

February 2, 2007

## **Greater Indiana Regional League of Soccer Rules and Regulations**

**Rule 1** The FIFA “Laws of the Game” as interpreted by the United States Soccer Federation and further interpreted by the Indiana Youth Soccer shall govern all play with the exception that any duly adopted Rules of GIRLS will supercede in the case of a conflict.

**Rule 2** Game protests or appeals shall be made in writing no later than twenty-four (24) hours after completion of the game to the Division Commissioner, who shall refer the protest or appeal to the Executive Committee and one member of the Disciplinary Committee selected by the Executive Board for final determination. All protests or appeals must be accompanied by a \$25.00 fee. If the protest is not allowed, the fee is forfeited to the League. No protests of judgment ruling by the officials shall be permitted.

**Rule 3** A team shall have an IYS carded adult manager and/or coach rostered from that team, who must be present at all games. Absence of an IYS from carded adult manager and/or coach rostered from that team is an automatic forfeit of game by the offending team. If neither team has an IYS carded adult manager and/or coach rostered from their teams present, both teams forfeit.

**Rule 4** No team shall be accompanied at the sideline by more than three (3) adult coaches, managers, trainers, etc. with valid IYS passes and rostered on the team playing. Other leagues do not have this rule.

**Rule 5** Player eligibility at games will be determined by possession of a player pass issued by the Indiana Youth Soccer. There will be a two-week grace period at the beginning of each season for this requirement if the team has not yet received its passes from IYS, and players can play without cards under extraordinary circumstances (i.e. theft of cards, fire, car accident). A player must appear on the roster of the team playing as a primary or secondary player and have a player card to match. GIRLS does not allow a guest player of any kind to play for a team during the season. A guest player is defined as a player who does not play with the team in question normally, does not appear on the roster and does not have a player card with the team in question.

**Rule 6** Each team shall provide its age commissioner with a copy of its current roster no later than 2 weeks after the start of the season. If roster changes are made, a copy of the new roster shall be provided to the commissioner. Every week from this point on that the roster is not in the commissioner’s hands is subject to a \$25 fine. Teams will be subjected to a \$25.00 fine, in the event that a change is made to the roster and the age commissioner is not provided with an updated copy of the roster.

**Rule 7** The player passes and a copy of the official state roster, with player uniform numbers added, shall be given to the referee, who shall have sole discretion to determine a player's eligibility to play based on the referee's determination of the validity of the player pass of any player.

Prior to or as the teams are being checked in by the referee, the manager or coach of the opposing team shall review their opponent's roster and player cards. The right to protest a game based on illegal players is waived if a team forgoes checking the opponent's roster and passes.

**Rule 8** The referee shall retain the passes and roster copy of both teams throughout the game. The referee shall return passes, roster copy, and referee reports to both teams after the game.

**Rule 9** A player ejected from a game is suspended for the next succeeding game. A player receiving two ejections shall be suspended for the next two succeeding games after the second ejection and will be reported to the GIRLS Disciplinary Committee to determine what further action may be necessary. A player receiving three ejections shall be suspended for the balance of the season, including playoff, championship, and tournament games. If an ejection occurs during the last game of the season, the suspension will carry over to the player's next IYS sanctioned game, whether it is in league play or another sanctioned game. All ejections are reported to IYS.

The manager of team that has a player, coach, manager or trainer ejected from that game shall call their age commissioner and report the incident immediately after the game. The commissioner will notify the next opposing team of the ejection and mandatory sit-out. Referees shall not keep player, coach, or manager cards after an ejection, but will return them to the participant's team.

**Rule 10** Any person other than a player who is ejected from a game shall be suspended for the next two succeeding games. "Person" for purposes of this rule shall include, but not be limited to, coach, manager, trainer, spectator, or any other person attending the game. A person ejected for the second time during a season will appear before the Disciplinary Committee prepared to show cause why he or she should not be suspended for an indefinite period. If an ejection occurs during the last game of the season, the suspension will carry over to the person's next IYS sanctioned game, whether it is in league play or another sanctioned game. All ejections are reported to IYS.

**Rule 11** Physical assault by a player or any other person on a referee or other game official shall result in expulsion of that person for a period of not less than five (5) years, pending a hearing by the disciplinary committee.

**Rule 12** If the visiting team fails to appear at the game site within thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled kickoff, and fails to notify the other team of the delay, the offending team forfeits the game 4-0. If the home team fails to appear at the game site or to provide a

center referee within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled kickoff, it forfeits the game 4-0. If the aggrieved team plays the game, the right to a forfeit is waived.

**Rule 13** All fields used by league teams shall have well-defined markings two (2) yards or six (6) feet back from each touchline. Only linesmen will be allowed in this area during a game. One side of the field will be designated for spectators. The opposite side will be designated for the teams. On the team's side of the field, twenty (20) yard markings shall be placed on each side of the centerline of a full field, and twelve (12) yard marking shall be placed on each side of the centerline of a small-sided field. No coach or team member will be allowed to stand further than twenty (20) yards from the center line on his or her designated end of a full field, or twelve (12) yards on a small-sided field.

**Rule 14** Coaches are allowed to coach within reason from the sidelines. A coach is to remain two (2) yards from the touchline and between the centerline and twenty (20) yards from the centerline on his or her designated end of a full-sided field, or twelve (12) yards on a small-sided field.

**Rule 15** Any team that withdraws from GIRLS after the league game scheduling has occurred, or who forfeits more than 20% of its scheduled league games in a season, for any reason, shall be assessed a \$250 withdrawal fee. In addition, a fee of \$100 will be assessed for each game that a team forfeits. All games scheduled and unplayed at the time a team withdraws will be considered forfeits. This fee will apply to a team that withdraws from GIRLS and to teams that forfeit individual games during the course of the season. The forfeit fee may be waived for special circumstances, at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The team, coach, and club of the team that withdraws and/or forfeits will be in bad standing until the fee is paid. A team, coach, and club in bad standing is suspended from participating in GIRLS.

Any team that forfeits more than 20% of its scheduled league games in a season, for any reason, will be subject to possible elimination from further play during that season. If a team withdraws or is eliminated, its statistical records will be dropped from the GIRLS standings.

The team, coach, and the team's club will be in bad standing (see Rule 16) until all outstanding fees are paid.

**Rule 16** If a team is placed in bad standing; the coach, manager and trainer of that team are also placed in bad standing. A team and/or person in bad standing can not be reinstated until all outstanding fees have been paid and the team and/or coach is released by the Board of Directors, at its discretion. A team, coach, manager, trainer, or club in bad standing is suspended from participating in GIRLS and will be reported to IYS, with any further sanctions at the discretion of the Board. Any team currently in GIRLS will be prohibited from playing a friendly game against a team that is suspended from the League and/or in bad standing. A team and its coach, manager and trainer that plays a friendly

game with a suspended team is subject to suspension and/or fine at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Before a team, person, or club is suspended, they will be notified in writing when and where the Board of Directors will consider the suspension, and will be given the opportunity to appear and present information in its defense prior to the decision being made.

**Rule 17** Standings shall be determined on the basis of: Win = 3 points; tie = 1 point; Loss = 0 points. In the event of a tie in the League standings, the following system in the given order will be used to determine the winner:

- A. Team that has point advantage in head-to-head competition;
- B. Team with better goal differential in head-to-head competition;
- C. Goal differential for all games (with a maximum differential of 4 goals allowed in any one game);
- D. Least number of goals scored against.

**Rule 18** All players must be female.

**Rule 19** The Greater Indiana Regional League of Soccer will accept travel teams from within the boundaries of the State of Indiana that are members of Indiana Youth Soccer.

**Rule 20** Charging of admission fees to games will not be permitted unless there is prior approval of the GIRLS Executive Committee.

**Rule 21** Both teams shall report game results and opponent fair play points as directed by GIRLS within three days of the game, and both teams must mail referee reports to the age group commissioner within three days (postmarked) of the game. If this is not done, the team is subject to a forfeit and the fees associated with a forfeit. Teams must submit game results and fair play reports for all of their games to be eligible for awards.

The online reporting of coach's reports is optional. However, teams are encouraged to complete online reporting of negative and positive game issues and comments. Comments submitted will be directed to appropriate persons so the issues can be addressed in a timely fashion.

**Rule 22** Assignment of teams to skill level divisions shall include consideration of the teams' requests. However, the commissioners shall make the final decision.

**Rule 23** All coaches, players, managers, trainers, and teams, shall be in good standing with the United States Soccer Federation and Indiana Youth Soccer.

**Rule 24** Deadline for team entry and application fee shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

**Rule 25** Dates are to be set for two league meetings a year:

- a) Annual GIRLS general meeting in the spring, prior to the start of the season.
- b) Summer meeting in July or August, prior to the fall season.

**Rule 26** Fields must be properly lined – joint decision of the Referee and two opposing coaches. The home team will forfeit if the decision is against a playable field.

**Rule 27** If there is a conflict in jersey color, the home team must wear white or light colored jerseys, and the away team must wear dark jerseys.

**Rule 28** If a game is suspended after the start of the second half, it will be considered a complete game. If a game is terminated, the Board of Directors will determine whether the game shall be replayed. The home team coach will notify the age-group commissioner as soon as practicable after the suspension or termination of the game.

**Rule 29** Unlimited Substitutions may be done by either team on the kick off, goal kick or dead ball. Substitutions may only be given to the team who has possession of the ball on a throw in. Substitutions may also be given on an injury (one for one).

**Rule 30.** If an ineligible player plays or if a coach knowingly permits an ineligible player to participate in a GIRLS sanctioned game, the player, the coach and the entire team may be suspended for a period to be determined by the Executive Committee. Players are ineligible if they were sent off (red-carded) in the previous game. An “ineligible player” is a player who is not registered with Indiana Youth Soccer, is illegally registered, or who has been suspended by the GIRLS or Indiana Youth Soccer.