

**North Bay Youth Soccer Club  
Rules and Regulations 2019**

## **Rule 1 Registration and Eligibility**

- 1.1** The club will responsible for the registration of players
- 1.2** A player must be registered one (1) business day before his/her first game to be eligible to play.
- 1.3** A new player must be signed by a team twenty-eight (28) days prior to the end of that teams scheduled league play. THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE PLAY-OFF SCHEDULE.
- 1.4** New players can only be assigned to a team by the Club. The Club may delegate the authority for placing players onto teams in their respective League, to the league Convenor or office staff.
- 1.5** Parents may request to have siblings play on the same team provided that the younger child moves “up” and complies with RULE 4.1

## **Rule 2 League Convenors**

- 2.1** League Convenors shall be the official representation to the Executive Committee.
- 2.2** Upon the request of the Executive Committee, the Convenor will investigate any complaint, dispute or violation of the Rules and Regulations by players, coaches, and parents.

## **Rule 3 Coaches**

- 3.1** All teams must have an adult (18 years of age or over) coach.
- 3.2** The coach is responsible for the conduct and safety of players while at the field/park.
- 3.3** There must be one adult (normally the coach) present at all youth and grassroots games. If the coach cannot be present, another adult must be appointed to assume the coaches responsibilities.
- 3.4** Coaches will not automatically add players to their recreational teams, or switch players amongst themselves, or change game dates and times without the Club’s permission.
- 3.5** All coaches must have a Police Vulnerable Sector Check before being allowed to coach. The Club will pay for this check.
- 3.6** All coaches shall be appointed by the Club
- 3.7** All coaches are required to completely fill out and sign the Coach Registration Form Over 18.
- 3.8** A coach found to be abusive (physically, verbally, bullying, cyber bullying) will be suspended immediately and subject to further discipline by the Club’s Discipline Committee.

## **Rule 4 Transfer & Movement of Players**

- 4.1** A recreational player may play in an age division one playing division above their age; any exception to this rule must be approved by the NBYSO Board Executive.
- 4.2** After a player has been assigned to a team and wishes to be moved to another team, the parent/guardian may apply to the Club in writing to have the player moved to another team. The reasons for wishing to change teams must be stated. The decision of the Club is final.
- 4.3** Individual players may be called up to play for a team one age division higher for a maximum of three games in any one season. Such players will only be permitted to play if the team that has called the player up is short of players at the start of the game (a shortage is defined as there being 2 or less substitutes available for players on the field). The call up players

must be identified to the Match Official and also identified on the game card as a call up player.

**4.4** Any player called up must be played for an equal share of the game as per Rule 18.

**4.5** When a coach wants to call up from another team, the following procedure must be followed

- a) The requesting coach will call a coach of a lower age division as early as possible and indicate the details of the request and seek advice of names of potential call up players.
- b) The requesting coach should then contact the parent of the call up player. Should the parent of the player not feel comfortable with their child being called up, the requesting coach must move on and try a different player.
- c) The requesting coach will call or email the office advising them of the call up. Failure to contact the office and notify them of the call up may result in discipline action by the Club's Discipline Committee.
- d) The called up players must be identified verbally to the Match Official and also identified on the game card.

**4.6** No call ups can be used during playoffs.

## **Rule 5 Match Officials**

**5.0** One coach per team (for U5 to U8 mini soccer) will be allowed on the field for teams playing on mini-fields. However, coaches must not be between the ball and their own team's goal.

**5.1** The Club shall be responsible for assigning Match Officials for its league operations.

**5.2** The Club will select, assign, provide training and pay all Match Officials.

**5.3** The game fees paid to the Match Officials shall be set by the NBYSO.

**5.4** The minimum age for Match Officials is fourteen (14) years of age by March 31 of the current year.

**5.5** Game reports and cards should be in the hands of the office staff within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the game, weekend and statutory holidays excepted.

**5.6** The Club Head Referee, Club Game Assignor, office staff, or a board designate, will assign Match Officials to league games.

**5.7** The centre Match Official is the sole timekeeper.

**5.8** The Match Officials must be at the game ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled game to ensure the field is safe to play on, collect game cards, and complete an equipment check of all players.

**5.9** If a Match Official fails to show up for a game, then a registered Match Official qualified for that level attending the game may, with his/her agreement officiate the game without the teams consent.

**5.10** If a person who is a registered Match Official, but not qualified for the level of game in question, is to be used, then both teams must agree to his/her use. Once appointed to do the game in question, the Match Official shall be accorded all the rights and responsibilities of a properly qualified Match Official for that level. All decisions by this Match Official are final.

## **Rule 6 Harassment**

**6.1** Any player, coach, assistant coach, manager or team supporter who impedes, harasses or intimidates the Match Official, players or coaches will be subject to disciplinary action.

**6.2** Any member of a team's support party who refused a Match Official's request to leave the field/park area will cause the game to be abandoned and forfeited by the offending team, and disciplinary action may follow.

**6.3** Any Match Official, player, coach, assistant coach, manager or team supporter who impedes, harasses or intimidates the office staff or members of the NBYSC board of directors may be subject to disciplinary action.

## **Rule 7 Ineligible Players**

**7.1** In the event a team is suspected of playing an ineligible player or players, the Match Official shall be notified. The Match Official shall record the name of the team and the players, and will report the matter to the NBYSC office. If the team is found to have played an ineligible player the game will be forfeited.

**7.2** Coaches are not to play any individual whose name does not appear on the official team list provided by the Club. A coach found playing an unregistered individual will be immediately suspended from the team and may be subject to further discipline action by the Club's Discipline Committee.

## **Rule 8 Player Ejections and Discipline**

**8.1** If a player is ejected from the game by the Match Official, the player will not be replaced. A player ejected from the game shall miss the following scheduled game as well.

**8.2** All cautions (yellow cards) and ejection's (red cards) shall be reported to the NBYSC office and Soccer Northeastern.

**8.3** A player must be allowed to discover the reason he/she was cautioned or ejected from the game.

**8.4** A player may contact the office 48 hours after the game took place and ask for a copy of the Match Official's report (verbal or in writing). The player may request in writing for a hearing. The request must be made in writing, within 48 hours of the incident and the posted fee (cash or certified cheque) must accompany the request. If a player fails to contact the office and request a hearing then the player is deemed to have declined the opportunity to request a hearing, and the discipline will then take place by Discipline by Review.

**8.5** There is no right of appeal of a decision handed out by Discipline by Review.

**8.6** Persons reported for misconduct who request a hearing must appear at the NEXT scheduled discipline hearing after the request for a hearing was submitted. Failure to attend a hearing, after requesting a hearing shall result in the immediate suspension from all games and soccer related activities until that person requests a hearing in writing with the applicable fee and the discipline case is heard.

**8.7** Soccer Northeastern will inform the player as to the next scheduled discipline hearing.

**8.8** A coach who wishes to suspend any player for serious misconduct must complete a Special Incident Report regarding the matter and submit the report to the office within 48 hours of the incident. The report will then be reviewed by the Discipline panel at their next scheduled

meeting. No suspension will take place until the Discipline panel has reviewed the report. The Discipline panel's findings are final.

### **Rule 9 Scheduled Time & Abandoned Games**

**9.1** All league games will be played as scheduled unless cancelled:

- i. If announced on the radio by the City of North Bay.
- ii. At the discretion of the Match Official due to weather, field or light conditions.
- iii. At the discretion of the League Convenor up to one (1) hour prior to the scheduled league game.
- iv. Or with the agreement of both coaches and the Match Official.

**9.2** If the Match Official stops the game due to weather, field or light conditions, he/she must follow the Canadian Soccer Association's Lightning Safety/Severe Weather Policy (which can be found on our website) to see if the game can be restarted. If the game cannot be restarted, then the Match Official must report such to the Club in writing.

**9.3** If a league game cannot be restarted for any of the reasons above, then the game's result at the time when the game was abandoned will stand as the final score only if 2/3 or more of the game has been played. The game in question will be replayed in full if less than 2/3 of the game has been played at the time of cancellation.

**9.4** The Match Official shall be the sole judge as to how much time was played.

**9.5** The game shall be a forfeit if the team cannot field the minimum number of players at the start of the scheduled game time, where the minimum number of players is as follows;

- i. U5 to U10 no forfeit
- ii. U11-U12 minimum of 6 players
- iii. U13-18 minimum of 7 players

**9.6** Both teams are required to be at the venue and ready to begin play for the scheduled kick-off time. A five (5) minute grace period is allowed before the game is awarded to the team with the minimum number of players in attendance as per Rule 9.5.

### **Rule 10 Recommended Number of Players**

#### **10.1**

- i. U5 3 vs 3 (no goalkeeper)
- ii. U6 4 vs 4 (no goalkeeper)
- iii. U7-U8 5 vs 5 (including goalkeeper)
- iv. U9-U10 7 vs 7 (including goalkeeper)
- v. U11-U12 9 vs 9 (including goalkeeper)
- vi. U13-U18 11 vs 11 (including goalkeeper)

**10.2** In the interest of fair play and sportsmanship, if a team cannot field a full team, the Club urges the opposing coach to consider reducing the number of players they would field.

### **Rule 11 Players Equipment**

**11.1** Player's equipment will consist of numbered shirt with sleeves, shorts, socks, shinguards (these must be made of a suitable material to provide reasonable protection and covered by the socks and shoes), and shoes which must conform to FIFA Law 4 (a running shoes with good

tread may be used). Match Officials will complete an equipment check at the beginning of each scheduled game prior to the scheduled kick-off time.

**11.2** Shirts must be tucked in and shinguards must be covered by the socks and shoes while the player is on the field.

**11.3** No Jewelry or hair clips will be worn while on the field. Jewelry or hair clips cannot be taped, they must be removed. If the player is asked to leave the field of play to remove the item, he/she cannot return to the field of play until the player has been checked by the Match Official or Assistant Match Official. A player failing to remove the item after being asked to do so by the Match Official may result in Disciplinary action.

**11.4** Ball size is determined by the age category, as follows;

- i. U5,U6,U7,U8- Size 3
- ii. U9,U10,U11,U12- Size 4
- iii. U13-U18-Size 5

### **Rule 12 Duration of Games**

**12.1** Regulation time for all games will follow the format below:

- i. U4/U5 and U6 – 60 minutes first 25 minutes is skills development, then 25 of scrimmage
- ii. U7 and U8 - 20 minute halves
- iii. U9 and U10 - 25 minute halves
- iv. U11 and U12 - 35 minute halves
- v. U13 and U14 - 40 minute halves
- vi. U15 and up - 45 minute halves

### **Rule 13 Substitution**

**13.1** The following leagues U4/U5, U6, U7 and U8 can substitute any time and on the fly. The following leagues U9/U10, U11 and U12 can make substitutions at any stoppage in play.

**13.2** All other leagues: Substitutions can be made by a team on its own throw-in, plus all goal kicks, kickoffs and injuries. If the opposing team is making a substitution you may also make a substitution at this time.

### **Rule 14 Offsides**

**14.1** No offside's will be applied to the games within the U4/U5 to U10 league games.

**14.2** FIFA Law 11 applies to all other league games (U11 and up leagues).

### **Rule 15 Free kicks**

**15.1** The distance of opposing players from the ball during free kicks are as follows;

- i. U5-U8 no free kicks
- ii. U9-U12 see Law 13 of Small sided Games (can be viewed on our website)
- iii. U13-U18 see FIFA Law 13 (9.15 meters from the ball)

### **Rule 16 Sliding Kicks, Tackles & Heading**

**16.1** Sliding kicks and tackles are prohibited during league games played in the U5-U11 age groups.

**16.2** The penalty for sliding kicks and tackles where no contact with the opponent is made is an indirect free kick. If contact is made; a direct kick is awarded. If the sliding kick or tackle was made in the penalty area a penalty kick will be awarded.

**16.3** Heading the ball is prohibited in the U4/U5 to U11 league games.

#### **Rule 17 Throw Ins, Pass Ins or Dribble Ins**

**17.1** U5-U10 when the ball goes over the touch line and the game needs to be restarted, the player can use either use a pass in, dribble in, or a throw in to restart the game.

**17.2** U11 and U18 when the ball goes over the touch line and the game needs to be restarted the player will use a throw in. Possession shall be lost if the player fails to complete a proper throw in.

#### **Rule 18 Technical Area**

**18.1** For U11 and up league games, the technical area shall be deemed to be one (1) meter from the touch line and ten (10) meters from each side of center. For U7 to U10 league games, the technical area shall be deemed to be one (1) meter from the touch line and five (5) meters from each side of center.

**18.2** Coaches, managers and substituted players shall be restricted to their technical area.

**18.3** Fans and parents are not allowed in the technical area. Fans and parents will be asked by the Match Official to leave the technical area.

**18.4** Both team bench areas must be on the same side of the field.

#### **Rule 19 Player Playing Time in Games**

**19.1** All players are expected to play in all games they attend.

**19.2** All players are required to play an equal share of the games they attend.

**19.3** No player can be denied playing time because of poor technical skills or their ability.

**19.4** Failure by a coach to abide by these rules shall result in a request to comply on the first proven incident. A coach may be dismissed for any subsequent proven incident.

#### **Rule 20 Protests**

**20.1** All protests shall be heard by the Club's Discipline Committee. The exception to this may be in Tournament play where the Discipline Committee is empowered under the Tournament Rules to hear such protests and handle discipline as required.

**20.2** All protest shall be in writing and sent to the NBYSC office within forty-eight (48) hours of the end of the game in questions, weekends and statutory holidays excepted. Coaches, players, or parents cannot protest a game based on the proficiency or experience of the Match Official.

**20.3** A written receipt of the protest shall be given (date/time/person).

**20.4** A copy of the protest must be sent to the person, or team or Match Official protested against. Such a copy may be emailed to the person that the protest is against.

**20.5** All decisions by the Club's Discipline Committee are final.

## **Rule 21 Appeals of Decisions**

**21.1** Subject to the rules of Discipline and Appeals to the member organizations of Soccer Northeastern, appeals shall be made to the Club's governing body Soccer Northeastern or Ontario Soccer. This is subject to the Operational Procedures as set out by Ontario Soccer.

## **Rule 222 Festivals- Tournaments.**

**22.1** Festival and tournament requests must be approved by the Club and by Soccer Northeastern. The requests must conform to Soccer Northeastern's policies.

**22.2** A request to host a festival-tournament must be approved by the club and Soccer Northeastern.

**22.3** All requests to host a festival or tournament must be made in writing to the club the year prior to hosting the festival or tournament.

**22.4** Teams automatically agree to such festival or tournament rules and regulation by entering the festival or tournament provided that the team received a copy of rules and regulations prior to entering the festival-tournament.

## **Rule 23 League Championship**

**23.1** No league standings for mini U4/U5 to U12

**23.2** In the event of a tie in points for any league position at the end of the league playing season, the final positions in the league will be decided by any one of the following criteria in order:

- i. The game result between the tied teams during the season.
- ii. The team with the largest goal difference from ALL league games (Goal difference shall be defined as the goals scored for and against).
- iii. The team who scored the most goals in all league games.
- iv. If the teams are still tied, then there will be a game played to decide who takes the higher position. Overtime and penalty shots will be used if necessary.

**23.3** The Club shall decide the play-off game arrangements when the total number of teams in the league is known. These play-off arrangements shall be published in the league schedule.

**23.4** All recreational teams shall make the play-offs.

**23.5** No call ups can be used during play-off games.

**23.6** All play-off games shall be on a one (1) game knockout basis. A winner must be declared from this game. If the two teams are tied at the end of regulation time, then there shall be 2 equal halves played in overtime (10-minute halves). These two halves may be completed by the scoring of a "Golden Goal". If the teams are still tied after the two overtime halves, then the penalty shots shall be taken for the shoot out.

**23.7** Where penalty shots are required to decide a winner of a game, the following procedure will apply:

- i. Players on the field at the end of regulation time are to take penalty shots and must stay on the field of play.
- ii. Teams will each select five (5) players from the players on the field at the end of regulation time to take the penalty shots. The five players will each to shoot alternately.
- iii. If teams are still tied after each team has taken their five (5) shots, the team will then select another player that was on the field at the end of regulation time, and then the

sixth (6) and subsequent penalty shots become sudden death. For example, if one kicker scores and the opposing kicker fail to score, the game is over.

- iv. A player from the first five (5) kickers cannot be used again until the team has used all of its players that were on the field at the end of regulation time.

### **Rule 24 Trophies and Awards**

**24.1** All youth leagues will be awarded trophies league winners and its play-off winners

**24.2** If there is damage to any trophy then the team in whose hands the trophy was, is responsible for the satisfactory repair to such trophy. The Club is to decide what is satisfactory.

### **Rule 25 Sponsorship**

**25.1** The club shall authorize sponsorship for the teams.

**25.2** Coaches/Managers are NOT to approach sponsors who currently sponsor teams in the Club without prior approval of the Club.

### **Rule 26 Developmental Teams**

**26.1** Anyone wishing to form a developmental team must apply in writing each year to the NBYSC board of directors for approval. The application may or may not be approved. Each coach, assistant and manager must abide by NBYSC's Developmental Team Policy and failure to do so may result in the coach, assistant coach, and manager being refused a developmental team the following year.

### **27 Team Financial Requirements**

**27.1** If a team collects funds from parents for any team activities, the coach or a team representative (manager) must supply NBYSC and the team parents with a financial statement by Sept. 1 of that year. The statement should show revenue and expenditures. A coach not supplying the required information will be considered to be in bad standing and will not be given a team in the future.

### **28 Retreat Line**

**28.1** The Retreat Line will be implanted in the U7, U8, U9 U10 and U12 divisions. When the goalkeeper has the ball at a goal kick or after making a save the opposing team members would "retreat" to the predetermined area of the field. The predetermined areas are as follows:

- i. U6 to U10 will be the half way line. It is recommended the goalkeeper does not drop kick the ball
- ii. U11 and U12 will be one third of the distance to the half way line.

The ball is in play once it leaves the penalty area and all opponents must be behind the retreat line and cannot cross the retreat line until the ball:

- i. Is touched by a player of the team taking the goal kick OR,
- ii. Leaves the field of play OR,

- iii. Goes over the retreat line. (If the goalkeeper chooses to play the ball across the retreat line prior to the opposition crossing the retreat line)

If the goalkeeper chooses not to wait for the opposing players to "retreat" and throws or passes the ball down the field, the ball is instantly in play and does not require a player from the goalkeeper's team to touch the ball first.

#### **Rule 29 Changes to Rules and Regulations**

**29.1** The Club may from time to time introduce and enforce new rules and regulations that are not covered in these rules and regulations.

**29.2** The Club may by motion at any board meeting introduce new rules and regulations, change or delete current rules and regulations. The new or changed rules and regulations will be ratified at the next Annual General Membership meeting.

**29.3** The Club may set fines for non-compliance with certain rules. Such fines are to be published prior to each season.