

**SOUTHWEST CATHOLIC SOCCER ASSOCIATION
2019 BY-LAWS**

1. The Southwest Catholic Soccer Association shall consist of up to thirteen divisions. Varsity Boys, Varsity Girls, Varsity Coed, Jr. Varsity Boys, Jr. Varsity Girls, Jr. Varsity Coed, Jr. Boys, Jr. Girls, Jr. Coed, Pee Wee Coed, Kindergarten. The varsity division is geared toward 7th and 8th graders while 5th and 6th graders are allowed to participate. The Junior Varsity division is geared towards 5th and 6th graders while 4th graders are allowed to participate. The Junior division is geared toward 3rd and 4th graders while second graders are allowed to participate. PeeWee and Kindergarten are instructional divisions. The Pee Wee division is geared toward 1st and 2nd graders while kindergarten students are allowed to participate.
2. Registration fees must be paid by April 9th in order to be a member for this season. Late fees will be imposed on those teams that pay after the invoice specified date.
3. Varsity and Junior Varsity matches will consist of two 30-minute halves. Juniors will play two 25-minute halves and Pee Wee and Kindergarten will play two 20-minute halves. All matches will have a five-minute halftime.
4. Each team will supply the referee with an appropriate sized quality game ball. The Varsity will use size 5 ball, the Junior Varsity and Juniors size 4 ball, Pee Wee and Kindergarten a size 3 ball.
5. If a team cannot field a regulation field team within fifteen minutes after the official starting time, the match will be abandoned and the league will make a final determination. A regulation team consists of seven players, for the Varsity and Juniors; five for Pee Wee and Kindergarten. SWCSA Administration has the final decision regarding all games.
6. The Junior Varsity and Varsity play with ten players and a goalkeeper; the Junior Division plays with eight plus a keeper. PeeWee and Kindergarten will field 8 players, NO KEEPER. There will be a designated marked area wherein the ball would not be played by players of either team. If the ball comes to a stop in this area, a goal kick will be awarded to the defending team. If the ball is touched by a defender while it is in the area, a goal will be awarded. If the ball is touched by an attacker in this area, a goal kick will be awarded to the defending team.
7. If the official referee does not show, both coaches agree to an alternate referee. Once the match has begun, the results are binding on both teams. If the referee shows up after the match has started, he joins the referee on the field and the game continues with both.

8. Both teams must be on the same side of the field with spectators across from the teams. The midfield line must not be crossed by supporters, team members on the sidelines, or the coaches. Teams must leave space on the sidelines for the linesman and no one may stand behind the goal posts.
9. Both teams are responsible for cleaning the area of any refuse, etc. Teams are responsible for setting up or dismantling goals/nets according to field regulations. Continued lack of compliance with this rule can cause your teams' use of that field to be terminated.
10. A COACH bears the responsibility for his teams' fans and will be penalized for disruptions of the match by their teams' fans including an ejection if necessary.
11. In the event there is a need for any disciplinary action arising from League games and/or other League related activities, consideration for such action will be undertaken by the Executive Committee on a timely basis.
12. Red cards awarded regardless of final decision will incur an administrative fee of \$75. Notice of the assessment of this fee will be provided to the parish coordinator with payment due within two weeks. SWCSA reserves the right to suspend individuals from all SWCSA related activities until payment is received. Players or Coaches issued more than 1 red card within a season may be subject to full suspension from all league related activities for the balance of that season or longer subject to the discretion of the Executive Committee.
13. POSTPONEMENT/RESCHEDULING PROCEDURES – League reschedules all games, no exception. The league has final decision regarding unplayed game outcomes.
 - A. NON-Weather Cancellations:
 - a. Each team is allowed 3 cancellations OUTSIDE of their blackout dates
 - b. For each Cancellation after the 3 “free” cancellations, \$40 will be assessed for each cancellation.
 - c. Weather related issues, do not count towards the three.
 - d. Game cancellations MUST be done AT LEAST 2 DAYS before the original scheduled game date.
 - e. Each coach MUST contact their coordinator with the game number they are cancelling and the reason why.
 - f. ***The cancelling schools coordinator will contact the opposing team coordinator, coach, and Ref assignor, with all the information.***
 - B. Weather/Field Related Cancellations:
 - a. Each school's coordinator is responsible for cancelling games due to weather/field related circumstances.
 - b. If your field is run by a park district, the park district maybe the one to make the determination if your field is playable or not.

- c. The referee, once on site and has made his/her presence known to both teams, can make the determination if a game needs to be suspended or needs to be rescheduled due to weather/field conditions being unplayable. (unless the park district has made that determination)
- d. Both coaches, in agreement and on site, can determine a game needing to be rescheduled due to the weather or field conditions being unplayable, as a safety precaution for the players.
- e. The cancelling schools coordinator will contact the opposing team coordinator, coach, and the Ref assignor with all the information.
- f. If the decision is made at the field, and a ref is present, the ref will contact the Ref assignor with the information. The coaches will need to let their coordinators know as well.

C. Reschedules:

- a. ALL reschedules will be approved and completed by the League Scheduler
- b. Rescheduled games will be completed in order of when they are received.
- c. Games will be rescheduled at least 1 week from the original game date, if possible.
- d. Games may be rescheduled prior to or during the 1 week window pending on field availability/team availability/weeks left in the season, etc.
- e. Teams may also have double header reschedules pending on field availability/team availability/weeks left in the season, etc.
- f. Rescheduled games. We will attempt to reschedule at original field where possible. Changes are subject to field availability/team availability/weeks left in the season, etc will be rescheduled at the original field, but the location can change subject to field availability/team availability/weeks left in the season, etc.
- g. Once a game is rescheduled, the League Scheduler will contact the Coordinator from each team.
- h. It the responsibility of the coordinators to contact their individual coaches with game reschedules that come from the League Scheduler.

14. The required player equipment includes a jersey, shorts, socks, suitable shoes and shin guards. NO metal Spikes, NO Casts and Age appropriate heading.

15. Substitutions are allowed at the following times, **when recognized by the referee:**

- a) after a goal has been scored
- b) to replace an injured player
- c) on a goal kick
- d) on your throw-in
- e) on your opponent's throw-in if, and only if, they substitute on the same throw-in
- f) on your corner kick
- g) on your opponent's corner kick if, and only if, they substitute on the same corner kick.

- h) to replace a cautioned player (YELLOW CARD) who must be substituted out of the match and may re-enter at the next substitution
 - i) a team which starts a game with fewer than the regulation number of players (11, 9, or 8) may have its additional player(s) enter the game during a dead ball provided that the names of the additional players are on the team roster.
 - j) Substitutes must be recognized and beckoned on to the field by the referee.
*Pee Wee and Kindergarten divisions are considered instructional and may substitute on any dead ball situation.
16. If there is a conflict of colors, the visiting team must change unless it is convenient and the home team agrees to do so.
17. Goalkeepers must wear a shirt of a different color of either team.
18. TEAM STANDINGS: To determine position in the standings, a team will be awarded three points for a win, one point for a tie. Ties stand except in the playoff championship rounds.
19. Playoff structure will be determined each year by the League Officials.
20. PLAYOFF POSITIONS: To determine playoff positions, the following procedures will be used:
- 1) Total points
 - 2) Least number of goals allowed
 - 3) Goal differential (up to 3 per game)
 - 4) Coin Toss
21. PLAYOFF GAME TIE BREAKING PROCEDURE: In elimination round matches, when a winner must be determined, the following is the procedure for overtime when a match is tied at the end of regulation play.
- 1) Following a 2-minute break, the referee will have a coin flip and then the teams will play a 10-minute sudden victory overtime period (5 minutes for Juniors).
 - 2) If neither team scores, the teams will take a 2-minute break, switch goals and play another 10-minute sudden victory overtime period (5 minutes for Juniors).
 - 3) If neither team scores by the end of the second sudden victory period, then a penalty kick shoot-out will take place. The coach will report to midfield and select 5 shooters in the order they will kick. Coed Division must include 2 girls as part of the 1st 5 shooters. Goalkeepers are eligible to kick. If the kicks are tied at the end of 5 shooters, the teams will use the rest of their eligible shooters in a one and sudden alternating shots until the tie is broken. If all eligible shooters have shot, then a team on Round 12 (Round 10 in Juniors) can begin to reuse their shooters.

22. The Varsity and Junior Varsity Coed divisions require 3 girls on the field at a time. The Junior and PeeWee Coed divisions are required to have 2 girls on the field at a time. If a team cannot field the required number of girls on the field, the team shall play 1 player short for each girl under the required minimum.
23. Parishes with more than one team in the same division must enter all teams into the playoffs. All exceptions must be approved by the league prior to schedule being published.
24. Playoff rosters will be due on April 8. Each **girl or boy** player **on a coed team** may be **also be included on a boy or girl roster for that school per age division. The listed player will be eligible** to play in **each divisional team's** playoff **games**. A player also may not be ADDED TO another roster if that player's team has been eliminated from contention.
25. After the second half begins, if a team is losing by a 5 goal differential the referee may cut the remaining play time in half. This must be approved by the losing coach. For example: if the differential is met with 20 minutes left in the game, the referee can decrease the official game time left to ten minutes.