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## I. BY-LAWS FOR WEST COUNTY SOCCER LEAGUE

### A. Purpose

The West County Soccer League (W.C.S.L.) is a non-profit organization whose interest is to provide athletic competition for boys and girls of individual member groups.

### B. Membership

Teams participating in the W.C.S.L. program will represent organizations which meet approval of the Board. A sponsoring group, when accepted as a member, will appoint three representatives, to be known as league representatives, as Board Members to attend meetings and to vote on decisions made at the meetings.

In addition to the three league representatives from each sponsoring group, the membership may contain emeritus members (whose number shall not exceed the number of the sponsoring organizations) who are approved by a majority of the league representatives. Terms for emeritus members will end immediately after the Board meeting at which officers are elected, unless they are renewed at that meeting.

Any organization or emeritus member missing three consecutive meetings could suffer loss of membership. This is subject to decision by the Board.

### C. Voting

No member organization shall have more than two voting representatives. Each board member has one vote. Any matter brought before the meeting will be decided by majority vote of the quorum, excluding the President. A quorum shall be defined as constituting at least one-half of the member organizations eligible to vote. In the case of a tie vote, the President shall cast the deciding ballot. No member organization may vote on matters in which it is directly involved. Any organization having less than eight (8) teams will not have voting rights except for protests and playing rules.

#### **D. Officers and Duties**

Officers will consist of a President, Vice-president, Treasurer, and Secretary, elected from the Board. Voting will be by written ballot.

1. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Association and will preside at all meetings of members, shall see that all resolutions of the Board are carried into effect, and shall assume general and active management of the organization. When applicable, the president, without prior Board approval, may act in the best interest of the league.
2. The Vice-president shall perform all functions of the President in the absence of the President, maintain all official team rosters, and actively assist the President whenever requested to do so.
3. The Secretary shall keep active records of meetings and business transactions, memberships, and attendance, and report the business of previous meetings when requested to do so. It is the responsibility of the Secretary to see that the minutes are complete when passed on to their successor.
4. The Treasurer shall develop an annual operating budget for the League, collect and record all dues and funds, pay all bills, and report the financial status of the organization at each regular meeting.

Officers will serve a term of one year, and can be re-elected for succeeding terms. However, the President may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

#### **E. Committees**

The President shall appoint all committee chairmen. Committee chairmen shall select the members of their committee, call meetings, and supervise the operations of the committee.

A standing committee, composed of the Chief of Officials, Assistant Chief of Officials (if applicable), the District Chiefs of Referees and the current President, will be appointed for the purpose of training referees, receiving protests, investigating what laws of soccer, if any, are broken, and making a written proposal on the resolution of the protest to the Board

A standing committee will be appointed for the purpose of defining the make-up of leagues; divisions within a league; establishing the W.C.S.L. playing schedule, and re-scheduling games as necessary.

## **F. Finances**

For each team entered in the program, the sponsoring organization will submit an entry fee, the amount and due date to be set by the Board each season, after review of the proposed budget. The League may assess a fee against an organization to cover a shortage of game slots provided by the organization. By majority vote, the W.C.S.L. can assess members to cover any deficit incurred by the W.C.S.L., and any surplus realized will be retained in the treasury. Any outstanding amount due W.C.S.L. from the previous season not paid with the placement of teams form, will result in the outstanding balance being assessed a 25% penalty. If not paid, the organization will not be allowed to participate in the upcoming season.

## **G. Meetings**

The President shall call meetings when deemed necessary. Non W.C.S.L. Representatives may address the board only if sponsored by the majority of the league representatives from their organization.

## **H. Amendments of by-laws, Operational Procedures and Playing Rules**

An amendment to the by-laws, Operational Procedures or Playing Rules can be made only at a Board meeting, and only after the proposed change has been read at one previous meeting. A majority vote of the quorum shall be required as defined in Article C above. Any amendment of bylaws or Operational Procedures will take effect upon approval by the Board following the second reading and remain in effect a minimum of one year. However, no changes may be made to the by-laws or Operational Procedures beginning each September 1 and extending throughout the playing season.

## **I. Required Coach Information**

All coaches in the West County Soccer League are required to receive a copy of the "Rules of Conduct". It is the responsibility of each member organization to distribute the "Rules of Conduct", in conjunction with the schedule, each year.

## II. Operational Procedures - Index

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## II. OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

### A. Team Registration

1. A league representative from each member organization must complete an official W.C.S.L. roster form or furnish a comparable list containing all required information in quadruplicate for each team to be entered, and submit them to the Vice-president at or prior to the Coaches Meeting. At that time the rosters will be received and stamped as official by the W.C.S.L. The league will retain three copies of each roster, one copy of each roster will be returned to the league representative from that organization. If any additions, deletions or corrections need to be made thereafter, a revised roster in quadruplicate must be delivered or mailed to the Vice-president. No changes will be taken by telephone or fax. Rosters must be received or post-marked by Wednesday in order for an added player to participate in that upcoming weekend's game(s). Once again the roster will be received, stamped as the current official roster, and one copy will be returned to the organization's league representative at the next league meeting. If the league representative would like to have the stamped, official roster prior to the next league meeting, a self-addressed stamped envelope must be included when the revised roster is delivered or mailed. No roster changes may be made after October 17th for the current season. After the initial filing of rosters for a season, any change to a roster that involves a player moving from one team to another team, must be approved by the President after receiving a recommendation from the Vice-president.
2. Every member organization will also be required to submit to the Treasurer the prescribed, non-refundable entry fee for all teams to be entered. That fee will be due with and based on the information submitted on the Placement of Teams form. Any changes forwarded to the Chairman of the Scheduling Committee prior to August 1 causing any reduction in the number of teams fielded by an organization will result in a refund of the appropriate fee. Any organization not submitting teams will automatically be withdrawn from the league.
3. No player may participate in a league game prior to being placed on an official W.C.S.L. roster.
4. The President may designate teams at random for roster checks to be conducted by the league.
5. No player may be on more than one WCSL roster.

**B. Team Classification, Placement and Scheduling Guidelines**

1. Organization Designation

Organization	Code
Eureka	E
Fenton	F
Pacific	P
Washington	W
Union	U
St. Clair	S

The first team, within a grade, for an organization will be suffixed by an 'A'. Subsequent teams for the same organization within the same grade will be suffixed by the next letter (B, C, D, E, etc.). An organization declaring one or more mixed team will suffix it with the letter 'Z'. If by chance there is more than one mixed team for a grade, subsequent teams will be suffixed beginning with 'Y' progressing to the beginning of the alphabet, with the strongest mixed containing the lowest character of the alphabet.

2. Grade and Division Classification

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>BOYS</u> <u>DIVISION CODE</u>	<u>GIRLS</u> <u>DIVISION CODE</u>
9-12	B9	G9
8	B8	G8
7	B7	G7
6	B6	G6
5	B5	G5
4	B4	G4
3	B3	G3
2	B2	G2
1	B1	G1

Eureka's first team in the 6TH Grade Boys Division would be classified EB6A; Fenton's second team in the 3RD Grade Girls Division would be classified FG3B; Washington's mixed team of 6TH and 5Th grade girls would be classified WG6Z.

**B. Team Classification, Placement and Scheduling Guidelines continued**

3. LEAGUES:

The divisions are further sub-divided into alphabetical-coded leagues. The leagues are:

League Code	League Strength
A	Grade strongest
B	Grade stronger
C	Grade strong
D	Grade medium
E	Grade weak
F	Grade weaker
G	Grade weakest
ETC.	ETC.
X	Mixed grade strongest
Y	Mixed grade medium
Z	Mixed grade weakest

The above alphabetical coded-coded leagues are used for the requested placement of teams by the member organization. The scheduling committee may add additional codes when needed. A lower-grade team may play in an upper coded division or league.

4. Placement of Teams

Placement of team forms and applicable entry fees are due upon or before the closing of the placement of teams meeting. Any organization failing to submit their form on time will be given seven days to submit their form along with a one thousand-dollar penalty. Any organization not submitting their form by the due date or within the seven-day grace period will not be scheduled for the following season.

When preparing the placement of team form, each organization is allowed to declare one day when the organization is unable to play games. In addition, each team is allowed to declare one weekend (Friday through Sunday) when the team is unable to play games.

Any team/organization requesting a game change / reschedule will be required to pay a designated rescheduling fee. Half will be paid to the scheduler and half will go to the league to cover costs.

**PENALTY:** For player(s) playing down, without prior Board approval or ineligible player(s) on the roster, will be forfeiture of all games from the point of discovery to the beginning of that team's season, and the offending organization will be put on one year probation, subject to board approval.

## **B. Team Classification, Placement and Scheduling Guidelines continued**

### 5. Scheduling Committee Guidelines

The scheduling committee will consist of the chairperson and at least two assistants. The committee, using the Placement of Teams form submitted by each organization, will place all teams into an appropriate league based on the request of the submitting organization and the previous season's record. The scheduling committee, and only the scheduling committee, will schedule or re-schedule league games. Originally scheduled games will only be re-scheduled for rainouts or with seven (7) days notice, any event determined by the League President. When necessary the head of the committee can act for the whole committee.

No originally scheduled game will be re-scheduled because one of the two teams is participating in a tournament, a scout camp or another non W.C.S.L. soccer game.

The League will have an independent contractual agreement for the purpose of administering schedules. The agreement will include duties of providing placement of team forms, collection of forms, actual scheduling or original and make-up games. Fee will be established in conjunction with, and included in, team entry fees. Fee is for scheduling activity, with production expenses to be paid for by the League.

Any team/organization requesting a game change/reschedule will be required to pay the designated reschedule fee. Half of said fee to go to the scheduler and half to go to the League to cover the change cost.

## **C. Field Representative, Rainout Procedure, Rescheduling and Forfeiture**

1. Field Rep. - It is the duty of the field rep. to make the decision prior to the start of the game if the game will be played because of field conditions. He/she must be available for coaches' calls regarding playing on the day of the game.

2. Rainout Procedure - It is the responsibility of the coach to contact the field rep. at the field where their team is scheduled to play on the day of the game if there is a question as to the playing condition of the field.

Games played on a closed field will result in a double forfeit, and the coaches of the teams involved are automatically suspended for the season, subject to Board approval.

### **C. Field Representative, Rainout Procedure, Rescheduling and Forfeiture continued**

3. Rescheduling - All rainout games are rescheduled by the league via website updates, telephone or FAX where applicable. When practical, a game canceled for any reason will be rescheduled for the same field as the original game. When possible, games to be rescheduled will be rescheduled for the following week. Notification of a rescheduled game will not be made before 6:00 PM of the day following the cancellation (this is done in order to allow an organization to notify the scheduling committee of possible conflicts before the rescheduled game is given to the league representatives). Possible conflicts do not include, team members playing in another sport, playing on another soccer team, not playing due to religious beliefs. It is the responsibility of the organization's league rep. to inform their coach as to the time and place of a make-up game. If a team fails to appear for a make-up game it will suffer a forfeit. If both teams fail to appear, it will be a double forfeit.
  
4. Declaration of a forfeit - The only recognized means of declaring a forfeit is for the team (TEAM A) that is declaring a forfeit to notify their league representative of the forfeit. The league representative will then notify one of the officers of the Board that their team (TEAM A) is declaring a forfeit. The officer of the Board will notify the league representative of the opponent's organization that their team (TEAM B) will win the game of TEAM A versus TEAM B by forfeit and their team (TEAM B) does not have to show up in order to win the game by forfeit. The officer of the Board will also notify the head of the scheduling committee of the forfeiture.

If an organization notifies the League that one of their teams will be forfeiting a game and that game would not have been played because of field conditions, the league will reschedule the game under the League's normal rescheduling guidelines as outlined in Item #3 above.

### **D. Division Standing Determination and Trophy Awards**

1. The winner of a division is determined by the total points of all played games, with 2 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss. When there is a tie for first place, Co-champions will be declared, with the cost of extra trophies to be shared by the involved organizations.
  
2. Trophies will only be awarded to those teams in the Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) through Eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) grade division.

3. The League will not award teams from any organization on probation, trophies when applicable. Nor will those trophies be awarded to another organization.

#### **E. Length of Season**

The soccer season shall officially begin on the weekend following Labor Day and end prior to or on December 20 of each year.

#### **F. Referees and Chief of Referees' Committee**

1. A representative of each field will pay the referees at the designated rate.
2. Referees will be paid double for refereeing the game alone.
3. The referee must provide his or her own referee shirt, black shorts, black socks, stopwatch and whistle.
4. Each member organization is requested to provide one WCSL qualified referee for each game slot provided on a given day, subject to the provisions II Operational Procedures Section K.8. The number of referees provided may affect the number of games scheduled on a member organization's field(s).
5. Satisfactory referees will be given preference in following years.
6. Each team will provide an acceptable, appropriate size ball as provided in Rule 2, Section II, to the referee prior to the start of the game for use as a game ball.
7. The Chief of Referees and his committee have the power to stop a game if, in their judgment, the continuation of said game might result in the injury of players, fans, or the referees. The Board at the next Board meeting will decide the results of a game stopped in this manner.

#### **G. West County Soccer League Roster Requirements**

The following page contains a copy of the official West County Soccer League Roster. An organization using computers to produce rosters must contain the following information at a minimum:

- A. Organization Name
- B. Team Code
- C. Date Submitted
- D. Player's name
- E. Player's street address
- F. Player's telephone number
- G. Player's date of birth

- H. Player's grade in school
- I. Total number of players on the roster

H: OFFICIAL WEST COUNTY SOCCER LEAGUE ROSTER

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
SUBMITTED: \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHO NE	M O	D Y	Y R	GRAD E
0 1							
0 2							
0 3							
0 4							
0 5							
0 6							
0 7							
0 8							
0 9							
1 0							
1 1							
1 2							
1 3							
1 4							
1 5							
1 6							
1 7							

1 8							
X X				ASSISTANT COACH			
X X				HEAD COACH			

Sheet \_\_\_ of \_\_\_

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October, 2017

## I. Penalties for Disciplinary Action

The following points and resultant accumulations will be reported to the Vice President of the League via the game card. The Vice President will make notification of Penalty Limits to the Representative of the Member organization as soon as possible.

### 1. Assessment of Points for the following:

Offense	Coaches and or Adult Spectators	Player s
Caution (Yellow Card)	3	1.5
Send Off (red Card)	6	3
Fighting	15	6
Hitting or Striking	15	6
Procedural	6	3

### 2. Penalties for Accumulated Points for individuals.

Five or more points	One game suspension.
Ten or more points	Two game suspension.
Twelve or more points	Season Suspension.
Fifteen or more points	Life Time Suspension - Adults  Season Suspension - Players

Any Team with 30 or more player points Season is forfeited.

The above penalties will be considered minimum penalties and the Board of Directors may impose any penalty it deems necessary to maintain the integrity of the game. Points accumulated are for a single season. However, penalties will apply to subsequent seasons where appropriate.

Suspension: Is defined as; player or coach is restricted from being within 300 meters of the playing field.

3. Penalties given after the end of a game will apply at the next game played. Points assessed for penalties committed before, during or after a game will apply at the next game played.

4. Any coach who refuses to sign the referee's score card after a game is awarded a Procedural Violation.

5. Any coach, player, parent or spectator refusing to immediately give their name when requested by the Referee is awarded a Procedural Violation. See 3 above for refusal to sign score card after a game.
6. Any coach or spectator striking or physically abusing a player or referee is immediately assessed 15 points and shall subject their team to forfeit the entire season, subject to Board approval.

**I. Penalties for Disciplinary Action continued**

7. Any play that hits or attempts to hit, strikes or attempts to strike another player or any other person shall be guilty of serious foul play or violent conduct, the punishment for which is a send-off or dismissal.
8. Any team that forfeits 3 games shall forfeit their entire season.
9. Any team found using an ineligible player will forfeit all games from that game back to the beginning of the season, or the last roster check, whichever was last. The coach of said team will be suspended for the rest of the season and for the following season; subject to Board approval.
10. PENALTY: Subject to board approval, for any team, due to an administrative error by the organization, found using a non-roster player during a season are:
  - First occurrence, \$250 fine for this occurrence
  - Second occurrence, \$500 fine for this occurrence, and if the organization is currently on probation, the organization will continue on probation until the end of the season of the following year
  - Third occurrence, the organization is put on probation until the end of the season of the following year.
  - If applicable, subject to board approval, players in such instances will be added to the roster.

Penalties, which cannot be completed in the current season, carry over to the following season.

## **J. Method of Protest Procedures**

1. Training League Games only may be protested for player eligibility. Non-training League Games may be protested for two reasons: (a) misapplication of W.C.S.L. Playing Rules; (b) player eligibility, including (i) ineligible player on the roster, or (ii) participation by a non-roster player

a) Misapplication of W.C.S.L. Playing Rules:

The head coach may, at half time or upon completion of the game prior to signing the game card, advise the referee that the game is being played under protest based on the coach's opinion that a W.C.S.L. Playing Rule has not been properly applied by the referee. The referee will notify the opposing coach, if they are available, of the protest.

b) Player Eligibility:

The head coach may protest a game for reasons of player eligibility under either of the following two circumstances:

i. Ineligible player on the roster:

The head coach may protest a game based on their opinion that the opponent's roster contains an ineligible player by providing a written notice of protest to their league representative prior the last league meeting of the season.

ii. Participation by a non-roster player:

The head coach may protest a game based on their opinion that the opponent is utilizing a non-roster player, or a player who is on more than one W.C.S.L. roster, by so notifying the referee, preferably prior to half time, of the game in progress.

The referee at the first stoppage of play will stop the clock; get the coach requesting the roster check to sign the back of the score card indicating a roster check protest; collect the \$20.00 protest fee; and notify the opposing coach that a roster check will be taken at half time.

At the conclusion of the first half of play, the coach requesting the roster check will present to the referee with a copy of an approved W.C.S.L. roster (inability to provide a roster will result in the protest being denied). The copy of the roster will not be returned. The referee will then inform the players of the protesting team to proceed to the goal they defended during the half.

## **J. Method of Protest Procedures continued**

Meanwhile, the other referee (or the same referee, if only one referee is present) will ask the coach of the non-protesting team for a copy of their roster (if a copy of their roster is not available, the back of the protesting team's roster will be used for the roster check); and inform the players of the non-protesting team to proceed to the goal they defended during the half.

The referee(s) will question each player's name, address, and date of birth. Any discrepancies will be noted on the roster. If only one referee is present, the team requesting the roster check will be checked last, and the other team will be checked first. The roster, the game card, and the \$20.00 protest fee will be turned into the field representative. The field representative will immediately notify their district chief of referees. Play will resume immediately thereafter. No further time will be taken for half.

These same procedures will apply to games protested during the second half. However, because of the confusion that normally follows the end of a game, and the delay that would be caused in the start of the next game, the W.C.S.L. strongly recommends that all such protests be made during the first half of play.

2. With the exception of protests noted in J.1.b.i preceding, protests must be indicated on the score card immediately after the game, and prior to when the protesting coach signs the score card. The protesting coach is to advise one of their league representatives verbally within 48 hours of the game, and provide one of their league representatives with a written notice of protest within 72 hours of the game.
3. Written reports, accompanied by a \$20.00 protest fee, are to be received from the representative(s) by the Chief of Referees within one week.
4. The chief of referees, within forty-eight (48) hours from receipt of the written report, will notify the organization against which the protest is lodged of the protest.
5. The Board at the next meeting will decide the protest.
6. Failure to comply with 1, 2, or 3 proceeding will nullify the protest.
7. The protest fee will be refunded only if the protest is upheld.

## **K. Referees**

### 1) **Referee Training:**

The following individuals **MUST** complete the West County Soccer League referee training course and successfully complete the current West County Soccer League referee test:

- a) Those individuals who have never refereed in West County Soccer League before.
- b) Those individuals who refereed West County Soccer League training league games (Kindergarten through 2nd grade) and are now eligible by virtue of age, grade and/or experience to referee West County Soccer League trophy league games during the current season.

### 2) **Training League Referee Training:**

The following individuals **MAY** complete the West County Soccer League training league referee training course and successfully complete the current West County Soccer League training league referee test:

- a) Individuals whose organizations place training league teams in West County Soccer League for the current season.
- b) Individuals who have never refereed in West County Soccer League before and will only be assigned to referee West County Soccer League training league games during the current season.

### 3) **Returning Referees:**

The following individuals **MUST** successfully complete the current West County Soccer League referee test:

- a) Those individuals who have successfully completed a prior West County Soccer League training league referee training course and test and will continue to referee West County Soccer League training league games (Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) during the current season.
- b) Those individuals who have successfully completed a prior West County Soccer League referee training course and referee test and will continue to referee West County Soccer League games (Kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) during the current season.

## K. Referees continued

### 4) USSF Referees:

Those individuals who have never refereed in West County Soccer League before but who hold a current USSF Referee License **MUST** successfully complete the current West County Soccer League referee test. A **COPY** of the individual's current USSF Referee License **MUST** be presented at the test site.

5) All individuals who wish to referee West County Soccer League games during the current season **MUST** successfully complete the current West County Soccer League referee training course and/or the current West County Soccer League referee test, **OR** the current West County Soccer League training league referee course and/or the current West County Soccer League training league test.

6) Those individuals who do not successfully complete either of the current West County Soccer League referee training courses and/or either of the current West County Soccer League referee tests are **INELIGIBLE** to referee West County Soccer League games during the current season.

7) Only those individuals who have successfully complied with these Operational Procedures can be **REGULARLY** scheduled to referee West County Soccer League games during the current season. West County Soccer League member organization(s) that do not or refuse to comply with these Operational Procedures will be subject to such disciplinary action as the West County Soccer League Board deems appropriate.

8) If a West County Soccer League member organization(s) has an insufficient number of referees available to referee scheduled West County Soccer League games assigned during the current season to the member organization's field(s) the following will apply:

- a) The Scheduling Committee may move those scheduled games to another member organization(s) field(s) that have a sufficient number of referees available, or
- b) The member organization will pay a \$ 5.00 travel fee per game to each referee who has to travel to that member organization's field(s) to referee scheduled West County Soccer League game(s).

EXCEPTION: Member organizations have had a prior agreement between themselves, where one member organization has regularly scheduled their referees at another organization's field(s). If such agreements are continued during the current West County Soccer League season, the \$ 5.00 travel fee will not be imposed, but the organizations involved

must notify the West County Soccer League Board prior to the start of the current season.

### III. W.C.S.L. PLAYING RULES

In an effort to simplify and if at all possible limit the amount of exceptions to the "Laws of the Game" as published by F.I.F.A. the Playing Rules of W.C.S.L. are the same as F.I.F.A. except as noted below.

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## WCSL PLAYING RULES

### LAW 1: THE FIELD OF PLAY

FOR 3<sup>rd</sup> (THIRD) and 4<sup>th</sup> (FOURTH) GRADE TEAMS ONLY

#### Dimensions:

Length: 80 yd  
s

Width: 50 yd  
s

The center circle has a radius of 8 yds.

**The Goal Box:** Measurement is 14yds wide x 4yds deep.

**The Penalty Area:** Measurement is 30yds wide x 12yds deep. Penalty mark measurement is 8yds.

**Goals:** The distance between posts is 21 ft. Distance for lower edge of the crossbar to ground is 7 ft.

**Field Markings:** A Coach's Box shall be marked, where possible, 10 yards on either side of the mid-field and running between and perpendicular to the touch-line and the restraining line.

**Safety:** Spectators, coaches and substitute players are not allowed in the immediate area behind each goal-line. Where applicable, spectators shall be located on the same side of the playing field, as their team, at least five (5) yards behind the touch-line. Coaches and substitute players must stay in the Coach's Box area. If the Coach's Box is not marked, each coach is responsible for keeping their players and fellow coaches near the mid-field area and for instructing spectators to maintain an appropriate distance from the playing field.

No more head balls for U10 (4<sup>th</sup> grade and below). Penalty will be an indirect kick at referee's discretion.

### LAW 2: THE BALL

**Qualities and Measurements:** Third (3RD) through fifth (5TH) grade use a #4 Ball. Sixth (6TH) grade and above use a #5 Ball.

### **LAW 3: NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

Players : **FOR 3<sup>rd</sup> (THIRD) AND 4<sup>th</sup> (FOURTH) GRADE TEAMS ONLY**, The game shall be played by two teams each consisting of not more than eight (8) players, nor fewer than five (5) players, one of who shall be the goalkeeper. If a team has less than five (5) players at game time the game is declared a forfeit. With the exception of 6:00 PM games on weekdays, if a team has less than five (5) players at game time, they forfeit. For 6:00 PM games on weekdays, if a team has less than five (5) players at game time, the start of the game will be delayed up to fifteen (15) minutes waiting for the arrival of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) player. The game will start immediately upon the arrival of the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) player, or the game will be declared a forfeit if a team is not able to field five (5) players within the fifteen (15) minute period.

Players: The game shall be played by two teams each consisting of not more than eleven players, nor fewer than seven (7) players, one of who shall be the goalkeeper. With the exception of 6:00 PM games on weekdays, if a team has less than seven (7) players at game time, they forfeit. For 6:00 PM games on weekdays, if a team has less than seven (7) players at game time, the start of the game will be delayed up to fifteen (15) minutes waiting for the arrival of the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) player. The game will start immediately upon the arrival of the seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) player, or the game will be declared a forfeit if a team is not able to field seven (7) players within the fifteen (15) minute period.

**Changing the Goalkeeper:** One of the other players may change places with the goalkeeper during the game provided notice is given to either referee before such change is made. If, without notifying the referee, a player changes to goalkeeper during the game, at the first stoppage in play, a caution should be given to both the player and the coach. If the player who became goalkeeper receives the ball with his hands, the referee should stop play and issue a caution to both the player and his coach for ungentlemanly conduct, restarting with an indirect free-kick by the opposing team.

INTERPRETATION: Referee must be notified of a change in goalkeeper. Goalkeeper can be changed before a penalty kick as long as the referee is notified, and the player is in the game at the time.

**Substitution Procedure:** Free substitution is permitted. This means that there is no limit on the number of subs used in a game or a limit on the times they enter or leave the game. A substitute who desires to enter the game will report to the halfway line (middle of field) before the coach requests substitution. However, substitutions may enter the game, only at the middle of the field, only when beckoned by the referee at the following times: (1) after a goal has been scored, (2) goal-kick (for either team), (3) half-time, (4) injury on the field, (5) throw-in

(team in possession), (6) issuance of a yellow card to a field player, (7) throw-in (team not in possession of the ball) may substitute only if their player(s) have reported to the halfway line prior to the throw-in and the team in possession of the ball is also substituting.

## **LAW 5: REFEREES**

**The Authority of the Referee:** Two official W.C.S.L. referees shall be appointed to officiate each game. If only one official W.C.S.L. referee is present, they may referee the game by themselves.

**Powers and Duties:** The referees are obliged to report to their District Chief of Referees, as per instructions, the following:

- a) Report of the game, e.g., final score, cautions, ejections, etc.
  - b) Any misconduct which took place before, during, or after the game.
  - c) To immediately file a statement regarding the possible protests of any interpretation of playing rules to be filed as announced to the official by the coach of the protesting team(s). He is encouraged to notify the opposing coach that the game is being protested.
- In cases of emergency arising when no official W.C.S.L. referees are present it is permissible for the coaches involved to select one or two individuals to referee the game, but only upon prior written agreement of both coaches. This written consent is to be given to the District Chief of Referees. League Representatives are authorized to substitute for referees, without coach approval, upon presentation of league identification cards.
  - The Chief of Referees shall have the authority to appoint auxiliary officials to assist the referees in maintaining order through-out the game, particularly off the field of play. These officials may suspend play. The Board at the next league meeting will decide the disposition of the suspended game. The list of auxiliary officials must be submitted to the League President in writing for his approval prior to the start of the season. These auxiliary officials must carry league identification cards when performing this function.

**LAW 6: THE ASSISTANT REFEREES** - Not applicable in W.C.S.L.

## **LAW 7: DURATION OF THE MATCH**

**Periods of Play:** 3RD - 12TH GRADE: Two 30 minute periods.

**Half-Time Interval:** 5 minutes between halves.

**Abandoned Match:** If the referee elects to terminate the game by reason of the elements, the game shall be considered complete if three-fourths of the game has been played.

#### IV. WCSL TRAINING LEAGUE RULES

In an effort to simplify and if at all possible limit the amount of exceptions to the "Laws of the Game" as published by F.I.F.A. the Training League Rules of W.C.S.L. are the same as F.I.F.A. except as noted below.

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## W.C.S.L. TRAINING LEAGUE RULES

### LAW 1: THE FIELD OF PLAY

#### Dimensions:

Length: 5 5  
yds

Width: 3 0  
yds

The center circle has a radius of 5 yds.

**The Goal Box :** Measurement is 12yds wide and 3yds deep.

**The Penalty Area :** Measurement is 20yds wide x 10yds deep. Penalty mark measurement is 7yds.

**Goals:** The distance between posts is changed from 8 yds to 4 yds. Distance for lower edge of the crossbar to ground is changed from 8ft to 6.5 ft.

**Field Markings:** A Coach's Box shall be marked, where possible, 10 yards on either side of the mid-field and running between and perpendicular to the touch-line and the restraining line.

The center circle has a radius of 5 yds.

**The Goal Area :** Measurements are changed from 6yds to 3 yds.

**The Penalty Area :** Measurements are changed from 18yds to 9 yds. Penalty mark measurement is changed from 12 yds to 6yds.

**Goals:** The distance between posts is changed from 8 yds to 4 yds. Distance for lower edge of the crossbar to ground is changed from 8ft to 6.5 ft.

**Safety:** One coach is allowed in the area immediately behind their team's goal. Where applicable, spectators shall be located on the same side of the playing field, as their team, at least five (5) yards behind the touch line. Second (2nd) grade teams are **NOT** allowed to have any coaches on the field while the game is in progress. In Kindergarten and First (1st) grade only, each team is allowed to have one coach on the field while the game is in progress. Under no circumstances are any coaches allowed in the penalty area while the ball is in play. All other coaches and all substitute players must stay in the Coach's Box area. If the Coaches Box is not marked, each coach is responsible for keeping their players and fellow coaches near

the mid-field area and for instructing spectators to maintain an appropriate distance from the playing field.

**LAW 2: THE BALL**

Qualities and Measurements: Training league uses a #4 Ball.

**LAW 3: NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

**Players:** The game shall be played by two teams each consisting of not more than seven (7) players, nor fewer than five (5) players, one of who shall be the goalkeeper. If a team has less than five (5) players at game time the game is declared a forfeit.

**Substitution Procedure:** One of the other players may change places with the goalkeeper only after a goal has been scored or at the end of a quarter. Free substitution is permitted. This means that there is no limit on the number of subs used in a game or a limit on the times they enter or leave the game. A substitute who desires to enter the game will report to the halfway line (middle of field) before the coach requests substitution. However, substitutions may enter the game, only at the middle of the field, only when beckoned by the referee at the following times: (1) after a goal has been scored, (2) goal-kick (for either team), (3) half-time, (4) injury on the field, (5) throw-in (team in possession), (6) issuance of a yellow card to a field player, (7) throw-in (team not in possession of the ball) may substitute only if their player(s) have reported to the halfway line prior to the throw-in and the team in possession of the ball is also substituting.

## **LAW 5: REFEREES**

**The Authority of the Referee:** Two official W.C.S.L. referees shall be appointed to officiate each game. If only one official W.C.S.L. referee is present, they may referee the game by themselves.

In cases of emergency arising when the appointed officials are not present or when an appointed official is unable to continue the game, the coaches will appoint an official in order to play or continue the game.

**Powers and Duties:** The referees are obliged to report to their District Chief of Referees, as per instructions, the following:

- a) Report of the game, e.g., final score, cautions, ejections, etc.
- b) Any misconduct which took place before, during, or after the game.
  - In cases of emergency arising when no official W.C.S.L. referees are present it is permissible for the coaches involved to select one or two individuals to referee the game, but only upon prior written agreement of both coaches. This written consent is to be given to the District Chief of Referees. League Representatives are authorized to substitute for referees, without coach approval, upon presentation of league identification cards.
  - The Chief of Referees shall have the authority to appoint auxiliary officials to assist the referees in maintaining order through-out the game, particularly off the field of play. These officials may suspend play. The Board at the next league meeting will decide the disposition of the suspended game. The list of auxiliary officials must be submitted to the League President in writing for his approval prior to the start of the season. These auxiliary officials must carry league identification cards when performing this function.

**LAW 6: THE ASSISTANT REFEREES** - Not applicable in W.C.S.L.

## **LAW 7: DURATION OF THE GAME**

**Periods of Play:** Kindergarten - 2ND GRADE: Four 10 minute quarters.

**Half-Time Interval:** 3 minutes between quarters for break.

**Allowance for Time Lost:** No allowance shall be made in any period for any time lost through accident or other cause.

**Penalty Kick:** Time shall be extended to permit a penalty kick being taken at or after the expiration of the normal period in any period.

**Abandoned Match:** If the referee elects to terminate the game by reason of the elements, the game shall be considered complete.

**LAW 15: THROW-IN**

**Infringements/Sanctions:** If the ball is improperly thrown in the first time, the team taking the throw-in shall be awarded another throw-in. If the ball is improperly thrown in the second time, a player of the opposing team shall take the throw-in.

## V. COACH'S CONDUCT GUIDELINES

The West County Soccer League holds Coaches responsible for meeting the following.

1. Playing Time - With exceptions for health or discipline, it is recommended that every player should play a minimum of one-quarter of every game.
2. Player and Spectator Conduct - Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their teams' players and spectators before, during, and after the game. This responsibility includes adherence to spectator area and the Coach's Box area. Coaches are required to make every effort to have their team and spectators conduct themselves in a Christian manner.
3. Harassment of Referees - Coaches are reminded that W.C.S.L. referees are mostly freshmen and sophomores in high school and sometimes easily intimidated by adults. Therefore, harassment of referees by spectators and coaches is not allowed. In case of excessive spectator harassment, referees are instructed to stop the game and request coaches of both teams to quiet spectator(s).

Penalty: Coach's refusal or inability to control their teams' spectator(s) will result in shutdown of the game.

4. Coach on Field of Play - Once the game has commenced, a coach may enter the field of play only to administer to an injured player, when requested or authorized by the referee. A coach may talk to the referees to question a call or conduct of the game at normal breaks in playing time, half-time, or end of game.

PENALTY: Any coach who violates the above will receive an automatic RED card and be ejected from the game in accordance with Section K-2 of operational procedure of the W.C.S.L.

INTERPRETATION: The referee should issue a caution for ILLEGAL ENTRY and a second caution (RED Card) for DISSENT. i.e., persistent misconduct.

**RULES OF CONDUCT**  
**WEST COUNTY SOCCER LEAGUE**

To assist the referees in maintaining control of the game and to insure the proper environment for West County Soccer League games, the following rules will be enforced:

1. All coaches will be responsible for the conduct of their players and their fans.
2. A Coach's Box, twenty yards in length and located one yard off the touch-line, will be marked at mid-field. Only coaches and team members will be allowed in the Coach's Box. Also, coaches (on the roster or not) must remain in this area.
3. Teams must stay on opposite sides of the field.
4. Spectators will be required to remain a minimum of five (5) yards away from the touch-lines (sidelines). Where applicable, spectators must remain on the same side of the field as their team.
5. Once the game commences, and until it is finished, the coach will be allowed on the field of play only to attend to an injured player from their own team, and only with the permission of the referee.
6. Referees will be instructed to seek the coach's help, when necessary, to maintain control of the game. If the referee determines that control of the game cannot be maintained, the game will be suspended. The West County Soccer League Board will determine the disposition of the game and will enforce any appropriate disciplinary action. Disciplinary action for irresponsible conduct will range from suspension for one game to permanent disbarment -- for a player, a team, a coach, a spectator or an organization.

Coaches or spectators issued an ejection (Red Card) will immediately remove themselves to a distance of at least 300 meters from the game sight. Players issued an ejection (Red Card) may stay on the bench with their team.

