

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

- I. Game Rules
- II. Procedures
- III. Administration

I. Game Rules

1. If you would like to enter your own team for *the Outdoor Adult Coed Leagues*, it must consist of at **least 3 women and 7 men**. The total amount of players cannot exceed 16 on the roster in either the Coed. Twelve (12) rostered players are the minimum allowed, unless SF Adult League Directors approve a change. **If a team does not fill their roster by a specific deadline as required by the SFASL, the League Directors reserve the right to fill the roster with players from the Free Agent List.**
2. *All rules for Outdoor Season apply to all the League Teams within the Sioux Falls Adult Leagues. ** SEE ADDITIONAL COVID 19 ADDEMDUM FOR CHANGES IN REALTION TO GAME PLAY REQUIREMENTS.*
3. To be eligible to play in the SF Adult Soccer Leagues, a player must meet all 3 criteria listed:
 - 1.) *Must be 18 years or older*
 - 2.) *Must have the permission of their youth coach to play in the SFASL.*All players wanting to play in the SF Adult Leagues must provide verification of age and identity by valid ID or Driver's License. If further identification is needed, the Directors may ask for a birth certificate. If a player is found to be under the age of 18, playing under false pretenses or has not been approved to play via Directors prior to sign up, an immediate removal from the SF Adult Soccer Leagues will be administered. Any request for consideration must be approved by the directors.
4. Teams have the option to play more than the required number (2) of female players. Goalie position counts as a field player for the whole duration of the game. *The 2 minimum female players cannot be replaced by men when enough women are present. However, in the event that one or both teams only have 1 female present, and if BOTH coaches agree, than the teams can play with 7 men and 1 woman. **Teams may NOT play with 7 men and no women.***
5. An 8 v 8 format is played.
6. Required minimum amount of players to play a league game: 5 men and 1 woman. If a team cannot field at least these numbers, the game will be cancelled. There is **no reschedule** for a forfeited game due to lack of players. The clock will start at kick off time for the first half, and will not be restarted for any reason. **A team must give 72 hours notice if they are unable to play a game, so that the director has time to find players to play the opposing team.** If 72 hours notice is given the penalty is waived. However, once a team has more than 2 cancelled games, the team will be removed from the league for the season.

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

7. *Teams can borrow players from the opposing team if one team has players that would like to play to help out the opposing team.*
8. Teams are allowed to borrow players, if needed; current rostered, USASA insured players from their own league and any league below if the opposing team does not have extra players to spare. Teams, however, may borrow 1 male player **OR** 1 female player from one level above their league.
9. The guest player must provide a current player card and their red or yellow punch card for the current season/league. The following guideline will be followed when borrowing players:
 - a. A team may not exceed 4 females *WHEN BORROWING*.
 - b. A team may not exceed 8 men *WHEN BORROWING*.
 - c. Guest players **MUST** be approved by the opposing coach. **The opposing coach must sign off on the Punch Card FIRST, and then the player must be checked in by the referee with their player card.** Guest players need to be checked in after the referee has checked in all the rostered players. The referee is not there to approve the guest players; he/she is there to check them in by signing their punch card. **Approval needs to be done by the opposing coach, not just a player on the team, unless the coach is absent.**
 - e. Any player who has not been approved by the opposing coach and who does not have a current Guest Player Punch Card will be asked to leave the field, and his/her player card will be confiscated. That player will be fined \$25 before the card is issued back.
 - f. When a player's punch card is full, they will need to return it to the office for a new card. The first yellow punch card of the season is FREE, while any subsequent cards will cost \$30. There are 4 punches per card. FREE Punch cards will only be issued to players who are rostered for the FULL season.
10. Current official Player cards must be present at each and every game in order for any player(s) and/or team to participate in the match. If a player(s) or team cannot present their official valid player card(s) before the start of their scheduled game, **THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO PLAY.** In accordance with Required Current card requirements, consequences will be administered if a player is found to be playing without a card.
11. A team that is unprepared (not enough players to play, not having official roster or not having their player cards) by the end of the 10 minute grace period will be required to forfeit and not allowed to reschedule. The clock will start at game time, and will continue to run. **A team must give 72 hours notice if they are unable to play a game, so that the director has time to find players to play the**

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

opposing team. If 72 hours notice is given the penalty is waived. However, once a team has more than 2 cancelled games, the team will be removed from the league for the season.

12. All players must be ready to check in with referee **individually** with their official current player card in hand, Guest card if applicable and dressed to play. If a player arrives late for check in, it will be their job to check in with the referee when they enter the field of play. If a player fails to check in properly, then the referee may issue a yellow card.
13. **No Jewelry** except for Medical ID bracelets, Fit Bit/Workout bracelets or wedding bands. Wedding bands maybe taped to prevent injuries, if requested by the Referee. Fit Bit/Workout Trackers must be taped or covered with a cushion material to prevent injuries during game play. Medical ID bracelets CANNOT be covered.
14. All teams must provide (2) two good condition soccer game balls for every game.
15. There will be 1 referee assigned to each game.
16. If a Referee fails to show for a game AND there is **not** another Referee present or willing to ref, both teams shall have the option at that time to reschedule their game or to play. If a Referee fails to show for a game but there **is** a present and willing ref, then the game will be played as originally scheduled. If a team chooses to play the originally scheduled game without a ref, all points from that game will be counted.
17. Game time officially will be the time displayed on a cell phone. All game times will start on the official scheduled time except in case of injury and/or inclement weather. The Referee will make the weather related game calls. *See Weather Policy. A 10-minute delay will occur following by another 10 minute delay. If the weather has not cleared after 20 minutes, the game will be rescheduled.
18. The halves of play will consist of 35 minutes, with a 5 minute rest period.
19. **Offside will be called to best of the referee's ability.** No Referee disrespect nor abuse will be tolerated. **A yellow card may be issued for any dissent or complaint of any kind towards a non-call or call in regard to Offside.**
20. The game ball may be kicked backwards at the start or restart of a game to signal kickoff.
21. Visiting team will kick-off first half; Home team will kick-off second half.
22. **A stoppage by the referee due to an injury will be restarted with the ball returning to the team that last had possession, or the team who last touched the ball.**
23. **Goal Kicks may be played to a teammate within the penalty area. Once the ball has been received by the teammate, the other team may challenge for the ball within the penalty area.**

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

24. A player of a team taking a Free Kick must be at least 1 yard away from the defensive wall.

25. **SUBSTITUTIONS- ALL** substitutions, during regulation play, including Goal Keepers, will take place on any play stoppage. All players must alert the Referee and have Ref's permission to substitute. **The exiting player may exit the field anywhere. The substitute must enter the field at midline.** No stoppage of time will be given for substitutions, even on a dead ball. Goal Keeper changes must be approved by the center Referee.

26. During high heat days, the referee MAY choose to allow a 2-minute water break during the 35-minute halves. The clock will continue to run during the water break. The Referee may also shorten the halves of the game due to high heat, weather related issues, etc. All parties (Referee, both team coaches) must have a mutual agreement to shorten the halves.

27. **NO SLIDE TACKLING ALLOWED**, except by the goalkeeper in an attempt to save a goal. Keepers can slide-tackle, cleats down if by feet; chest or hands towards the ball is okay. The Keeper's slide must start inside penalty area for it to be within legal limits. Infringement of this rule will be called as a foul with an indirect free kick restart. Persistent infringement of this rule will be cautioned with a yellow or red card.

28. **Yellow and Red Cards-** *If the Referee makes a foul/infraction/call, any player(s) that chooses to exhibit dissent, (verbal or physical) toward a Referee, Player or Spectator OR motions for a card or a call to be made that player may be given a yellow card. If a field player receives a yellow card, they must step off the field until the next stoppage of play. The offending player may return as soon as the next stoppage is available. If a player(s) receives 2 yellow cards within a game, it is automatically considered a red card. The player with the red card must leave the game area immediately and his/her player card will be confiscated, an automatic \$25.00 fine and a 1 game suspension. The Red Card Fine must be paid or may be appealed, whereas the 1 game suspension* must be served before player can be eligible to play again. Red card suspensions can NOT be reversed unless there is game video technology or the referee admits to making an incorrect call. Cell phone video footage is inadmissible.*

- a. *Any player who receives 3 yellow cards within a season will be suspended for one game following the game where the 3rd yellow card is issued. The game suspension must be served within the league that the 3 Yellow Cards were issued. *For example, if a player plays in the A and C league, and receives 3 yellow cards in the A league, that player may NOT sit out their game in the C league, nor may that player guest for any team during the suspension period. They may however play in their scheduled C league game. The office will verify player eligibility for the other league game if the player is a member of 2 teams.* The player card for that player will be held by the office for the suspension period, and will be returned after suspension period. NO fine will be issued for this suspension. NO appeal will be offered. **NOTE: If a player receives 2 yellow cards, which equals a red card, in a game, once they serve their suspension for that red card, their record is cleared.**

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

- b. ***RED CARD 1 GAME SUSPENSION TERMS-** *The offending player who received the red card is suspended until the official 1 game suspension has been served. The suspended game MUST be the next official rostered game for that player for that particular team. He or She may not participate as a "guest" player in any games until after the official 1 game suspension has been served. However, if a player is officially rostered on another 2nd team, he or she may play in that 2nd team's game and only those 2nd team games during the suspension period. The League will provide the player card to the referee for these types of situations. Any player who takes or keeps his or her card after a red card is given to that player will be suspended one (1) additional game in addition to the original 1 game suspension. The offending player who received the red card may ask for a forgiveness hearing to appeal possibly waive the fine. If a player appeals and requests forgiveness, the disciplinary committee will be notified and the player's card will be held until a decision is made. A forgiveness of the fine does not forgive the automatic one game suspension, this must still be served. (See Red Card Procedure under Administrative section, #4 for further explanation on red cards and multiple red cards for same player)*
29. The Referee may issue a red card for foul and abusive language, serious foul play, spitting at or on, or conduction violent conduct towards a referee, player, or spectator. That player may be subject to a red card hearing and may be found guilty of abuse or assault. If that is the case, the disciplinary committee will meet and will use the guidelines that follow as written in the United States Soccer Federation Referee Policy Manual.
30. ASSISTANT REFEREES- (If applicable) Players may ask fact based question only of the AR's (assistant referees) on their game. For example, they may ask them "how much time" or "what was the call" or "whose ball is it". However, at no time may a player criticize the AR's decisions, as those decisions are approved through the "Referee with the Whistle" or the head referee. Most of the AR's are in training and trying to learn the game. Players may question the head referee at an appropriate time and in an appropriate manner. If you feel that you can do a better job, please join the referee staff. We always are in need of referees.
31. *The definition of Abuse and Assault is written in the United States Soccer Federation Policy Manual (and as the SF Adult Coed Leagues follow) is as follows:*
- (A) Assault-
- (i) Referee assault is an intentional act of physical violence at or upon a referee.
- (ii) For purposes of this policy, "intentional act" shall mean an act intended to bring about a result which will invade the interests of another in a way that is socially unacceptable. Unintended consequences of the act are irrelevant.
- (b) Assault includes, ***but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee:*** hitting, kicking, punching, choking, spitting on, grabbing or bodily running into a referee; head butting; the

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

act of kicking or throwing any object at a referee that could inflict injury; damaging the referee's uniform or personal property, i.e. car, equipment, etc.

(B) Abuse

(i) Referee abuse is a verbal statement or physical act not resulting in bodily contact which implies or threatens physical harm to a referee or the referee's property or equipment.

(ii) Abuse includes, ***but is not limited to the following acts committed upon a referee***: using foul or abusive language toward a referee that implies or threatens physical harm; spewing any beverage on a referee's personal property; or spitting at (but not on) the referee.

Clarification: The SFASL will not tolerate any form of verbal/physical abuse or assault toward a referee, which includes, but not limited to, approaching the referee before, during, or after a game with threatening remarks or physical aggression in regard to their performance or job security. This IS considered "referee abuse".

32. If a player is found guilty by the Disciplinary Committee of any of the above then the following Penalties and Suspension will apply-

(A) Assault-

(1) The person committing the referee assault must be suspended as follows:

(a) for a minor or slight touching of the referee or the referee's uniform or personal property, at least 3 months from the time of the assault;

(b) Except as provided in clause (i) or (ii), for any other assault, at least 6 months from the time of the assault:

(ii) For an assault committed by an adult and the referee is 17 years of age or younger, at least 3 years; or

(iii) For an assault when serious injuries are inflicted, at least 5 years.

(2) A State Association adjudicating the matter may not provide shorter period of suspension but, if circumstances warrant, may provide a longer period of suspension.

(B) Abuse-

(1) The minimum suspension period for referee abuse shall be at least three (3) scheduled matches within the rules of that competition.

(a) The Organization Member adjudicating the matter may provide a longer period of suspension when circumstances warrant (e.g., habitual offenders)

33. All other rules will be followed as FIFA, United States Soccer Federation and SF Adult Soccer Leagues mandates.

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

34. **Clarification: The SFASL will not tolerate any form of verbal/physical abuse or assault toward a referee, which includes, but not limited to, approaching the referee before, during, or after a game with threatening remarks or physical aggression in regard to their performance or job security. This IS considered "referee abuse".**

II. Procedures

1. The SF Adult Soccer Leagues have a variety of Leagues for different playing styles. The A and B Leagues are designed for those players that have experience and knowledge of the game of soccer at faster higher competitive levels. The C League is designed for those players who prefer a skilled recreational play. The D League is designed for those new to the game of soccer, still learning the game or a slower pace of skilled play.
2. Rosters will be allowed up to 14 players (See section Game Rules, Rule #1). The SF Adult Soccer Leagues Directors may approve additions or subtractions to roster if needed. SF Adult League Directors may fill the empty slots on a team's rosters if they are not at the minimum player requirements. **All rules on percentage of women on the playing field apply as stated in Game Rules,
3. All Teams, their Rosters and Registering Players will be accepted and assembled through SFASL Sports Pilot Registration System (SPRS) for each new season. They are accepted in FIRST COME, FIRST PLACED only by the official deadline for that season.
4. REFUNDS-
 - a. If there is a permanent/debilitating injury or pregnancy that prevents a player from completing the rest of the season, **a prorated refund may be given from the date of notification**, and that the player will be de-rostered for the rest of that season.
 - b. If a player has paid all monies but chooses to not play before the season has officially started, an 80% refund of his or her season fee monies will be refunded.
 - c. US Amateur Insurance fee cannot be refunded at any time.
 - d. No refunds of monies paid by a rostered player after season started; except players that qualify under Refund policy. Any player that incurs disciplinary action (suspension/removal) will not be refunded any monies. (This includes but not limited to entry fees, fines, seasonal fees, etc). Players are solely responsible for contacting the Directors as soon as possible to let them know of a permanent/debilitating injury or pregnancy that prevents them from playing the rest of the season and to obtain their refund. All refunds must be approved through Directors.
5. Any monies (entry fees, fines, seasonal fees, etc) loss due to disciplinary action **will not** be refunded.
6. All Individual Players Signing up through SPRS will be considered Free Agents unless a team name is denoted under the note section in SPRS.

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

7. FREE AGENTS -When Free Agents sign up under SPRS for the new season, these players will be on FIRST COME, FIRST PLACED by the official deadline. The Free Agents may be picked up by teams according to the player's preferred league and/or the date that the registration was submitted. All Free Agents are placed on the Active Player Waiting List in order of submission and then this List is submitted to the coaches to pick up permanent Players for the teams. Free Agents will not be placed on a team's roster until they have completed the SPRS player registration and paid for their fees in full. If a Free Agent's application is not picked up by a team, it may be:
 - a) Continued to be on Active Player list
 - b) Held in our files on Waiting List and rolled over to next season.

****All players that would like to play on a specific team must type that team's name within the note section during registration; contact the individual coaches to be approved and to be placed on that preferred team.*
8. Any Returning or Free Agents will not be placed on any roster until all required forms are completed, paid all player fees into the office and/or paid all fees on SPRS.
9. WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY:

Thunder and rain will be determined on a case by case basis first by the Game Referee and then if needed, the Directors. If during game play, there is a perceptible lightning strike within 30 miles, the game will be suspended for 10 minutes. To determine continuing with game play, the weather conditions will be re-evaluated at the end of the 10 minute wait period. If the lightening continues after the 10 minute wait period, game will be cancelled. All possible game cancellations because of the weather will be assessed by the Directors 2 hours before game time. Notification of any cancelled or delayed games are sent out via email, web site, and text messaging service. Any scheduled game where the first half of the game has been completed and must be abandoned for weather or other related reasons, will be considered final, and will NOT be eligible for a reschedule. If the game does not reach half time the remaining game time will be played at the rescheduled time and date. The whole game will NOT be replayed. All referee fees will be paid by the percentage of the game refereed. Games can only be rescheduled once.
10. All game times MAY be subject to change due to unforeseen conflicts and/or weather-related issues.
11. Player cards are valid for 5 years after issue date. If a player loses a card within that 5-year period, a \$5.00 fee will be charged for a replacement card. A Drivers License or valid ID must be shown to get new replacement card made. After the 5-year period has passed, a new card must be made to replace old one. You must bring in your old expired card to have the \$5.00 fee waived.
12. If a player is found to be playing WITHOUT a player card, the consequences below may be administered:
 - 15A. *the player will be suspended 1 official game*
 - 15B. *the referee that allowed the player to play without a card will be written up and evaluated at the end of the season.*

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

13. Points and standings will be taken only for possible team movement between the Leagues.
14. The Home Team with a conflicting jersey color must change. All players should bring a WHITE shirt and a BLACK shirt to each game in case of a jersey conflict. A shirt is a required piece of equipment.

III. Administration

1. USASA (United States Adult Soccer Association) MEMBERSHIP-All SFASL Players must be a current USASA Member when playing in SFASL Leagues. USASA Amateur Insurance forms, USASA Amateur Insurance Fee and Player cards must be renewed for ALL PLAYERS every January 1st, at the beginning of the calendar year according to USASA renewal deadline. Every League player must renew their card at this time and pay the \$40.00 insurance renewal fee. All new players/ returning players with outdated player cards calendar entering the Leagues during the rest of the insurance year that did not play the prior year, must fill out the USASA Insurance form and pay the \$40.00 fee.
2. Email from any of the Directors, Official email soccer box (coedsoccer.sfasl@midconetwork.com), Texting, Facebook Group Messaging and the Sioux Falls Adult Soccer League Web site (www.sfadultsoccer.com) are the Official forms of communication.
3. The current SF Adult Soccer Leagues Directors and Executive Board stands as such with a (3) year staggered term
 - 6A. Jen Slater Unruh -Co-Director, President, Treasurer and Registration Manager.
 - 6B. Angelique Verver- Co-Director, Vice President, Information and Web Manager.
 - 6C. Gina Pfeifle- Co-Director, Secretary, and Roster Manager.
4. Each team must provide the following individual to represent them after the 1st game of the season is played: 1. A red card/ disciplinary representative
5. The Adult Leagues Disciplinary Committee consists of (1) Representative from each team in every Leagues, including all Directors.
6. Each active coach is eligible to be on the Quorum Panel to vote on League issues and game rule changes.
7. *Red Card Procedure: When the 1st red card is issued a \$25 red card fee and a (1) game suspension may be assessed before the Player card is returned to player. If a 2nd red card is issued to the player within the same season, a \$50 red card fee and a (2) game suspension may be assessed before the card is returned to player. If a 3rd red card is issued to the player within the same season, a \$75 red card fee and a (3) game suspension may be assessed before the card is returned to the player. All game suspensions can be carried over to the next season if not fulfilled within the original season.*

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues

Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

Any player receiving a **Red Card** may pay the fine and sit out required official (1) game suspension OR request an appeal, in writing, a "Forgiveness hearing". This hearing is brought before Disciplinary Committee either by a physical meeting of Committee members or email discussion. This Committee reviews all red card offenses within the Leagues and make disciplinary decisions if needed. The Disciplinary Committee may choose to override the red card fee upon final decision of Committee. If the Referee requests a harsher punishment, The Committee will meet to review the request.

8. If a player chooses to request an appeal in regard the Disciplinary Committee's decision. A \$50 Appeal fee is required, along with a written request. This appeal will be brought in front of the SDASA board for further review.
 9. Seasonal meetings will be held at the end of each season, if needed. An annual meeting will be held to review and amend any game rules.
 10. ***Ignorance of the Rules, Laws and By Laws of these Leagues will not be tolerated as an excuse for breaking said Laws and By Laws.***
 11. ***All players upon entering into these Leagues agree that they will abide by the rules of FIFA, the USASA, its affiliated organizations and sponsors.***
 12. ***Recognizing the possibility of physical injury or illness associated with soccer and in consideration of the United States Amateur Soccer Association accepting me into its soccer programs and activities, all players hereby, release, discharge, and/or otherwise indemnify the USASA, its affiliated organizations and sponsors, their employees and associated personnel, including owners of the fields and facilities utilized for the programs, against any claim by or on behalf of a player as a result of my participation in the programs and/or being transported to or from the same.***
 13. The Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues have officially changed from a volunteer run organization to a Non-Profit Corporation in October 2008. Due to the change over from volunteer to Non Profit Corporation, the Co-Directors are paid positions. Co-Directors and Board of the SFASL are Jennifer Slater Unruh, Angelique Verver and Gina Pfeifle. The assigned positions are:
 - 12A. Jennifer Slater Unruh- President, Co-Director-Registration and Application Manager.
 - 12B. Angelique Verver- Vice President, Co-Director- Information and Website Manager.
 - 12C. Gina Pfeifle- Secretary, Co-Director, Office Manager.
- The Co-Directors will receive a salaried wage to their position, level of responsibility and work load they have assigned to them and/or voluntarily complete.
- 12D. Jennifer Slater Unruh- President- Registration and Application Manager
 - 12E. Angelique Verver- Vice President- Information and Web Site Manager
 - 12F. Gina Pfeifle- Secretary- Administrative Manager

2020 Sioux Falls Adult Soccer Leagues Outdoor Soccer Season Rules

14. The Referee Assignor for the SF Adult Soccer Leagues is paid per game and in addition wage for an On Call Responsibilities, as needed, for any given current season playing. This is paid depending on the games, times and frequency of these games.
15. The Referees for the SF Adult Soccer Leagues are paid per center for the Outdoor season.
16. Any out of office work will be paid on a sub-contractor basis (salary base).