

South Central District U10 Travel Packet

U10 Commissioner

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Normal communications should take place via email to the Commissioners. *Please ensure the SUBJECT LINE of any emails you send contains the team/club name, gender, and division, as appropriate.* **Urgent or time-sensitive communications should be made directly to Joseph A. Conte, SCD Vice President, at 203-248-9853.**

GENERAL INFORMATION

All U-10s that play in a particular club are eligible to play on a U-10 Travel Rec team sponsored by their club as long as they are on the certified roster. This is a developmental league and not a comp league or all-star league, and no tryouts are to be held for these teams. Teams should have pools of players in which all players can experience travel soccer with different players and against competition from other clubs. **U-9s can play, but no more than 50% of a team roster can be comprised of U-9 players.** U-8s and younger are not eligible. Roster size is unlimited.

Rosters:

All U-10 Travel Rec teams playing within South Central District must have a CJSA certified roster (with all players interested in playing on the team and coaches listed). Players are not required to have player passes, but all players must be listed on the roster. Coaches must have passes and be listed on the roster. Roster size is unlimited!

Teams without certified rosters cannot play. Players not on the certified roster cannot play in games!

In order to be on an approved roster, the player must have their birth certificate approved by Patrick Duffy, SCD Registrar, and the coaches must complete the CJSA background check.

Referees:

Referees are required to check the certified roster and each coach's pass before each match. Since roster size is unlimited, teams can create a game day roster to give the referee in addition to the certified roster.

The home club will provide a referee crew (one center referee and two assistant referees or club linesmen. If ARs are not available, both teams should provide volunteers to act as Club Linesmen and signal when the ball entirely crosses the touch line or goal line.) Coaches are required to provide a copy of the certified roster to the referee and opposing coach.

District Website:

All coaches will use their League Athletics password to access the district website. The home coaches need to upload and update their schedules with the correct dates, times, and field locations before the start of the season.

Game Results:

Although, SCD does not keep standings, coaches are encouraged to submit their game scores. This is ONLY for data purposes. No standings are kept - however, the "five goal rule" applies and the U-10 Commissioner should be contacted when a team violates this rule. See the next page for more information on this rule.

Yellow Cards and Red Cards:

Coaches must self-report all yellow and red cards and submit a report using the district website. Get the information from the referee (infraction, CJSA ID number, player name, and referee crew).

Other Information:

This is a recreational league and is all about players developing, experiencing travel soccer, and having fun. All players should play a minimum of 50% of the match unless there are injuries or discipline issues. The playing time for each team member should be approximately equal. See the next page for more information on this rule.

The district does schedule some games for teams that are similar in grouping, strength, location, etc. However, teams can schedule additional games on their own. **Teams are encouraged to schedule a maximum of one game per weekend** and a total of 10 games per season. Teams with larger pools can schedule more games; however, all players should only play one game per weekend if they participate in an in-house rec program or on a premier development team. This is not the World Cup; let's not burn these kids out!

The home team should contact the opposing team at least one week in advance to confirm game date, time, and location. The home team should make sure the directions on the district website are correct so the visiting team has the correct directions, discuss jersey color, and a reasonable notification in case a game is postponed due to inclement weather. The home coach should confirm the game on the website and cancel and reschedule due to inclement weather or poor field conditions.

U-10 TRAVEL REC GUIDELINES

Field Length:	minimum 70 yards, maximum 80 yards	
Field Width:	minimum 45 yards, maximum 55 yards	
Goals:	6 x 18 feet	
Playing Time:	2 x 30 minute halves	
Ball Size:	Size 4	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SCD Policy on Player Passes and Rosters

The South Central District policy is that if there is no roster at a league or friendly game -- then there is no play. If there are no passes, the approved roster needs to be signed by the players and coaches and the referee must submit a supplemental game report via Central Assign and fax the roster to Joe Conte, SCD Vice President, at 203-248-1360.

Players not a certified roster cannot play regardless if they have a pass or not.

Coaches should always have three (3) copies of their approved roster at each game PLUS player and coaches passes. One roster is for the referee and one for the opposing team's coach.

U10 Developmental Travel Rec players do not have player passes, but coaches have passes. All U10 Developmental Travel Rec teams do have certified rosters.

Referees must check rosters and passes before every game played in South Central District regardless of it is a league game or a friendly game.

PLAYING TIME

SCD rules require that every player on a "recreation plus" travel team play at least half the game, except for reasons of injury, illness, or discipline. This rule is absolute. If it is established by the Commissioner that players are not being given their rightful playing minutes, the game will be deemed a forfeit and the club in violation will be subject to associated fines. Further, SCD may elect to take steps to discipline the offending coach or coaches. Do not let the desire to win the game interfere with the prime objective of recreation travel soccer – playing for the fun of the game and learning the game!

FIVE-GOAL RULE

SCD uses a rule in all recreational travel divisions that is meant to keep the competition healthy between teams.

- If at any time during the game, one team achieves a **five-goal** advantage over the other, the team that is ahead must remove one player from the field and play down until the five-goal margin is gone.
- If the team holding the five-goal lead increases their lead, another player must be removed and the team must play down two players until the goal margin is returned to five goals.
- No team will be required to remove more than two players in this situation. Teams are reminded that removing weaker players defeats the purpose and intent of this rule. Teams with five-goal leads should focus on removing stronger players first.
- If this rule comes into play during the game, SCD rules requiring all players on recreation travel teams to play half the game are held in abeyance. Again, taking time from the weaker players works against the intent of this rule.

In the event the game finishes with a goal differential greater than five goals, the coach of the winning team is required to provide an e-mailed explanation describing the circumstances leading to this final score. This explanation must accompany the reported game score. If the team has a second game with a winning margin in excess of five goals, the president of the associated club is required to provide a written explanation of the circumstances of this second score and further address steps being taken to avoid another similar result. Failure to provide the first letter will result in assessment of fines to the parent club. A second violation, even if explained by the club president, may result in the offending team be subject to associated fines.

Coaches are strongly advised to ensure their team parents understand this rule prior to the start of the season. Please respect the feelings of the players involved from both teams when dealing with this situation.

SILENT SIDELINES REMINDER

At January's 2002 Annual General Meeting the membership passed a policy stating that "Each Fall and Spring playing season the Board of Directors shall sponsor a statewide Silent Sidelines weekend. Coaches will be permitted to give players direction from the sidelines. Spectators will be directed to refrain from making any comments to players, coaches or referees, but will be permitted to applaud efforts by players." Referees are not responsible for the enforcement of this rule. It is the clubs' responsibility to inform your spectators of the guidelines for Silent Sidelines.

The Fall Silent Sidelines will be the third weekend of October, and the Spring Silent Sidelines will be the third weekend of May. The goals of Silent Sidelines Weekend are to:

1. develop our players to make decisions on the field without sideline intervention.
2. improve the players' communication on the field by reducing the outside noise level.
3. support our youth referees by eliminating dissension from the sidelines.

This rule was drafted and passed at the request of a CJSA player. We need to help our players develop without the continued interference from the sidelines. The objective is to promote greater awareness of this development by coaches and parents as well as the players and referees.

We are requesting that all spectators remain silent on these weekends. For the sake of our kids, we are asking for one weekend where we stand back and just let the players play. We would like to provide each player at least one game of their season that is free of the distractions caused by spectators screaming and yelling at them.

This program was first sponsored by CJSA in September 2000 and was successful. Many players stated they enjoyed the opportunity to communicate with their teammates and be heard. One player, Tommy Schanzer, enjoyed the experience so much that he spearheaded a movement to bring back Silent Sidelines each season.

The guidelines are simple. Spectators are to be quiet, talking in a normal tone to the person next to them. What is to be avoided are comments that can be heard by players, referees, or opponents. Applause is permitted and encouraged.

The program works. It has increased the awareness by both coaches and parents of the players' development. In addition, it has increased referee retention.

Your help is needed. We are asking everyone in CJSA to promote and support Silent Sidelines Weekend and give the game back to the kids.

(The above message is a modification of Andrea Duffy's May 2002 President's Message.)

For more information – please visit: <http://www.cjsa.org/cjsa/home/SilentSidelines/tabid/4044/Default.aspx>