 minute periods
Boys Division II - 35 minute periods (*Note: with 5 teams, there will be 3 half games each Saturday*)

Girls Division I - 30 minute periods
Girls Division II - 35 minute periods

****NOTE:** Times may be reduced by coaches, if teams are shorthanded.

All games are running time.

- 2) 5 minutes maximum between periods.
- 3) Teams switch ends between periods.
- 4) No overtimes, tie scores stand.

THE START OF PLAY Ball must travel one revolution forward on the kick-off; and, after the kick-off the ball may be played by any player other than the person who kicked-off.

BALL IN & OUT OF PLAY The ball must be completely over a line to be a goal or out of bounds.

SCORING 1) A goal may be scored:

- a. from a direct free-kick.
- b. directly from a penalty kick.
- c. directly from a corner kick.
- d. directly from a drop ball.
- e. directly from a goalie throw, punt, or kick.
- f. *directly from a kick-off.*
- g. *directly from a goal kick.*

2) A goal may not be scored:

- a. from an indirect kick.
- b. directly from a throw-in.
- c. free kick into a team's own goal.

FOULS AND MISCONDUCT 1) Direct Free Kick shall be awarded for the following: tripping, kicking/kneeing, intentional hand ball, pushing, holding, violent charge, striking, jumping into. 2) Indirect Free Kick shall be awarded for the following: Goalie taking more than 4 steps with the ball, charging, dangerous play, unsportsmanlike conduct, and delay of game, obstruction, and illegal entry onto field.

Note: using one's hands to protect oneself from the ball, is an unintentional hand ball. There shall be no penalty for unintentional hand ball.

PENALTY KICK All players except kickers shall be outside penalty box. Goalie shall stand on the goal line and must remain stationary until the ball is kicked.

GOAL KICK A goal kick must travel outside the penalty area or it is re-kicked.

FREE KICK 1) Opposing team must be 10 yards from ball on a free kick. 2) Kicker may not kick the ball twice in a row.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE GOALKEEPER From the moment the goalkeeper takes control of the ball with the hands while playing as a goalkeeper within his/her own penalty area, he/she has **six seconds** in which to release the ball into play. The goalkeeper may take as many steps as he/she chooses within this time period.

Coaches and Referees are not allowed to use TOBACCO products at the game/practice site.

SPECIAL RULES

1. Charging a goalie who clearly has possession of the ball will not be tolerated. Offending player may be disqualified.
2. Coaches and assistant coaches may coach only in their respective team areas (bench area). No assistant coaches are allowed to be stationed at any other position around the field. *Exception: In Div. I – one (1) coach per team is allowed on the field to help position players.*
3. Both teams **must** line up at mid-field to shake hands with the opposing team at the end of each game. Coaches shall set the example by doing likewise with the opposing coach. Closely observe player to be sure proper sportsmanship is followed during hand shakes.
4. Unless otherwise noted, National Federation Soccer Rules will be observed. All interpretations and rulings shall be made by the Recreation Department.
5. Unsportsmanlike conduct during and after games will not be tolerated. Any player or coach, who does not act in a manner considered appropriate, will be suspended for a game or for the season, depending upon the infraction. We are particularly concerned about the following:
 - a) **Profane language**; during and after the game to the other team members, coaches, spectators and officials.
 - b) **Unnecessary roughness** (playing the boy/girl and not the ball), particularly when a team is behind and there appears to be no chance of winning.
 - c) **Arguing with the officials** (this includes players on the sidelines). All officials are volunteers, and should not have to put up with abuse from players or coaches.
6. Rules regarding playing time.
 - a) All players must play 1/2 of every game they are present for, unless:
 1. A player has missed more than 50% of their team's last four practices.
 2. If a player is not present at the start of a game.
All players must play at least 1/4 of every game, regardless.
 - b) If a team has 13 or more players present, no player may play more than 75% of the game. No player may play the entire game if his/her team has at least one sub.
 - c) if a team has a 4 goal lead in the 2nd half, they **MUST PLAY ONE PLAYER SHORT**. 5 goal lead: 2 players short, 6 goal lead: 3 players short, etc.
7. Remember, you are a role model for these children. **We want participation, learning, sportsmanship, and having fun to be your main emphasis.** At no time should you yell at the children in a demeaning manner. You will find that you will get much more accomplished in a softer spoken manner. The Recreation Department greatly appreciates the time and dedication of all volunteers, but reserves the right to terminate the services of anyone who does not project a positive image, as well as a good role model. **Coaches and referees are not allowed to use tobacco products at the game/practice sites.**