



**2018 Season**  
**Adult Rec League**  
**Laws of the Game**  
**[www.tillsonburgsoccer.ca](http://www.tillsonburgsoccer.ca)**

**Have Fun, Make Friends,  
Learn Teamwork, Be Active**



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## Registration Rules and Procedures

- 1) Registration fees increase April 1, 2018 as per club policy.
  - 2) **A Division (18+)\*** is intended for competitive and/or skilled players.
  - 3) **B Division (18+)\*** is for players of varying ability, competitiveness, and experience.
  - 4) **C Division (30+)\*** is for players looking to play in a social, fun, and recreational setting.
  - 5) **Priority guarantee of a spot** in the league is determined by the date that both the registration form and payment are received by the Club Registrar. A player is only considered REGISTERED once they have submitted a completed form and has paid in full. If payment is provided by cheque then the date that payment is received by the Club Registrar will be considered the registration date.
  - 6) **Team Captains** may submit a roster to the League Convener. Teams must have a minimum of 12 players listed on the roster, or wait-listed players will be placed on teams after April 1, 2018 by the League Convener.
  - 7) The players that are listed on the team roster will be placed on the desired team ONLY if they:
    - A) indicate the team name on the registration form, and
    - B) register and pay prior to the league reaching the maximum registered.
  - 8) No player will be placed on a team until they are registered. Only registered players are allowed to play in any league game. Any team captain that allows a non-registered player to play for their team assumes full liability for any injuries caused or suffered by the non-registered player.
  - 9) Teams submitting a roster of 8-10 players must have a minimum of 3 female players listed; teams submitting a roster of 11-14 players must have a minimum of 4 female players listed.
  - 10) Any player who registers after the league has reached the maximum number of registered players will be placed on a wait list regardless of whether or not they are listed on a team roster.
  - 11) **UNDERAGE PLAYERS\*** ("C" Division only): Players under the age of 30 may be rostered in "C" Division at the discretion of the league conveners to a maximum of 2 per team. "C" Division is intended for players of varying ability and who wish to play in a social, fun, and recreational setting. Players with exceptional ability may be moved to the "A" or "B" Divisions to maintain league parity.
  - 12) Carded Players MUST play in either "A" or "B" Divisions to maintain league parity.
- \* Women may play in the division of their choosing, regardless of age.

## 1) Length of Games

### Periods of play

The match shall consist of equal periods not exceeding 50 minutes.

### Half-time Interval

Players are entitled to intervals of 5 minutes.

**Two 25 minute halves with 5 minute halftime  
(at the referees discretion, time permitting).**

## 2) The Referee

### The authority of the referee

Each match is controlled by a CSA accredited Referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Small Sided Game. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, is final.

### Powers and Duties

- Enforces the Laws of the Small Sided Game
- Ensures that any ball used meets requirements
- Acts as timekeeper and keeps a record of the match
- Stops, suspends or abandons the match, at his/her discretion, for any infringements of the Laws
- Stops the match if a player is injured and ensures that he is removed from the field of play. An injured player may only return to the field of play after the match has restarted.
- Ensures that any player bleeding from a wound leaves the field of play. The player may only return on receiving a signal from the referee, who must be satisfied that the bleeding has stopped.
- Takes action against team officials who fail to conduct themselves in a responsible manner and may, at his/her discretion, expel them from the field of play and its immediate surrounds
- Ensures that no unauthorized persons enter the field of play
- Indicates the restart of the match after it has been stopped
- Provides the appropriate authorities with a match report, which includes information on any disciplinary action taken against players and/or team officials and any other incidents that occurred before, during or after the match.

### 3) Number of Players

Team Captains will have to provide the Referee with a copy of Game Sheet (with Roster) before the start of each game.

If a team is not ready 15 minutes after the start of the game, the game will be automatically forfeited. The remaining time slot will be awarded to the players on the field without a referee. Forfeited games will not be rescheduled.

#### **Using Non-Registered Players is not allowed**

1st offence is an automatic forfeit

2nd offence your team is removed from the League

#### **A Division**

*7 players per team*, including goalkeeper. Minimum of 2 women (NOT including the Keeper) and maximum of 5 men on the field at all times. Minimum 5 players are required to field a team which must include 1 woman.

#### **B Division**

*6 players per team*, including goalkeeper. Minimum of 2 women (NOT including the Keeper) and maximum of 4 men on the field at all times. Minimum 5 players are required to field a team which must include 1 woman.

#### **C Division**

*6 players per team*, including goalkeeper. Minimum of 2 women (NOT including the Keeper) and maximum of 4 men on the field at all times. Minimum 5 players are required to field a team which must include 1 woman.

## 4) Fouls

The referee shall attempt to explain ALL infringements to the offending player.

### Fouls

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following offences:

- (A) kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- (B) trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- (C) jumps at an opponent
- (D) slides in the vicinity (5 yards) of another player
- (E) strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- (F) pushes an opponent
- (G) tackles an opponent from behind to gain possession of the ball
- (H) makes contact with an opponent before touching the ball
- (I) holds an opponent
- (J) spits at an opponent
- (K) handles the ball deliberately

If any of offences above occurs inside the penalty area, **a penalty kick is awarded.**

An indirect free kick is also awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following offences:

- (L) Plays in a dangerous manner
- (M) Impedes the progress of a player
- (N) Prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball from its hands
- (O) Commits any other offence, not previously mentioned

A **penalty kick** is awarded if the above offence, except N, is committed by a player inside its own penalty area.

An indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a goalkeeper, inside its own penalty area, commits any of the following four offences:

- (P) handles the ball for more than 6 seconds before releasing it from his/her possession
- (Q) handles the ball again after releasing it from his/her possession and before it has touched another player
- (R) handles the ball after it has been deliberately kicked to him/her by a team-mate
- (S) handles the ball after receiving it directly from a pass-in taken by a team-mate.

## 5) Offsides

Offsides will be called.

A player is in an offside position if:

- any part of the head, body or feet is nearer to the opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second-last opponent

The hands and arms of all players, including the goalkeepers, are not considered.

A player is not in an offside position if they are level with the:

- second-last opponent, or
- last two opponents

### Offside Offence

- interfering with play by playing or touching a ball passed or touched by a teammate or
- interfering with an opponent by:
  - preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent's line of vision or
  - challenging an opponent for the ball or
  - clearly attempting to play a ball which is close to him when this action impacts on an opponent or
  - making an obvious action which clearly impacts on the ability of an opponent to play the ball

There is no offside offence if the player does not interfere with, or affect gameplay.

## 6) Goals

A goal can be scored from anywhere on the field of play, except for the following circumstances:

- indirect free kick
- directly from a throw-in, or
- if goalkeeper is to throw the ball into the net.

## 7) Free-Kicks

All free-kicks are indirect, with exception of Penalty-Kicks.

A goal can only be scored from a free kick, if the ball is touched by another player before it enters the goal.

- If a free kick is kicked directly into the opponents' goal, without being touched by a second player, a goal kick is awarded
- If a free kick is kicked directly into the team's own goal, without being touched by a second player, a corner kick is awarded

### Procedure

For all free kicks, the ball must be stationary when the kick is taken and the kicker must not touch the ball again until it has touched another player.

### Position of the free kick

#### Free kick inside the penalty area

Indirect free kick to the defending team

- all opponents must be at least five (5) metres from the ball
- all opponents must remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play
- the ball is in play when it is kicked directly out of the penalty area
- a free kick awarded in the penalty area may be taken from any point inside that area

#### Free kick to the attacking team

- all opponents must be at least five (5) metres from the ball, unless they are on their own goal line between the goalposts

#### Free kick outside the penalty area

- all opponents must be at least five (5) metres from the ball
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves
- the free kick is taken from the place the infringement occurred or from the position of the ball when the infringement occurred

### Infringements and Sanctions

For any infringement of this Law, the free kick shall be retaken.



## 8) Goal-Kicks

A goal kick is a method of restarting play.

A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line either on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the attacking team, and a goal has not been scored.

A goal-kick may be taken anywhere inside the goalkeeper's box. Ball is to be stationary before entering the field of play. If a goal-kick does not result in leaving the goalkeeper's box, a re-start is awarded. All opposing players are to be a minimum of 5 yards from the ball.

### Procedure

- The ball is kicked from any point within the penalty area by a player of the defending team
- All opponents must be behind the retreat line and cannot cross the retreat line until the ball:
  - is touched by a player of the team taking the goal kick OR,
  - leaves the field of play OR,
- The ball is in play once it leaves the penalty area.

### Infringements

If the ball is not kicked directly out of the penalty area from a goal kick, goal kick is retaken.

If a player who has taken a goal kick correctly deliberately plays the ball a second time or touches the ball with his/her hand when the ball has left the penalty area before another player has touched it, an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team from the position where the second touch occurred (see Rule 7 – Position of free kick).

## 9) Penalty-Kicks

Penalty kicks are a part of the game.

The reasons for awarding a penalty kick are outlined in Rule 4.

A goal may be scored directly from a penalty kick.

**The penalty spot will be at the standard location of 12 yards.**

### Position of the ball and players

#### The ball

- must be placed on the penalty mark
- player taking the penalty kick must be properly identified

#### Defending goalkeeper

- must be on his/her goal line, facing the kicker, between the posts until the ball has been kicked.
- Goalkeeper is allowed to move sideways but can't move forward until the ball has been kicked.

#### The players other than the goalkeeper must be located:

- inside the field of play
- outside the penalty area
- behind the penalty mark
- at least five (5) metres from the penalty mark

### Procedure

- After the players have taken their positions in accordance with this Law, the referee signals for the penalty kick to be taken
- The player taking the penalty kick must kick the ball forward
- The kicker must not play the ball again until it has touched another player
- The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves forward

### Infringements and Sanctions

For any infringement of this Law, that is considered an advantage for the offending team, the penalty kick shall be retaken.

## 10) Corner-Kicks

A corner kick is a method of restarting play.

A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line either on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the defending team, and a goal has not been scored.

A goal may be scored directly from a corner kick.

### Procedure

- the ball must be placed within the corner nearest to where the ball crossed the goal line
- the corner flag post must not be moved
- opponents must remain five (5) metres from the corner arc until the ball is kicked
- the ball is in play when it is kicked and moves

### Infringements

For any infringement of this Law, the corner kick shall be retaken.

## 11) Kick-Off's

At the beginning of each half, and after each goal, a centre-kick will be given. Ball must be stationary when it is kicked. All opposing players are to be a minimum of 5 yards from the ball and in their respective half. Persistent infractions of this rule may result in a caution at the referee's discretion.

Goals can be scored from a kick-off, provided proper kick-off procedure has taken place.

## 12) Back-Pass

Goalkeepers prohibited from handling the ball under the following circumstances:

- The ball is kicked (played with the foot, not the knee, thigh, or shin) by a team-mate of the goalkeeper,
- when receiving it directly from a throw-in
- when he has already released the ball to the ground after a save

An infraction would not occur if a team mate uses their head, chest, knee etc. (everything but foot) to make the pass (no matter where the point of impact with the ball is).

Intent will be judged by the referee's discretion. If the referee judges that there was intent, an indirect-kick will be awarded at the spot of the foul, or at 5 yards from the goal-line, whichever is further from the goal-line.

### **13) Substitutions**

There are unlimited substitutions and can be made during the course of play. Substitutions are to be made on the same touchline as the team bench.

The field player must be completely off the pitch before the substituting player enters the field.

### **14) Sliding and Slide-Tackling**

**Slide-Tacking is NOT PERMITTED.**

Sliding to prevent a goal, or to keep a ball in play is allowed as long as there is no opposing player in the vicinity (within 5 yards). Sliding in the vicinity of, or contact with an opposing player from the result of a slide is deemed dangerous play and will result in a free-kick or penalty-kick and a player **WILL** be cautioned or sent-off as a result of this infraction.

Goalkeepers are allowed to slide in an attempt to retrieve the ball in the goalkeeper area, as long as it does not endanger any opposing player.

### **15) Injuries and Player Safety**

Play will be stopped if there are any serious injuries on the field. What is deemed serious and whether it is affecting play is at the discretion of the referee. A drop-ball will be issued by the referee in order to resume play.

### **16) Yellow Cards**

If a player is shown a second yellow card, a red card must be shown.

If a player receives yellow cards in back-to-back games, they will miss the following game.

### **17) Red Cards**

Any player that receives a red card will be dismissed from the game, and will miss the following game. No substitution will be allowed and the team will play the remainder of the game down a player. Further disciplinary action may be taken by Tillsonburg Soccer Club.

## **18) Offensive Language**

Any use of offensive, insulting, racial, or abusive language or gestures towards any referee, staff member, official, coach, player or spectator may result a booking, or—in certain cases—in removal from the facility at the discretion of Tillsonburg Soccer Club.

## **19) Physical Violence**

Any use of physical violence may result in the removal of the facility at the discretion of the Tillsonburg Soccer Club.

## **Important Note**

Above all, this is a RECREATIONAL LEAGUE. The purpose of this league is to provide a safe, and fun environment for adults to play soccer amongst friends, family and colleagues. Please keep this in mind every time you take to the pitch. Being gracious in both defeat and victory while having positive and accepting attitude are a must in this league. Anyone who is found to be impeding the enjoyment of others through violent play or offensive and demeaning behaviour, may be asked to leave the league, and and denied registration in the future by the conveners.