



# Outdoor 8v8 Soccer

## Laws of the Game

The official FIFA Laws of the Game shall govern league play with the following exceptions and modifications.

### **LAW 1 – THE FIELD OF PLAY**

The field of play shall be 75x45 yards and rectangular in shape. Youth size, smaller goals shall be used.

### **LAW 3 – THE NUMBER OF PLAYERS**

#### *Number of players*

A match is played by two teams consisting of 4 males, 3 females and a goalkeeper of either gender. A team may begin play with as few as 6 players: 3 males, 2 females and a GK. A minimum of 2 players of each gender must be present to play.

#### *Roster limitations*

Teams may have no more than 16 players listed on their roster. Only those players listed AND who have signed the roster, may play in the postseason playoffs.

#### *Number of substitutions*

Each team may use an unlimited number of substitutions after receiving permission from the referee.

### **LAW 4 – THE PLAYERS' EQUIPMENT**

**Shinguards are mandatory for all players and must be covered entirely by the stockings.**

A team jersey or t-shirt is required with all players wearing a similar color. In case of a color conflict, the away team must change. Turf shoes, flat soled shoes or outdoor cleats are allowed. Metal or screw-in cleats are prohibited.

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

#### *Periods of play*

Each match consists of two equal halves of 25 minutes with a halftime interval that shall not exceed 5 minutes.

#### *Extra time*

Extra time will not be played except in games where a winner is necessary. Teams that are tied after 50 minutes of play will an additional 5-minute "golden goal" period. If still tied, each team will perform 3 shootouts to determine a winner. Shootouts will continue back and forth until a winner is determined. Shootout takers must alternate gender.

## **LAW 11 – OFFSIDE**

The offside law will NOT be in effect for all Maple Valley Parks & Rec Outdoor 8v8 games.

## **LAW 12 – FOULS AND MISCONDUCT**

### *Slide Tackling*

Slide tackling another player is prohibited. Players may slide to play the ball provided a dangerous play is not created; referee's judgment. A direct free kick will be awarded for all slide tackles.

### *Cautionable offences*

Any player receiving a yellow card must leave the field and may not return until identification is provided to the referee at the next opportunity to substitute.

### *Sending-off offences*

Any player receiving a red card must leave the park immediately (out of sight, out of sound) or the game will be forfeited. A player receiving a red card is automatically suspended for the team's next match. Players receiving a red card face additional suspension from the league and the team captain will be notified of the player's exact suspension length.

**Serious foul play and violent conduct will not be tolerated in our league. Fighting, headbutting, kicking, punching or just attempting to do any of the previously mentioned actions could result in a one-year suspension from ALL adult and youth activities through Maple Valley Parks & Recreation.**

**Any player receiving a yellow or red card must present valid identification (i.e. a driver's license) to the referee or that player may not continue to play in the game.**

## **LAW 13 – FREE KICKS**

All fouls shall result in a direct free kick being awarded. A goal may be scored directly from all free kicks. All opponents must remain at least 10 yards from the ball in all directions.

## **LAW 14 – THE SHOOTOUT**

A penalty shootout is awarded against a team that commits a direct free kick offense inside its own penalty area while the ball is in play. Time may be extended by the referee to allow a shootout to be taken or retaken.

- The ball shall be placed on the top of the D of the penalty area.
- The GK must remain on the goal line until the whistle is blown.
- All remaining players must remain inside the center circle until the whistle is blown and then may chase the shootout kicker.
- Should shootouts be needed to determine an extra time game winner, players will not chase the kicker. Instead, the kicker will have 10 seconds (as counted by the game's referee) to score a goal. The ball is dead at the end of 10 seconds regardless of the ball's position.

## **LAW 15 – THE THROW-IN**

Throw-ins shall not be used. Players shall kick a stationary ball, from the sideline, from the point nearest where the ball left play. All kick-ins are direct free kicks.

## **LAW 16 – THE GOAL KICK**

When a goal kick is awarded, the goalkeeper shall restart play with a throw, drop-kick or spot kick from any point within the penalty area. The ball must completely exit the penalty area before being played by any player on either team.

The goalkeeper's throw or kick may not completely cross the halfway line, in the air, without first touching the field or a player of either team. **Penalty:** Opposing team is awarded a free kick from the centre mark from the halfway line.

# POINTS OF EMPHASIS

**Maple Valley Parks & Recreation reserves the right to suspend, fine and/or expel players or teams without refunds.**

Alcohol or drug use is strictly prohibited before, during or after the game. Players appearing intoxicated or under the influence (sight or smell) will be sent off from the game and may be suspended.

## *Forfeits*

If the trailing team causes the game to end in forfeit, the current score shall stand. If the winning team causes the game to end in forfeit, the score shall be recorded as 2-0.

## *Tie Breakers*

The following tie breakers shall be used when determining the league standings: (1) win/loss record between all tied teams, (2) total goals allowed, (3) total goal differential, (4) coin toss.

## *Player Suspensions*

Typical suspensions include:

Guilty of Serious Foul Play	2+ game suspension
Guilty of Violent Conduct	1 year suspension from all activities
Spitting	1-3 game suspension
Denies a Goal Scoring Opportunity	1 game suspension
Uses Offensive, Insulting or Abusive Language	1-3 game suspension
Abusive Language to a Referee	2+ game suspension
Receives a Second Caution in the same game	Min. 1 game suspension



## Lightning Guidelines

- a. When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Play shall be suspended and players must take shelter immediately.
- b. **Thirty-minute rule.** Once play has been suspended, umpires must wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
- c. Any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30 minute count shall reset the clock and another countdown will begin.

**Reviewed and Approved in May 2014**



## **Official Code of Conduct**

All players, coaches, and team captains are responsible for reading and abiding by all conditions set forth in the Official Code of Conduct. Further, all team captains are responsible for providing the code to all team members prior to the start of the season. Participation in the league constitutes consent to the Official Code of Conduct even in the absence of payment of league fees.

### **NO PLAYER SHALL**

- At any time lay a hand upon, shove, strike or threaten any player, official, spectator, or city personnel.
- Be guilty of a physical attack upon any player, official, spectator, or city personnel.
- Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any player, official, spectator, or city personnel.
- Be guilty of severe vulgarities directed at any player, official, spectator, or city personnel.
- Be guilty of unnecessarily rough tactics against the body or person of an opposing player.
- Refuse to abide by an official's decision.
- Discuss with any official in any manner the decision reached by an official. Only one representative, who must be designated at the Pre-Game Meeting, will be allowed to have verbal interaction with the officials.
- Be guilty of an objectionable demonstration of dissent at an official's decision. Only one representative, who must be designated at the Pre-Game Meeting, will be allowed to have verbal interaction with the officials.

### **ALL PLAYERS AND TEAM CAPTAINS**

- Are expected to abide by the rules and regulations set forth for each athletic program.
- Found in violation of the Official Code of Conduct will be immediately suspended from further play and will be reported to the Maple Valley Parks & Recreation Department.
- Shall adhere to any official or Parks & Recreation employee enforcing the code at any time.
- Removed or suspended from any game or match shall leave the recreation facility, gym or field, or any other area immediately; OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF SOUND.

*The City of Maple Valley Parks & Recreation Department reserves the right to modify the Official Code of Conduct at any time.*