



ADULT SOCCER PROGRAM

Rules and Regulations

The following GBYSA Adult Soccer League Supplemental Rules, in conjunction with the current F.I.F.A. Soccer Rules, will govern league play. Where there is a conflict of the rules, the stronger ruling will stand. Violation of the GBYSA Adult Soccer League Supplemental Rules below, or any specific rule infraction as noted under F.I.F.A Soccer Rules, may result in game forfeiture and/or suspension from the league. **It is the manager's responsibility, as well as the responsibility of all the players, in the GBYSA Adult Soccer League to understand and adhere to the following rules.**

The GBYSA Adult Soccer League has two goals. The first and foremost goal is to raise money for GBYSA and Boca United Soccer Clubs. The second goal is that the GBYSA Adult Soccer League provides an opportunity for adults to play soccer.

We, as adults, are playing to support a children's soccer league and set an example for these children. We are promoting a family environment where adults can bring their children, play soccer and just have a goodtime with family and friends. We hope that you and your team will enjoy a great season of soccer and come back for many more.

When choosing your players keep in mind that we will not tolerate unruly behavior. If you have any doubt about a player's ability to control his or her behavior, our advice is to not include that player on your team. The player(s), manager, and possibly the entire team will be held responsible for and individual player(s) actions.

This is a **recreational league. This league is not professional, semi-professional, or even competitive and is not to be taken any other way than purely and solely recreational.** All GBYSA Adult Soccer League rules will be strictly enforced and no exceptions will be made. Please don't put us in the position of having to police your fun.

Thank you for your cooperation.

GBYSA Adult Soccer League Committee (ALC)

Game Rules: Regular Season & Post Season

1. Benches:

- A. Team benches will be located on the opposite side of the field from spectators
- B. The home team will have choice of bench position on the player's side of the field

2. Equipment:

- A. The official Ball is a #5 Soccer Ball
- B. Both teams will provide a regulation ball
- C. Shin Guards and socks completely covering the shin guards are mandatory
- D. Team jersey - number assigned specifically to each player for the duration of the season
- E. Soccer cleats with rubber tips are mandatory - **Metal tipped cleats, baseball, softball, or football cleats/shoes are not allowed**

3. Game/Time:

- A. Two (2) Thirty minute halves with a running clock stopping only for
 - a. Injuries
 - b. Referee's/GBYSA Official discretion
 - c. 10 minute half time
- B. Games that start late due to the late arrival of a team or referee, may start up to 10 minutes late but will end at the scheduled time. The remaining game time will be divided evenly into halves.

4. Game Play:

- A. Seven (7) players per team, six (6) players and the goalie
- B. If there are seven (7) players on the field, there must be at least two (2) women on the field.
- C. A minimum of five (5) players per team are needed to begin a Game. If there are less than seven (7) players on a team, at least one (1) female player (who must be on the roster) is required to be on the field at all times
- D. A team playing without at least one female player from the official roster will forfeit the game
- E. Forfeit is required for any team unable to field a team within 10 minutes of game time.
- F. Substitutions are not allowed on the fly and must be done at midfield after a player has left the field. Substitutions are made during stoppage of play and/or ball out of bounds. As follows
 - a. Throw-ins
 - b. Corner kicks
 - c. Goal kicks
 - d. Injury
 - e. Game stoppage with referee approval

5. Roster:

- A. Rosters are due at the managers meeting prior to the beginning of the season. Every player listed on the roster is required to submit a current copy of a driver's license or other government issued photo id with the roster.
 - a. Players are ineligible for games until the id copy is supplied to ACL
 - b. Players are ineligible for games until the signed Conduct Agreement is supplied to ACL
 - c. Changes will be accepted until the end of the 3rd game for men and the 5th game for women
 - d. The roster is limited to 15 players, only 10 of which may be men.
- B. Under 30 Division 3 – All players must be at least 18 years of age and less than 30 years of age as of the first scheduled game of the season. Players in this Division are not eligible for play on any other team in any division
- C. Over 30 League - Men must be 30 years of age or older and women must be at least 18 years of age or older as of the first schedule game of the season
- D. Over 30 Division 1 – Men must be 30 years of age or older as of the first scheduled game of the season. Players in this Division are not eligible for play on any other team in any division
- E. Over 30 Division 2 teams may not share male players.
- F. Over 30 Division 2 teams may share female players from other Division 2 teams only. Female players must declare a primary team on the roster. During playoffs, female players will play for their primary teams only. Female players must have been on the roster during the regular season in order to play during playoffs.

6. Game Rules:

- A. The referee's calls are final and cannot be challenged.
- B. Slide tackling is not allowed by any player on the field. A slide tackle will result in a RED CARD and a suspension from the league. This rule includes the goalie.
- C. Hostile player contact during or after a play will result in a RED CARD, a suspension from the league, and the involvement of law enforcement if necessary
- D. A goal kick or goalkeeper's punt/throw must bounce or touch another player before crossing midfield.
 - a. Penalty: Opposing team receives a free indirect kick from midfield.
 - b. Opposing players need to stand eight (8) yards from the ball on an indirect kick.
- E. Penalty kicks outside the penalty box are indirect
- F. Penalty kicks inside the penalty box are direct
 - a. Ball is spotted 10 steps for both male and female players.
 - b. Scoring is same as for regular play
- G. Fouls and rules of misconduct will be determined by F.I.F.A rules and the GBYSA Adult League Supplemental rules as well as the Adult League Behavioral Guidelines.

7. Scoring:

- A. Goals scored by male players – 1 point
- B. Goals scored by an attacking female players – 2 points
- C. Goals scored by a defending female player (deflected ball) – 1 point

8. Game Conduct:

- A. Continual and excessive arguing of calls will not be allowed. This behavior will result in a Yellow Card being issued to the individual.
- B. Red Card: Players will be ejected from the game and must leave the field playing areas. Suspension from further play will be in accordance with the GBYSA Behavioral Guidelines as determined by the GBYSA ALC
- C. Referees have the option to remove unruly spectators from the field of play.

9. Card Rules:

- A. Cards issued by the game referee can not be contested and will not be overturned.
- B. The team manager may make comments at the end of the game and those comments will be noted on the game report, for use by the ALC in assessing possible suspensions or ejections from the league.
- C. Red and Yellow cards will be counted throughout the season and playoffs. Cards will be assigned a point value. Red cards will have a value of two (2) points and a Yellow card will have a point value of one (1). These points will be counted as follows:
 - a. 2 points or more on an individual player in a league game will constitute an ejection of that player from that game and at least one additional game, starting with the next scheduled game played. Additional game suspension(s) may be imposed, depending on the infraction. The player may not be replaced on the field.
 - b. Any player who receives 5 points or more in a season will be ineligible to play the remainder of the current season. The player may not be invited back to the league, depending on the infraction(s). The player will not be allowed to attend any further games for that season. The player may NOT be replaced on the roster.
 - c. Any team acquiring 10 points or more during one season will not be allowed to finish that season and will be suspended from the following season as well.
- D. Summer season - all cards are counted and all card rules apply
- E. The GBYSA ALC will review, determine, and have final say in the length and term of all suspensions.

10. Tie Games:

- A. Regular season games can end in a tie – no shoot outs
- B. Playoff games cannot end in a tie – 5 shots per team (This does not apply to the summer season games.)

11. Standing:

- A. In the event two teams have equal records, their placement will be determined by:
 - a. Goal differential for most goals scored in the season
 - b. Goal differential for least goals scored against in the season
 - c. NO placement is determined for summer season.
- B. No standing is kept for summer season

Manager's Responsibilities

1. Liaison:

- Serves as liaison between the members of his/her team and GBYSA Officials.
- Provides effective communication to prevent problems before they occur.

2. Rule Interpreter:

- Explains all policies, procedures, rules, and format to each player on the team.
- Makes contact with GBYSA officials regarding any new league information.
- Reads and reviews the entire game schedule for completeness.

3. Team Discipline:

- Responsible for behavior of team members and spectators before, during, and after the game.
- Only person on the team permitted to discuss rule interpretation with ALC.
- Only person on the team to discuss any ejection/suspension, which has occurred involving their team, with ALC.
- Insures any player(s) suspended will not participate in games until suspension is completed.

4. Rosters:

- Responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the team's roster.
- Responsible for not using players not on the roster.
- Responsible for making sure player jersey numbers match the number recorded on the roster prior to each game.

5. Team Organization:

- Makes sure each player on the team knows the correct game times.
- If playing the first game of the night on any field, arranges for a team representative to arrive 45 minutes before game time to help line the fields.
- If playing the last game of the night on any field, arranges for team representatives to help lock up the goals.
- Makes sure all bottles, wrappers, tape, and other garbage are cleaned up after game
- Addresses all questions concerning the league directly to the ALC to avoid misinformation and confusion.
- Checks the www.gbysa.org website for league information.
- Contacts officials at adultsoccer@gbysa.org.

6. Game Cancellations:

- Serves as contact when games are canceled. If no call is received the managers understands games are still “on” and scheduled to be played.
- Notifies all team members when games are canceled.

7. Backup Manager:

- When unable to attend games or meetings, the manager makes sure his/her replacement is knowledgeable of all policies, procedures, and rules.
- Notifies the GBYSA officials in advance who the backup manager will be.

8. Warm-Up Areas:

- Responsible for safety of team members and spectators.
- Makes sure his players warm up away from spectators and games in progress.

9. Drinking & Smoking:

- Informs team members and reminds them that drinking is prohibited inside the fence enclosures, on the fields, and adjacent park areas.
- Informs team members smoking is not allowed on fields.

10. Special Note to Managers on Spectators:

Managers are responsible and will be held accountable for fans, friends and family members who come to support their teams. Your team's spectators will be held to the same conduct regulations as your players. Your team can face red cards or suspension, or even banishment due to the acts of your spectators.

Spectators are certainly welcome and fans are encouraged to support their teams. Should spectator actions overstep acceptable behavior standards, the manager of the team whose spectators/fans are involved will receive a verbal warning. If not resolved, further action may include, but not limited to GBYSA officials requesting the person(s) involved to leave the area, game forfeiture or law enforcement involvement.

Please let your spectators know this rule.

Keep in mind that GBYSA Adult League is a private league not part of Palm Beach County.

Behavioral Guidelines

Our goal is to provide safe and enjoyable recreational soccer for everyone involved. While the majority of our participants display competitiveness in the spirit of recreational fun, there are occasions when they challenge this objective. The following guidelines have been developed, to be applied in an equitable and consistent manner when individual or team actions jeopardize the parameters that insure a safe and enjoyable activity. The list of offenses below is not all encompassing. These are examples only.

Action	1 st Offense	Further Occurrence
Trash Talking.	Warning/ Yellow card	Red card/Suspension
Arguing.	Warning/ Yellow card	Red card/Suspension
Profanity, gestures	Warning/ Yellow card	Red card/Suspension
Spitting	Red card /Game(s) suspension	Permanent Suspension
Harassing/Intimidating officials or referees.	Red card /Game(s) suspension (also may involve law enforcement)	Permanent Suspension
Throwing objects, Intentional physical contact, player/player	Red card /Game(s) suspension (also may involve law enforcement)	Permanent Suspension from league
Fighting	Permanent Suspension from league (also may involve law enforcement)	
Incidents requiring law enforcement.	Permanent Suspension from league	
INELIGIBLE/ILLEGAL PLAYERS (Not on Roster or Authorized)	Player ejected, team forfeits game.	Suspension of games and/or season.
Possession/Consumption/Use of Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco within athletic complex fence/enclosure/field area prior to or during game.	Alcohol/Drugs – Ineligible to play. Tobacco – Verbal warning	Suspension

During all games the referee will be the one and only authority on the field. All calls will stand and will not be overturned. In the event of a Red card suspension the GBYSA Adult League Committee will review the referee's game reports and make final decisions for all player and/or team suspensions.

When a suspension is incurred, the suspended games will be served in the GBYSA Adult League Division in which the suspension was incurred. Players **may not play** in another GBYSA Adult league game till suspensions are served. Un-served games will be carried over into the next season if not enough games remain in the current season to serve the full suspension (inclusive of tournaments).

GBYSA ADULT LEAGUE

PLAYER CONDUCT AGREEMENT

Players in the GBYSA Adult League are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the rules of play and regulations of GBYSA. This conduct agreement must be signed to be eligible to play in the GBYSA Adult League games and scrimmages.

The following will not be allowed:

- § Use of foul language
- § Threatening of another player, the referee, or league officials
- § Verbal abuse of another player, the referee, or league officials

Enforcement of rules:

- § The rules and regulations of the GBYSA Adult League will be strictly enforced.
- § Any player who receives 5 points or more in a season will be ineligible to play the remainder of the current season and the next season. The player may not be invited back to the league, depending on the infraction(s). The player will not be allowed to attend any further games for that season. The player may NOT be replaced on the roster.
- § Any team acquiring 10 points or more during one season will not be allowed to finish that season and will be suspended from the following season as well.

LIABILITY RELEASE

I, _____, agree that I will abide by the rules and regulations of this league and its affiliates, recognizing the possibility of physical injury associated with soccer and in consideration for being accepted as a participant in this soccer program. I hereby release, hold harmless, and agree to indemnify this league, GBYSA, their affiliated organizations, and all persons, officers, coaches, and officials, including the owners of the fields and facilities used for the program, from any and all liability of every nature, kind and descriptions as a result of injury, hurt, or damages sustained by me as a result of my participation in this soccer program and/or being transported to or from the same.

Your signature is required below, signifying that you have received, read, and agree to abide by GBYSA rules. Without your signature, you will not be allowed to join GBYSA. This form must be received prior to playing.

Signature

Printed name

May 2006. Please distribute a copy of these rules to each player. Each player must sign this document.