

Champaign Park District Adult Soccer League Rules (Updated 3/8/17)

The Champaign Park District Adult Soccer League is a recreational adult soccer league. The purpose of the league is to promote and support soccer play in a friendly and family-like environment in the Champaign area. FIFA rules govern play, except as amended by these rules.

League rules are reviewed with the team managers during pre-season meetings. Managers are responsible for informing their players of all league rules.

Section I: Team Rosters

1. Official rosters are due at each team's first game. If the roster is not presented to the official prior to the start of the game, the game will be a forfeit. Each team member must provide his/her first name, last name, address, phone number, and signature to be considered a rostered player. If a team plays with a non-rostered player, the game will be declared a forfeit and the player will be subject to suspension.

2. Teams may have up to 24 players on their roster.

3. The eligibility of a player must be protested by the opposing team prior to the end of the game. A player's eligibility cannot be questioned after the game is over. You must notify the center referee of the protest. See section V for protest procedures.

4. Anyone caught falsifying an address to avoid the non-resident fee will be suspended from league play, and all games in which that player participated will be forfeited. The same disciplinary action applies to anyone who falsifies his/her name.

5. The Champaign Park District (CPD) reserves the right to request a player's identification at any time. If no identification is presented, the game will be held in forfeiture for 48 hours or until ID is presented, whichever comes first.

6. A player must be fifteen (15) years of age prior to the start of the current season to be eligible to play.

7. **** Drop/Add Players:** Once a player has played with a team, he/she cannot switch to another team within the same season.

8. New players may be added until **¾ of the season is complete**. For example, in a 6 game season no player can be added after the 4th game. All new players must sign the roster/waiver addition form and be approved by the Adult Sports Coordinator before they are allowed to play in a game.

9. After the roster addition deadline, teams will be allowed to add two additional players to their roster **WITH SPECIAL PERMISSION OF THE ADULT SPORTS COORDINATOR**. These two additions must be requested with an explanation as to how the additions will keep the team from forfeiting due to lack of players.

Section II: The Game

1. Game time is forfeit time. The minimum amount of players, seven (7), must be present, ready, and on the lineup card turned into the referee by game time. **Lack of players or lineup card at game time will result in a forfeit.**

2. Games will be played on Sunday afternoons.

3. Lineups with players' first and last names and uniform numbers must be submitted to the referee no later than five (5) minutes prior to scheduled game time. Lineups may be changed until game time if additional players arrive.

4. If a player arrives after a game has started he must check in with the referee and be added to the lineup card before entering the field.

5. The soccer staff will determine if the games are postponed due to inclement weather. Please check Rainout Line to see if games have been cancelled or postponed. Staff will do their best to update that **ONLY IF GAMES ARE CANCELLED. THE RAINOUT LINE WILL NOT BE UPDATED AUTOMATICALLY.**

6. Once games begin, if the weather is threatening, the site supervisor will determine if the game is postponed. If lightning is observed in the vicinity, teams will be asked to leave the playing area for THIRTY (30) minutes. If the lightning disappears after THIRTY minutes, the game will continue. If the lightning continues after THIRTY minutes, the game will continue to be postponed until the area is lightning-free for THIRTY (30) minutes.

7. Any game terminated because of weather will be completed at a later date from the exact point at which the original game was stopped. If a game reaches halftime the game will be considered complete.

8. Time Limit: The game will be two 40 minute halves, with a halftime of 10 minutes. Halftime will be shortened if the game failed to start on-time.

9. Rolling substitutions will be allowed. Players must report to the center line in order to sub on a dead ball.

Section III: The Uniform

1. All players must wear soccer shin guards. All cleats/shoes must conform to the laws of the game. Players who must wear glasses are required to use safety glasses and/or a protective eyeglass guard or strap.

2. The laws of the game forbid players from wearing anything that is dangerous to another player. The use of hard and dangerous protective equipment is not permitted. The laws of the game forbid the wearing of exposed jewelry. Any jewelry that cannot be removed needs to be properly secured (taped down), including medic alert tags. No hats are allowed except for goalkeepers. The referee must approve other non-dangerous headwear. Knee braces must be inspected and approved by the referee prior to the start of the game. Only hand and arm casts are allowed. Casts must be padded and must be inspected and approved by the referee prior to the start of the game. The referee or site supervisor can order a player to remove any unauthorized or dangerous equipment.

3. Jerseys: Teams must wear uniforms of the same color and all jerseys must be appropriately numbered.

Section IV: The Equipment

1. The park district will not provide game balls. Each team is expected to provide a ball suitable for play.

Section V: Protests

1. To be considered, a written protest and \$10 deposit must be brought to the Leonhard Recreation Center, 2307 Sangamon Road, by 5:00pm the next business day after the incident. If the incident needs further review, a panel will be formed. The deposit will be returned if the protest is ruled valid. If the protest is not allowed, the deposit will be kept to cover the cost of processing.

The written protest should be as specific as possible and include: First and last names of everyone involved, a complete description of the **FACTS**, why you feel a protest is necessary, etc.

2. Judgment calls by the officials cannot be protested.

Section VII: Sportsmanship / Player Behavior

The Champaign Park District Soccer Program is intended to be a **RECREATIONAL** activity suitable for attendance by the whole family. Any actions which detract from the recreational nature of this activity will result in cards and possibly further disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion from league play at the discretion of Champaign Park District Staff. The following is an inconclusive list of unsportsmanlike behaviors that may result in cards and or disciplinary actions.

1. Demonstrative behavior in protesting a referee's or Park District employee's decision by any team member or manager.
2. Resorting to behavior that threatens or assaults any player, coach, official, or staff member. (i.e. verbally threatening another player, coach, referee, or staff member, taunting other players, etc.)
3. Fighting will not be tolerated. Anyone that throws a punch or is involved in a fight will be suspended from the league and risks being not allowed to participate in all other sporting activities for a year after the incident. This may include and is not limited to the following; Being banned from all park district activities, being banned from all park district facilities, being banned from all sports and their events.
4. Foul, vile, vulgar, abusive, or racial language, including profanity, has no place on or off the field, regardless of whether or not it is directed at someone else. Using such language may result in a suspension.

Section VIII: Ejections / Suspensions

To enforce player behavior that is consistent with the established purpose of recreational soccer, the following actions may be taken:

1. The official or the field supervisor may eject any player or manager in violation of any of the following rules. Upon ejection of a player for unsportsmanlike conduct, the official will inform the captain and field supervisor that the player has been ejected. The captain will then be responsible for removing the player from the park within two minutes. A player remaining in the vicinity of the complex (including the parking lot) after being ejected for the game may cause his/her team to forfeit the game and will be subject to a longer suspension.
2. If three players and or managers from the same team are ejected during a match the game will be forfeited immediately.
3. Any player or manager ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended for a minimum of one (1) week. If a team has a bye during that week, or if the games scheduled during that week are rained out, the suspension will be altered to cover the team's next scheduled game. The suspension will begin immediately and includes all league and tournament games sponsored by the Champaign Park District or held on Champaign Park district fields within that seven day period. A suspended player may not attend nor participate in the game(s) affected by the suspension. Following the ejection, the team manager will be notified of their teammate's suspension via email. It is the manager's responsibility to let their teammate know they aren't allowed to play.
4. Any player or manager who, after being ejected, acts in such a way as to offend or endanger anyone, including spectators or families of players, will be automatically suspended for a minimum of six (6) weeks. Examples of such behavior include but are not limited to physical assault and verbal assault. The maximum penalty is permanent expulsion from the Champaign Park District adult sports program.
5. The Park District has a strict **NO ALCOHOL** policy in all of its parks. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, drugs and drug paraphernalia, or being in an intoxicated condition on Park District property by any participant or spectator will not be tolerated. This rule applies to parking lots, spectator areas, dugouts, etc. Offending players will cause his/her team to forfeit the current or next scheduled game and be suspended for a minimum of one (1) game. Spectators caught with such substances will be asked to leave.
6. In flagrant cases of unsportsmanlike conduct that are reviewed by Park District Management Staff, an entire team can be held responsible for the actions of an individual on the team.

7. A player or manager may appeal a suspension to the Adult Sports Coordinator in writing. Formal protest procedures must be followed. If the appeal warrants a hearing, the Adult Sports Coordinator will form a panel of Park District personnel. The panel will meet with all persons involved in the incident to further discuss it.

8. Player suspensions may result in suspension from participation in other Park District programs that the agency deems appropriate. Player suspensions at the end of the season may be carried over to include other Champaign Park District adult sports.

9. The official's and field supervisor's jurisdictions will begin when they arrive at the field and continue until league participants have left the park following the last game of the day.

10. All player behavior suspensions are subject to being overruled by the sports staff.

11. The Champaign Park District will use a point system for cards in order to keep the league safe and fun. The point system will reset for each season. Each yellow card is considered one point and each red card is considered two points. If any player reaches one of the point thresholds in the chart below they will receive the associated suspension.

6 Game Season

Points in a Season	Suspension
2 Points	1 Game
3 Points	6 Games

8 Game Season

Points in a season	Suspension
3 points	1 Game
4 Points	6 Games

Clarifications and Exceptions:

A. If a yellow card results in a second or third point on the season, but it was the first card of the game, the player may continue playing that game. The resulting suspension will begin with the following game.

B. Two yellow cards in the same game means an immediate red card (2pts), resulting in ejection from that game and the following game.

C. All red cards will be reviewed and may result in a suspension longer than one (1) game. Red cards for the following reasons will result in further suspension:

1. Red card for serious foul play or deliberate dangerous play: 4 game minimum

2. Red card for insulting referee, site supervisor, or other players: 4 game minimum

3. Red card for violent conduct: fighting or trying to physically attack another player, official, employee, or fan: A minimum of 6 games, but may result in up to a lifetime ban.

D. Any player receiving a red card must leave the vicinity of the field of play immediately. Failing to leave will result in further suspension.

E. Any player or manager who is ejected three times during the calendar year will automatically be suspended for a minimum of six months of play and put on probation for a year after the suspension is over.

12. If there is any disagreement with regards to the above rules, it will be the Adult Sports Coordinator's responsibility to interpret such rules and determine suspension length. The Adult Sports Coordinator shall have the final word on any rule interpretation issue.

13. If the Park District deems necessary they may place a player on probation. A player on probation will have further guidelines, which they will clearly be informed of. Only the player and team manager(s) will be informed if a player is put on probation. If a player on probation receives a six (6) game suspension the team manager(s) will also receive a one game suspension as a result.

Section XI: Rainout Rescheduling

1. Champaign Park District will do everything possible to make sure that games that were cancelled due to inclement weather are rescheduled.

2. Teams are required to play make-up games as scheduled or accept a forfeit.

Section XII: Standings

If there are any ties for the top finishers in league play, the following tie breaking procedures will be used in the order that they appear. A team that has forfeited any games during the duration of the season is automatically disqualified from tie breaking procedures.

1. Results of head to head competition during the season
2. Least amount of goals allowed between tied teams.
3. Least amount of red cards.
4. Least amount of yellow cards.
5. Coin Toss

League standings will be kept on our website www.champaignparks.com

Section XII: League Format

1. Summer seasons will be 8 games long. Spring and Fall season will be 6 games.

2. The league may be broken into divisions depending on the number of teams.

3. Formats for divisional or tournament play may change depending on the number of teams in a league and the number of games to be played.

4. A system of promotion and relegation will be instituted to better balance divisional play when deemed necessary.

I _____, have read these rules, and agree to all that has been stated in the above categories. By signing this I agree to abide by all of these rules and standards and failing to do so I am aware of the possible consequences that may be enforced.

Signed, _____