

CANFIELD SOCCER CLUB RULES

Recreational Season

WELCOME! From all the members of the Board of The Canfield Soccer Club, ***WELCOME*** to the Recreational Soccer season, and ***THANK YOU!!*** Without people like you who are willing to volunteer their time, there would be no Canfield Recreational Soccer. We all share the goal of providing an environment in which our children can learn the game of Soccer. We try to teach them to play as a *team*. We try to teach them to respect the other *players, teams, coaches and referees*. But most of all, we try to teach them that soccer is ***FUN***.

This handbook is intended to help you as a coach. It will help you with your team, your practices, and your games.

The Canfield Soccer Club also offers clinics for coaches and players and we can help in obtaining information about coaching and referee licenses. Please let your players and parents know of these opportunities. Visit www.canfieldsoccerclub.org for more information.

If you, as a coach, keep a positive attitude and try to lead these children by example with common sense, we are confident that this will be an enjoyable and exciting Soccer season, and a worthwhile and gratifying program.

Thank you again,

THE BOARD OF THE CANFIELD SOCCER CLUB

COACHING GUIDELINES

PRE-SEASON

1. All information regarding your team can be found by going to www.canfieldsoccerclub.com and clicking on the Sports Logic logo. You will find this great way to communicate with your players and parents.
2. Please contact the players on your roster as soon as possible. Tell them the name of their team, team color and sponsor, and remind them about the players' clinic and camp.
3. Be sure that each player knows that they must wear shin guards (hard plastic or plastic inserts), soccer shoes (recommended), soccer ball and water bottle. (Check for the correct size ball under the appropriate division). If a player wears glasses, they must have safety straps. Suggest they put their name on their equipment.
4. Give each player's parents or guardian a copy of the game schedule. Assign each player a game date to bring "a snack" for each player at halftime. Recruit a team mom or dad to help get in touch with your team quickly in case of schedule changes, field changes, or practices.

5. Coaches are responsible to pick-up and distribute the uniforms. This includes any switching among players. There will NOT be any reorders unless it was the leagues fault. Coaches ONLY may contact the league president with any problems.
6. Orientation for Parents: Held simultaneously with the players clinic. This is the time for questions and information about the league. Please encourage the parents to attend.
7. If you have any players quit your team, please call the league president. There could be a waiting list.
8. Any “coaching questions” may be directed towards the board or the league vice-president.
9. Remember picture day! Notify your players as to the time and the date of the photographs.

PRACTICES

1. Schedule your practices and inform your players as soon as possible. You may want to set up a practice schedule for at least one week in advance to allow parents an opportunity to make the necessary arrangements.
2. Practice times are up to the coach. Remind the players to bring plenty of liquids and a soccer ball. They must wear shin guards and have safety straps on their glasses. They MUST NOT wear jewelry of any kind.
3. During practice, maximize the positive side; minimize the negative. Show players what they should do, and reinforce it when they do it correctly.
4. Provide a good example at practices and games. Try to look and acts like a Coach. Bring ICE and a first-aid kit for minor injuries and bruises. Spare soccer balls and cones can help.
5. Bring a plan with you to practice. One skill, technique or tactic can occupy a complete practice, Start simple, and then progressively make it more challenging. Be sure to involve all the players and remember the goalkeeper! Keep it interesting by making it FUN!
6. Any “coaching questions” may be directed to the board or the league vice-president.
7. Schedule a scrimmage practice with another team in your age division. This is a great time to learn while the players are in action.

PRE-GAME

1. Please check your schedule carefully for the time and location of your games. Try to arrive at least 15 minutes before game-time and allow your team to warm-up. The game will start when schedules. Other teams may play on the same field at the completion of your game.
2. This is recreational soccer, keep it fair. If it is raining, or has recently stopped, only the referee can decide if the field is playable or can cancel a game. If there is lightning during a game, the referee will

immediately STOP the game. If a game is cancelled you may work out a convenient reschedule with the other Coach or contact the league vice-president for assistance.

3. A carded referee is required for games and a game can go on with only one referee. If the coaches of both teams concur, a knowledgeable adult or one of the other coaches may be side referee. If a side referee is chosen, that person may not coach their team while acting as a referee.
4. If you are unable to field enough players, you may request substitutes to fill your team. Substitutes must be the right age, registered with the Canfield Soccer Club, and pre-approved by the league vice-president.
5. An equipment box is located at the field. The referees are responsible for setting up and locking up the equipment. The equipment box will contain the field flags, game balls if needed, and goalkeepers bibs, ice and first aid kits.
6. All players must be in complete uniform at game time. This includes the proper shirt (tucked-in the shorts), black shorts, socks over shin guards, and shoes. **Jewelry of any kind, including watches, earrings, rings, hair ribbons, etc. ARE NOT permitted to be worn during the game.**
7. Snacks that are brought for the team for half time should be kept cool. After they are distributed at half time and consumed, clean up your area and dispose of the trash in an appropriate container.
8. Players and coaches will use the opposite side of the field from the spectators. There will be signs at the field indicator which side is for parents and which is for players and coaches. The only people permitted on the player/coaches side of the field during the game are the players and coaches listed on the roster.
9. Captains from each time will approach the center of the field and meet with the referee. The visiting team captain will call the coin in the air. The winner of the coin toss can either take the kick off or decide which side of the field to defend. The other captain decides which goal to defend. In the second half, what was chosen is reversed. Rotate your captains among all players. You may send two captains per team.

GAME

1. Coaching is permitted only from the sidelines between the penalty boxes and midfield. Coach clean, sportsmanlike soccer. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their players and parents. Coaches will be held accountable for the actions and words of their parents even though parents are on the other side of the field. Under no circumstances will offense language against the referee, player, or coach be tolerated. *It is suggested that coaches inform the parents of this rule prior to the first game.*
2. Players are not permitted to chew candy or gum while playing soccer.
3. Every child must play at least 50% of the game except for an injury, a penalty card, a disciplinary action, or fatigue.

FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME (SOCCER) WITH MODIFIED CANFIELD SOCCER CLUB RULES.

1) FIELD OF PLAY (LAW 1):

- a) The ball is out of play when the “whole” ball crosses the Touch Line or Goal Line

2) FOULS AND MISCONDUCT (LAW 12):

- a) There are four parts to this law: (Canfield Soccer Club only cards the U12 age division)

- i) **MAJOR FOULS:** Direct Free Kick (goal CAN be scored without any other player touching the ball.
- ii) **MINOR FOULS:** Indirect Free Kick (goal CANNOT be scored without any other player touching the ball.
- iii) **CAUTIONS:** Yellow Card
- iv) **EJECTIONS:** Red Card

- b) THERE ARE TEN (10) MAJOR (**PENALTY**) FOULS COMMITTED AGAINST AN OPPONENT:

- i) TWO WITH FEET:
 - (1) Kicks or attempts to kick
 - (2) Trips
- ii) FOUR WITH THE BODY:
 - (1) Jumps at
 - (2) Charges violently or from behind
 - (3) When tackling, a player makes physical contact with opponent before contacting the ball
 - (4) Spitting
- iii) FOUR WITH THE HANDS
 - (1) Strikes or attempts to strike
 - (2) Holds
 - (3) Pushes
 - (4) Carries, strikes or propels the ball with hand or arm

- c) THERE ARE FIVE (5) MINOR FOULS: (**Result in a Indirect Free Kick**)

- i) **DANGEROUS PLAY**
 - (1) Anything, which might cause unnecessary injury
 - (2) Attempting to kick a ball held by the goalkeeper
 - (3) High kicking when an opponent is close by

- (4) Any other unsafe condition whereby one player is prevented from playing the ball by an opponent.
- ii) CHARGING FAIRLY when the ball is not in playing distance
- iii) OBSTRUCTING when NOT playing the ball – using the body to obstruct an opponent intentionally.
- iv) CHARGING THE GOALKEEPER inside the Goal Area
- v) AS GOALKEEPER:
- (1) Taking more than 6 seconds to release the ball
 - (2) Gaining control a second time unless the ball was touched or played by another player
 - (3) Wasting time (No specific time)
- d) CAUTIONS (**YELLOW CARD**) ARE FOR:
- i) ENTERING OR LEAVING THE FIELD without the permission of the Referee
- ii) PERSISTENTLY INFRINGING the Laws (*continuing to repeat the same foul despite being warned by the referee*).
- iii) DISSENT by word or action from any decision of the Referee (*dissent can be verbal or non-verbal and is not limited to obscene gestures or cuss words - anything done or said that the referee deems dissent is considered dissent*)
- iv) UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT such as:
- (1) Leaning on a teammate's shoulder to reach for the ball (*par 4*)
 - (2) Waving arms to impede an opponent (*par 8*)
 - (3) Goalkeeper laying on the ball for too long (*par 12*)
 - (4) Not retiring 10 yards on a free kick (*law 13 par 2*)
 - (5) Encroachment on a Penalty Kick (*law 14-3c, 4b*)
 - (6) Changing the goalkeeper without permission (*law 3 par 4*)
 - (7) Dancing about to gesticulating on a throw-in (*law 13, 3*)
- e) EJECTIONS (**RED CARD**) ARE FOR:
- i) VIOLENT CONDUCT OR SERIOUS FOUL PLAY such as spitting at an opponent or fighting.
- ii) FOUL OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE
- iii) PERSISTENT MISCONDUCT AFTER A CAUTION
- iv) U-10's and below WILL NOT BE RED CARDED.
- v) Coaches **can be** red carded.
- vi) If a player is red carded, they **must serve** a one game suspension for the next scheduled game they are to compete in.

3) **PENALTY KICK (LAW 14):**

- a) U8 - No Penalty Kick.
 - i) All fouls within the penalty area that would normally result in a penalty kick will instead result in an indirect kick with the ball being placed on the edge of the penalty area line on the side nearest where the infraction incurred.
- b) U10 - U12 - Normal FIFA Penalty Kick Rules Apply:
 - i) A penalty kick is taken from the penalty spot and all players other than the kicker and the keeper must be outside the penalty area at least 10 yards from the ball and behind the penalty mark.
 - ii) The goalkeeper must stand between the goal posts on the goal line and cannot move until the ball has been kicked.
 - iii) The coach may pick anyone to kick a penalty kick.

4) **THROW IN LAW (LAW 15):**

When taking the throw, the thrower must:

- a) Face the field of play
- b) Have all or part of both feet on the ground, on or behind the Touch Line
- c) Throw with both hands starting from behind or over the head.
- d) The thrower cannot play or touch the ball a second time until it is touched or played by another player.
- e) All age divisions will do "Throw-ins". U7, U8 and U10'S may have one "do-over". No "do-overs" for U12's.

5) **GOAL KICK (LAW 16):**

- a) A goal kick is always awarded to the defense when the "whole" ball crosses the goal line by a kick from an attacking player.
- b) The kick is taken anywhere in the Goal Area
- c) Opposing players must be outside the Penalty Area.
- d) The kicker cannot touch the ball twice
- e) The ball must leave the Penalty Area to be in play. If the ball fails to leave the Penalty Area, the goal kick is re-taken.
- f) Goal can be scored directly from a goal kick.

4. The referee is to be respected at all times. All goals will be determined only by the referee. Keep the players playing, even if they think a goal has occurred. The referee will blow the whistle if a goal has been scored.
5. Inform players that if the goalkeeper is “going down” to the ball, they are to back off. Charging the keeper creates the possibility of injury to the keeper and will not be tolerated and any age level.
6. After handling the ball, the keeper has 6 seconds to put the ball in play, and cannot go beyond the penalty area with the ball in hand. The keeper may only handle the ball inside the penalty area, and only if the last touch was taken by an opponent.
7. The keeper may not pick the ball up with their hands if it is passed kicked back to them by another team member. They may use their feet only and kick the ball.
8. No slide tackles in any age division.
9. There are no time-outs. The clock continues to run even if there is an injury. If a player gets hurt, tell the player to sit down on the field if they can. Try to bring the injury to the referee’s attention. Only the referee can call you to the field. Please, coaches, do not run onto the field until the referee beckons you on. Parents are not permitted on the field at any time.
10. Substitutions must be made at the centerline only, and approved by the referee. Any player may be substituted whenever substitutions are permitted. However, the referee must be specifically notified when a goalkeeper is substituted. The referees may deny a substitution if they feel it is delaying the game or the quarter is about to end. The same player may be substituted multiple times. Have the player leaving the field be completely off the field prior to the new sub entering the field.
11. Throw-Ins: (*Law 15*) Face the field. Throw with both hands from behind and over the head. Have part of both feet on the ground and behind or on the touchline. If this is not done properly, the referee will award the ball to the opposite team. Age divisions U7, U8 and U10 may one “do over”. There is no “do over” in the U12/13 age division.
12. Remember, this is recreational soccer where we are trying to provide a positive learning experience. Trying to humiliate the opposing team does not teach soccer. If there is more a three (3) point difference in the U7, U8, U10’s and a four (4) point difference in the U12’s the referee will advise the opposing coach to add more players to one side, subtract a player, or substitute or change attacking players into defenders. By keeping even you will keep it challenging and fun for all. The referee should step in if a game gets out of control score wise. However, since coaches are here to instruct our players as well as the referees, coaches should be proactive and make the changes as soon as the goal differential is reached. Do not wait for the referee to implement.
13. At the end of the game, players and coaches will lineup and shake “clean and dry” hands. **DO NOT** forget the referee. After the game, please make sure your side of the field and the sidelines are clean, and that all of your players have their equipment

6) **CORNER KICK (LAW 17):**

- a) A corner kick is taken when the whole ball crosses the goal line when a defending player last played it.
- b) A goal can be scored from a corner kick
- c) The kicker cannot touch the ball again until another player has played it
- d) Defenders must be at least 6-10 yards from the ball
- e) Player substitutions can not be made at a corner kick.

7) **CARDING FOR U12 DIVISION:**

- a) U12 division (boys and girls) will be carded for infractions of the laws.
- b) Yellow Card is a caution.
- c) Red Card is awarded on the second caution or for violent conduct, serious foul play, and foul or abusive language.
- d) Red Carded players are removed from the game.
 - i) Coaches can be red carded.
 - ii) If a player is red carded, they must serve a one game suspension for the next scheduled game they are to compete in.
- e) U10 and below will not be carded, except for Red Card violations.

8) **DO NOT ARGUE WITH THE REFEREE:**

- a) Any infractions will be cause for the player(s) and/or coach(s) to be directed to leave the field immediately. This will be enforced.
 - i) Please remember that coaches are here to instruct the children on the game of soccer as well as teach them respect for authority.
 - ii) Disrespect toward referees will not be tolerated.