

# Great Lakes Coed Soccer League Rules and Regulations

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RULE 1  
RESPONSIBILITY FOR DISCIPLINE

**Section 1. General Cases**

In general terms, the member clubs shall be responsible for governing those persons associated within their operation and shall establish procedures for doing so. However, it is the duty of all club officers, coaches, and referees to report immediately any infraction outlined in Rule 2.

**Section 2. Line of Authority**

Should any person, team or League want to appeal any adverse decision, the line of authority shall be from the Great Lakes Coed Soccer League to MSYSA, and then to the next line of authority specified by the United States Youth Soccer Association.

**Section 3. Coaches of Conduct**

A copy of the Coaches Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics shall be signed by each person of every team's coaching staff and kept on file with their club. Signed copies can be requested by the executive board at any time and must be turned in within 48 hours.

**Section 4. Club Code of Conduct**

All clubs must turn in a signed club code of conduct and compliance form at the beginning of each season.

**Section 5. Player Code of Conduct**

All players/parents must have a player code of conduct on file with their club. Electronic signatures are acceptable as long as the player/parent signs/types their name and does not select a check box.

RULE 2  
REGULAR SEASON AND TOURNAMENT DISCIPLINARY RULING AND MINIMUM  
PUNISHMENTS

**Section 1. Ejections**

- A. In addition to the game ejection that the red card was issued in, any player, coach, or team official issued a red card by a referee shall receive a minimum of one (1) game suspension (also, see Section 13 below).
- B. A second red card in the same season may result in suspension from the League for the remainder of the season and may disqualify the individual from participation in any post-season tournament.
- C. All players receiving a second red card in the same season will have the matter reviewed by the Executive Board.

**Section 2. Player Profanity**

A player guilty of using profanity, either by word or sign, against another player, coach, spectator, or any member organization official shall receive a minimum two-game (2) suspension.

### **Section 3. Fighting & Violent Conduct**

- A. A player guilty of fighting shall be suspended for the remainder of the season. If there are less than 5 games left to be played in the season, the suspension will carry to the next season.
- B. A player guilty of violent behavior before, during, or after games shall receive a minimum suspension of three (3) games. The player may be asked to come before the Executive Board to review the incident.

### **Section 4. Player Threats**

- A. A player guilty of making threatening gestures against another player, coach, spectator, or any member organization official shall receive a minimum two-game (2) suspension.
  - a. Verbal threats are remarks that carry the implied or direct threat of physical harm.
  - b. Such remarks as “I’ll get you after the game” or “You won’t get out of here in one piece” shall be deemed referee abuse. (See Appendix USSF Policy 531-9).
- B. All incidents shall be reported to the League President and Vice President within 24 hours.
- C. The player may be asked to come before the board to review the incident. Criminal liability may be looked at also.

### **Section 5. Abuse Against an Official**

- A. The referee or site director shall report any incident of physical, and/or verbal abuse by a player, coach, or other individual against any referee or assistant referee to the League President and Vice President.
  - 1. These matters will be automatically referred to the MSYSA Disciplinary Board for review and action.
- B. No player, coach, or other individual may participate in any GLCSL activity (which includes regular season games, tournament games, practices, etc.) while his/her case is pending before the GLCSL and/or MSYSA Disciplinary Board.
- C. A player, coach, or other individual who physically abuses (pushes, strikes, or grabs) a site director, a League, or Club official must appear before the GLCSL Board of Officers and shall receive a minimum suspension of five (5) years.
- D. Verbal abuse by any player toward any referee, assistant referee, site director, or League official must be reported to the League President and Vice President who shall deal with each incident on a case-by-case basis (see Section 13 below).

### **Section 6. Inappropriate and Irresponsible Behavior by Coaches**

Coaches or team officials who use insulting, abusive or threatening language and/or gestures toward other coaches, players, or League officials shall be required to appear before the GLCSL Board of Directors Executive Board for disciplinary action. Disciplinary action shall be handled on a case-by-case basis. Coaches or team officials shall not be allowed to participate in any GLCSL events until their case is reviewed by the GLCSL Executive Board.

### **Section 7. Coach Fights.**

Coaches or team officials who fight or otherwise physically abuse (push, strike, or grab) and/or spit on or at another coach, team official or player must appear before the GLCSL Board of Directors and shall receive a minimum suspension of three (3) years. Coaches or team officials

shall not be allowed to participate in any GLCSL events until their case is reviewed by the GLCSL Executive Board.

### **Section 8. Coach and Fan Misconduct**

- A. Coaches and other team officials shall be subject to all rules pertaining to misconduct contained herein and as set by the USSF, including cautions, ejections, and standard suspensions.
- B. Any other individual who may be reasonably construed to be associated with a team, such as parents, relatives, and spectators, shall also be subject to the jurisdiction of this association.
- C. A coach, team official, and/or individual club may be held responsible for the actions of any individual(s) who violates these rules and who in the opinion of the Board of Directors is a supporter of that team.
- D. A coach may be asked to remove anyone associated with their team by the referee if their behavior becomes a problem. If the person refuses to leave, the head coach may be issued a red card and shall be ejected. If the person causing the issue still refuses to leave, the match shall be terminated and not replayed.
- E. If the game is a tournament game, the offending team shall forfeit the match and the offending person shall not attend another match for the remainder of the tournament.

### **Section 9. Fines, Fees, and Sanctions**

Great Lakes Coed Soccer League will impose the following fines, fees, and/or sanctions against member clubs. The Executive Board of Great Lakes Coed Soccer League are the only ones that can determine the results of a game as a forfeit. It defines a forfeit as a game that is not played within the league rules and/or bylaws.

- A. If a match is abandoned due to a spectator, fan, or parent, the league shall impose a fine of \$150 and a bond of \$150 to the club of the team responsible for the abandonment.
- B. If a second match is abandoned due to the actions of a fan, spectator, or parent, the team shall be disqualified from participating from a post season tournament with no refund of any fees already paid, a fine of \$250 will be imposed to the respective club, the original \$150 bond will be forfeited, and a new bond in the amount of \$250 must be paid.
- C. If the second offense is during a post season tournament, the team shall be eliminated from the tournament and shall forfeit that match and any others scheduled to be played. A fine of \$250 will be imposed to the respective club, the original \$150 bond will be forfeited, and a new bond in the amount of \$250 must be paid.
- D. A club shall be fined \$50 for any coach(es) that receives a red card. A fine of \$100 shall be assessed to a club if the same coach(es) receives a second red card in the same season. Suspension and other penalties for coaches shall also be imposed as defined throughout these rules.
- E. A club shall be fined \$100 for any team collecting 4 red cards during the regular season and any post season tournament.
  - a. The head coach shall also be assessed with a one game suspension.
  - b. Another fine of \$100 shall be assessed for every two red cards issued after the original 4 red cards to that team during the same regular season and tournament.

- c. The coach shall also be suspended one game for every two red cards issued after the original 4 red cards.
- d. The red card count does not carry over to the next season.
- F. A club shall be fined the following for failure to follow the roster rules defined in Rule 3, Section 15
  - a. No roster present, physical or electronic: \$10.00
  - b. Only an electronic roster present: \$5.00
  - c. No game report: \$5.00
  - d. Player or coach written on roster that is determined to be properly registered with the league: \$10.00.
  - e. Player written on roster that is not registered with the league: \$50.00 and suspension of the player for 1 game once properly registered.
  - f. Coach written on roster that is not registered with the league: \$500.00, plus suspension of coach for 2 games once properly registered.
- G. For any game that is not played or rescheduled, each club will be fined \$50.00. The club of either team can contact the Executive Board with information and reasoning on why they feel the other club is totally responsible for the game not being played. If the Executive Board determines just one club is responsible for the game not being played or rescheduled, the club responsible will be fined \$100.00.

#### **Section 10. Substitutions on a red card**

Per USSF Rules there are no “soft” red cards to be given. You may not substitute for a player that has been sent off for a red card.

#### **Section 11. Club’s Responsibility**

- A. It is the responsibility of the clubs to report to the Executive Board any discipline action that is taken against a coach, player, parent, or anyone associated with their teams.
- B. All red cards issued at a game site must be reported to the league president and vice president within 24 hours by the club. This shall be a separate report from the referee’s game report
- C. Every home game day must have at least one assigned site director to help diffuse conflicts, to provide accurate information or education on rules, and to gather information needed for the club to report to the league.
  - a. This assigned person must be able to remain impartial in executing the duties.
  - b. This assigned person must always be available and clearly visible during the game.
  - c. Unless absolutely necessary, the assigned person should not be part of the team staff. In this event, the assigned person will be present but apart from the coaching staff and spectators.
  - d. A list of the site director’s responsibilities can be found in Rule 4, The Rules of Play; Section 8
  - e. The executive board can call a meeting with a member club and impose sanctions and fines as necessary if there is not a site director on site and readily available.

**Section 12. Minimum Penalties**

Clubs may adopt more stringent penalties, which will prevail for their members, but in no event may penalties be less than those listed herein.

**Section 13. Authority of the Executive Board**

- A. The Executive Board has the authority to require any player, coach, spectator, referee, member club official(s), or other individual to appear before the GLCSL Board of Directors.
- B. Additional penalties other than those specifically outlined above (Rule 2 Sections 1-12) may be imposed at that time.
- C. Failure to appear when requested shall result in the suspension of the offending individual from all GLCSL activities until such time that compliance has been rendered.
- D. The Executive Board may issue League red cards to any individual for cause and may disqualify any individual or team from further participation the remainder of a season.
- E. A League red card shall count as a red card in determining an individual's eligibility to play.
- F. The Executive Board shall also have the authority to reduce, suspend, or increase any penalty resulting from a red card if he/she feels mitigating circumstances warrant such action.

RULE 3  
INSURANCE

All players registered with the association shall be required to have in effect a medical insurance program specified by their League and approved by the State association.

**Section 1. Public Liability Insurance.**

All officers of the association and officials of member teams and Leagues shall be covered against personal liability claims by the MSYSA for performing acts and duties related to the work of the association.

**Section 2. Report of Insurance Claims.**

All injuries to be claimed against the medical insurance shall be completed on the proper form and submitted within 72 hours of the injury. Forms can be obtained from the MSYSA website

**Section 3. Personal and/or Property Damage Disclaimer.**

The GLCSL, its clubs, and its coaches are not responsible for injuries or damage to property during the season. A signed registration form from the player's parents or legal guardian must be on file with the club before a player may participate.

**Section 4. Coaches and Players**

All players and coaches shall be registered by their clubs with the organization with which the League affiliates, thus providing them with secondary insurance.

**Section 5. Officers and Members of the Board of Directors**

All officers and members of the Board of Directors will be covered by liability insurance from whichever State or national organization is affiliated with the League.

**RULE 4**

**THE RULES OF PLAY**

Rules of play shall be the "Laws of the Game" as published by FIFA with special modifications as permitted for local associations and youth soccer. All contests sanctioned by this association shall abide by the "Laws of the Game" and the modifications as published by the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) rule book and GLCSL modifications.

**Section 1. Coaching from the Sidelines**

Coaching from the sidelines, giving directions to one's own team on points of strategy and position, is permitted provided:

- A. No mechanical communication devices are being used. This includes but is not inclusive of cell phones, walkie-talkies, bullhorns, or other devices designed to create an unfair advantage or distract from the game.
- B. The tone of voice used by the coach is informative and not a harangue.
- C. The coach is in the team's bench area
  - a. between the 18-yard lines to the bottom of the center circle during the game, unless otherwise directed differently by the referee.
- D. Instructions are not continuous and constant throughout the game.

**Section 2. Uniforms**

- A. When colors of uniforms are similar, the home team must change to colors that are distinct from those of the visiting team.
- B. No player will be allowed to play with a wound or injury that will expose players, coaches, or referees to contact with body fluids on either a player's person or uniform.

**Section 3. Player Equipment**

- A. Player equipment shall consist of a jersey (shirt) with a minimum 6-inch number on the back.
- B. Each number on an individual team shall be distinct.
- C. A player may have his/her last name and the initial of his/her first name on the jersey but no nicknames may be used.
- D. Shorts, socks, footwear, and shin guards shall also be worn during play and the socks must cover the shin guards completely.
- E. No jewelry or hard hair pieces/objects can be worn. This included any taped jewelry.

**Section 4. Field Size.**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Goal Size</b>	<b>Field Size Width Min/Max</b>	<b>Field Size Length Min/Max</b>
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U9	6' x 12'	40 yd – 50 yd	60 yd – 70 yd
U11	6' x 12'	40 yd – 50 yd	60 yd – 70 yd
U13+	8' x 24'	50 yd – 100 yd	100 yd – 130 yd

**Section 5. Field Setup**

- A. A field shall be set up according to the diagram (diagram 1.0) at the end of these rules and notes below. Any waivers or variance to this set up shall be approved by the executive board prior to the start of the season. Failure to follow the field setup could result in fines and/or sanctions.
  - a. Technical areas for the home and away teams are to be established with lines or cones and must be between the top of the 18-yard box and the top of the center circle. For U9/U11 fields, the top of the 6-yard box may be used instead of the 18-yard box.
  - b. Spectators for each team need to be across from their team’s bench.
  - c. No spectators are allowed between the top of the center circle on each side of the half way line.
  - d. A line must be painted six feet away from the touch line on the spectator side. No spectators are allowed to be closer than six feet to the field.
  - e. Signs are to be placed near the corner area (without preventing a player from taking a corner-kick or throw-in) that indicate that no spectators are allowed in the team area *or* the area is for players and coaches only.

**Section 6. Pregame Requirements.**

- A. Each team may be required to have equipment (shoes, cleats, shin guards, etc.) checked by the game officials.
- B. Each team must have the minimum required players to start and complete a game.
  - a. The maximum and minimum number of players for each age group can be found in section 13.

**Section 7. Game Times**

- A. Game times shall be set per the League Scheduler.
- B. Official game time shall be kept by the referee on the field.
- C. The referee shall have the authority to shorten or cancel a game due to inclement weather or unusual circumstances. If a game or half time needs to be shortened, the referee shall inform both coaches before the contest begins.
- D. No game shall be played if thunder, lightning, or hail is present.
  - a. If you hear it, you clear it. If you see it, you flee it.
  - b. When thunder, lightning, or hail is present, all persons associated with the game must seek safe shelter.
  - c. A minimum of 30 minutes must have passed from the last sound of thunder or strike of lightning before any person associated with the game can return to the field.
- E. Games ended in the first half may be rescheduled. Games stopped and/or ended in the second half or at half time shall be considered complete.

### **Section 8. Officials**

- A. Each club shall be responsible for hiring all game officials.
  - a. Clubs that register teams in the U19 age group must use a certified referee assignor
- B. All referees are required to submit a game report within 48 hours to the league Vice President via the email on the game report that is provided by the home team. The game report shall include the following:
  - a. Teams
  - b. Game Score
  - c. Location of game
  - d. Time of game
  - e. Players that played in the game
  - f. Yellow and/or red cards given and what players/coach received said card
  - g. Detailed report if a red card is given.
  - h. Injuries
  - i. Sportsmanship scores for each team
  - j. Particularly poor behavior
  - k. If a team is a no show
  - l. Referee and assistant referee names including club linesman
- C. If a game is moved the home club must report it to the league's Vice President
- D. If a team cannot play a game or a makeup game, then a report needs to be filed with the league Vice President by the home team's club.
- E. For all games, a USSF certified referee is required to officiate in the center and the three-official system must be employed. The center referee must be at least 2 years older than the age group he/she is officiating.
- F. If the club is not using a certified referee assignor,
  - a. The assistant referees must be the same age as the age group of the players on the field
- G. The home team is responsible for providing two adult club linesmen if the referee is working alone and requests assistance.
- H. Referees shall be paid the standard League fee established by the Executive Board. This shall be paid prior to the kickoff by the home team club (see Section 11 below).
- I. The referee shall be in charge of all matters pertaining to the field and the game. All participants are required to abide by the League Rules and Regulations. Poor behavior observed by a site director or League official may be reported to the League Board of Directors who shall decide if a League red card is warranted.
- J. To the greatest extent possible, all referees shall be USSF certified. USSF certified referees shall be given preference over club officials.
- K. The Executive Board will notify all clubs in writing prior to the season of any rule changes or modifications.

### **Section 9. Site Director's Responsibilities**

- A. Identify self as the assigned site director to the coaches and referees prior to the game.
- B. Assist and educate, as needed, to ensure the league rules and regulations are followed.

- C. In concert with the referee, ensure that the spectators are appropriately situated at each field (i.e., no spectators allowed behind either goal).
- D. If needed by the club, collect information on red cards issued during the game from the referee. All red cards will need to be reported from the club to the league Vice President within 24 hours.
- E. Gather detailed information on any observed incident, violation of rules, or poor behavior that occurred before, during, or after the game. Provide the information to your club for possible further action.
- F. During the game, assist the referee with needed weather-related actions (i.e., clearing the field for lightning).
- G. Know your club's contingency plan and be able to act in the event of an injury or medical emergency.

### **Section 10. Coaches**

- A. Each coach is bound by the Coaches' Code of Conduct and Coaches Code of Ethics, established by the League, which he/she must sign and have on file with their club.
- B. The coaches are responsible for the conduct of all those representing their team at all times, including before, during, and after the game. No persons are allowed on the field unless they are participating in the scheduled match.
- C. All coaches must have up to date SafeSport training, HEADS UP concussion training, and a background check completed through MSYSA that is valid through the entire season.
- D. Coaches must be properly registered and rostered with the league prior to the beginning of the season and prior to the team's first practice.
- E. All coaches must show a photo ID to the referees prior to the start of the game. If a coach fails to show their photo ID, they must remain on the spectator side of the field and may not coach.
- F. Any coach who uses an improperly registered player during the regular season or any post season tournament, whether intentionally, accidentally, or otherwise, shall forfeit the game(s) in which that ineligible player participates in and will face further disciplinary action by the League.

### **Section 11. Player Participation**

All eligible players who are not under disciplinary action shall play in both halves of each game and shall play as nearly a minimum of 50% of each half and 50% of the game as possible. This rule shall not prohibit players from playing more than the minimum required time-

### **Section 12. Soccer Balls**

- A. Home teams will provide a game ball, which meets the requirements of the USSF rulebook.
  - a. The size of the ball for each age group can be found in section 13

### **Section 13. Number of Players, Game Duration, and Referees**

- A. Players shall be placed in appropriate age groups by their host club.
  - a. Those age groups are U9, U11, U13, U15, U19.
  - b. U19 girls will only be offered in the fall and U19 boys will only be offered in the spring

- c. Offered age groups are subject to change by the executive board with prior notice to the host clubs.
- B. The league shall schedule games for both boys and girls in all age divisions in the fall and spring seasons except for the U19 age group
  - a. U19 girls shall be scheduled in the fall only and the U19 boys shall be scheduled in the spring only.
- C. The executive board reserves the right to allow the U19 age group to play on a small-sided field.
- D. Below is the number of players on the field, the ball size, and the referee pay.

Age Group	Players on field	Minimum players	Length of halves	Ball Size	Referee Pay	Assist. Referee Pay	Total Referee Pay
U9	6v6	4	25 minutes	4	\$40	NA	\$ 40
U11	8v8	6	30 minutes	4	\$35	\$30	\$95
U13/U15	11v11	7	35 minutes	5	\$45	\$40	\$125
U19	11v11	7	40 minutes	5	\$50	\$45	\$140

- E. Referees are to be paid prior to the start of the match. The Total Referee Pay is to be paid even if a full referee crew isn't present for the game. A club may not withhold money if only one or two referees are present, excluding the U9 age group.
  - a. Failure to pay the referee crew in full or at the start of the match could result in fines and/or sanctions to the home club.

**Section 14. Substitutions**

- A. A player may not enter or leave the field of play until they have been given a signal to do so by the referee.
- B. The number of substitutions shall be unlimited. Substitutions may be made:
  - a. Prior to a throw in.
  - b. Prior to a goal kick by either team.
  - c. After a goal by either team.
  - d. After an injury by either team when the referee stops play (one for one).
  - e. At halftime by either team.
  - f. When a player is carded (one for one).
  - g. If both teams are waiting to substitute both teams shall be allowed to substitute.
  - h. If only one team is waiting to substitute, then a team may only substitute on their possession.
- C. Special note: In U9, substitutions may be made by either team at all out-of-bounds stoppages regardless of which team is restarting play. This shall include throw-ins, corner kicks, and goal kicks.

**Section 15. Rosters**

- A. All teams must present their official league roster that is provided by the league registrar to the referee at every game.
  - a. The roster must be in paper form.
- B. Only the players and coaches printed on this roster may participate in the game (and practices).

- C. All rosters must have a league game report printed on the back.

**Section 16. Miscellaneous**

The home team will be responsible for the condition of the grounds, the proper field markings, and the proper equipment.

- A. Nets and corner flags are required.
- B. Goals must be properly anchored according to the manufacturer's recommendations and requirements.
- C. It will be the responsibility of the participating teams to have a game ball and to ensure that their fans behave in a proper and respectful manner.

**RULE 5  
TOURNAMENT GAMES**

The authority for approval and/or operational control of a tournament, including dates and times of the games that are to be played, shall be vested with the Executive Board of this association. Also, see Appendix A and Appendix B on procedures and rules for the tournament.

- A. Any club not hosting preliminary round games must have a club representative at the tournament finals. The tournament finals hosting site representative shall be contacted by the non-hosting qualifying club representatives to coordinate times that are needed to be filled.
- B. If the Executive Board approves a post season tournament, a tournament committee must be formed and approved by the executive board. This committee shall be chaired by the League Vice President. The rest of the tournament committee will consist of, at minimum, the following positions: scheduler, registrar, referee representative, site director coordinator, finals coordinator, and a member at large.

**RULE 6  
AGE LIMIT DEFINITION**

**Section 1. Youth Player.**

The term "youth" as applied to this Constitution shall mean an amateur player who meets the requirements set forth by MSYSA when they applied for registration. Additionally, a U19 player must be in high school or a high school equivalent to play within Great Lakes Coed Soccer League.

**Section 2. Age Groups.**

- A. All clubs, unless otherwise sanctioned by the Board, shall divide play among teams as listed below
  - a. U19, U15, U13, U11, U9
- B. Clubs are not required to enter teams in all age divisions to remain in good standing in the League.

**Section 3. Proof of Age.**

A birth certificate, passport, driver's license, board of health records, certificate of naturalization, or alien registration card shall be sufficient for proof of age, except in those competitions which specifically state otherwise.

**Section 4. Authority to Contest Age of Players.**

Any player may be called upon to prove their legal age by the Executive Board, by MSYSA's board of directors, or by a district commissioner, or by the player's member club's president.

**Section 5. Playing Up an Age Division**

A player can only play up one age division, except a U15 player can play up to U19. A U13 player cannot play U17 or U19. Under no circumstances may a player play down an age division.

RULE 7

PLAYER REGISTRATION, LEAGUE ENTRY, AND TEAM AFFILIATION

**Section 1. Proper Registration Procedure.**

- A. All players are required to submit a properly completed club player registration form to the team. The submission of a club player registration form signed by the player or their parent or legal guardian (if the player is under 18 years of age) and MSYSA player fees binds that player to that team for the season unless granted a transfer or release under RULE 9.
  - a. A properly completed registration form shall include a signed player code of conduct, a signed parent and family member code of conduct, and a signed concussion information sheet.
- B. Each club shall be required to submit to the appropriate League officer various forms as may be required for the operation of the association and shall pay all dues, fees, and/or fines that may be levied by the League or association. Also, each club is responsible for sending proper League affiliation forms and fees directly to the person responsible in the League.
- C. Each club shall be responsible for ensuring the proper registration of the players, affiliation of the teams, proper accounting of fiscal transactions and accurate reporting to the GLCSL Board.
- D. All clubs must have their final rosters submitted to the League by a date to be determined by the Executive Board. At this time the appropriate registration fee must also be submitted. There must be on file a complete roster, which includes each player's name, address, telephone number, birth date, parent name, parent email, and gender. The roster will also include the name of the head coach and any assistant coaches and their email, telephone number, address, birth date, and expiration dates of their SafeSport, Heads Up Training, and background check. The roster must include the team's name and club affiliation.
  - a. All initial rosters must have the below minimums on the roster and at least one coach. Any roster that does not have these requirements will be rejected by the league registrar and the team will not be scheduled by the league scheduler. If the roster is accepted late, late fees will apply.

- i. U9 minimum: 6 players
    - ii. U11 minimum: 8 players
    - iii. U13+ minimum: 11 players
  - b. Any roster, team commitment form, and/or payment that is late based on the due date determined by the executive board will incur a \$25 late fee for each item.
  - c. Any team that is dropped and no longer participating after team commitments are turned in or adds a team late with the scheduler's approval will be charged the full division scheduling fee with a minimum of \$75 and a maximum of \$200.
- E. Only registered and rostered players and coaches may participate in practices and games.

**Section 2. Ineligible or Improperly Registered Players or Coaches.**

Any team using a player or coach in the regular season or tournament who is ineligible, whether accidentally, intentionally, or otherwise, shall forfeit the game(s) in which that ineligible player or coach participates and may face further disciplinary action by the Board of Directors, depending upon the nature of the violation.

RULE 8  
YOUTH ELIGIBILITY

A youth player will be permitted to play an unlimited number of senior men's/women's league games without losing his/her youth eligibility if the youth participation forms are approved by MSYSA/GLCSL. Any youth playing for a senior club without such approval shall be declared an ineligible player for youth games. Any youth team using an ineligible player shall forfeit all games in which that player participated under the provisions of RULE 7, Section 2.

RULE 9  
PLAYER RELEASE AND TRANSFER

**Section 1. Player Registration and Release.**

A registered player shall be committed to a team for the season. Once registered and in the absence of mitigating circumstances, a player must remain with his/her team until the completion of the season for the League in which his team participates.

**Section 2. Registration and Transfer Cutoff Dates.**

Changes to team rosters after the date set in the season overview can be made with Executive Board approval.

**Section 3. Date of Registration.**

A player is registered the moment the player or his/her parents or legal guardian (if the player is under 18 years of age) signs the club player registration form and the club submits the GLCSL/MSYSA player fees, and these are accepted by a responsible League official.

**Section 4. Multiple Rostering.**

With the concurrence of the GLCSL, a player may register with more than one team per seasonal year. The following restrictions apply to multiple registrations:

- A. GLCSL is designed as a recreational league to provide an opportunity for new players to develop soccer skills. All clubs agree to strive to balance their team composition in each age group as nearly as possible so that teams may compete on a fair basis. Clubs are strictly forbidden from stacking any teams with skilled players at the expense of the other teams in any specific age group.
- B. Players are to be registered to the maximum number permitted without regard to previous experience or skills. Tryouts for acceptance on a team entered in GLCSL is not permitted.
- C. No team may have more than 2 players from a select team without prior approval from the Executive Board. No players that play on a team that has a higher level of competition above select, including but not limited to premier, elite, NPL, ECNL, can play on a Great Lakes Coed Soccer League team. Clubs that sponsor travel teams, such as those in GVSA, and WMYSA, may be required to submit travel team rosters with the GLCSL Secretary for cross verification.
- D. Clubs that sponsor select teams, such as those in GVSA, or WMYSA, must submit the select team rosters to the GLCSL Secretary for cross verification.
- E. No player may play on more than one GLCSL recreational team per season.
- F. Active high school players shall not be permitted to register and participate during the current high school season.

#### RULE 10

##### PROFESSIONAL STATUS

Any player signing a "letter of intent" or a professional contract or who plays on a professional team without the permission of the Board shall be declared a professional and ineligible to participate in the GLCSL Recreational Program.

##### **Section 1. Play with Professionals.**

Only the Executive Board along with MHSAA may grant a youth amateur permission to play in benefit or exhibition games where professional players are involved.

##### **Section 2. Loss of Youth Status.**

No player who has signed a "letter of intent" or a contract or who has played in any game where professional players are involved without the permission of the Executive Board will be permitted to be reinstated to a youth amateur status.

#### RULE 11

##### AUTHORITY TO FUND PROGRAMS.

The Board of Directors, subject to membership approval or a special meeting may assess fees or require bonds for administrative functions undertaken on behalf of its members. The Board may also levy fines in specific disciplinary actions.

#### RULE 12

##### CLUBS PREROGATIVES TO SET RULES.

Clubs may deem fit to enact rules and regulations more stringent than those included herein, but in no case may their rules be less stringent.

**RULE 13  
PLEAS OF IGNORANCE.**

A plea of ignorance to this Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations is not sufficient and violators may expect appropriate action by the Board of Directors of this association.

**RULE 14  
PERMISSION TO HOST A TOURNAMENT.**

Clubs or organizations who wish to host a tournament must request permission from GLCSL. Also, see Appendix B.

**RULE 15  
PAYMENT OF FEES.**

All clubs must have fees and registration forms turned in on or before the League registration date and all past due balances paid in order to participate in that season's games. Any invoices sent by the league treasurer must be paid within 30 days or can be subject to a late fee of 10% with a \$10 minimum.

**RULE 16  
LEAGUE SCHEDULE FOR THE SEASON.**

The League schedule for all of the regular season games to be played in a particular season shall be submitted to the League teams via their representatives 3 weeks prior to the first scheduled game or at such time deemed reasonable by the Executive Board.

**RULE 17  
COMPETITION OUTSIDE GLCSL.**

Any club wishing to enter teams in competition outside GLCSL are advised to consult MSYSA for rules pertinent to their programs and tournaments as their rules shall prevail over the GLCSL rules.

**RULE 18  
MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR.**

Any matters not provided for in these rules shall be determined by the GLCSL Board of Directors and decisions so made shall be binding.

**RULE 19  
REFEREE AND COACHING CLINICS.**

MSYSA will send referees or coaching instructors to GLCSL-sponsored classes and clinics at times and locations mutually agreed upon. Individual clubs agree not to schedule independent referee or coaching classes or clinics at times which conflict with the League-sponsored events.

RULE 20  
SANCTION APPEAL PROCESS

The sanction appeal committee is formed to hear appeals that may arise from sanctions that may be placed against a GLCSL member clubs due to bylaw or rule infractions by their registered members.

This committee shall not hear appeals for:

- A. Discipline appeals
  - a. These appeals shall be heard directly by MSYSA appeals committee.
- B. Tournament protests
  - a. These are covered in the tournament section of the bylaws.

**Section 1. Process**

For a club to appeal a sanction that has been imposed by the executive board the following procedures must be followed:

- A. An email must be sent to the President and Vice President of the league within 48 hours of receiving the sanction that lists the reason for the appeal
- B. The President or Vice President will acknowledge the email by replying to all recipients.
- C. A date and time will be set by the board that is convenient to all parties involved. All parties involved will be emailed by the President or Vice President.
- D. The appeal committee will then be formed by the board to hear the appeal and a ruling shall be rendered according to the bylaws.
- E. The decision of the committee will be sent to the sanctioned club by the President.
- F. The decision can be appealed to MSYSA

**Section 2. Authority of the Committee**

- A. Keep all sanctions in place
- B. Lower or eliminate the sanctions.
- C. Recommend that a harsher sanction be placed against a club.
  - a. The executive board will then meet to discuss this finding and may or may not follow this recommendation.

**Section 3. Format of the Committee**

- A. The league will be divided into 4 regions
- B. The region that the sanctioned club belongs to should not be on the appeals committee unless no other option is available.
- C. The appeal committee board will be made up of:
  - A. 1 member of the executive board to chair the meeting.
    - a. Any other executive board member with pertinent information will be asked to attend. This could include the registrar and scheduler.
  - B. 3 club representatives
    - a. Only the reps can vote on the appeal.

**Section 4. Eligibility for the Committee**

For a club rep to be eligible to sit on the appeals board, they must meet the following criteria:

- A. Representative of their club for a minimum of 1 year.
- B. From an active club in good standing with GLCSL.
  - a. An active club is defined as having at least 1 team registered in the current season.
- C. Not be directly involved or affiliated with the sanctioned club.
- D. Has not sat on the two most recent appeals board

**Section 5. Appealing the Decision of the Committee**

The MSYSA Discipline & Appeals Committee shall hear appeals from decisions of a lower authority. Appeals must be in writing, either on forms specified by MSYSA or providing the information requested on such forms and describe in detail the grounds for appeal. The written appeal must be mailed within ten (10) days of the receipt of the GLSCL and must be accompanied by all supporting documents and a \$250 fee payable to MSYSA in the form of a money order or cashier’s check. The appeal fee paid by the prevailing party will be returned; however, the fee shall not be returned if the appeal is denied.

RULE 21  
DISCIPLINE APPEALS

**Section 1. Discipline Appeals**

The MSYSA discipline and appeals committee shall only hear appeals from decisions of lower authority, cases concerning misconduct toward game officials or misconduct of game officials, or matters referred by the board of directors.

**Section 2. Appeals Process**

See section 5 of MSYSA’s Rules

DIAGRAMS

**Diagram 1.0 – Field Setup**

**Great Lakes Coed Soccer League Field Set Up Diagram**

