

Shedden Minor Soccer League Rules and Regulations

Amended April 2017

REGISTRATION

1. The players birth year shall determine the division he/she will play in for that season.
2. No player shall be registered until registrar has received signed consent from parent/guardian.
3. Upon making application for registration, each player shall pay to the individual club registrar a registration fee, which shall be determined yearly by the club.

TEAMS

1. It shall be the responsibility of the club to control the assigning of players to the various teams, taking into consideration as closely as possible:
 - a. Teams have equal number of players
 - b. Teams having equal playing talent
2. Players will be considered for transfer to a higher division, permanently for that year, if deemed appropriate by the Executive. Parent/Guardian consent must be obtained.

PLAYERS-GAMES

1. Every player shall, as practically as possible, be given fair playing time during each game. Coaches are expected to play all players to their full capabilities and encourage each player to broaden their skills. However, it is not in the best interest of a player if he/she is made to play 30 minutes, if he/she is only capable of handling 10 minutes. Complaints may only be initiated by a parent/guardian of the player not receiving sufficient playing time.
2. Players not appropriately dressed in team shirts will not be permitted to play in any scheduled game.
 - a. Players must wear numbered shirts and must have the same number all year.
 - b. Shirts must not exceed the length of the shorts.
 - c. In extreme weather conditions, the official referee may allow sweat pants to be worn.
 - d. Shin guards must be worn and must be covered entirely by the stockings.
 - e. Soccer shoes are recommended to be worn to give player good footing.
 - f. Goalkeeper shall wear different coloured shirt, to distinguish him/her from other players and referee. Keeper is allowed to wear hat, gloves, knee pads and sweat pants.
 - g. A player shall not wear anything dangerous to themselves or another player.
 - h. Exceptions may be made to the above for medical reasons upon league approval and a doctors' note. Soft headbands and religious head wear allowed if worn safely.

A player who is asked to leave the field of play because of defective or dangerous equipment may not re-enter the field of play until the referee is satisfied that the equipment is permissible.

3. Captain of each team must be identified to the referee.
4. Five minute halftime to be observed unless heat related Yellow and Red Policy override.
5. The duration of games are as follows:

U5 to U7	2 halves	20 minutes each
U8 +	2 halves	25 minutes each

6. The referee's permission to be obtained at all times for substitution. The referee can deny permission. Injury substitution – **only** the injured player **must** be substituted off the field.

7. U7+ - No one shall be allowed behind the end zone (complete width of field) during the game.
8. Micro/Mini field teams maximum number of players on the field at any time is seven (7) including the goalkeeper. There must be a balanced # of players per team on the pitch. Allow for appropriate substitutions.
9. Full field teams maximum number of players on the field at any time is eleven (11) including the goalkeeper. Games cannot be played with less than seven (7) players minimum to a team at any time during the game, including when a player leaves the field through injury or expulsion.
10. The game ball is to be provided by the Referee. The size of the ball is as follows:
 - size 3 U5 to U7
 - size 4 U8 to U12
 - size 5 U13 and over
11. In case of no referee showing up, the executive shall find a suitable referee.
12. Violation of any of the above regulations should be reported by the referee on the score card and brought to the attention of the Executive.

SPECIFIC PLAYING RULES

1. Specific Playing Rules apply to the age division in which you are playing in.
2. Referees should explain their calls to the player charged, especially in younger age divisions.
3. Hand Ball defined as follows:
 - a. If player deliberately handles the ball with any part of the arm from finger tip to top of shoulder, a direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team.
 - b. If player handles the ball for the purpose of preventing an opponent from gaining possession, it is a cautionable offence and a yellow card should be given.
 - c. If player handles ball to deny an obvious goal scoring opportunity red card should be given.
 - d. Hand ball should not be called if:
 - i. player is instinctively trying to protect themselves from injury.
 - ii. player did not deliberately touch the ball but the ball hit his/her arm and he/she did not move toward the ball; however, if the players arm is in an unnatural position (above shoulders or out to side) then he/she should be called for a hand ball.
4. U5 – U7 coaches: one for each team is allowed on the field during the game but they are not to be in the penalty/goal area during play. Coaches are to maintain a reasonable distance from the ball and not interfere with players or the play. An infraction shall result in an indirect free kick against the offending coach's team.
5. Starting at the U5 level, all coaching staff and players, from both teams, are to stay one (1) meter behind the sideline, one (1) meter on their side of centre and are to be on the opposite side of the field as the spectators. The Referee will not start the game until satisfied that all participants have complied.
6. U5+: one re-throw is allowed on a throw-in.
7. U5 – U7: time/steps not to be called on a goalkeeper who may put the ball into play either by place kicking, punting or throwing.
8. U5 – U7: there will be no penalty shots or direct kicks during the game.
9. U5 – U7: no offside rule to apply.

10. U5 – U7: on the taking of a goal kick, the complete opposing team is to line up at the centre line. Once the ball has been kicked the ball is then in play.
11. U5 – U7: goal kicks may be taken from anywhere in the goal area.
12. U8 and up: penalty shots will be awarded for infractions within the penalty area.
13. U8 and up: direct kicks will be awarded.
14. U8 and up: offside rule to apply.
15. U8 and up: goal kicks can be taken from anywhere in the goal area. The kick must clear the penalty area before it is in play.
16. U11/U12 full field corner kicks to be taken from corner of penalty area and goal line, regardless of field size. If this age division is playing on a mini field the mini field rules apply.
17. No intentional body contact.
18. A goal can be scored from within the goal area.
19. The goalkeeper cannot handle the ball outside the goal area, up to and including U7. For all other age divisions, the penalty area.
20. Ball is immediately “frozen” when the referee considers it “in possession” of the goalkeeper.

RULES & INTERPRETATIONS – DANGEROUS PLAY

1. If any player is in the vicinity of a dangerous high kick, a direct free kick will be awarded.
2. It is dangerous play if a person goes to their knees to head a ball in the vicinity of another player, a direct free kick will be awarded.
3. Any player kicking at a ball or making unnecessary contact with a goalie while it is being touched by the hands of the goalie should be called for dangerous play.
4. Slide tackling is dangerous. Slide tackling is not allowed on the mini fields. A direct free kick will be awarded to the opposing team. If the offence is committed inside own penalty area, a penalty shot is awarded to the opposing team.

FREE KICK INSIDE PENALTY AREA

Free kicks inside penalty area by the defending team: ball must leave penalty area before being played again or free kick is retaken (goal kick = free kick). No attacker is allowed in penalty area.

DISCIPLINE

1. Any player, coach, referee or league official under suspension from any other soccer league will not be allowed to play or hold any official position in the league.
2. Any spectator interfering with the game by verbal misbehaviour, shall be warned by the referee or by coaches present. Persistent verbal abuse and/or physical interference with the game, officials or players, shall be reported to the local police and Executive as soon as possible by the referee.

3. Misconduct by a player during a game will result in:

- a. First Offence – explanation and warning by referee
- b. Second Offence - explanation and official warning by referee (yellow card)
- any player U8 or higher who receives a yellow card must leave the field of play but can return on the next substitution. The player leaving the field can be replaced by another player. If no substitution possible that team plays short until next substitution.
- c. Third Offence - expulsion from the game (red card)
- report by referee on the game sheet, no substitution is allowed for the expelled player in the same game
- d. Flagrant Misconduct - immediate expulsion from game (red card) - no substitution allowed
- e. Spitting on or at a player is an automatic red card and the player must appear before the Executive before that player is allowed to play again. Spitting on hands prior to shaking is an automatic red card.

4. There should be no verbal intimidation toward your opponent or between players and the referee. Players may not call “my ball” or “mine”. Penalty is an indirect free kick.

- a. Any player expelled before, during or after a game is automatically suspended for the next league game. Any games in which a suspended player participated shall be forfeit. Player must be officially written up by referee:
- b. 1 red card = automatic next game suspension. This applies to pre-season, regular season and year end tournament games.
- c. 2 red cards = automatic 3 league game suspension plus review by the Executive which could result in a suspension for the remainder of the season.
- d. 3 yellow cards in a season = 1 game suspension.
- e. 2 yellow cards in a game = automatic red card
- f. The Executive may request a player appear before them at any time during the season. Failure to comply with this request will result in an indefinite suspension from the league.

5. Coaches shall not converse with referees during game breaks. Coaches are responsible for controlling their own fans. If they become abusive The Referee shall give the spectators a warning, with the assistance of the coaches. If the problem persists the game could be abandoned by the referee regardless of the score and time played. The Executive will rule on the outcome.

6. All disciplinary actions including the consequent correspondence, hearing, etc. shall be conducted by Executive.

7. All concerns/complaints/disputes brought to the Executive shall be settled by the Executive.

8. The Shedden Minor Soccer League shall operate by the IFAB Rule Book as the main rules body unless otherwise stated in this document.

STATISTICS

1. The referee shall provide, directly after game, score card to a designated executive member.
2. A referee meeting/clinic shall be held for all Shedden referees prior to season start for communication purposes and consistency of refereeing.
3. Coaches, Managers, Team Officials, Parents and Players must adhere to the Code of Conduct at all times and shall encourage the same attitude amongst all players and supporters.

Thank you for dedicating your time to promoting youth soccer.
We hope you have an enjoyable season.