**I. Introduction**

The City of El Paso Parks & Recreation Department Youth Indoor Soccer League will be conducted under the City of El Paso Sports rules.

**II. Organization**

The sports programming section of the City of El Paso Parks & Recreation will be the governing body for this program. The application, construction, and interpretation of these rules and regulations or the eligibility requirements, shall be solely at the discretion of the program supervisor and sports staff to include any changes at any time for the benefit of the program.

**III. Type of Program**

1. Games will be played at Nations Tobin the following days:
   1. Saturday @ Big Rink from 8am – 5pm
   2. Saturday @ Small Rink from 8am – 4pm
   3. Mondays @ Big and Small Rink 6:00PM to 9:30PM
2. League consists of 8 regular season games plus single elimination playoffs bracket.
3. Regular season final standings will be used for seeding purposes. Seeding playoffs will be determined by overall point’s total.
4. Play-off Tiebreaker will be determined by:
   1. 5 min. golden goal
   2. If no goal is made, a 3 man shootout will proceed
   3. If after shootout no goal is made, tiebreaker continues (1 for 1 until winner is reached)
5. Regular season 1st will receive a trophy and t-shirts.
6. Playoffs for 1st and 2nd place will receive play-offs t-shirts and a trophy
7. Golden boot champ trophy per division for the highest scorer.
8. Goalkeeper award per division for the goalkeeper that concedes the least amount of goals.
9. **If a team forfeits 3 games for any reason during the season they will be dropped from the league without a refund.**
10. **NO ACCOMADATIONS WILL BE MADE FOR OUTSIDE LEAGUES OR EVENTS.**

**IV. Entry fee and leagues:**

Fees must be paid in full at the moment of registration. (NO EXCEPTIONS)

**Refund Policy:** Once a team is posted on the schedule no **refunds** will be issued. Refunds will only be issued when the cause of the program cancellation was initiated by the City.

The league fee is as follows:

* 8U – 14U **$300.00 per team** (includes all officials’ fees).

**V. Player Eligibility**

1. The league will be divided into the following age divisions:

8U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 14U

**The age cutoff will be as follows:**

* **8U – 2015-2016**
* **10U – 2013-2014**
* **11U – 2012**
* **12U – 2011**
* **14U – 2009-2010**

1. Players may not play on more than one team per division.
2. Players may play in two divisions. Their age division and up but never down.
3. An ineligible player is defined as a player that does not meet any of the following qualifications:

1. Not on the roster

2. Did not sign the waiver form

3. Played on another team in the same division

4. Over the age limit

5. Does not have City ID

1. Players must have a City of El Paso youth sport ID before the 1st game (Jan. 7th) and physically bring it to **every game**. No other form of ID will be accepted (copy, pictures on phone, etc.). Field supervisor may do an ID/Roster check at any point of the game. NO ID = NO PLAY, NO EXCEPTIONS!
   1. **IDs are $5.00 per ID + $5.00 Parent Class**
   2. Youth IDs are good for one year
   3. **ID replacement are $5.00**
2. There is not a mandatory must play rule.
3. **The coach/captain is responsible for submitting the roster on time.**

**VI. Rosters**

1. Must be submitted no later than one week prior to the first game (Dec. 29th).
2. No roster will result in forfeited games until submitted
3. Head coach/captain must provide a valid email address the day of the coaches meeting.
4. Waiver form must be signed, dated, and submitted to Soccer Admin by the 1st game.
5. Roster is limited to:
   * **8U – 10U: 12 players**
   * **11U-14U: 16 players**
   * Deadline to add new players: **Saturday, January 28, 2022**

**VII. Coaches/Captains/ Parents**

1. Coaches mandatory meeting on **December 14, 2022 at 6:00pm at Nations Tobin 8831 Railroad.**
2. **Coaches must have a Criminal Background Check through Parks and Recreation.**
   1. **Background is $40.00 per coach**
   2. **Background check is good for two years**
   3. **Coach ID is $5.00 and is good for two years.**
3. **Only players and two coaches** allowed on the benches during a game. All Non-playing, children and spectators need to be on the spectator side, NO EXCEPTIONS.
4. Coaches/captains must fill out line up sheet with the players first and last name and the correct jersey number, and have their teams REPORT to CITY STAFF to be checked in 15 minutes before game starts. Coaches/captains will be held responsible for the actions of their players and team spectators. PLEASE ADVISE PARENTS, PLAYERS, AND FANS THAT THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO QUESTION A REFEREE’S CALL OR RULINGS. Everyone is subject to the same penalties as players. NO ONE including the coach is to step on the field without being called onto field by an official, violations can be punished with a yellow card. Relatives and/or friends of players are to bring up their concerns **to the coach** and then the coach can speak to city staff. (**No exceptions**)

**VIII. The Game**

1. **Game time:**

**8U & 10U:** two (2) fifteen (15) minute halves with running clock. No Time out and 5 minutes half time.

**11U, 12U, 14U:** two (2) eighteen (18) minute halves with running clock. Clock will start at the referee’s second whistle. No Time out and 5 minutes half time. The Site Supervisor, scorekeeper, or the referee CAN shorten the time limit or run the clock (including half time) if any given situation arises. ***(If a team is winning by more than 10 goals, scorekeeper will stop adding the goals on the scoreboard, but continue to write them down on scoresheet.)***

1. **Mercy Rule**: 8U-10U If a team is losing by 10 goals by the end of the first half, the losing coach will be asked by staff game would like to be stopped.
2. **Grace Period:** There will be a Ten (10) minute grace period for 1st game of the day, **ALL GAMES THAT FOLLOW WILL START ON TIME.** If a team does not have enough players ready to start by game time, that team will be given a forfeit.
3. **Minimum players to start game:**

* **8U &** **10U:** 4 players **Small Rink**
* **11U, 12U, 14U:** 5 players **Big Rink**

**Fields**: There are two Playing Rinks at Nations Tobin “**Big Rink** and “**Small Rink**”

1. **Active Players on field:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DIV | Maximum Players\* | Minimum Players\* | Max # of Players |
| 8U & 10U | 5 (4 players + 1 goalie) small rink | 4 (3 players + 1 goalie) | 12 |
| 11U-14U | 7 (6 players + 1 goalie) big rink | 5 (4 players + 1 goalie) | 12 |

1. **Penalty kicks:**
   1. **Ball will be placed at the top of the arch**
   2. **Goalkeeper needs one foot to remain on goal line until whistle is blown**
   3. **After whistle is blown, player has 3 seconds to shoot the ball**
   4. **Refer to official “The Official Rules of Indoor Soccer” for more details**
2. **Shootouts:**
   1. **Ball will be placed at the restart marker**
   2. **Goalkeeper needs one foot to remain on goal line until whistle is blown**
   3. **After whistle is blown, player has 5 seconds to dribble and shoot**
   4. **Refer to official “The Official Rules of Indoor Soccer” for more details**
3. If a player receives a **RED CARD,**that **player will be removed from the playing Rink and will not be eligible to return or be replaced by another player. After player receives red card, they will be suspended for the following game.** According to the referee/scorekeeper report, this suspension could be more than 2 games. **Player(s) suspended cannot be in the bench.  (2 yellow cards are the same as a red card)**
4. If a player receives a **YELLOW CARD**, he/she will be removed from the game for two (2) minutes. If his/her team is scored on during their suspension, then a teammate can go in for the remaining time left on their suspension. The player that received a yellow card will not be able to go back into play until after the 2-minute penalty is finished. (Referee enforces rules at his discretion; it is a **judgment call**)
5. The team that has a player that received a **Red Card** will play minus one player the remainder of the game.
6. If a player receives five (5) **Fouls** through-out the game, he/she will be ejected for the remainder of the game –**Fouled Out**- It is not the same as a red card.
7. If a ball is kicked out of play, offside during a shootout/penalty, a header, 5 second violation, there is not foul only change of possession.

* Any ball that hits any part of the ceiling (in or out of the playing area) will be a change of possession for the other team unless it is a deflection deemed by the official’s judgment only. This is for all age divisions.

1. No team player(s), team staff, spectator(s), or manager(s) may “**Clear The Bench**” while a dispute/conflict/confrontation/fight/physical violence, is taking place. Doing so is subject to a disciplinary action according to the Penalty Matrix. “Clear The Bench” is defined as leaving your team area adjacent to the playing area or leaving the spectator area.
2. Anyone who comes onto the playing field without being advised from referee or staff will result in their pertaining team receiving a forfeit.
3. If both teams engage in a physical altercation, the game will result in a double forfeit.
4. Air horns, whistles, amplified noise, cow bells and/ or spectators or coaches banging on rink walls or any other device that interferes with the game will not be allowed (Official’s Judgment only).
5. Out-of-Sight and Out-of-Sound will be in effect for suspensions and ejections. Persons ejected must leave the facility (Field/building) within **2 Minutes** of being ejected **or team will forfeit the game.**
6. The Horn (Ref’s whistle) ends the game.
7. Slide tackles are not allowed and count as a foul. However, slides are allowed if contact with another player is not possible (according to the referee’s judgment).
8. **Before the beginning of each game, staff will assist to check player’s rosters and ID cards. (if a coach waives this rules, he or she cannot protest a player’s eligibility to play)**
9. **Once the half-time is over, players must hurry-up to play. Referee will not wait for players and start the game.**
10. **No Time-outs during games. Half time will be 5 minutes.**
11. **During substitution of players, player entering rink cannot be the first to touch the ball.**

**IX. Game Officials**

1. Game officials will be assigned by city parks & recreation staff only
2. Officials cannot officiate or score keep in the division he/she or a relative plays in. Please report any violation to this rule to the league coordinator at the administration office.
3. Officials must have completed a background check by the City of El Paso.
4. If there is not an official available, the game will be rescheduled before the end of the season.
5. Score keeper may buzz horn to stop game and time at any time. (emergencies)

**X. Protests**

1. The **ONLY protest** allowed will be on player eligibility. **No other protest will be allowed to include but not limited to official judgement call.** During the games, the protest must be made immediately before the end of the game. The game will continue and investigation will take place after game is over. If player is ineligible to play, the game will be forfeited. No protest will be accepted after the game has ended. The protest must be made by the Head Coach listed on Roster. **Decision rendered will be final, no appeals will be accepted**. It is strongly suggested that if you have a question about player eligibility to make your concerns known prior to the game. Any visual recording will not be admitted to dispute calls or games. It is for your own personal use for your own memories.
2. **Judgement Call Definition**: an official decision made during a sporting event by an umpire, referee etc, based on their own perception of events, when there is no other way of measuring them objectively
3. **Team coaches that don’t attend the mandatory coaches’ meeting will not be allowed to protest.**

**XI. Appeals**

1. If a player’s age is protested, coach must bring original copy of the player’s birth certificate and a letter of the school demographics. (No exceptions) If the player in question is from Cd. Juárez, coach must bring a non-expired passport.
2. You will have 24 business hours from receiving any suspensions to file an appeal in writing and submitted to Sports Administration, Karina Grado at [Gradok@elpasotexas.gov](file:///C:\Users\gradok\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\OM2WBCCM\Gradok@elpasotexas.gov) If you fill out an appeal, your suspension will continue until final decision is taken.

**XII. Liability**

The Indoor Soccer League at Nations Tobin Center will assume NO responsibility in the event of an accident or injury to spectator, player, coaches or other participants. Teams participating should be careful to examine their own personal insurance coverage.

**XIII. Equipment/Uniforms**

1. City staff will provide the game ball (low bounce size #4)
2. Teams must provide their own uniforms such as jerseys, shorts, shin-guards and socks.
3. Use of SHIN GUARDS for all players is MANDATORY!!! If no shin guards, NO PLAY. Your Safety is our Priority.
4. JERSEYS must be of similar color and shade with clear numbers by the first game of regular season play. Shorts and socks can be a different color. No two players on the same team can have the same number.
   1. If both teams arrive with similar colors, home team must be the ones to change into different color.
5. Training vests provided by the city **DO NOT**count as substitute jerseys for player(s) that don't have appropriate uniform; it is a uniform violation and therefore a penalty is given.
6. For the safety of the players we recommend the use of shoes designated for indoor soccer.
7. Jewelry is PROHIBITED. You must remove all jewelry before every game. If you are asked to remove it and you don’t, you will NOT BE ABLE TO PLAY. Yours and others Safety is our Priority.
8. No cleats, only indoor soccer shoes or tennis shoes.

**XIV. Disciplinary Infractions**

If at any time benches clear during a physical altercation, the entire team is subject to disciplinary action. If members of the team and/or spectators enter the field of play even if to separate/stop the altercation the team is subject to penalty. For all other disciplinary infractions please refer to Administrative Guideline 201.

* **Questions, concerns and requests send via email to indoor soccer organizers:**

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