

GLSA REGULATIONS

I. PLAYING SEASON

- A. There will be a spring and a fall playing season, with dates determined by the Board.

II. REGISTRATION

- A. For the purpose of G.L.S.A. Regulations, the Registrar is defined as the Director or any person so authorized by the Board of Directors.
- B. Age Limits: The age of a player shall be his age on August 1st of the calendar year in which the regular season began. For house league play, grade level as of September 1st will be used for placement on teams. Minimum Age is 4 years of age by January 1st for spring, and 4 years of age by August 1st for fall.
- C. Player divisions:
 - 1. Micro-Soccer
 - a. Preschool - Kindergarten
 - b. 1st grade
 - 2. Reduced Sided Soccer for 2nd grade
 - 3. Regulation Teams for 3rd grade and up
- D. All players will be assigned to the lowest grade level division for which a player qualifies.
- E. The grade level categories will apply in a given group (boys or girls) unless there is not sufficient registration to warrant it; then a fewer number of divisions may be formed on the basis of highest-grade level.
NOTE: The Board will be advised of any change in grade level divisions for the purpose of equality of teams.
- F. Any person is eligible to register in divisions according to grade level.
- G. No person may register without the following consent:
 - 1. Parent or legal guardian
 - 2. Registrar
- H. A person becomes an officially registered player only after acceptance of the registration/volunteer form by the Registrar.
NOTE: No boy or girl shall be allowed to participate in formal practice or game until officially registered.
- I. The playing of any person for whom the Registrar holds no duly completed registration form shall result in Forfeiture of all games in which said person has participated.
- J. Only players assigned to a team may participate.

III. COACHES AND REFEREES

- A. COACHES:
 - 1. Coaches shall be appointed to their teams only after consideration of the following:
 - a. No person shall perform in the position of Coach unless they are at least 18 years of age, or Five (5) years older than the oldest player on the assigned team.
 - b. Past coaching experience in youth organizations.
 - c. Any other pertinent credentials (i.e. parent, guardian, job, etc.)
 - d. G.L.S.A. or United States Soccer Federation trained.
 - 2. It shall be the duty of each coach to:
 - a. Abide by the Code of Ethics for Coaches as prescribed by G.L.S.A.
 - b. Coaches of both teams scheduled to play the first game of the day must arrange for individuals to pick up and put up the nets and corner flags, if that is necessary.
 - c. Coaches of both teams scheduled to play the last game of the day must arrange for individuals to take down and return nets and corner flags to the proper place as necessary.
 - d. Coaches must have at all practices and/or games the player's Medical Release Form.
 - e. Responsibility for equipment or supplies purchased by G.L.S.A. shall be that of the coach to whom issued.
 - f. Coaches shall be held responsible for the conduct of not only their players, but also of their assistants and parents.
 - g. A coach, parent, or player, may be brought before **Disciplinary Committee** his/her conduct. He/she may be suspended by the G.L.S.A. Board from further participation as a coach or player, or asked not to come to games.

B. Referees:

1. The selection of referees shall be the responsibility of the Director of Referees.
 - a. No person shall perform in the position of referee unless eleven (11) years of age or older.
 - b. All referees shall take the course offered by G.L.S.A. and pass a written test given by G.L.S.A., or be a U.S.S.F. certified referee.
2. Referees for G.L.S.A. competition shall be assigned by the Director of Referees, or his/her designee.
3. Referees shall, at all times, put great emphasis on the welfare and safety of the players, and officiate the game in compliance with the Laws of the Game.
4. All card able offenses must appear on the scorecard with the player's name/number, and reported to the Director of Referees.
5. Upon issuance of a red card to any member of a team, coaching staff, or parent, a written report must be submitted within 48 hours of the game to the Director of Referees.

IV. TEAMS

- A. Players shall be divided, whenever possible, into teams based on gender, grade level, and reasonable geographic proximity to each other.
- B. The number of teams to be formed in a division shall be formed after registration, by allocating a minimum number of players per team in each of the groups into which the players have been divided.
- C. The teams shall be put together by Director of Recreational and the GLSA staff.
 - . Teams shall be put together with the guidelines set in A above.
- D. When at all possible, each regulation team shall have a maximum of 15 players. The Director of Recreational may authorize team size to exceed 15 players.
- E. Four (4) teams shall constitute the minimum number required for competition within a grade level division.
- F. Registrants after team formations shall be placed on a random basis to teams with the fewest players at the discretion of the Director of Recreational.
- G. Team names shall bear no resemblance to a religion, nationality, or any other such organized group.
- HI. Teams shall participate only in games approved by G.L.S.A. Board.

V. COMPETITION

- A. GLSA shall publish an approved schedule of games.
- B. It shall be mandatory to play a regularly scheduled division/league game unless a valid reason for nonappearance is supplied in advance to the GLSA Recreational Staff.

NOTE: Advance notice shall be 7 days, unless there are unusual circumstances. The appropriate Director shall notify the Director of Referees, and the coaches, on any game changes.
- C. In the case of failure to play a regularly scheduled game, the offending team shall loose said game by a score of (1) to (0).
- D. In cases of foul weather or other extenuating circumstances, the GLSA Executive Director has the authority to postpone the games. His/her decisions shall be based on the conditions of the fields, or the extenuating circumstances. He/she must notify the Directors of Recreational, and Competitive and the GLSA President. The GLSA will then notify the coaches of the teams affected thru email contact. It is to be posted on the GLSA Main web page.

NOTE: Teams must report to the playing field ready to play unless previously officially notified. The penalty for failure to follow this rule is the same as in (C) above, forfeiture. Coaches must not assume the game has been postponed.
- E. In case of postponed games, the Directors of Recreational and the Executive Director have full authority to reschedule a game or games, provided that the rescheduling does not conflict with the Playing Season. The Director of Recreational and the Executive Director, shall arrange with the Director of Referees and all coaches effected. Coaches are not permitted to reschedule games without the approval of the Director of Recreational and the Executive Director.
- F. In the event a game is suspended because of conditions, which make it impossible to play, the Referee will declare it an official game if one complete half or more has been played:
 1. If less than one half has been played, the game shall be rescheduled as per (E) above.
 2. If suspended because an ejected player, coach, or parent refuses to leave the field as directed by, and to the satisfaction of the referee, the status of the game must be decided by Executive Director or the Director of Recreational.
- G. All registered players in attendance at league games participate and play at least three fourths (3/4's) of the game unless injured, suspended, or ejected from the game. In the event that a team size exceeds 14 players, then a player must play at least half (1/2) the game.

NOTE: It is recommended that over the course of the season, players play a variety of positions.

- H. The Director of Recreational or the Executive Director may request a physician's letter for any player in his area concerning that player's ability to play the game of soccer. In the event a physical or mental handicap is determined, an agreement in writing between the player's family, coach, and the Executive Director can be reached concerning the player's participation and playing time, and, at the discretion of the Board, the team may be permitted to add an additional player to its roster.
- I. No one shall enter the field of play unless authorized by the referee.
- J. No coach or non-participating player shall be within five (5) feet of the touchlines, nor shall they be allowed further than twenty (20) yards either side of the centerline. Coaching is allowed from one side of the field only. No one shall be behind the goal lines or the goal at any time.
- K. A fifteen (15) minute grace period will be allowed before a game is called because a team does not show up to play. Any team not ready after the grace period has expired shall forfeit the game (See C. above).

VI. INJURIES

- A. Any injury to, or damage caused by a G.L.S.A. participant shall be reported to the Director of Recreational and the Executive Director.
 - 1. Follow-up shall be the responsibility of either the Director or the Executive Director.
- B. Any player with bleeding or an open wound shall be handled in the following manner:
 - 1. Player shall be removed from field of play.
 - 2. Player shall be substituted for.
 - 3. Player may return after wound is treated, blood washed from skin and uniform, and at the discretion of the Referee.

VII. PROCEDURES FOR COMPLAINTS AND PROTESTS OF GLSA RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. Complaints:
 - 1. When a person wishes to file a complaint, such complaint shall be made in writing. All complaints shall be submitted to the Director of Referees, who shall forward them to the Executive Director
 - 2. Complaints involving misconduct of a coach, player, spectator, referee, or other persons involved with the organizations, must be made within seven (7) days of such occurrence.
 - 3. Complaints of any other type may be made to the Director of Referees at any time. He/she shall then forward them to the Executive Director, which shall take whatever action is deemed necessary.
 - 4. A complaint alleging misinterpretation of the laws and rules by a referee, when such misinterpretation of the laws and rules by a referee does not affect the outcome of the game, may be submitted in writing to the Director of Referees at any time.
- B. Protests:
 - 1. A protest of a game's outcome must be concerned with matters strictly related to the game in question; the situation being protested must have pertinently affected the outcome of that game as to won, lost, or tied status.
 - 2. Referee's judgment, where applicable, is not protest able.
 - 3. Only the team's coach, or assistant coach, in the coach's absence, may file a protest. (Remember you must inform the referee and the coach of The Other Team, of your intent to file a protest.)
 - 4. The protest must be submitted in writing to the Director of Referees within forty-eight (48) hours following the conclusion of the game.
 - 5. The Director of Referees shall render a decision upholding or denying the protest within five (5) working days, in writing, to both parties. Before rendering such decisions, the Director of Referees must consult at least two (2) other senior G.L.S.A. referees.
 - 6. The decision by the Director of Referees may be appealed to the Executive Director .
 - 7. Appeal procedure:
 - a. An appeal of the Director of Referee's decision must be filed ,in writing, no later than forty-eight (48) hours after receipt of that decision. The decision(s) of the Executive Director shall be final.

The Executive Director shall inform the President and the Secretary of G.L.S.A. that: Such a hearing has been held, a decision has been reached, as applicable, the reported score be upheld, altered, nullified, or amended, and the game should or should not be replayed.

VIII. CONDUCT

- A. The safety of all participants is the responsibility of all members.
 - B. If any player is insubordinate to their coach, involved in serious misconduct, or willful evasion of games or practices, he or she may be suspended from participation.
 - 1. After discussing the infraction with the player, the coach shall contact the parents and/or legal guardian. He or she shall also make a written note of first suspension to the Director of Referees.
 - 2. A coach has the right to not play a player in a game if that player missed practice without a legitimate excuse. If this is done, the coach shall send a note to the Director of Recreational.
 - 3. Should a player or team, for any reason, be expelled from G.L.S.A., no part of the fee shall be returned.
 - C. If any parent of a participant is involved in a serious misconduct, the coach of that participant's team shall be warned.
 - 1. If the misconduct persists, the referee has the right to ask that coach to leave the premises.
 - 2. If they refuse to leave, the referee may suspend the game, and the outcome determined by the Playing Rules Committee.
 - D. The referee shall enforce the G.L.S.A. Regulations and Rules, when required.
 - E. If a player, coach, or assistant coach receives more than three yellow cards at any time during the playing season (i.e. spring or fall), their actions shall be brought to the attention of the Disciplinary Committee by the Director of Referees. The Disciplinary Committee shall take appropriate action and report back to the Board.
 - F. If a player, coach, or assistant coach, receives a red card, their name shall be submitted in writing to the Director of Referees, along with a report on why the red card was issued. The Director of Referees shall forward said report upon receipt, to the Disciplinary Committee. Said committee shall decide upon the penalty to be issued, which can be a two game suspension or dismissal from the league.
- Note: Coaches are reminded to abide by the Code of Ethics for Coaches as prescribed by G.L.S.A. (see Article III., sec. A.3.)

GLSA PLAYING RULES - EXCEPTIONS TO F.I.F.A.

The G.L.S.A. Playing Rules shall be governed by the Federation International de Football Association (F.I.F.A.) laws, except for the Amendments noted after the law listed below. Current F.I.F.A. rulebooks will be issued to Referees and Coaches by G.L.S.A. as part of their annual training clinic.

LAW I. - FIELD OF PLAY

- A. On fields of sub-standard width, there shall be a distance of three (3) yards from each touchline to the sideline of the Penalty Area.
- B. No coach or non-participating player shall be within five (5) feet of the touchlines; nor shall they be allowed further than twenty (20) yards either side of the centerline. Coaching is allowed from one side of the field only. No one shall be behind the goal lines or the goal at any time.

LAW II. - THE BALL

- A. The sizes of the ball shall be as follows:
 - 1. Size 3 . . . Grades Preschool through 2nd
 - 2. Size 4 . . . Grades 3rd through 6th
 - 3. Size 5 . . . Grades 7th, 8th, and 9th
 - 4. In the event of a crossover of grade levels, the larger size ball shall be used.

LAW III. - NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- A. Preschool and Kindergarten. . . Team size 10 players (Play 3v3 – split teams, two games are played simultaneously)
- B. 1st Grade Team size 10 players (Play 6v6) One of whom shall be a goal-keeper
- C. 2nd Grade Team size 10 players (Play 6v6) One of whom shall be a goal-keeper
- C. 3rd-4th Grade Team size 10 players (Play 6v6) One of whom shall be a goal-keeper
- D. 5th/6th Grade Team size 12 players (Play 8v8) One of whom shall be a goal-keeper
- E. 7th/9th Grade regulation teams . Team size 15 players (Play 11v11) (Minimum to start 8)
The Vice-President of Recreational having the authority to increase team size.

- F. Players arriving late will only be allowed on the field at the discretion of the referee.
- G. Substitutions will be made between quarters or at the discretion of the referee.
- H. In Microsoccer, in the event that a child becomes uncooperative, upset, or too tired to play, it shall be the referee's discretion to permit a coach to sub for his player at the next dead ball situation. The coach will notify the referee that he has a "little kid substitution", and the referee must acknowledge the request prior to making the substitution.

LAW IV. - PLAYERS EQUIPMENT

- Note: All players are required to wear shin guards, and stockings must cover shin guards.
- A. In cold weather, players may wear sweat pants. Team jerseys should be worn over all outer garments. Players may wear knit caps.
 - B. INJURY - Open Wounds - See G.L.S.A. Regulations VII.

LAW V. - REFEREE - As per F.I.F.A.

LAW VI. - LINESMAN

- A. When linesman are not assigned to a game, the referee shall cause the selection of two (2) linesman and they

they shall not have full linesmen's duties.

LAW VII. - DURATION OF GAME

- A. Grade level Preschool and Kindergarten Seven (7) minute quarters
- B. Grade level 1st Ten (10) minute quarters
- C. Grade levels 2nd Twelve minute and thirty seconds (12:30) quarters
- D. Grade levels 3rd and 4th Fifteen (15) minute quarters
- E. Grade levels 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th. Fifteen (15) minute quarters
- F. In the event of an age or grade level crossover, the games shall be played in accordance with the upper grade level.
- G. Half-time rest period shall be five (5) minutes, with two (2) minutes between quarters.
- H. The referee shall be responsible for the official time.

LAW VIII. - START OF PLAY

- A. After the quarter, the ball will be put in play at the point play was suspended. Exception is at the beginning of the 2nd half (3rd quarter).

LAW IX. - BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY - As per F.I.F.A.

LAW X. - METHOD OF SCORING - As per F.I.F.A.

LAW XI. - OFF-SIDES

- A. Preschool, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade will not play with off-sides unless the referee determines that a player has been coached to do so.

LAW XII. - FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

- A. In Preschool, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade, all free kick fouls will result in indirect free kicks.
- B. In all girls' divisions, the girls are allowed to cross arms and hands firmly against the body, in the wall, before the ball is kicked.
- C. When a player is sent off the field after receiving a Red Card, he/she shall not play in the next scheduled game, subject to review by the Playing Rules Committee.

LAW XIII. - FREE KICKS

- A. In Preschool, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade, all free kick fouls will result in indirect free kicks.
- B. In all girls' divisions, the girls are allowed to cross arms and hands firmly against the body, in the wall, before the ball is kicked.

LAW XIV. - PENALTY KICKS - As per F.I.F.A.

LAW XV. - THROW-IN

- A. Preschool, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade will not be penalized for throw in violations.

LAW XVI. - GOAL KICK

- A. Preschool, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade goal kicks will be taken from a spot 3 yards from the goal line; opposing players should retreat 3 yards from the spot where the goal kick is being taken. The ball is in play once it has traveled one full circumference.

LAW XVII. - CORNER KICK - As per F.I.F.A.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR COACHES

- I will treat each player, opposing coach, official, parent, and administrator with respect and dignity.
- I will acknowledge in my behavior and language that the GLSA exists for the children first, and a life of soccer second.
- I will, in all circumstances, teach and model good sportsmanship winning with grace and losing with dignity.
- I will base playing time decisions on individual player development and learning, not winning.
- I will do my best to learn the fundamental skills, teaching and evaluation techniques, and strategies of soccer.
- I will become thoroughly familiar with the rules of soccer and teach them to players and parents.
- I will become familiar with the objectives of GLSA and will strive to achieve these objectives and communicate them to my players and their parents.
- I will uphold the authority of officials who are assigned to the contests in which I coach, and I will assist them in every way to conduct fair and impartial competitive contests.
- I will learn the strengths and weaknesses of my players so that I might place them into situations where they have a maximum opportunity to achieve success.
- I will plan and conduct my practices and games so that all players have an opportunity to improve their skill level through active participation.
- I will communicate to my players and their parents the rights and responsibilities of individuals on our team.
- I will cooperate with the administrator of our organization in the enforcement of rules and regulations, and I will report any irregularities that violate sound competitive practices.
- I will protect the health and safety of my players by insisting that all of the activities under my control are conducted for their psychological and physiological welfare, rather than for the vicarious interests of adults.