

Eastern Carolina Soccer Association

Indoor Soccer Rules

Revised July 2006

All general rules of soccer will apply with the following exceptions and modifications:

- I. Facilities and Minimum Court Requirements - Each facility shall have a time keeper/score keeper who will assist keeping penalty time.
 - A. Two clearly marked rectangular penalty areas. Penalty areas will extend, in width, six feet from each goal post and in depth, 12 feet from the goal line.
 - B. Two goals of equal size.
 - C. A clearly marked halfway line.
 - D. Sidewalls for U12 and younger, touchlines for U13 and older.
 - E. In each corner, a designated spot shall be marked for the taking of corner kicks.
 - F. Penalty kicks will be taken from a clearly marked spot twenty-four (24) feet from the goal line. All players not involved in the taking of the kick shall remain ten feet from and behind the ball.
 - G. Two clearly marked goal lines. End walls are out of play for all age groups.
- II. Eligibility:
 - A. All players must be NCYSA registered. Players may play in an age group other than the age group they were registered in during the fall season if they are age eligible. U19 players must be age eligible and enrolled in High School or an Institution of Higher Learning.
 - B. A player may play for only one team. If a player plays in the first session that player is not eligible to play in the second session.
 - C. Challenge and Classic teams will be grouped together.
 - D. Recreation teams may add one classic or challenge player as a guest player. If more than one challenge or classic player is added to a recreation team then that team must play in the classic/challenge bracket.
 - E. Maximum roster is ten players. If a team plays with more than ten players that team will forfeit the games in which the ineligible players participated.
 - F. Two sets of rosters will be turned in at the indoor meeting. One roster is for the ECSA secretary and one for the site coordinators. All roster information must be complete and accurate.
 - G. Teams can only wear club approved shirts. Shirts must have numbers that match the roster numbers.

- H. Players can only be added to a roster thru the first weekend of play. New players are not eligible to play until all information has been turned into the ECSA secretary.
- I. Coaches will be held responsible for all eligibility violations and will be suspended for two games if any eligibility rules are broken.
- III. Participation: Each player must participate in each half of the game for which he or she is present.
- IV. Clean Up: The last two teams scheduled each day will remain to assist with clean up of the facility.
- V. Equipment: Players/Coaches will not bring any soccer balls to the match facilities.

Playing Rules

- I. Unless otherwise stated in these rules, FIFA Laws as modified by ECSA Recreation Policy apply.
- II. Teams U14 and younger must have a minimum of four players to start or continue a match. Teams U15 and older must have a minimum of three players to start or continue a match.
- III. Teams U14 and younger will have no more than six players on the court at one time. Five will be field players and the other one a clearly identified goalkeeper. Teams U15 and older will have no more than five players on the court at one time. Four will be field players and one a clearly identified goal keeper.
- IV. Shoes: All players shall wear shoes that will not mark the gym floor. Black soled shoes not clearly identified as "non-marking court shoes" are prohibited. Indoor soccer shoes or tennis shoes are appropriate.
- V. Time of Match: Each match shall consist of two 12 minute halves with a one minute halftime break. Forfeit time will be 10 minutes after scheduled start time.
- VI. Ball: All age groups will play with a size 4 Futsal ball.
- VII. Ball in and out of Play:
 - A. If the ball is propelled out of play, such that the ball goes over the sidewalls, for U12 and younger, or touchlines, for U13 and older, or strikes the ceiling or ceiling fixtures, it shall be whistled dead and an indirect free kick shall be awarded to the team that did not last touch the ball. The free kick shall be taken from the spot closest to where the ball went out of play or struck the ceiling, unless the spot is in the penalty area, in which case the ball shall be kicked from the closest spot outside the penalty area.
 - B. If the ball goes out of play over the goal line the match shall be restarted with a goal kick or corner kick as appropriate.
 - C. Goal Kick: A goal kick shall not be propelled across the halfway line "on the fly" without either touching a player, the floor, or a sidewall for U12 and younger. Penalty shall be an indirect free kick taken anywhere behind the halfway line by the receiving team.
 - D. Corner Kick: Corner kicks shall be taken from the designated spots.

- E. Kickoff: The kickoff will be indirect and may be played in any direction.
- F. Goalkeeper Distribution: If the goalkeeper takes possession of the ball by hand, the ball must be put back into play by hand action only. The goalkeeper may not put the ball down and dribble with feet as a field player. The goalkeeper may not punt or dropkick the ball into play. The penalty shall be an indirect free kick taken outside the penalty area.

VIII. Fouls and Misconduct:

- A. The nine FIFA outdoor penal (direct kick) fouls plus intentionally charging a player into the wall (U12 and younger) shall be direct kick fouls. If the defense intentionally commits any of these fouls in their own penalty area a penalty kick shall be awarded.
- B. All other fouls shall be indirect.
- C. There shall be **NO SLIDE TACKLING** by any player and no intentional sliding play of the ball by any field player. The goalkeeper shall not slide outside the penalty area. All challenges by the goalkeeper outside the penalty area must be upright.
- D. There shall be no charging of the goalkeeper, either fairly or otherwise.
- E. Delay by the Goalkeeper: The goalkeeper shall release the ball into play within six (6) seconds. Tactics designed to delay the game will not be tolerated. No player, goalkeeper or field player, shall go to a touchline, corner, or any other place on the court and attempt to intentionally hold the ball to kill remaining time. If attempted an indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team at the spot of the infraction.
- F. The goalkeeper shall not throw the ball past the halfway line "on the fly" unless the ball has touched the floor, the sidewall for U12 and younger or another player prior to crossing the halfway line. The penalty shall be an indirect free kick.
- G. The goalkeeper may use his hands to control the ball outside the penalty area as long as the goalkeeper maintains contact with the floor inside the penalty area.
- H. There shall be no offside.
- I. Restart after a goal is scored will be a kickoff at midcourt.

IX. Two minute penalties and cautions:

- A. Two minute penalties: Any player receiving a yellow card will serve a two minute penalty. During overtime periods if a team has multiple players receiving 2 minute penalties the team will be allowed to substitute in order to keep a minimum of 2 players on the court.
- B. Time on two minute penalties must be served completely and shall be carried over to the next period. Regulation or overtime. It is solely the responsibility of the penalized player to watch the match official, who is keeping time for the penalty, for the signal to return to play.
- C. Any player receiving two cautions will be considered ejected.
- E. Ejections: Any player, coach, or spectator ejected from a match will be out for the remainder of that match and the next match their team actually plays. Any player ejected

for fighting is out for the remainder of the indoor season. Any player, coach or spectator receiving a second ejection for any reason is out for the remainder of the indoor season.

- F. Free Kicks: On any free kick, the opposing team shall be at least ten feet from the ball or on the goal line, whichever is closer.
 - G. Substitution: Substitution is permitted at any time for field players and will be conducted "on the fly". A field player who is being substituted must be within ten feet of the bench before the substitute may enter the field. The goalkeeper may also be substituted "on the fly" if he or she is properly equipped. If the goalkeeper is substituted because of an injury a replacement keeper will be allowed time to "suit up". Infractions of the substitution rule will result in an indirect free kick taken from the spot where the ball was when the whistle was blown.
- X. Tie Games: In the case of a tie at the end of regulation play, the game shall be resolved in the following manner:
- A. A two minute sudden victory overtime period started with a dropped ball at mid court will be played without the use of the goalkeepers. The first team to score will win.
 - B. If the match is still tied after the two minute sudden victory overtime period another two minute sudden victory overtime period shall be played with the removal of a field player from each team, in addition to the goalkeeper. This procedure will continue with the reduction of one additional field player from each team for each overtime period if need be until it is two on two. Once a two on two situation occurs play shall continue without the use of the clock until one team scores. Two minute penalties will not be awarded during this period, however if a player commits an act that would normally result in a two minute penalty, that player must be substituted with another player before play can continue. If a player is ejected during two on two play the match is over and the team with two players remaining wins.
 - B. If a team is awarded a Penalty Kick during overtime the defending team may select one of the players on the court to act as goalkeeper for the taking of the penalty kick. The goalkeeper may use his/her hands for one attempt. If the kick is denied the acting goalkeeper immediately becomes a field player and cannot use his/her hands to deny additional shots.