

TriCounty Women's Division Rules

League Set Up

A.) The league is set up to carry a maximum of 8 teams per division. At the end of the season transfers between divisions for the next season are based on a team's performance. The worst teams may move down and the best teams may move up a division. Currently there are two divisions, Division 1 will be allowed to roster players that are 23 years old and up. This division can have up to 4 players that are between the ages of 23-27.

Division 2 teams are allowed to add new players to their roster however the new players should be 35 years old & up and based on skill level. (Subject to League Commissioner approval). Players that are 28-34 years old on the Division 2 teams roster for Fall of 2024 will be grandfathered into the roster for 2025 and any future seasons.

B.) The Spring season is April - August. Game days will be Wednesdays anytime after 6pm and Sundays anytime after 8am. The Fall season is September - November. The game day for the Fall season will be Sunday and the start time will be anytime after 8am.

C.) Start time: All games start promptly at the scheduled start time. Both teams have a 15 minute grace period. Once 7 players per team are available the Referee may start the game. If a team cannot field 7 players by the end of the grace time, the team forfeits the game by a score of 0-2. The team that forfeits has to pay All referee fees and if they are the visiting team and the home team has paid for the field they must reimburse the home team for the field cost. The forfeit will result in (-) 4 pts. If a team forfeits more than one consecutive game they will be suspended from the league.

D.) Age limit: A player's age for the season is determined by their age on December 31st of the year. No one under the age of 22 is allowed to play in the TriCounty Adult Soccer League. All players are to provide their driver's license to their team manager who will forward to the League Commissioner to be entered on the team's official roster prior to the start of the season. If there is a concern about a player's age the team manager can challenge the age of the opponent prior to the start of play or at halftime. The referee must require proof of age (i.e. Drivers License) from the challenged player. The referee has discretion to challenge the age of a player without a request from the opposition's team manager. If no proof of age is presented, the player will not play.

Registration

A.) Each team must pay the registration fee, Spring season \$290 per team and the Fall season \$165 per team. Registration must be paid prior to the start of the season. Each team must pay the league insurance fee \$13 per player, minimum 18 players due by February 7th. Roster maximum number of players is 30, rosters must be submitted to the League Commissioner no later than February 1st.

All fees are non-refundable.

Referees

A.) The league will assign licensed referees for all games. Referees are responsible as well as team managers are responsible for sending in the game results within 24 hours. Text results to the League Commissioner at [908-872-7272](tel:908-872-7272).

B.) Regular season games will have 2 referees assigned, each team pays one of them \$90. If only one referee is at the game then each team will pay the referee \$55 for a total of \$110. Playoff final matches will be assigned 3 referees, each team will pay \$90 and the linesmen will split one of the fees.

C.) There is Zero Tolerance for players repeatedly verbally disagreeing with the referee, this is unsportsmanlike conduct and delays the game.

FIFA Rule Exceptions

A.) The referee will have full control of the game and abide by the FIFA Laws with the following exceptions:

- 1.) Unlimited substitutions are allowed by either team on any stoppage of the game with the approval of the referee.
- 2.) Any player receiving a Yellow card must leave the game for 10 minutes and may be substituted, this includes the Goalkeeper's.
- 3.) NO slide tackles. A field player can slide in an attempt to keep the ball in play but must not come in contact with the opponent. The goalkeeper is permitted to make a save with a legal slide tackle in the penalty box.

Red Cards

- A.) Any player receiving a red card is suspended for the rest of the game and MAY NOT be substituted.
- B.) Any player receiving a red card as a result of two yellow cards will be suspended for one additional game.
- C.) Any player red carded for Serious Foul Play or Denying an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity automatic suspension for one game.
- D.) Any player red carded for Violent Conduct or Abusive Language/ Gestures is suspended for 2 consecutive additional games. Assaults/ fight with another player - minimum suspension of 3 consecutive games. In addition the team will be fined \$75 by the league. The fine will need to be paid prior to the next game.
- E.) Any player red carded for striking/touching a referee, minimum suspension for remainder of the season plus one year. Reinstatement of any suspended player mentioned in this article needs unanimous decision from all participating team managers. Injuring a referee suspension for life, and possible legal action.

It is the obligation of the person in charge of a team to comply with all suspension rules. In case B, C, D, or E, the team manager should report the incident to the League Commissioner within 24 hours with the full name, address and phone number of the offending player(s).

If an assault on a player or referee occurs and the offending team does not produce the legal name, address and phone number of the player(s) involved, the offending team will be suspended from further participation in the league. The length of the suspension will be determined by the League Commissioner.

Cancellations & Forfeits

- A.) The league expects that all games will be played according to the schedule. We do not want forfeits. When a team forfeits a game both teams are deprived of the chance to play.
- B.) The only reasons for a game to be rescheduled is due to inclement weather or the scheduled field has been closed by the township. The cutoff time to cancel a game during the week due to inclement weather is 3:00pm on game day. If a game is not canceled by 3:00pm only the Referee has the authority to cancel the game.
- C.) If the Referee cancels the game due to unplayable or dangerous field conditions other than weather, the teams must still pay the official partial fee to be determined by any minutes played (\$45 per ref). If a game is cancelled in the first half due to severe inclement conditions and after a 30 minute waiting period. The game will be rescheduled. A game will be considered official after one half is played and the teams must pay the referee the full amount due.
- D.) A forfeit is considered a 0-2 loss and will result in minus 4 points.

No Shows

- A.) If a team fails to show at the appointed time and date, or shows up with less than 7 players, the team forfeits the game and is considered a No Show.

Make Up Games

A.) When a game is cancelled and is not considered a forfeit, that game must be made up if it affects the standings for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th place. The home team will come up with two dates for the makeup game. If the visiting team does not respond to one of these dates they will forfeit the game. If the home team cannot provide a field, the visiting team can schedule two dates for the game. If the home team does not respond to one of the dates, they will forfeit.

Attire

A.) All teams must wear a uniform according to the FIFA Laws. When there is a conflict in the uniform colors the home team is obliged to change shirts. Goalkeepers must wear a different color to distinguish themselves from field players.

B.) If a visiting team:

1.) wears uniform colors different from those registered on the contact list on the website

2.) the new colors interfere with the colors of the home team, and

3.) does not inform the home team 24 hours in advance;

The visiting team is obliged to change the uniform.

C.) Shin guards are mandatory for all players including goalkeeper

Insurance

A.) All teams are covered by the league's 3rd party liability insurance. The insurance must be paid by February 7.

B.) The league does not provide Medical Insurance. All players on every team must have medical insurance.

C.) Each player on all participating teams in this league must sign a participant waiver. Team Managers should collect the signed waivers and give them to the League Commissioner prior to the start of the season. The waivers are valid for 7 years.

Before and After the Game

A.) Players are expected to be respectful during and after the game. Hard fouls and unnecessary rough play is unacceptable. Do not leave good sportsmen like playing up to the referees to manage. Since most teams play on school or public grounds where drinking is prohibited, it is mandatory that No Alcoholic beverages be consumed at the game sites.

B.) Please make sure if a player is sick, running a fever, etc. they do not play the scheduled game.

C.) If one team is playing down, adjust your line up. You should play one up, 10 v 9 until there is a goal differential of more than 3 goals, adjust to 9 v 9 after the third goal is scored. This is a competitive league however there is absolutely No reason to run the score up on another team in the league.

Fields and Nets

A.) It is the responsibility of the home team to have the field properly lined and nets on the goals. If the field is not properly lined or there are no nets the game is an automatic forfeit by the home team. The referee has the choice whether to officiate the game or not. Regardless, the referee must be paid.

Team Standings

A.) First and last place is determined by the number of points accumulated during the season. Points are assigned as follows:

Win = 3 pts

Tie = 1 pt

Loss = 0 pt

Forfeit = (-) 4 pts

B.) Tie Breakers: To determine teams for playoffs, if two teams have the same number of points the following tie breaking rules are used:

1.) Head to head competition.

2.) The team with the best goal differential is considered a better team.

3.) If teams are still tied the team with the greater number of goals in favor is considered the better team.

4.) If teams are still tied the team with the smaller number of goals against is considered a better team.

5.) If teams are still tied the same tie breaking rules are used but only the games between the contending teams are considered.

Awards

A.) The First place team in each division will receive a credit of \$75 to be used towards their team registration fee for the next season.

Player Suspensions

A.) For player suspensions call: Terri Major (League Commissioner) at [908-872-7272](tel:908-872-7272).

Transfers & Rosters

A.) Transfers between teams are only permitted on a permanent basis. A player that would like to be transferred must take one season off and make sure any money that is owed the prior team, is paid in full before the transfer takes place.

B.) There will be no borrowing of players, the exception would be if your team needs a goalkeeper. Team Manager must reach out to the League Commissioner and request to borrow a goalie within 48 hours of the game.

C.) A player can only be rostered on one team.

D.) Roster may be updated until June 1st for the Spring season, at which time rosters will be frozen until playoffs are completed.

E.) If a team uses an illegal player. The team will forfeit the game and will not be eligible for playoffs.

F.) Initial roster needs to be submitted to the League Commissioner by February 1st, including jersey numbers (if available).

Playoffs

A.) The top 4 teams from each division advance.

B.) The format is 4th will play at 1st, and 3rd will play at 2nd in the semifinals.

C.) The winners play in the finals at Mt Park in Basking Ridge, teams split the cost of the field.

D.) A 3 referee system of control is used.

E.) Referee fees are split between teams.

(Note: For Finals if teams are tied at the end of regulation there will be two (5 minute) overtime periods. If teams are still tied the PK's will determine the winner.)

Rules updated on February 1, 2025 - subject to amendment at any time by the League Commissioner

Unwritten/written rule: If a team is up by 6 goals please move players around in different positions, there is no reason to run up the score on any team. Most of the ladies want to go play a good competitive game but all teams/players can have an off day that leads to an uneven score. The more you run the score up the more players are going to get aggravated and that can lead to injuries that are unnecessary.