



# SSSL Coaches Meeting

March 2016

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# Agenda

1. Sportsmanship

1. Game Management & Rules of Play

1. Administration

# Sportsmanship

## SSSL Promotes Good Sportsmanship for All

Good sportsmanship is when **teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials** treat each other with respect. Kids learn the basics of sportsmanship from the adults in their lives, especially their **parents** and their **coaches**. Kids who see adults behaving in a sportsmanlike way gradually come to understand that the real winners in sports are those who know how to persevere and to behave with **dignity** — whether they win or lose a game. In support of this mission we have adopted a **Zero Tolerance Policy** for all league participants.

# Zero Tolerance Policy

No one is to address the referee during the Game!! This includes audible comments questioning calls and /or abusive or defaming comments.

When is it OK to address the referees?

1. Pointing out emergencies or safety issues
2. When trying to make substitutions
3. At half time or at the end of game
4. Responding to a referee initiating communication

# Running up the Score

- We strongly discourage teams from running up the score.
- If you are dominating a game and you have built a 5 goal lead consider some of the following:
  - Remove a player
  - Only shoot with the weaker leg/foot
  - Only shoot from outside the penalty area
  - Only score from a headed ball (except u10&12)

# Young Players and Referees

- The younger the age group the more likely it is that you will have young referees.
- Just like your players, they are learning and need time to get better.
- The attitude you project toward the referees will be reflected in the way your players and parents interact with the referees.
- PLEASE have everyone affiliated with your team watch the "Attitudes are Contagious" video on the SSSL website (links on the [Home page](#) and Coaches Corner)

# Carding of coaches

- Referees can show coaches a **yellow** card for dissent
- A second **yellow** or straight **red** card ejection can also be given to a coach.
- If you are the only coach on the bench when ejected, the game is terminated and the SSSL board will rule on the result.
- If a coach is ejected, there is an automatic three (3) game suspension, pending a mandatory disciplinary hearing with the SSSL Executive Board. The board may elect to lessen or increase the penalty based on the facts of the incident and a coaches prior history.

# Use the SSSL Website - Especially the Coaches Corner

- Give us feedback
  - Please let us know how the referees did for your game, especially if they were exceptionally good or bad.
  - We have a feedback form in the [Coaches Corner](#) of the SSSL website
- Links to additional training from USYSA
- Links to the CDC's training on recognizing and dealing with concussions
- How to report serious injuries, use the form on the coaches corner and email it to the SSSL Medical Director.



# Friendship Games, April 30 & May 1

- These games are designed for the kids to get to know players from other towns and have fun. There is no tournament champion.
- For each game the two teams will split their players evenly and the assistant coach and 1/2 the players will swap teams.
  - You will need to bring pinnies

# Game Management & Rules of Play



# Process for Checking in

Every coach listed on your roster, up to a maximum of three (3) will receive a laminated card with Nancy Hart's signature.

- You must have this card with you to be on the bench for all SSSL games, including the Friendship Games.
- Driver's Licenses will not be accepted as an ID for a game

You must provide the referee with two (2) paper copies and your official laminated roster before every game.

# Player Pre-game Check-in

1. All players should have their shirts tucked in, and be wearing appropriate shin guards and cleats ready to be checked in at least **10 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time**.
  - a. U12 and older players must also have their player ID cards in hand
2. Referees will check the players against the roster you have given them and make sure their equipment is safe. They will also check for unallowed items (like jewelry and casts).
3. Each referee decides if equipment (braces, cleats, etc) are safe. It does not matter what a previous referee said, you cannot question his judgement in this area.

# Player Pre-game Check-in

4. Proper matching uniforms must be worn by ALL players
  - a. Tape used to hold socks up or shin guards in place must be either transparent or the same color as the socks.
  - b. Undergarments that extend beyond a sleeve or shorts (like Under Armor or compression shorts) should be the same color as the sleeve or shorts.
  - c. At a minimum, everyone on the team must wear the same color undergarments.

# Substitutions (rule 10.3)

Enter and leave the field at midfield line

Unlimited substitutions at these stoppages:

- Prior to a throw-ins if the team in possession of the ball is substituting
- Prior to goal kicks
- Prior to the kick-off to start of the second half
- Prior to the kick-off after goals
- Prior to re-starts after an injury stoppage

# U10 Off-side Modification

There are no off-sides in u10 play. Instead we have the following modification to prevent "goal hanging"

1) *At the taking of a Goal Kick, all defending players must be no closer than the midfield line until the kick is taken by the offensive player.*

2) A ball put into play by a Goal Kick or a Kick or Throw by the Goalkeeper must be touched by a player or hit the ground before it crosses the midfield line. A violation of this rule shall result in an Indirect Free Kick for the opponent at the point the ball crossed the midfield line

# U10 & U12 Heading Restriction

US Soccer has adopted the position to eliminate heading for all 11 year old and younger players. In order to be in compliance we have eliminated heading for all u10 and u12 games.

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Dangerous play shall be considered but not limited to slide tackling, **and heading or attempting to head the ball** which will not be allowed. Any violation of this rule shall result in an indirect free kick for the opponent at the point of said violation. Simultaneous violations by both teams will result in a dropped ball.



## 2016 Rule Modifications

There are no “On Field” rule changes for 2016.

U16 and older teams may now have dual rostered players. These rosters have also been expanded to 22 players. Only 18 can be active for any given game.

A change was made to collapse Division 2 into a single level (no more A,B,C) with 8 playoff slots.

Division 3 playoffs were expanded to include a semi-final round.

# Administration



# Age Group Administrator

If you have questions or concerns contact your Age Group Administrator. Names and contact info are on the [SSSL Contacts](#) page of the website.

- Terry Carter u10 Administrator
- Jeff Bates u12 & u14 Boys Administrator
- Helen Iannone u12 & u14 Girls Administrator
- Fred Anzivino u16+ Boys Administrator
- Haresh Daryanani u16+ Girls Administrator

# Rescheduling games (u12 and older)

- Reschedule form is available on the website [Games Schedules](#) page
  - The new date and location must be agreed to by both teams before submitting the form
  - **The \$5 deadline is March 20** (postmark), \$25 after
  - Each team can only initiate a maximum of 3 games
- Rescheduling games after the season begins (referred to as Make-up games)
  - You must schedule the make-up game within two weeks of the postponement, there is a \$50 fine if not rescheduled within that time frame.
  - Make sure your field scheduler and referee assignor are aware of the new date and/or location.

## Field Closings (rule 6)

- SSSL Website has a page specifically for Field Closings
- Coaches cannot cancel a game, only designated contacts from each town can close a field.
- If a referee determines a field is not playable, then that field is closed for the rest of that day.

# Scores, Standings, Playoffs

- We use Sportspilot for game schedules, results, and standings.
  - After week 4 we will post additional playoff information.
  - Results and standings are not posted for U10, however, we do track that information to help us with any realignment.
- As the season winds down more pertinent play-off info will be posted to the website.

**Thank you for volunteering**

