

## **WCASA Laws of the Game**

(Revised 4/2017)

Note: The WCASA Laws of the Game, Revised March 2017, is a companion document to the WCASA Team Procedures. In addition to WCASA Laws of the Game, the companion document identifies classes of infractions and penalties for the different classes. These two documents together will be used to facilitate and regulate the playing of WCASA league games.

All WCASA league games will be played according to current F.I.F.A. laws with the following exceptions or additions.

### **FIFA LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY**

The first team listed on the schedule is designated as the home team.

### **FIFA LAW 2 – THE BALL**

Each team must provide a designated suitable size 5 game ball.

### **FIFA LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

Minimum age and sex requirements are as follows:

- a) Women's teams: All players must be female and 18 years old or older.
- b) Men's teams: All players must be male and 18 years old or older.
- c) Age appropriate divisions – player must turn that age by end of calendar year.

For Coed 11 aside there must be a minimum of 7 players to begin the match. A team may have a maximum of 5 men and 5 women on the field of play at one time with a keeper of either gender.

The Game Report will be completed prior to the game and must include the pre-printed first and last name and date of birth of each player that will participate in the game.

Any players playing on Modified Age Division teams will be designated with an asterisk.

The Game Report and a valid Whatcom or Unlimited player card for each player listed on the game report will be collected by the referee prior to the game.

No game report – team cannot play and the game stands as a 0-1 loss.

Late arriving players for whom the above procedure has not been completed may not play in the game until a stoppage of play occurs. At this time the player card will be presented to the referee. At the conclusion of the game, the referee will note on the game report the score, cautions, and ejections. The referee will turn both game reports in to the WCASA box at the end of the game. In case of a Red Card the referee is to put the game report into the WCASA drop box at the P66SP, along with the player card. The WCASA Administrator will arrange for the return of the ejected players card via the clear drop box at the P66SP Soccer Park in time for the ejected player to play in the first game for which they are next eligible to play in. Should a referee find it necessary to eject a player for actions or words occurring after the player cards have been returned to a team, and should the card(s) not be surrendered to the referee upon request, then notification of the facts to the Judicial shall be sufficient to cause imposition of penalties in addition to those ordinarily warranted by actions or words.

Substitutions are allowed under the following circumstances:

- a) Unlimited substitutions maybe made by either team at half time.
- b) Unlimited substitutions as per FIFA Rules, with referee's permission at any stoppage of play.
- c) A player who has been replaced may re-enter the game, with the referee's permission.
- d) The goalkeeper for either team may, with the referee's permission be substituted at any stoppage of play.
- e) Cautioned players must leave the field and may be replaced.
- f) Injured players may be replaced during stoppage of play. The opposing team may substitute a like number of players at that time.

#### FIFA LAW 4 – THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT

Teams will wear uniforms of matching color. Players in violation of this will be asked to change their jersey.

Players should have an alternate jersey in the event of a color conflict. Alternate jerseys need not be numbered.

Players may wear soft caps, soft padded helmets, gloves, and leotards so long as they are not confusing with the uniforms of the opposing team, and provided that they are not being used for unfair advantage at the discretion of the referee. No baseball caps allowed,

All Jewelry must be removed or completely covered.

No player shall play while wearing a cast or hard splint of any construction. Braces may be worn however the hinge of knee braces must be covered.

All players must wear shin guards completely covered by long socks (cloth type shin guards included).

#### FIFA LAW 5 – THE REFEREE

The referee's judgment and discretionary rulings on the field of play in all cases will be final and no protest will be allowed.

#### FIFA LAW 6 – THE ASSISTANT REFEREE

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 7 – THE DURATION OF THE MATCH

Eleven aside matches shall consist of two 45-minute halves with a 5-minute half time.

All games must be played at the scheduled time and place.

If a game is late in starting, except for a referee delay, each half will be shortened at the discretion of the referee.

A fifteen-minute grace period may be requested. At the end of the grace period if you do not have a legal team (7 players) a forfeit will result. The grace period will be considered a late start. The A forfeit game will be scored at 3-0.

Any team leaving the field of play prior to the completion of the match shall forfeit the match.

#### FIFA LAW 8 – THE START AND RESTART OF PLAY

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 9 – THE BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 10 – THE METHOD OF SCORING

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 11 – OFFSIDE

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

Slide tackling shall not be allowed in any division and will be considered dangerous play.

All tackles must be made standing up.

\*\*\*Whereas, in all leagues under the rules of WCASA, any “slide tackle” shall be judged as dangerous play. If any player is judged to have committed an offence by challenging for the ball in a dangerous manner (slide tackle) and DOES NOT otherwise commit a foul against his/her opponent ~ and in doing so denies his/her opponent an obvious goal scoring opportunity, the resulting restart shall be an INDIRECT free kick from the spot of the infraction. In judging an obvious goal scoring opportunity, the referee should refer to FIFA criteria for judging DOGSO (Distance to goal, distance to ball, direction and number of defenders). If, in the process of the tackling his/her opponent in a dangerous manner (slide tackle), the offending player also commits a foul that would normally result in a direct free kick restart, the more serious of the two offences takes precedence and the restart shall be a direct free kick (or penalty kick if the foul occurs within the penalty area).

No player shall make contact with the goalkeeper as he/she attempts to bring the ball under control while in the penalty area (18-yard box)

- a) If contact occurs or is considered unavoidable by the referee play is to be stopped and an indirect kick awarded to the defending team.
- b) The referee shall warn the offending player verbally of the no contact rule.

- c) If the same player commits a second infringement, they shall be shown a yellow card for unsporting behavior. Any further infringement would result in another yellow card being issued.

In the event of the issuance of an ejection (red card), the offending player shall immediately surrender his/her player card (if they have not done so) and immediately leave the soccer field facility. In the event a red card is issued in a coed game, the gender ejected must play short.

Any Player receiving a yellow card must be subbed out until the next legal substitution.

#### FIFA LAW 13 – FREE KICKS

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 14 – THE PENALTY KICK

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 15 – THE THROW-IN

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 16 – THE GOAL KICK

As per FIFA

#### FIFA LAW 17 – THE CORNER KICK

As per FIFA

#### SPECIAL SEVEN ASIDE RULES

There must be a minimum of 5 players to begin the match

Unlimited substitutions may be made on the fly at a location close to halfway line. Referee permission is not required.

The match shall consist of two 40-minute halves with a 5-minute half time.

Drop Kicks / Punt Kicks must be thrown.