

Rules and Procedures

Revised 07/26/2018

I. GENERAL

Colorado Springs Soccer Club (CSSC) is a recreational adult soccer league for men and women. The purpose of the league is to promote and support adult soccer play in a friendly and family-like environment in the Colorado Springs area. FIFA and USSF rules govern CSSC play, except as amended by these rules.

II. Authorities and Responsibilities

The rules contained herein shall govern Members of this association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution and/or Bylaws of this association.

III. **CSSC WEB SITE** - CSSC operates a web site at <http://www.cosasl.com> The web site provides information on schedules, scores, standings, teams, rules and it is updated pretty regularly. For day to day information on league operations, all managers and players should join CSSC on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/ColoradoSpringsSoccerClub>

IV. PARTICIPATION

- A. Players and coaches joining CSSC must follow any additional guidelines found within these Rules and Procedures
- B. Membership in the CSSC implies a waiver of all legal recourse against the CSSC Executive Board and designated officials for bodily injuries sustained on the playing field, travel to and from the playing field, or while attending authorized games, above the provisions of any insurance provided by the CSSC.
- C. Individual medical insurance is not available through the CSSC.
- D. Anyone may enter a team in the League on approval of the CSSC. Exceptions may be invoked by the Board, or its designated agent(s).
- E. **PRE SEASON MEETING:** CSSC will host a preseason meeting roughly 1 month prior to an upcoming season. This meeting is mandatory for all managers as this is where we will discuss upcoming season information. If the manager cannot attend, they may send a representative to this meeting. Managers who attend will have first priority for scheduling requests
- F. **REGISTRATION:** All teams and players must register with Colorado Adult Soccer Association (CASA) at <https://soccercasa.com>. There are separate fees for CASA registration. Teams are also required to register with CSSC through our website.
 - 1. A player must complete all necessary procedures at least one (1) day before his/her first game.
 - 2. A member team shall have at least eleven (11), and not more than twenty-two (22) properly registered players.
- G. **TRANSFERS:** Transfer to another team is made through the CASA web site with the following limitations:

1. Players should have consent from both managers before transferring.
2. Only one (1) transfer per seasonal year will be permitted except upon proof of special individual hardship.
3. No transfers will be permitted to a team with two (2) or less games remaining on its regular season schedule.

H. AGE LIMIT:

1. No player under the age of 18 shall be allowed to participate in CSSC games.
2. If a Division has an age specification (e.g. Over 35)
 - a) no player more than 5 years younger than the specified age may play in that division
 - b) no team may play any game with more than 2 players aged 1-5 years younger than the specified age

I. ROSTER : All teams are required to provide two team rosters at the beginning of each game, one for the referee and the other for the opposing team. If your player did not upload a picture during registration, coaches will be allowed to upload the picture. To upload, log into the CASA system and click on the player. Click on "upload a new picture for this player". You must have the picture on your cell phone or computer before starting this process. If you can't get it done, please email the league commissioner. Players that do not upload a picture may use their temporary pass (emailed CASA receipt) and Government ID until that **Sunday at midnight**. After that time, they are suspended until we get a picture.

J. In addition to being listed on the team roster as a coach, any coaches who are playing must also be listed in the players section of that roster.

K. CLUBS: A club must have the same name as the other members of the club, for example Hustlers FC (M-1), Hustlers United (M-2), and Hustlers Sporting (O-35).

1. Club teams may bring players for their other teams to play. The following restrictions apply:
 - a) There is an overall restriction of bringing at most 3 players from other club teams.
 - b) No players may play down more than one division.
 - c) No players may play down to an age limited division
 - d) within that overall limit there is a further restriction that a club may bring at most 2 players total from higher and/or equal division club teams.
2. players may not play up or down during the playoffs
3. players playing up or down may only play in one game a weekend
 - a) players can not play in two games for different teams on the same day.

- b) players can not play for different teams in both a Saturday game and a Sunday game on the same weekend.

If a club brings a player in, they must provide the center official and the opposing manager rosters of all players playing. For example if Hooligans FC brings a player from their second division team to play, they must have Hooligans FC and Hooligans FC Saints rosters provided.

V. FEES

- A. The fee for a season will be established by the executive board. The board may include a discount for teams participating in the manager's meeting.
- B. A team that has not paid all fees and fines from a prior season shall not be allowed to register.
- C. Fall and Spring Payment Schedule
 - 1. A non refundable \$200 deposit is due on or before the "schedule date" announced at the pre-season meeting.
 - 2. The balance of the fee is due by 5:00pm on the Wednesday following the team's first game of a season
 - 3. Penalties
 - a) a late fee of \$100 will be assessed if a team does not pay its registration by the due date
 - b) a team may be removed from the schedule if it does not pay the due balance of its registration plus late fee by one week after the due date
- D. Summer Schedule
 - 1. Payment in full will be due by 5:00pm on the Wednesday following the team's first game of a season
 - 2. a late fee of \$50 will be assessed if a team does not pay its registration by the due date
- E. REFUNDS - Once entered on the schedule, no team shall receive a refund for any reason. Refunds to players during the season are the responsibility of the team managers.

VI. SCHEDULE

- A. The club reserves the right to adjust divisions for the good of the competition.
- B. The club will make its best effort to honor a request for a bye week
- C. The club will, if possible, honor a request for a second bye week
- D. The club will, if possible, honor requests for specific times and locations

- E. The club will not make any changes to the schedule subsequent to one week after the schedule is published

VII. MAKEUP GAMES, CANCELLATIONS, RESCHEDULING, FORFEITS, AND PENALTIES

A match is considered official once the 1st half has been completed.

- A. If play must be halted after the start of play, but before the half is complete, the CSSC scheduler will make every attempt to reschedule the shortened game. However, if field, weather or other situations preclude timely rescheduling, the game may not be replayed. If this occurs, the score standing will be used as the final score of the game.
- B. Cancellation owing to weather related unplayable conditions
 1. The President or his designee(s) are responsible for checking field and weather conditions each morning before scheduled games to determine whether the conditions permit the game(s) to be played. Any cancellations by the club will be posted on the club website and/or facebook page at least 2 hours before game time.
 2. At game time the referee shall have the discretion to delay the start or postpone the game due to weather or field conditions At game time the referee shall have the discretion to delay the start or postpone the game due to weather or field conditions.
- C. A game in progress may be temporally suspended or abandoned by the referee for reasons of unsafe weather or field conditions. A game that is abandoned during or after half-time will be considered complete and official.
- D. Rescheduling –
 1. The club will reschedule cancelled games within a day of the cancellation taking into account the schedule preferences.
 2. Should circumstances, change, two teams may mutually request a game be rescheduled to a specific date and time at least 10 days (5 days if due to a club reschedule) in advance.
- E. Forfeits –
 1. Failure to have a minimum amount of players show-up will result in a forfeit for that team. Referees will allow a ten minute grace period from posted start time to field a team. Forfeits are highly discouraged and every effort should be made to play the game.
 2. In the event that neither team shows up for a scheduled game and the referee rules the grounds playable, then both teams shall forfeit and be assessed a loss. The referee’s judgment with regard to the physical condition of the field and severity of weather shall not be challenged.
 3. A team using a an illegal player shall be assessed a forfeit that game
 4. The score of a forfeited game shall be recorded as 3-0.
- F. Penalties –
 1. A team that fails to present two copies of the roster for a game will have the points earned in that game deducted from their total playoff points.

VIII. POST SEASON

- A. There will be a 2-team playoff at the end of the regular season in all divisions that have 3, 4, or 5 teams. There will be a 4-team playoff at the end of the regular season in all divisions that have 6 or more teams.

1. In a 4 team playoff, the 1st place team will play the 4th place team and the 2nd place team will play the 3rd place team. The winner of these games will play in the division championship game.
 2. In a 2 team playoff, The 1st place team will play the 2nd place team in the division championship game.
- B. In case of point ties, the tie will be broken in this order:
1. Head-to-head competition
 2. Goals against
 3. Goal difference
 4. Least amount of red-cards received
 5. coin toss
- C. A team that has not paid its fees (including late fees) shall not be eligible for playoffs
- D. A team that has forfeited one or more games shall not be eligible for playoffs
- E. Should a qualifying team be unable to compete in the playoffs at the scheduled time, that team shall be replaced as follows:
1. in the semi-finals of a 4 team playoff, the fifth place team will replace the team that is unable to compete and the semi-finals will be reseeded
 2. in the finals of a 4 team playoff, the team that is unable to compete shall be replaced by the team that lost to them in the semi-finals.
 3. in a 2 team playoff, the 3rd place team shall replace the team that is unable to compete
- F. All league rules will remain the same with the exception of games ending in a tie. At this point the teams will play 2 x 5 min overtime with NO golden goal. If still tied, the deadlock will be resolved by kicks from the mark.

IX. FIELDS

There is no beer, smoking, or any illegal substances allowed on school property. Please monitor your players AND FANS for this concern.

There are NO DOGS allowed at any field, due to contracts with the individual fields. The club will require all Managers and Referees to stop any game (suspend play) where there is an illegal dog present, until the dog is removed. Even if a bystander stops to observe the game, the managers/refs will also ask the bystander to leave with the dog, due to the conditions of the contract.

Teams are expected to leave fields as neat as when they arrive

Teams playing the final game of the day at James Irwin will move the goals to the north side of the field and secure them with the provided chain and lock.

X. ASSIGNER

- A. The club will contract with a USSF certified assigner or company to assign officials to games
- B. Additional responsibilities include:
 1. correcting crews after games

2. approving game incident reports
3. generating referee payroll at the end of the month and informing the treasurer

XI. OFFICIALS

- A. The diagonal system of control (three-referee) will be utilized.
- B. For Summer Coed League, the dual system of control (two-referee) will be used.
- C. United States Soccer Federation certified Referees/Assistant Referees will be utilized to the maximum extent.
- D. If only one referee is available at game time, upon common agreement of both team managers, he/she may appoint "club" linesmen from available spectators.
- E. If only two officials are available at game time, the referee will appoint a linesman from available spectators if possible. If not, the officials will utilize dual system of control .
- F. If no referee is available, the team managers upon common agreement can obtain qualified individuals to officiate. If both teams agree to play in either circumstance the game is considered official. If either or both team managers/captains request the game be postponed, it will be rescheduled in accordance with current policies
- G. The referee shall have full responsibility and authority over the game and game participants (including team coaches and managers) on and in the immediate area of the field as proscribed in the FIFA Laws of the Game and Guide for Referees as modified in below.
- H. The game officials shall verify that all player pass cards are validated and cross-reference them to the rosters submitted by the team managers prior to the start of each game. A player(s) without a valid pass will not be allowed to play unless he/she is in possession of a letter signed by the President giving express permission to play in that match. (Note: The referee should attach the letter(s) to the game report.) Discrepancies can result in a forfeiture of game and all penalties will be carried out as defined in the playing rules Section.
- I. When checking in players, the referee may require government issued ID to assure players meet club participation requirements.
- J. Cancelled games and referee fees
 1. the referees shall not receive fees if their games are cancelled by the club at least 2 hours before the start of the game owing to inclement weather or unplayable conditions and such cancellation is noted on the club web site and/or facebook
 2. Should the referees declare a field unplayable, they will be paid for that game, but not for any subsequent unplayed games on that field on that day.

XII. PLAYING RULES

- A. Rosters are due to the officials no later than 10 minutes prior to kickoff.
- B. CHECK IN: Both teams shall provide two rosters and be checked-in prior to the game by the Referee or Assistant Referee. Players without a valid picture will NOT be allowed to play, with the exception of players with a temporary pass. Players not on the printed roster are not considered registered players and therefore cannot play.
- C. Uniforms:
 1. Each team will wear uniforms of reasonable appearance so as to uphold the appearance of the league.
 2. No jerseys will be permitted that do not match in color or style. Appropriate judgment will be used by the officials in regard to varying shades.

3. Uniforms with numbers matching the players number on the team roster (Non conflicting on the same team) are mandatory.
4. Where colors of uniforms are similar, the home team (listed first on schedule) must, within fifteen (15) minutes, effect a change of colors which are distinct from those of the opponent. A team's alternate jerseys must be of the same color but will not be required to display a player number.
5. Shin guards are mandatory

D. Corner flags/Cones

Each team will be required to bring either two corner flags or two traffic cones at least 8 inches high to each game and to place them in position.

XIII. DEVIATIONS FROM FIFA AND USSF LAWS OF THE GAME

Unless otherwise indicated here, all Laws of the Game as prescribed in FIFA's sanctioning bodies' rulebooks will apply to all CSSC matches.

LAW 1: THE FIELD OF PLAY: Local conditions may mandate use of non-standard or sub-optimal fields.

Law 3: NUMBER OF PLAYERS: Teams consist of 11 players. A minimum of 7 players is required to start a game.

For Coed Leagues, teams must maintain a minimum of 2 female players on the field at all times. Teams must not have more than 6 male players (including goal keeper) on the field at any time. If a team only has 4 female players they will play with a player down. This will continue until they drop below the required 2 female players, at which time the game will be terminated and a win will be awarded to the opposing team.

Free-substitutions are permitted for both teams if the substitute is already present at the midfield area prior to ball leaving play with the following stipulations:

- On either team's goal kick, or goal scored
- On a own team's throw-in or corner kick
- On the opposing team's throw-in or corner kick provided the team in possession also substitutes
- If play is stopped pursuant to an injury, players on either side may substitute
- For a yellow card only the carded player may be subbed although not mandatory

LAW 7: DURATION OF THE MATCH: If weather or field conditions mandate, and with the concurrence of both involved coaches, matches may be shortened from the normal 45 minute halves. Half time may not exceed 10 minutes.

MISCELLANEOUS: There shall be no sliding tackles in Summer Co-Ed leagues

XIV. DISCIPLINE

- A. Player Conduct - Players are responsible for fair, sportsmanlike and polite behavior at all times. NO fighting will be tolerated. Foul, vile or vulgar language will not be used on the field either toward other players or to yourself in general. Referees are instructed to card offenders. Any fight will result in immediate one-year suspension without a refund to whoever throws the first punch. All other individuals who get involved in a fight will be also suspended for at least six months but this according to managers and witnesses' reports. Referee abuse will not be tolerated. Assault includes the following acts committed upon a referee: hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting at, or on, grabbing, stepping on, or running into a referee; the act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury, damaging the referee's uniform or personal property. Referee abuse is also defined as a verbal attack or physical approach that implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment. Verbal threats are remarks that carry the implied or direct threat of physical harm. Threats such as: "I'll get you after the game" or "You won't get out of here in one piece" shall be deemed referee abuse. Commission of any of the preceding acts will carry a 6 month to one-year suspension from CASA.
- B. Suspensions – An accumulation of three yellow cards will carry a 2-game suspension. A red card issued carries a minimum 2-game suspension. Once the suspension has been fulfilled a \$20 fee is required to reinstate the player's card.
- C. Suspensions, fines, and required sitouts all carry over to the next season
- D. Treasurer Responsibilities
 1. The treasurer will enter all red and yellow cards on the CASA web site
 2. For all suspensions, the treasurer will
 - a) enter suspension
 - b) inform player by e-mail of the requirements for reinstatement (cc team manager)
 - c) keep track of payments and sit outs
 - d) reinstate player once sit outs and fine payment have been completed
 3. Coordinate the Disciplinary Committee
- E. Disciplinary Committee
 1. The Board shall appoint a discipline committee consisting of at least 3 members
 2. The Treasurer will perform the following coordination actions
 - a) provide the committee with a weekly (during competition) summary of cautions and send offs from the prior week's competition
 - b) will initiate the disciplinary hearing process for all violent conduct, serious foul play and selected other send offs.
 3. The disciplinary hearing process shall be as follows
 - a) the coordinator shall send an email to the committee, the officials, both managers, and any named players asking for any responses within a week.
 - b) one week later, the coordinator forward all information to the committee members.

- c) the committee must reach a consensus within one more week.
- d) should the committee agree no further action is needed, the coordinator shall distribute that information and close the file.
- e) should the committee consensus involve a recommendation for additional suspension, the coordinator will request the board take action.

XV. ADOPTION

Initial adoption of these Rules and Procedures was by a 5-0 vote of the executive board on July 22, 2014.

XVI. AMENDMENTS

Any proposed amendments to these Rules and Procedures must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board