

MARYLAND CLUB SOCCER LEAGUE
Winter League Rules/ Code of Conduct/ Philosophy & Mission



WINTER 2020 SEASON
December 2020-March 2021

VISION- To provide a fun, safe and developmental soccer league for Boys and Girls aged U8-U18 that offers competitive play with minimal travel for families.

ABOUT- It is our goal and mission as a league to provide a developmentally based environment that offers competitive matches played at multiple locations reducing the amount of travel time for families. Matches are played on some the finest fields available in Maryland with most games are played on turf.

PHILOSOPHY & MISSION- The League exists to support soccer clubs in the Baltimore, MD Area including professionally managed club as well as volunteer-based travel teams by providing developmentally focused outdoor leagues. We seek to work with organizations that, although are competing against each other, are all working towards the common goal of providing a safe, competitive and nurturing environment for the players. We believe that in order to grow the game, players must be encouraged and enabled to play as often as possible in a competitive environment that is conducive to their growth as people and players.

WHAT- The League offers 7v7, 9v9 and 11 v11 Divisions for Boys and Girls based on age and playing ability.

WHO- The league is managed by administrators from various clubs in the Area who share a common desire to grow the game and nurture Technical & Player Development in a manner that is open and welcoming to ALL Clubs and ALL Travel Team's.

WHEN- League play can be determined by the needs and wants of each team. Teams can choose how many matches to play from 2-8 games each season. Matches will be played on Saturday's and Sundays. Flexible Scheduling.

WHERE- There are multiple locations where matches will be scheduled, and priority will be given to competitive balance. The League will provide fields for teams. Travel time will also be considered as well as input from each team. Locations include multiple turf fields in Baltimore County, Baltimore City and Carroll County, Maryland.

WHY- To grow the game by emphasizing Player & Technical Development by providing flexible scheduling and competitive matches for all teams.

HOW- By eliminating league standings, which will prioritize individual technical development, the league will emphasize technical and personal growth. When teams are not concerned about the standings, coaches and players can focus on improvement without the weight of a result.

COST- TBD by the number of matches played. Small Sided games will cost \$100 per match. Full sided (11v11) will be \$150 per match. Ref fees are paid in cash on the field by each team.

ROSTERS & PLAYER CARDS- Teams will keep an updated team roster and player cards on the field for each match. US Club, SAY & USYS are all acceptable. Teams will present their opponent the roster and cards upon request. In the event of a player challenge, the eligibility of the player play will be made in conjunction of the Referee and Field Marshall. That decision is final and not subject to protest.

PROTESTS- DO NOT EXIST!! All decisions made by The League, Field Marshall and/or Referee are FINAL.

WEATHER CANCELLATIONS- Will be made by The League and affected teams will be notified via email and social media channels as soon as possible. Every attempt will be made by The League to reschedule any cancellation, regardless of the reason. In the event that the game is unable to be rescheduled, the League may, at its own discretion, refund all, none or a portion of the match fee after all related expenses are paid for.

AWARDS & LEAGUE STANDINGS- NOT APPLICABLE

MISCONDUCT- The League Committee reserves the right to remove any person and/or team from The League for abuse of conduct. Repeated violations may result in permanent removal from The League.

MEDICAL RELEASES- Are the responsibility of each team and must be kept with a coach or manager on site for each game.

ROSTER SIZES & DURATION OF GAMES-

AGE GROUP	# of PLAYERS	HALF LENGTH	ROSTER SIZE	BALL SIZE
U8- U10	7v7	25 Minutes	14 Players	Size 4
U11 & U12	9v9	30 Minutes	18 Players	Size 4
U13-U18	11v11	35 Minutes	22 Players	Sized 5

LAWS OF THE GAME- All games shall be played in accordance with FIFA Laws, unless specifically modified by this document. Players receiving a Red Card or Two Yellow Cards in a single match are not eligible to play in the teams next match.

HEADING THE BALL- For teams U12 and younger, play is stopped when the ball strikes a player in the head. Play is restarted at the discretion of the referee. If the head ball is deemed intentional, the restart is an indirect free kick for the opposing team at the spot of the infraction. If the head ball is deemed unintentional, play is restarted with a drop ball at the spot of the occurrence.

SUBSTITUTIONS- Can be made at any stoppage of play, subject to the referee's discretion.

GAME BALLS- Will be provided by the designated Home Team.

UNIFORMS- The designated Home Team will wear a dark colored kit. The Visiting Team will wear a kit that is not in conflict with the Home Team. Pinnies are acceptable, if needed. Shin Guards are Required for all players. No jewelry is to be worn during matches. Casts are subject to the approval of the Referee AND/ OR Field Marshall.

CONDUCT- Coaches, Spectators and Players are all expected to conduct themselves with the Spirit & Laws of The Game. Displays of temper and/ or dissent to any other spectator, player, coach and/ or official is subject to ejection from the field and surrounding area. Repeat offenders are subject to the suspension of the offending team and/ or person permanent and potential removal from The League as decided by the League Committee. **HARRASMENT OF ANY KIND, WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AND WILL RESULT IN THE IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT REOMAL FROM THE FACILITY AND THE LEAGUE.**

CONCUSSION POLICY- Pursuant to State Law, coaches, league officials, referees and medical staff must remove from play, any athlete who exabits signs of a concussion during a game. If a player has been removed from the game because of concussion symptoms, they cannot return to play until cleared by a physician or licensed medical provider.

