

2018 TOWSONTOWNE SENIOR ADULT SOCCER LEAGUE INFORMATION / RULES

AMENDED AUGUST 20, 2018

**ALL LEAGUES ARE GOVERNED BY THE BALTIMORE CO. REC. & PARKS
GUIDELINES**

The league will use **FIFA rules** as modified for play in Baltimore County, substitution is allowed. No Slide Tackling allowed. **In 7 v 7 league there is no-offsides** (*amended 8-1-18*). Metal spikes on are prohibited.

The Department of Recreation & Parks does not provide insurance for individuals participating in soccer leagues. It is recommended that each player carry some type of insurance.

No alcoholic beverages are allowed on or near the fields at any time. Please take your team's trash with you when you leave. Please keep all vehicles off County Park or School property. Park only in parking lots. Every individual is responsible for enforcing these rules.

General League Rules:

1. Rosters

All players on rosters must be registered with Towsontowne Recreation Council's Senior Adult Soccer League Program. Rosters must be turned in prior to the first game. NO NEW PLAYERS may be added after the roster has been submitted unless a player has registered with Towsontowne Adult Soccer web site and that registration has been acknowledged by the League Board. **Roster is limited to 25 players for 11 v 11 and 15 for 7 v 7.**

Teams may have the following players on their roster: 1 player 46 and older, 1 player who is 47 and older (or 2 players 47 and older if no player 46 and older), 1 player who is 48 and older and 2 players who are 49 and older. This is a grandfather clause which will gradually be eliminated to make an over-50 only league by the year 2021.

In the event that a player's eligibility is questioned, the player(s) must provide proof of Identification. A valid state issued identification card with picture (Driver's License, Military ID, Passport or State ID card) will be accepted as proof. The Board has a list of each registered participant.

As needed Player Eligibility. During regular season, there is an option to add "as needed" players to the roster if teams are short due to injuries or other absences as long as they have registered on the web site and paid a nominal fee to cover league insurance and costs. **"As needed" players are not allowed to play if game day roster exceeds 11 players.** "As needed" players are ineligible to play in playoff games.

2. Player Identification

All Leagues: Identification may be checked prior to the start of the game. Players **must** carry proof of Age/ID to every game. *Failure to provide identification upon request will result in player not participating in the game.*

3. Uniforms:

Team shirts will be provided by the league and league issued shirts are required for the playoffs. Shin guards are mandatory. Jewelry is not allowed during games (at the discretion of the game officials). This includes hair jewelry, piercings and rings. This is a safety precaution.

4. Start Time

Teams must have a minimum of 7-players (4 players for 7 v 7 leagues) to begin a game at Game Time. If a team cannot field the minimum number of players after 15 minutes, the game will become a forfeit. The Referees are to adhere to thirty (30) minutes halves and not shorten games if game does not start on time for whatever reason, unless directed by the responsible Board Member on site. Referees are encouraged to add reasonable time for stoppages in play, such as injuries, balls going into the woods or long substitutions. Referees may also institute a water break if necessary and appropriate. **The 7 v 7 league will start on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 and run for 11 weeks including playoffs. There may be Thursday play or double-headers based on inclement weather cancellations.**

5. Length of Games. 45-min halves for 11 v 11. 30-min halves for 7 v 7 format. Half game constitutes a whole game and the final score is what exist at the point game ended

6. **Substitutions.** Substitutions are allowed on own throw-in, goal kicks, kick-offs and injury (one for one). **Players of eligible team are to clearly indicate to the referee that they are planning to sub and players must wait until the referee acknowledges that substitutions are allowed.** Piggy-back substitutions ARE permitted. On kick-offs, the referee notification rule does not apply. **There is no substitution “on the fly”.**

7. Player Draft. For the 7 v 7 league, registration forms will have a place to indicate ability and experience level. Based on registration, designated Team Captains will draft players in an attempt to balance skill and age, one week prior to the season. Team Captains are then responsible for contacting their players.

8. Penalty Kicks and Spot – 7 v 7 League: The Penalty Spot for the 7 v 7 league is located in the edge of the goal box in the middle of the goal. Players must remain outside the box, and also must keep a 6-yard distance from the spot the kick is taken.

Sportsmanship is not an Option!!!! Threatening the Official, Fighting or Profanity will not be tolerated and WILL receive disciplinary action.

Scoring:

All coaches are responsible for reporting the game results *within 24 hours* after the game with the following:

1. **Score/Result of game**
2. **Red Cards given to players**
3. **# of officials**

Games results not reported may result in a loss for each team. Standings can be found on the league web site once established and linked to www.ttrec.org.

Point System:

Call in or email your game results. Games results not reported may result in a loss for each team.

- a. **Game Won = 3 points**
- b. **Game Tied = 1 point**
- c. **Game Lost = 0 point**

Tie-Breaker Rule:

In the event of a tie between 2 or more teams the following tie-breaker rule will be in effect. First would be record/points. Second would be goal differential. Third would be goals scored. Fourth would be head to head.

Forfeits:

Forfeited games will be scored as 3-0 per FIFA rules. Any team forfeiting 2 games can be removed from the league.

Yellow and Red Cards:

- a. **Yellow Cards** - Any player who receives a yellow card must leave the field for 5 minutes. A player may be replaced. (2 yellow cards = 1 red card) Any player receiving 2 yellow cards in a game will be ejected from the game and will receive a 2-week suspension. The suspended player must leave the park during the suspension. Additional suspensions may be given. Good Sportsmanship is not an Option!!!
- b. **Red Cards** - Any player receiving a red card will be suspended after a ruling by the League Board. That suspension covers all Towsontowne Adult Soccer programs, including pick up and indoor play. The suspended player or coach must leave the park or facility during the suspension. Any player or coach receiving 2 red cards during the season will be suspended from all Towsontowne Adult Soccer programs for the remainder of the season. Additional suspensions may be given. It is the coach's responsibility to report the player or coach to a member of the League Board. Any coach not reporting the cards/ejections will be subject to suspension. Suspensions will be e-mailed to each Team Captain 48 hours prior to each match.

Playoffs:

Playoffs will be offered after the regular season. Playoff brackets will be posted on the website after the regular season of league play. Tie Breaker Rule for Play-offs.

- a. Coin Toss determines goal team will defend,
- b. 1 -10 minute Sudden Death Overtime. First score wins the game.
- c. Penalty Kicks (alternating teams after each kick), 5 kicks per team. If tied after the 5 kicks, 1 kick per team until tie is broken (i.e. 1 to 1). Note: players who kick must be on the field at the ending of the game. Players may not come off the bench to kick.

Inclement Weather:

The League Board will advise Team Captains regarding cancellations. If the game has not been canceled, *Local Park Staff will decide playability at the game site*. Games will not be played if there is lightning.

TOBACCO-FREE POLICY

A person may not use any form of tobacco:

- a. In a restroom, at a spectator or concession area, dog park, aquatic facility, or playground in any County park;
- b. Within 100 yards of an organized activity at a County park. "Organized activity," means an event that has a defined time for starting and ending and is in a designated or permitted area of a County park. "Organized activity" includes athletic events, concerts, and special events such as art fairs. "Park" includes recreational facilities "Tobacco" to include but not be limited to cigarettes, cigars, snuff, pipes, and spit tobacco. *Any person who violates the tobacco-free rule will be requested, by a Recreation & Parks staff member, to cease the use of tobacco and will be given a verbal warning. If the person refuses to cease, staff authorized by the Director may request that the person leave the park.*