



2016 Recreational Program Handout

SAGINAW TOWNSHIP SOCCER ASSOCIATION (STSA)

STSA COACHES INFORMATION AND RULES

Introduction

The Saginaw Township Soccer Association Board of Directors would like to thank you for volunteering to coach. We hope that you find this to be a most enjoyable and rewarding experience. As parents and coaches we know that you recognize it is most important for the players to have fun, learn about the game of soccer, and to continue development of their soccer skills. Please stress having fun and good sportsmanship.

If you have a conflict with a parent, player, another coach, or the referee, please try to settle it calmly and preferably after the game with a board member or coordinator present. Please contact your coordinator (see list below) if you have any questions or comments.

STSA Division Coordinators

Below is the list of age specific division coordinators. If you have any questions or issues related to your division, please contact your coordinator.

Age Division	Coordinator Name	Phone Number
U5/U7 Boys	Jennifer Donaldson	(989) 980-1826
U5/U7 Girls	Julie Tacktor	(989) 878-2274
U9 Boys	Matt Stilson	(989) 798-6636
U9 Girls	Donny McCloskey	(989) 780-0356
U12 Boys	Ernie Martinez	(989) 714-0228
U12 Girls	Julie Valley	(989) 372-3330
U15 Boys and Girls (Coed play)	Travis Winters	(989) 397-2739
Administrative Director	Jack Burd	(989) 295-1945
SAGINAW TOWNSHIP SOCCER ASSOCIATION INFORMATION		
STSA Complex Phone Number:	(989) 295-1945	
STSA Website	www.saginawsoccer.org	

STSA Volunteer Opportunities

STSA is a volunteer organization with non-paid board members. To be successful and to maintain the quality of our programs and facilities we rely on the participation of parents and families.

Please be an advocate for STSA and encourage your parents to give back to the program by volunteering time at STSA. Areas we always looking for help with are:

- Player Registrations and Sign up
- Tournament Concessions
- Tournament organizing, setup, clean up, registration, and field marshalling

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More Information available at [HTTP:\\STSA.CLUB](http://STSA.CLUB)

Season and Schedule

The season starts on Saturday September 17, 2016. **Please contact your players as soon as possible.** If you cannot make contact with a player or there is a problem, call your coordinator. Schedules will be available online a week prior to opening day.

Please check your schedules;

- Ten (10) games on the schedule for all players. For U9 and above, this includes 7 “regular season” games and at least 3 games in the tournament to be held October 22 & 23.

Practices

Teams can start practicing anytime. Teams can meet a total of three times per week, i.e.: 1 practice + 2 games. Practices may be held at most township schools and parks.

PRACTICING AT THE STSA COMPLEX IS PROHIBITED

There will however, be Training Clinics held at the complex see schedule!

(There is not room for 70 teams to all practice at the complex at the same time!)

Assistants and Volunteers

Coaches will need to find volunteers for assistant coaches and team parent. See team roster for more information. There can be **no more than TWO** coaches on the same sideline for each team. Assistant coaches must also do Risk Management and Concussion Training.

Risk Management Concussion Cert.

All Coaches (including assistant coaches) must complete a risk management application in order to coach. This is a requirement of MSYSA and is for the safety of the players. Additionally, each coach and assistant is now required by Michigan Law to complete the Concussion Training (on our website!).

Equipment

Each team will be provided a bag of balls to be used for practices and games. Turn in the balls at the end of the season to your division’s coordinator or at the concession stand. Put a piece of paper with your team number on it in the bag before you turn it in. (Does not apply U5-U7 who are issued balls prior to each meeting at the complex)

Uniforms

All players must wear a STSA jersey. Jerseys can be purchased at the STSA store next to the concession stand for a cost of \$15.00 each. The store will be open the entire week prior to the start season from 5 pm to 7 pm and all day opening Saturday.

Refreshments

Players should bring water to all games and practices. If you wish, end of the game treats can be scheduled through the coach or team parent.

Pictures

Photos will be taken by Hick’s studio at complex. Information will be provided at the coaches meeting.

Pro Training

Please refer to the STSA website for date and time postings of these clinics.

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Referees

A referee will be assigned to each game by STSA except in the U-5/U-7 division. In the case where it appears a referee is absent contact the board member in charge at the concession stand. Extra referees are generally assigned on each game day.

The STSA Board has a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** with regards to the treatment of referees and expects all referees to be treated with respect by all coaches, parents, and players. Be patient and positive with all referees, especially the club referees that do most of the younger age group games and are generally still learning how to referee a game. If you have a problem with a referee please bring it to the attention of the referee coordinator or the board member in charge after the game so the problem can be addressed.

Board Member in Charge (BMIC)

On all regular scheduled game days there is at least one STSA Board Member assigned to be in charge of the complex. Please report to that person if you need assistance or have a problem. This would include problems with the fields, coaches, players, spectators or referees, and any injuries of a serious nature. Most often, this is Jack Burd the Administrative Director 295-1945.

Cancelled games due to Weather

The following will occur if games are canceled due to bad weather:

1. An announcement will be made on the following radio stations: WIOG, WHNN, WILZ, WKCQ, WSGW and WGER. In addition any canceled games may be posted on our web site or by e-mail if time permits.
2. A yellow flag will be flown from the complex's flagpole, signifying that games have been canceled.
3. If the warning horn is sounded during a game, all coaches, players, and parents are to leave the fields and find shelter in an AUTOMOBILE. (see STSA severe weather policy)

All games are to be rescheduled. Rescheduling of games is to be done thru the coordinator for the division your team is in. If a whole night's worth of games need to be rescheduled, the complex will issue a new schedule for the rained out game(s) on the WEB SITE.

Coaches Conduct

All coaches are reminded that they teach good sportsmanship to players and parents through their behavior. It is your responsibility to conduct yourself in a respectable controlled manner in all situations and that you serve as a role model for the players. Remember be respectful to opponents by not running up the score or allowing taunting or behavior that would humiliate another player. As coaches we are here for the sole purpose to instruct, supervise and facilitate kids in the game of soccer but **MOST OF ALL TO HAVE FUN**. This includes: if the other team is a player or two short, either have one of your players play for the other team or also short your team to have a fair number vs a fair number of players!

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LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES

Responsibilities of Home team

The home team is indicated on the schedule. The home team is responsible for providing the game ball along with placing and removing the corner flags. Corner flags will be available at the side of the complex building near the garage.

IF UNSURE WHO IS RESPONSIBLE PLEASE RETURN THE FLAGS!!

Team Colors

The **HOME** team wears **WHITE** and the **VISITING (away)** team wears **RED**.

Player Equipment

Shin guards are required and must be covered by socks. Soccer cleats are recommended but not mandatory. All recreational players are to wear an STSA Jersey. Goaltenders are required to wear a goalie shirt or pinnie. The goalie shirt can be any color except red or white.

All jewelry will be **REMOVED** or the player will not be allowed to play. Covering or taping jewelry, including earrings, is not acceptable. This rule will be strictly enforced and is for the safety of the players.

Hats, gloves and pants may be worn in cold weather.

Number of Players

The number of players a team is to have on the field is indicated in the chart on the next page. This can be changed by the League Administrator depending on the makeup of the teams. The minimum number of players a team can play with is also indicated.

If a team is short players the team with more players has the option of playing with fewer players. If one team has considerably more players than the team that is short and will greatly diminish playing time for players on that team, it is suggested the team with more players loan players to the other team

Game Rules

All STSA games shall be conducted in accordance with the current FIFA laws of the Game and decisions of the International Football Association Board in effect at a date amended by the Saginaw Township Soccer Association.

Slide tackling is PROHIBITED in ALL DIVISIONS

Goalkeepers may take unlimited number of steps when they have the ball in their hands but must remain in the penalty area and give up possession with their hands within six seconds or prior to leaving the penalty area.

Please attempt to learn the rules of the game and teach them to the Players and parents. STSA wants the referees to call the rules and fouls in all divisions. The above rules can only be modified by written notice from the League or Division coordinator.

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LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES

	RECREATIONAL LEAGUE GAME INFORMATION				
Age Groups	U5	U7	U9	U12	U15 COED
Size of Ball	3	3	3	4	5
# of Players	4v4 or 5v5	4v4 or 5v5	6v6	9v9	11v11
Substitution	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Injuries	Substitution for injured player only.				
Cautions	Substitution for injured player only.				
Game Duration	One 20 - 30 minute "Game" per session	One 20 - 30 minute "Game" per session	Two 25 Minute Halves	Two 30 Minute Halves	Two 35 Minute Halves
Foul Kicks	Direct	Direct	FIFA Laws	FIFA Laws	FIFA Laws
Distance from Kick	6 Yards	6 Yards	8 Yards	8 Yards	10 Yards
Penalty Kicks	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Second Throw-In	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Coin Toss	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Offside Rule	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Heading	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Boys Coordinator	Jennifer Donaldson (989) 980-1826	Jennifer Donaldson (989) 980-1826	Matt Stilson (989) 798-6636	Julie Valley (989) 372-3330	Travis Winters (989) 397-2739
Girls Coordinator	Julie Tactor (989) 878-2274	Julie Tactor (989) 878-2274	Donny McCloskey (989) 780-0356	Ernie Martinez (989) 714-0228	

Any Laws not specifically amended or mentioned in the above chart are to be enforced using the FIFA Laws of the Game.

Playing Time	In the U9 Divisions and above, unlimited substitutions are allowed. Coaches are responsible to assure that playing time is fairly distributed amongst the players.
Heading	Starting with the spring season, 2016, youth players UNDER 11 years old are not to PURPOSELY head the ball. If the referee judges that a PURPOSEFUL header has been taken, the opponent may be awarded an INDIRECT FREE KICK.
Coaches and Spectators	Coaches are to stay on their half of the field (except for the coaches on the field in U5/U7 divisions). No team shall have more than two coaches. Spectators are to be on the sideline opposite the teams. No spectators or coaches are allowed behind the goals. See attached sheet.
Additional Game Rules	<p>U5/U7 Divisions:</p> <p>Please review the game day format with U5/U7 Division Coordinators – Jennifer Donaldson and Julie Tacktor U5 and U7 are played on a split field format. Rules specific to that division are provided on separate pages.</p> <p>Coaches are allowed on the field in the U-5/U-7 Divisions. Coaches are to help direct the players but should be as inconspicuous as possible. Coaches are there to facilitate the game and shall not interfere with the play in any way.</p>

