

PRINCETON YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE GUIDELINES

3-4 CO-ED

Purpose

The purpose of the Princeton Youth Soccer League is to educate, organize, and promote youth soccer by encouraging the display of respect, good sportsmanship, and fair play to all participants.

All FIFA rules will govern play of Princeton Youth Soccer except where noted otherwise by the PYSL Board.

Days of play will be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday except for make-up games which could be on Wednesday, Friday or Sunday.

PRACTICES

PRACTICES CAN BE HELD AT ZEARING PARK! All Princeton Elementary School grounds (Douglas, Jefferson, Logan, Lincoln and Washington) are available for practices. If you choose to practice at another location, PYSL will need a written consent letter from the property owner stating it has been approved.

Before **ANY** child is allowed to practice, a signed medical waiver and an eyeglass/medical apparatus form (if applicable) **MUST** be filled out. The purpose of the medical waiver form is to authorize the coach or league officials to seek medical treatment if the player's parent/guardian is not present to make that decision. **Both forms need to be carried by the coach to all practices and turned in to the referees at the first game.**

If you have a player that drops off of your team, please notify Jeremy Whitfield @ 815-866-7966. There may be a waiting list of players

NUMBER OF PLAYERS AND BALL SIZE

Number of players will vary due to number on team. Ball size 4

****** Maximum players for each age group – 9 per field ******

There will be a mandatory evening up at the beginning and throughout the entire game. If a team is short players, they will borrow from the opposite team **ONLY**. Each team is entitled to have one substitute **ONLY** if the maximum players have been reached. A coach may waive the right to have a sub. This is recreational soccer and if a player is absent for other activities the team is not to suffer and the player is not to be penalized. This is NOT up for discussion!

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

All players must wear the **PROPER** color jersey, shorts, and socks, **which are league issued by PYSL**. Shin guards are also **REQUIRED**. The jersey must be worn on the outside of any other garments. Jerseys must remain tucked in at all times. Shin guards are to be worn next to the skin with the socks completely over them.

Soccer shoes (No metal spikes) are recommended but not required. Gym shoes are required. Only soft headwear is allowed. Glasses will **ONLY** be permitted with a signed eyeglass waiver on file by the parent/guardian. The PYSL Board would prefer the child **NOT** wear glasses.

The following items will NOT be allowed on the field during play:

- jewelry of any kind
- hard hair accessories
- wrist bands of any kind
- gum
- jeans
- jean/carpenter shorts
- tear-away pant
- casts of any kind

A pre-game check of uniform and jewelry compliance is to be done by the referees. If a player is not in compliance, that player will not be allowed to enter the field until such time as the offense has been rectified and okayed by the referee. **PLEASE NOTE...THE ABOVE RULE APPLIES TO PRACTICES AS WELL!!!**

RULES AND INFORMATION

There are 2 halves in the game, each consisting of 20 minutes. There will be 10 minutes between halves. The referee may add time for delay of game for injuries.

Players do not have the right to protect him/her from the ball in the chest area. If a player plays the ball with his/her elbow or shoulder, it is considered a handball.

If a player is injured with evidence of bleeding, the referee will stop the play immediately, the player is to be treated and removed from the game. Any soiled jersey/equipment **MUST** be removed and replaced prior to re-entering the game. Coaches are not allowed on the field until the referee indicates to him/her to do so. Play will resume once coach and players have left the field. That player may be substituted back in at the next legal substitution.

Coaches need to instruct the players that if he/she is hurt, they need to stay down on the ground. If the player is up and attempting to play, the referee will assume the player is all right and play will continue.

Coaches will be provided with a first aid kit and an extra jersey to carry at all practices and games. Injuries to any player that requires medical treatment must be reported to the President on the same day of the occurrence.

If a player needs to tie his/her shoes, they must go to the edge of the field and tie them.

Offside is called at this age group.

TECHNICAL BOX AREA

All players and coaches are to stay within the technical box. If a referee has to verbally give two warnings for this infraction, it will result in a yellow card to the coach. The referees will make ALL calls during the games. Coaches are **NOT** allowed to have whistles during the games. There are only two coaches allowed in the technical box at any given time. The only exception to this rule is when there is a high school student volunteering his/her time for community service, at that time all three coaches will be allowed in the technical box.

PLAYING TIME

EQUAL TIME FOR ALL PLAYERS! This means that every player will sit out the same amount of time. This may take several games.

Color-in substitutions will be allowed on corner kicks, goal kicks and throw-ins. Any team may substitute on kick-offs. No substitutions will be allowed on indirect kicks, direct kicks, stoppage of play for injuries (unless it is for the injured player), or for the last 3 minutes of each quarter.

With color-in substitutions, the coach is still required to ensure all players have equal playing time. The PYSL Board expects all coaches to abide by this rule. Any coach not following this rule may be subject to removal from the league. The PYSL Board will be reviewing games and may ask at any time to review your roster.

Coaches in these grade levels are expected to rotate players in **ALL** positions of the field. This is intended to familiarize players with all positions of the field.

CONDUCT

Coaches, players, spectators and referees are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at **ALL** times.

Teams are to occupy the same designated side of the field while spectators will be on the opposite side. **NO** one will be allowed behind the goal area.

Coaches are responsible for his/her spectators. A referee may ask a coach to speak to a spectator or ask the spectator to leave. A referee may suspend the game if the spectator does not cooperate.

At the end of the game, every team player will shake hands in a sportsmanlike manner.

A complaint about a referee should be made to the Director or the President of the league.

There will always be at least 1 board member present at Zearing Park during every game, for any questions. If a coach needs an explanation of a call, they may ask at the end of each quarter or the end of the game and only in a **PROFESSIONAL MANNER**. **Remember that we are setting an example for the players with our behavior.**

Players demonstrating continued or excessive physical play or unsportsmanlike behavior will be removed from the game.

MERCY RULE

If a game is 4 or more goals ahead and a player on the team that is ahead has 3 or more goals, the referee will have the power to force the coach to move the player back. This can be done at any stoppage of play.

Any issues with coaches on this matter will result in a warning for the first offense and cards after the second offense.

YELLOW/RED CARDS

A yellow card is a caution. If a player is shown a yellow card, he/she must come off of the field and be substituted by a player from his team. At the next legal substitution, the yellow-carded player may return. If a second yellow card is shown to the same player, within the same game (not necessarily for the same reason), this will result in a red card penalty. **Two yellow cards equal 1 red card.** On a second yellow card offense, the yellow does not have to be shown first. A referee can show a red card if he/she feels it is warranted.

A red card is a send-off. If a player is shown a red card, he/she must leave the playing area immediately. If no parental supervision is present, the player will sit quietly on the sidelines. The player that is red-carded **MUST** return to the next scheduled game and cheer on his/her team from the sidelines. **The player will not be allowed to participate until such time as the one game suspension has been served.** The team will not be penalized during this one game suspension and will play with a full team. If the player acts up while sitting, they will receive another red card and this offense will be brought to the PYSL Board for review and penalized accordingly.

A coach may also be shown a yellow or a red card. If a coach is shown a yellow card, it is a caution. If he/she is shown a second yellow card or shown a red card, within the same game, he/she must leave Zearing Park immediately. The assistant coach will then assume the head coach position for the remainder of the game and the next scheduled game. The head coach will return to the next scheduled game as a spectator and cheer his/her team on in a positive manner. The referee will report this action to the PYSL

Board for review. Upon review, further action may be taken against the coach. If the coach disputes the red card, he/she is entitled to a hearing by the board. **ALL IYSA** guidelines will be followed.

CUMULATIVE CARDS

There is a cumulative card system in place. Cards received in a game will be counted towards a total for the whole season. Yellow cards will be worth one point. Red cards are worth two points. Any combination of cards worth 4 points will result in an automatic one game suspension. For every accumulation of two points after the first four, another 1 game suspension will be handed down.

SCHEDULING

Games may be canceled due to inclement weather at the discretion of the PYSL Director, President or Vice-President. Cancellations will be announced using the BCRAAlert as a primary means of communication and also on our website at www.pyslsoccer.com. No play will be permitted if lightning or the threat of severe weather exists. If you are not signed up for BCRAAlert see Jeremy for details.

No schedule switching will be allowed without proper knowledge and approval. If there is a problem, contact the President.

Coaches are also asked to report any other matters that could jeopardize the integrity of our league.

DISCLOSURE

The PYSL Board has the right to approve, refuse, or remove any person who participates in PYSL in any capacity, including but not limited to, referees, coaches, and assistant coaches.

These guidelines have been reviewed and approved by the Princeton Youth Soccer League Board. Any questions may be directed to the PYSL Board.