

MSI OFFICIAL LEAGUE RULES AND FIFA MODIFICATIONS

- HALF GAME MINIMUM playing time is mandatory for all players. (Exception: Classic U-13 and older)
- PLAYING AN UNREGISTERED PLAYER will result in a forfeit.
- EACH TEAM must designate one adult (other than coach) prior to the start of each game to serve as Team Sportsmanship Liaison (TSL). The TSL will accompany team captains to midfield for introduction to referees, and will assist the coach with spectator behavior on their team sideline during the game.
- OPPOSING TEAMS must occupy opposite sides of the field when possible. Home team has choice of sides. Exception: At games played at SoccerPlex, all spectators will occupy one side of the field, and all players and coaches the opposite side.
- SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR is the responsibility of the Team Sportsmanship Liaison (TSL) and the coach. No coach or spectator may enter the field under any circumstance without the referee's permission.
- COACHES MAY COACH FROM THE SIDELINES provided:
 - the tone of voice is instructional and not derogatory
 - it is done between the two 18-yard lines
 - it is done from the correct sideline
- LATE REFEREE OR NO REFEREE. Upon the agreement of both coaches, please start the game using volunteers - one from each team is a good solution. Volunteering as a parent referee is a tough job, and deserves respect and cooperation. Call the MSI office as soon as possible when there is no referee coverage.
- TEAM GRACE PERIOD of 15 minutes after the scheduled kick-off time to obtain minimum number of play: 11v11 (8), 9v9 (7), and 7v7 (5). Once a game begins, if either team has less than the minimum due to injuries and/or ejections, the game shall be terminated.
- PENALTY POINTS are assessed to coaches, players, and spectators who earn yellow or red cards. Each team must keep track of their totals.
yellow = 2 points red = 5 points second yellow in same game = 3 points

An individual coach, player, or spectator will be suspended from MSI participation due to the accumulation of penalty points during the season:

5 points = 1 game suspension (minimum)

10 points = additional 1 game suspension (minimum)

14 or more points = additional 2 game suspension (minimum)

Any team receiving 15 or more points during a season will be subject to a mandatory review of the Coaches Review Committee. The team's coach is required to be present at this review and, regardless of the coach's attendance, the

Committee may take any action deemed necessary. An accumulation of 21 points will result in an automatic 1 game team suspension.

- GAME FORFEITURE may be declared by the Chairman of the Rules and Discipline Committee when s/he determines that misconduct or unsporting conduct at such game by coaches, players, or spectators was sufficiently serious to warrant forfeiture of that game.
- SIT OUT CARDS (available at MSI Office on request) must be submitted each time that a coach or player serves a "sit-out" due to suspension for any reason.
- PLAYERS MAY NOT BE ADDED to a team for the last game of the season if the team is in contention for a trophy.
- PRACTICES WILL BE LIMITED to two practices a week, and a scrimmage counts as a practice. Two adults must be present during each practice.

MODIFICATIONS OF FIFA LAWS AND OFFICIAL LEAGUE RULES

SUBSTITUTION

With the consent of the referee:

- a. prior to a throw-in in your favor
- b. prior to a kick-off
- c. prior to a goal-kick by either team
- d. prior to a corner-kick (12 years and younger) by either team
- e. on injury
- f. **NEW: prior to a throw-in by either team only when the team in possession chooses to substitute**

EQUIPMENT

- Metal cleats are banned in all MSI programs. Shinguards are mandatory and must be worn by all players in all games, with socks pulled up over the top of shinguards.

REFEREE'S SIGNALS

Referees are requested to use signals to indicate the nature of fouls and the direction of the kick.

GIRLS' RULE

Girls may cross their arms over their chests to protect themselves as long as they do not propel the ball away from themselves.

RESTART OF PLAY AFTER TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

If one team had clear possession of the ball when play was stopped, the referee shall award that team an indirect free kick.

YELLOW CARDS

Players who receive a yellow card must leave the game immediately, and sit out at least 5 minutes. Substitution will not be allowed during 5-minute sit-out period in grades 7-12. Two yellow cards given to the same person in a single game equals a red card.

RED CARDS

Players who receive a red card will be ejected from the current game and suspended from participation in the next league game. There is no appeal. Coaches and spectators who receive a red card must leave the field immediately and will be suspended from the next league game.

MODIFICATIONS FOR YOUNGER RECREATIONAL AGE GROUPS

Roster Size:	3 rd & 4 th grades	12 players
	5 th & 6 th grades	15 players
Players on Field:	3 rd & 4 th grades	7 players
	5 th & 6 th grades	9 players
Goalkeepers:	3 rd & 4 th grades	Two keepers required with equal playing time.

RULE MODIFICATIONS for 3rd and 4th grade Recreation teams only

Only flagrant offsides	No red cards to players
Retake incorrect throw-in	No appeal of junior referee decisions
No slide tackling	