

2017 Adult Soccer Bylaws

1. League Policies

- A. **Registration:** Register online at GreenvilleRec.com or register at the office. Please contact Rich Dixon at rdixon@greenvillecounty.org or 864-288-6470 ext. 134 for information on registering for Soccer.
- B. **Rosters:** All Greenville County Rec Adult Soccer Leagues will be sanctioned through South Carolina Amateur Soccer Association (SCASA) and US Soccer. This requires a yearly \$25 per player sanctioning fee. All rosters and player sanctioning will be handled online at www.scasa-greenville.sportsaffinity.com.
- C. **Officials Fees:** Each team will be required to pay the Officials Fee before each game. Fee for 7v7 is \$15 per team. Fee for 11v11 is \$60 per team.
- D. **Forfeits:** There will be a \$30 fee for 7v7 games and \$120 fee for 11v11 games that are forfeited.
- E. **Weather Cancellations:**
 - 1. Greenville County Rec. will try to make all weather cancellations by 4:30 p.m. the day of a game during the week.
 - 2. All Sunday games will be decided by 12:00 noon on the day of the game or at the field.
 - 3. All weather updates will be placed on the home page of our website and on the weather hotline at 676-2180. (Option #2).
 - 4. You can follow weather updates on Twitter at "gcrdfields"
 - 5. You can sign up for text alerts by texting "80808" to 84483.
 - 6. Some cancellations may be made at the field at the discretion of the Officials and field supervisors.
- F. **Contact:** Rich Dixon rdixon@greenvillecounty.org; or 864-288-6470, ext. 134

2. Team Composition

- A. There are no boundaries from which teams may draw players.
- B. All Greenville County Rec Adult Soccer Leagues will be sanctioned through South Carolina Amateur Soccer Association (SCASA) and US Soccer. Full sanctioning benefits can be found at www.scamateursoccer.org.
- C. All players must be listed on the SCASA team roster and have uniform numbers on file to be eligible.
- D. In the event a team is short players to play in a game, they may pick-up to 2 SCASA Sanctioned Players. Teams may NOT pick-up players if they have the 7 or 11 players required to play. This is only for Regular Season and is not allowed for playoff games.
- E. Once a person is dropped from the roster, he/she is dropped permanently and cannot play again on that team or any team within the league for the remainder of the season.
- F. Players cannot be added to teams past the date rosters are frozen.
- G. All players will be required to have a Photo ID to check-in at each game unless their picture is on the official SCASA Roster.

- H. Each team must bring new copy of their Official SCASA Roster to each game.
- I. Players are not allowed to play on multiple teams in the same division, (those that play on the same nights). Players are allowed to play on multiple teams if the teams are in separate divisions, (those that play on different nights).
- J. Each player must be at least 16 years of age by the first game of the season to be eligible to play.

3. Playing Rules

All games will be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game issued by FIFA through USSF. Modifications made in these by-laws supersede and/or supplement the Laws of the Game.

A. Men's 11v11:

1. A full playing team is eleven (11). It is permissible to start and finish a match with seven (7) players.
2. Substitutions shall be unlimited, and may be made with the consent of the referee at the following times:
 - Prior to a throw-in, in your favor
 - Prior to a goal kick, by either team
 - After a goal, by either team
 - After an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play
 - At half time

B. Coed, Men's and Women's 7 v 7:

1. A full playing team is seven (7). It is permissible to start and finish a match with four (4) players.
2. Teams playing with three (3) females will play with seven (7) total players.
3. Teams playing with two (2) females will play with six (6) total players.
4. Teams playing with one (1) female will play with five (5) total players.
5. Teams playing with no females will play with four (4) total players.
6. No Offsides will be called
7. All Goalkeeper throws, punts and goal kicks must touch the ground or be touched by a player on their half before crossing midfield.
8. For Fouls inside the penalty box, penalty kicks will be awarded to the opposing team at the top of the box. For all other Fouls, indirect kicks will be awarded. All free kicks are indirect.
9. Opposing teams must give free kicks 5 yards of space.
10. No slide tackling allowed. Any slide deemed dangerous play by the referee will be whistled. The keeper is the only player allowed to slide to get the ball, but only in the penalty box and provided that the slide is legal.
11. Throw-ins may also be kicked in.
12. A goal cannot be scored directly from a kickoff, corner kick or goal kick.
13. Substitutions are unlimited, and may be made on any dead ball. No substitutions on the fly.

4. Uniforms and Equipment

- A. The required player and equipment includes: Jersey, Shorts, Stockings and soccer-type shoes. All players are to have a visible number on their jersey (back or front) which distinguishes him/her from the other players on the team. In the event both teams are wearing the same color jerseys, the visiting teams must change uniforms.
- B. All players must wear shin guards.
- C. All players on the same team must wear the same color jerseys

5. Game Duration

Mens 11v11	45 min. halves	#5 Ball
Coed and Mens 7v7	25 min. halves	#5 Ball
Clock will run continuously Greenville County Rec will supply corner flags		

6. Rules of Conduct

- A. Any player, coach, or other adult supervisor caught cheating or misrepresenting any records and proven guilty shall be suspended from the league indefinitely.
- B. Any player or coach whose conduct is unbecoming, who curses, is unsportsmanlike or in any way is ungentlemanly, will be subject to the Laws of the Game with respect to cautions (yellow cards) and/or ejections (red cards). Additionally, if such behavior as cursing or unsportsmanlike activity occurs, the referee may issue a verbal warning followed by ending the game with a forfeit to the offending team, or a double forfeit if both teams are involved if the inappropriate behavior is not corrected.
- C. Any player or coach who is ejected (red card) from a game is suspended for the remainder of the match, and his/her team must play down one player for the remainder of the game. A red card will result in a player suspension. This suspension will be a minimum of one full game. The suspension may be any length from one game to permanent, depending on the circumstances and severity of the situation. The ejected player or coach must leave the field to the point that the individual, in the opinion of the referee, shall not be a disruptive influence on the further progress of the game. Failure to comply will result in the game being forfeited. Reinstatement following any multi-game suspension will be probationary.
- D. Any team that totals three (3) red cards or more in the regular season will not be eligible for the playoffs. Any player who totals two (2) red cards during the season will be suspended for the remainder of that season, ineligible for playoffs that season and suspended for the entire season. Any team or individual found guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct will be suspended for a period of up to and including a permanent suspension. See list below for rules regarding unsportsmanlike conduct.

Suspensions for specific violations

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Suspension</u>
Drinking, or participating under the influence of alcohol/drugs	One full Season
Fighting, and/or wrestling with another player, including on the ground	Three Full Seasons
Striking, attempting to strike, or otherwise harm another player	Three Full Seasons
Threatening an Official or another player	Permanent
Hitting an Official	Permanent
Second offense for #1, #2, and/or #3	Permanent

7. Unsportsmanlike Conduct

- A. Makes degrading remarks about officials, coaches or players, during or after a game, on either the field of play, from the bench or from the stands.
- B. Argues with Officials, coaches or players or goes through motions indicating dislike for a decision.
- C. Protests the decisions and actions of Officials pertaining to the game, during or after the contest. Such criticism should be made to the Greenville County Athletic Department.
- D. Unsportsmanlike conduct, poor attitude, disrespect, vulgarity, or profanity will not be tolerated at any time, and will result in an immediate yellow or red card and/or suspension.
- E. Only the head coach or acting head coach may enter into a discussion with an Official. To maintain the proper flow of the game and schedules, these discussions should be limited to before the game, at halftime, or after the game.
- F. Coaches must remain in the team area and should not cross opposite sides of the midfield line.
- G. Spectators must stay back away from the field.
- H. In the event a team fails to respect the Official's authority or decisions, the Officials have been instructed to abandon the game after one (1) warning has been given that such action will be taken. The Official will file a report with Greenville County Rec. If a game is abandoned in any situation where both teams are exhibiting unsportsmanlike behavior, the match will be recorded as a double forfeit.
- I. The Athletic Department, after reviewing the report of the Officials, will take the appropriate and necessary action to uphold the above rules.

8. Rainouts

- A. The Field Supervisor along with the Officials shall make the decision as to whether a match should be called on account of unsafe conditions before the start of the game. Once the game starts, the Officials have the sole responsibility to abandon the game due to inclement weather or unsafe conditions. Games completed to half time or beyond will be considered complete. Games that have not reached half time will be replayed starting from the beginning with a 0-0 score.

- B. Both teams and Officials shall be present for a scheduled match unless the teams have been informed by Greenville County Rec that the game has been cancelled. Notice of rained out games will be made from the Greenville County Rec office if time allows.
- C. Regular season games not played because of inclement weather will be rescheduled only once, unless there are playoff implications. Make-up games may be played on any day of the week, at any park location, and at any time, as needed.
- D. Call the Call the weather hotline at any time to check your game status (676-2180, menu option #2), or visit www.greenvillerec.com, or follow us on Twitter @gcrdfields.
- E. Text 80808 to 84483 to receive Text alerts from Greenville County Rec.

9. County Champions and Playoffs

- A. Single League Playoffs will consist of teams that finish in the top 4 of their Division. Multiple Division League Playoffs will consist of all team finishing in the 1st/2nd place or above .500. Greenville County Rec reserves the right to take more teams to the playoffs, if needed. Each player must show a photo ID at every playoff game. The exact number of teams eligible for playoffs will be determined by the total number of teams participating. Playoff seeding will be determined by points gained during the season using the following system:
 - B. In the event of a tie for playoff position, the following will be used to break the tie: regular season points, head-to-head season record, record vs. common opponents, goal differential, and coin flip.
 - C. Playoff games may be played on any day of the week, at any park location and at any time as needed.
 - D. Overtime periods during playoff games will consist of two (2) 10-minute periods for 11v11, and two (2) five-minute periods for 7v7 divisions. No golden goal.
 - E. If the match is still tied after two overtime periods, the game shall be decided by taking “Kicks from the Penalty Mark”, as per FIFA rules. Refer to FIFA Manual for specifics. In Coed, teams must alternate male and female kickers starting with the male.

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