

Ripon Youth Soccer League

11 on 11 Rules

Introductory Information for Coaches and Referees:

1. The primary goal of the Ripon's Youth Soccer League Program is to provide an enjoyable soccer experience for our children. Although the term "recreational" and "competitive" seem contradictory, we attempt to make our program both recreational and competitive. The stereo type of parents and coaches ranting and raving and hollering non-stop at players for mistakes they make should never become a part of our program. The last thing one of our boys or girls needs after missing a play is for someone to belittle them. Rather, I would encourage each of you (and you to encourage others also) to make it a priority to encourage your players and be as supportive as you possibly can. I believe it is also very important to point out that soccer is a team sport. One person does not win or lose a game. It's very important, for example, that we do not blame the goalie if we lose a game. All players are going to make mistakes. Unfortunately, when the goalie goofs, the other team usually scores.
2. Length of Games: Two 25-Minute halves with a 5-minute half-time. There will be no substituting during the last 5 minutes of a game. The referee will indicate that the game is into the last 5 minutes by blowing the whistle twice during a dead ball situation. At which time the coaches may substitute one last time. The only other time to substitute would be for an injured player only. If a player decides to come out, you will play a player down.
3. Number of Players: 11 players on the field at a time.
If a team cannot field a complete team at the beginning of the game, the opponent will also start with a man down. The opponent will not go two men down.
4. Playing time for players: Each player must; play in each half and for at least 10 minutes in each half. Note: This can be difficult to keep track of for some coaches, and you may wish to ask another person to help you keep track of this. In general, there should be no penalty in playing time for kids who can't make it to a practice. If absence from practice becomes a problem for you and your team, please talk this over with the parents involved.
5. Start of the Game: Referees should call the captain(s) to the center of the field for a coin toss about 5 minutes before game time. Winner gets choice of kickoff or which goal to defend in the first half; loser gets remaining choice. Teams will change goal and kickoff for the 2nd half.
6. Kickoff: Defending team must be 10 yards from the kicker (outside the 10yd center circle), and the ball must be kicked forward. It's best for 2 or 3 players to be near the ball so 1 can make a short pass to a teammate to maintain control of the ball. Simply kicking the ball down the field only gives control of the ball to the other team.
7. Position of referees: Diagonal on opposite sides and ends of the field. You are expected to follow every play and hustle to be in good position.
8. Referees: Sound your whistle loudly and indicate the call clearly. If needed, take time to explain the call to players who might not understand. Remember, courtesy by you will most often result in courtesy to you.
9. Goals: One referee should keep track of the time accurately (that is, to the second), while the 2nd referee should write down names of scorers on a 3x5 card (provided by the Director). Also, indicate the final score of the game clearly and give card to the League Director before you leave for the day.
10. Other responsibilities for the referees: Referees for the 1st games of the day are responsible to put up the nets for your field beginning 1/2 hour before game-time and referees for the

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last games of the day are responsible to take down the nets after the final games. Nets and stakes are stored in the building across from the public restrooms.

11. Any problems should be referred to the League Director.

Fouls/Free Kicks:

1. Direct free kicks (meaning a goal may be scored directly from this kick) will be awarded for the following infractions:
2. Intentionally kicking, striking or jumping at an opponent.
3. Intentionally tripping, pushing or charging an opponent.
4. Intentionally using one's hands to play the ball. Use of "hands" extends from the shoulder to the fingers. **Note:** every hand ball is **not** a foul. It is the referee's responsibility to determine whether the use of the hand was intentional or not. Girls are not allowed to protect their chest by crossing their hands in front of them. - New Rule 2002
5. Intentionally striking, pushing or tripping an opponent by the goalie.
6. Holding an opponent or an opponent's uniform. This includes placing a hand or hands on an opponent in an effort to play the ball.

Indirect free kicks (meaning that the ball must be played/touched by another player before a goal may be scored).

1. If the ball is played a second time by the kicker following a kickoff, a free kick, penalty kick, goal kick, corner kick, or by the thrower on a throw-in.
2. Offside call; obstruction call; dangerous play (e.g., a high kick in traffic); too many steps by the goalie (referees: be somewhat lenient on this one, give a warning first and then an indirect kick to the other team if the goalie abuse the rule in order to gain an advantage).
3. An indirect kick is awarded if a player kicks or attempts to kick the ball while it is in the goalie's possession. Possession is determined by the judgement of the referee.
4. An indirect kick is also awarded for the temporary suspension of play for an injury or unusual situation and 1 team has clear possession of the ball. If neither teams has clear possession, it is a drop-ball.

How are direct and indirect kicks taken?

1. Penalty kick is awarded when a foul which ordinarily results in a direct kick occurs within the penalty area.
2. Goalie must stand on the goal line and may only move laterally (from side to side) along the goal line before the ball is kicked. Kicker may only kick the ball after the referee blows the whistle.
3. Referee: step off 12 yards to designate spot for the penalty kick.
4. Time at the end of the half or the game may only be extended to allow a penalty kick. In this situation, only the one kick is allowed - no rebound.

Throw-ins:

1. Before a ball is ruled out-of-bounds, the entire ball must go over the line either in the air or on the ground. On the line or touching the line is not out-of-bounds. The player may be out-of-bounds when playing the ball, but it is the position of the ball that determines out-of-bounds.

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2. Referees: Insist on proper form and briefly explain the error to the player. (Ball must be released with both hands at the same time; both feet must be in contact with the ground at the time of release; ball must be released from behind the head.)

Offside Rule:

1. In general, the offside rule states that if you do not have the ball, you must have 2 opposing players between you and the goal line at the time the ball is played to you. But, there are several exceptions.
2. Offensive players in offside position are not offside on the first play after a throw in, a corner kick, a goal kick, or a drop ball.
3. Also, a player in an offside position is penalized only if, at the moment the ball is played by a teammate, that player is - in the judgment of the referee:
 - Interfering with or affecting the play or an opponent; or
 - Seeking to gain an advantage by being in that position.

Referees must caution players/coaches for use of vulgar and profane language or for berating an official. Players who use this type of language shall be substituted for immediately, but may return at the next legal substitution. Referees must report these incidents to the League Director.

Substitutions may be made on any whistle (special Ripon Rule), ball must be acknowledged by the referee.

Injures: Referees should immediately attend to all injuries; but , if an attack is in progress, one official should attend to the injured player while the other official continues to follow the play. Do not move an injured player or allow a coach or parent to do so until it is absolutely certain that it is safe to do so. If in doubt, call for the League Director and/or call 911 immediately.

Drop Ball:

1. Awarded when 2 opponents cause ball to go out-of-bounds simultaneously, when there is a double foul, or when no team has clear possession of the ball when play is temporarily suspended.
2. Drop ball is always taken outside the penalty area or 5 yards inside the sidelines or at the spot of the incident. Referee must drop the ball from waist level and ball must touch the ground before being played by either player. Violation will result in an indirect kick for the other team. (Ripon Rule).

Is the referee always right? Obviously not. Remember, they are doing their best; and generally they do as good a job. One thing to remember, a referee cannot call what he/she does not see - and referees obviously cannot see everything! Please be courteous to all officials - and I also expect them to be courteous to you as well.

Remember, we are here first of all for the enjoyment of the boys and girls we serve. Leave your egos at home and help the kids to enjoy this experience.

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Sports is a valuable experience for many young athletes who want to learn the game and enjoy the effort they put into it. Ripon Recreation wants to support the youth of our community in providing them a friendly environment to learn the skills of soccer and then display them to their parents on game day.

Parents and coaches have tremendous influence over athletes today. They need positive role models to follow; show them how to act in stressful situations and interact with others in a positive manner. This year guidelines are being put in place to help coaches, parents and athletes conduct themselves in a positive manner.

These are the guidelines:

1. Coaches and parents may encourage in a positive manner, your team, son or daughter.
2. Don't dwell on the outcome of the game, but see the positive in ones play.
3. Parents need to sit with their team. The team that is listed first will be on the East side and the team listed second on the schedule will be on the West side of the field.
4. No yelling at the officials, coaches or players, because this only models to your athlete that this is an acceptable behavior.
5. Coaches and Parents are not allowed to run onto the field of play during or after the game to tell the officials what you think.
6. Zero Tolerance will be enforced for bad behavior.

Consequences:

1. Parents will be removed from the field area if bad behavior is exhibited and suspended from the park for a minimum of one game.
2. Coaches that are Red carded during a game will be suspended from the current game and the next game. The coach and or parent will also have to referee a game before reinstatement. (see RED Card/ YELLOW Card. If an athlete/coach

Please remember that your children are here to play soccer and have FUN!

Rod Wright

Ripon Recreation Youth Soccer Director

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COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT

Ripon Parks and Recreation coaches are models whose behavior should serve as a positive example for their athletes. Their behavior should reflect a concern that the fairest and most positive competitive experience is equally available to every athlete in a competition.

The Coach has the unique opportunity to influence the development and personal growth of many individuals. For this reason, it is important that the coach adhere to the standards of ethical decision making and teaching. Recognizing this point, it is the position of Ripon Parks and Recreation the coach shall:

Respect for others:

- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of athletes, coaches, other volunteers, friends and spectators
- I will treat everyone equally regardless of sex, ethnic origin, religion or ability
- I will be a positive role model for the athletes I coach.

Ensure a Positive Experience

- I will ensure that for each athlete I coach, the time spent is a positive experience.
- I will respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each athlete.
- I will ensure each athlete competes in events that challenge that athlete's potential and are appropriate to that athletes' ability.
- I will be fair, considerate and honest with athletes and communicate with athletes using simple, clear language.
- I will ensure that accurate scores are provided for entry of an athlete into any event.
- I will instruct each athlete to perform to the best of the athlete's ability.

Act Professionally and take Responsibility for my Actions:

- My language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation will demonstrate high standards.
- I will display control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all involved in the sport (athletes, coaches, opponents, officials, administrators, parents, spectators, media, etc.)
- I will encourage athletes to demonstrate the same qualities.
- I will not drink alcohol, smoke or take illegal drugs while representing the City of Ripon at training sessions or during competition.
- I will refrain from any form of personal abuse towards athletes and others, including verbal, physical and emotional abuse.
- I will be alert to any form of abuse from other sources directed toward athletes in my care.

Quality Service to the Athletes:

- I will seek continual improvement through performance evaluation and ongoing coach education.
- I will be knowledgeable about the Sports Rules and skills of the sport(s) I coach.
- I will follow the National Governing Body rules for my sport(s).

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Health and Safety of the Athletes:

- I will ensure that the equipment and facilities are safe to use.
- I will ensure that the equipment, rules and environment are appropriate for the age and ability of the athletes.
- I will review each athlete's medical form and be aware of any limitations on the athlete's participation noted on that form.
- I will encourage athletes to seek medical advice when required.
- I will maintain the same interest and support towards sick and injured athletes.
- I will allow further participation in training and competition only when appropriate.

Should the behaviors and/ or abilities of any coach or other faction of your school/ organization be contrary to these principles or to the philosophies of Ripon Parks and Recreation, then one or more of the following steps may be taken by Ripon Parks and Recreation.

1. The coach may be notified by official warning of the undesirable behavior and be requested to remedy the situation for continued participation.
2. The coach may be requested to withdraw personally or with his/her team or player from the remainder of the event or season.

In the event of extreme or repeated behavior contrary the best interests of each athlete, Ripon Parks and Recreation may:

1. Ban the coach or organization from participation in any or all events for a specified period of time.
2. Ban the coach or organization from participation indefinitely.

Red/Yellow Cards

- Yellow cards will be accumulated through the competition, i.e., Pool play and Medal rounds. When an athlete receives a 2nd yellow card, he/she will be suspended from playing the next scheduled game.
- Athletes receiving a red will be suspended from playing the current game and the next scheduled game. If an athlete receives a total of (3) cards, a review of the official's report will be made to determine if the athlete should be expelled completely from the remaining competition.
- If a team coach is ejected from the game by the official, it will be considered a red card. The coach will not be allowed to coach the remainder of the current game and will be suspended from coaching the next scheduled game. The official will have the right to file a protest against the coach and it will be reviewed by the Protest committee for a decision.