

**FARGO-MOORHEAD-WEST FARGO
SOCCER LEAGUE**



**LOCAL RULES
For
RECREATIONAL PLAY**

Fall 2004 and Spring 2005

FMWF SOCCER LEAGUE LOCAL RULES FOR YOUTH AND RECREATIONAL PLAY

The goal of the Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo Soccer League (FMWFSL) is to provide recreational soccer activities to the youth of the Fargo-Moorhead-West Fargo ~~community~~ communities and surrounding areas. Sportsmanship and equal playing time are given special emphasis. We want to provide a healthy, fun, team-oriented recreational environment that builds self-esteem while teaching lifetime playing skills.

I. LEAGUE ORGANIZATION

A. REGISTRATION

1. Seventh and eighth graders choosing to play high school fall season are not eligible to play FMWFSL Fall, ~~indoor~~ or Spring season for the school year.

B. SIZE

1. Each league (grade) shall consist of two or more divisions whenever possible. A division should normally have four to eight teams, but may have as few as three.

II. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A. ADOPTION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE RULES

1. Amendment, interpretation and implementation of the Local Rules shall be at the discretion of FMWFSL Board of Directors.

B. TEAM ASSIGNMENT.

1. Players shall be assigned to teams on the following basis:
Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3, Grade 4, Grade 5, Grade 6, and combined teams/divisions of 7th and 8th grade players.

C. DIVISION ASSIGNMENTS

1. Prior to the Fall season, teams will be randomly assigned to divisions. Teams are not to be divided into divisions on the basis of geographical locations. The goal is for each division to include teams from all participating communities.
2. Teams within a given division will play each other on a rotating basis. At the conclusion of the fall season, the manner in which each game shall be counted toward division placement for the spring season is as follows:
 - a. Two points for a win; one point for a tie or an unplayed game and no points for a loss.
 - b. At the end of the fall season the points are to be totaled for each team. In the spring, teams will be reorganized so teams of comparable skill are in the same divisions.

D. GAMES

1. FMWFSL will schedule games for the Fall and Spring seasons including dates to be used to reschedule games postponed by the Board of Directors or their agents.
2. The FMWFSL Board of Directors or their agents may cancel or postpone games when conditions of play warrant such action.
3. FMWFSL will not reschedule games when requested by a team(s). FMWFSL ~~but~~ will provide to the coach(es) a list of teams, coach's names and telephone numbers in their division level to aid them in organizing a controlled scrimmage. The teams are responsible for finding and reimbursing any referees.

III. GAME RULES

A. RECREATIONAL PLAY

1. All games shall be played according to the current FIFA "Laws of The Game and Universal Guide for Referees with USSF Supplement", subject to modification by these FMWF Local Rules.
2. All registered coaches shall be provided with a copy of the FMWF Soccer League Local Rules.
3. General policies governing **kindergarten and 1st grade play**:
 - a. Play shall promote the sport of soccer and sportsmanship;
 - b. No scores or standings shall be kept of games played;
 - c. Unlimited player substitutions allowed;
 - d. Coaches shall be allowed on the playing field;
 - e. All normally scheduled games shall be played on the smallest playing fields available;
 - f. In games using cones, a ball hitting the cone shall not count as a goal. A ball must pass between the goal markers, unaided by the goal markers, to count as a valid goal.

B. GAME DUTIES

1. The specific requirements for each age groups game, field of play, and officiating are listed in Table I which follows this section.
2. Within 10 minutes of the scheduled starting time, a team that has not fielded the required number of players forfeits the match. This rule may be waived by mutual consent of the opposing coaches, match referee and field supervisors.
3. Players of a scheduled game should all be on the same side of the soccer field.
4. The first Kindergarten & Grade 1 teams on the field put up the cones; the last teams on the field take down the equipment as needed.
5. Emergency substitutions due to injury may be made with the referee's approval.
6. Team coaches are responsible for the supervision and control of players and spectators ~~in the proximity of~~ affiliated with their team during the match.

7. A team coach shall sign the score card after each game when the game record contributes to a team's division standing.
8. Each game score card shall include a statement whereby each coach's signature certifies the game was played in accordance with FMWF SOCCER LEAGUE Local Rules.

C. PLAYERS

1. Uniforms and shin guards with socks covering the shin guards must be worn.
2. Necklaces, jewelry and watches may not be worn.
3. Playing with appropriately padded casts and earrings is at the discretion of the center referee.

D. RULE VIOLATIONS

1. The referee, field supervisor and/or any FMWFSL Director has the authority to order from the proximity of the playing field any player, coach, or spectator who is not conducting themselves in a manner reflecting sportsmanship, courtesy and respect for other players, coaches, ~~and~~ officials and/or spectators. If the person does not leave and/or if the game is called due to such behavior then the team affiliated with the person or action will forfeit the game.
2. Team coaches who fail to exhibit a manner consistent with the implied nature of fair play, sportsmanship and courtesy of the "Laws of the Game" of soccer shall be subject to caution, send-off and subsequent cessation of future coaching in a match at the discretion of the referee.
3. Any participant sent off the field of play under FIFA Law 12, Fouls and Misconduct, (red card) shall not be allowed to further participate in that match, nor shall that individual be allowed to participate in the next scheduled match of the current, or if applicable, the next comparable season of play.
4. FMWFSL shall maintain records of goals scored and yellow and red cards received during sanctioned league play.

E. PROTESTS OF VIOLATIONS

1. If a coach believes an opposing team has violated any aspect of the Local Rules, the coach may protest the suspected violation to the referee. The referee will note the protest and any corroborating information on the back of the game card.
2. In the event of a game protest, the responsible home club shall conduct any investigation deemed necessary. The FMWFSL shall notify the coaches involved as well as their respective home clubs in the resolution of the protest.
3. The FMWFSL Board of Directors will make a final decision that a violation of the Local Rules has occurred and the appropriate action, which may include forfeiture of the game.

TABLE I

GAME SPECIFICATIONS BY GRADE

AGE DIVISION	KIND & GRADE 1	GRADE 2 & 3	Grade 4	GRADE 4& 5	Grade 6	GRADE 6, 7, & 8
FIELD SIZE	20 X 30 YDS 2 FIELDS	40 X 50 YDS	50 x 60 yds	50 X 70 YDS	50 x 80 yds	50 X 100 YDS
BALL SIZE	3	4 3	5 4	5 4	5 4	5
GOAL SIZE	8 FT WIDE	9.5 X 5FT	12 x 6 ft	16 X 7 FT	21 x 7 ft	24 X 8 FT
ROSTER	10-14	10-12	10-12	11-14	11-14	14 - 18
PLAYERS	4 PER FIELD (NO GOALIE)	6	6	8	8	11
MINIMUM TO START	3	4	4	6	6	8
TIME PERIODS	2 20 MIN. HALVES	4 12 MIN. QUARTERS	4 15 MIN. QUARTERS	4 15 MIN. QUARTERS	2 30 MIN. HALVES	6TH 30 MIN. 7-8 35MIN. HALVES
OFF SIDES	NOT CALLED	NOT CALLED	NOT CALLED	NOT CALLED <u>if Obvious</u>	CALLED	CALLED
GOAL KICK	USED	USED	USED	USED	USED	USED
PENALTY KICK	NOT USED	NOT USED	<u>Not Used</u>	USED	USED	USED
CORNER KICK	USED	USED	USED	USED	USED	USED
HAND BALL	NOT CALLED	CALLED	CALLED	CALLED	CALLED	CALLED
OFFICIAL	COACH	REFEREE	REFEREE	REFEREE	REFEREE	REFEREE
SUB-SUBSTITUTIONS	WHEN THE REFEREE ALLOWS	WHEN THE REFEREE ALLOWS	WHEN THE REFEREE ALLOWS	WHEN THE REFEREE ALLOWS	WHEN THE REFEREE ALLOWS	WHEN THE REFEREE ALLOWS
VARIATIONS	DIRECT KICK INSTEAD OF PENALTY KICK <u>All free kicks are indirect kicks</u>	DIRECT KICK INSTEAD OF PENALTY KICK <u>All free kicks are indirect kicks</u>	<u>All free kicks are indirect kicks</u>			