



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB

HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1.....	1
UNIFORMS.....	1
SECTION 2.....	2
REFEREES.....	2
SECTION 3.....	3
FIELD PLAYABILITY	3
SECTION 4.....	4
MATCH RULES.....	4
LAW I. Field of Play	4
LAW II. The Ball	4
LAW III. The Number of Players	5
LAW IV. The Player's Equipment.....	5
LAW V. The Referee	6
LAW VI. The Assistant Referee	7
LAW VII. The Duration of the Match	7
LAW VIII. The Start and Restart of Play	7
LAW IX. The Ball in and Out of Play.....	7
LAW X. The Method of Scoring	7
LAW XI. Offside	8
LAW XII. Fouls and Misconduct.....	8
LAW XIII. Free Kicks.....	8
LAW XIV. The Penalty Kick.	8
LAW XV. The Throw-in.	8
LAW XVI. The Goal Kick.....	8
LAW XVII. The Corner Kick – no modifications.	8
SECTION 5.....	9
GUIDELINES FOR U.S. SOCCER'S PLAYER SAFETY: CONCUSSION INITIATIVES & HEADING FOR YOUTH PLAYERS.....	9
SECTION 6.....	9
CODE OF CONDUCT.....	9



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

Section 1. UNIFORMS

- .1 Players shall wear team shirts provided by the Club. They may wear their own replacement shirt if the Club shirt is lost or damaged, as long as the shirt is acceptable to the referee.
- .2 The Club may provide shirts with sponsors' names.
- .3 Teams shall wear black shorts and black socks.
- .4 Teams or coaches shall not purchase their own sets of shirts to wear instead of the Club team shirts.
- .5 Individual names, team names, and team insignia only may be put on the team shirts.
- .6 Only goalkeepers may wear sweatpants or warm-up suits over their shorts. Players are allowed to wear sweatshirts and sweatpants under their team uniforms.
- .7 Only those players listed on the official team rosters shall play in the program.
- .8 Every registered player, arriving for a game, wearing minimum uniform and otherwise dressed in accordance with Club Rules must be allowed to play for a minimum of one-half game.

Section 2. REFEREES

- .1 Prior to the start of play, the Referee shall inspect both teams to ensure that players' equipment conforms to the rules of play and safety.
- .2 The Referee shall meet with captains of both teams at the center of the field to answer any questions and to conduct the coin toss to determine kick-off and goal-defense.
- .3 The Referee shall ensure teams and spectators are on opposite sides of the field.
- .4 For the safety of players, referees and spectators the Referee shall ensure that all spectators are seated far enough from the Touch line as necessary for a safe playing environment.
- .5 The Referee shall make an effort to ensure that the game begins on time and adheres to the established schedule as closely as possible.



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

The Referee should not suspend time except as is necessary to ensure the safety of the players.

- .6 The Referee shall not allow coaches, players, spectators or others to be located close to or behind the goal posts.
- .7 The Referee shall verbally advise the Director of Referees of all cautions (yellow cards) issued within 24 hours of the occurrence. The report shall include the name of the player or coach, the name of the team, and the reason for the caution. The Director of Referees shall keep a record of all cautions and bring any cases of repeated offenders to the attention of the Governing Board.
- .8 The Referee shall submit a written account of all ejections (red cards) issued, as soon as possible following the game in which the ejection occurred, to the Director of Referees. Ejected players may not return to the game and may not be replaced with a substitute. Coaches who are ejected must leave the field area IMMEDIATELY (50 yards) and shall not participate in any team activity for the duration of the game. Failure to comply immediately must be included in the Referee's report. The report shall include the name of the player or coach, the name of the team, and the reason for the ejection.
- .9 Games terminated due to inclement weather or poor field conditions, before completion of the first half, will be rescheduled, if possible, and played in full. Games terminated after the first half is played, due to inclement weather or poor field conditions, will be considered complete.
- .10 The disposition of games terminated due to any other reason, such as insufficient number of players after the game has begun, either by ejection, injury or other cause, shall be determined by Governing Board based upon the facts of the incident. The Referee shall advise the Director of Referees of any such occurrences and all relating facts as soon as possible following the incident.

Section 3. FIELD PLAYABILITY

- .1 Decisions as to the field playability on a given day shall be made by the Club President, or the President's representative, and a Palatine Park District representative. Only the Club President, or the President's representative, can order a Referee to terminate a match that is underway due to poor or questionable field conditions.



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

Section 4. MATCH RULES

- .1 The FIFA LAWS OF THE GAME, USSF RULES will apply to all Club Matches except as specifically amended herein.
- .2 Under-7 and Under-8 teams will play 4v4 with no goalkeeper, Under-9 and Under-10 will play 7v7, Under-11 and Under-12 will play 9v9 and Under-13 and Under-14 will play 11v11.

LAW I. Field of Play

- a. The field for the Under-7 and Under-8 Divisions shall be rectangular, its length being 30 yards and its width 20 yards. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field, with a center circle with a 4-yard radius. A goal area 6 yards from each goal post and 3 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line. The goals themselves will be 6 feet wide and 4 feet high.
- b. The field for the Under-9 and Under-10 Divisions shall be rectangular, its length being between 50 and 60 yards and its width between 40 and 50 yards. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field, with a center circle with a 6-yard radius. A goal area 6 yards from each goal post and 6 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line. The goals themselves will be 18.5 feet wide and 6.5 feet high.
- c. The field for the Under-11 and Under-12 Divisions shall be rectangular, its length being between 70 and 80 yards and its width between 50 and 60 yards. A halfway line shall be marked out across the field, with a center circle with a 8-yard radius. A goal area 6 yards from each goal post and 6 yards into the field of play joined by a line drawn parallel with the goal-line. The goals themselves will be 18.5 feet wide and 6.5 feet high.
- d. In the Under-13 and Under-14 divisions - no modifications.

LAW II. The Ball

- a. Size 4 for Under-7, Under-8, Under-9, Under-10, Under-11 and Under-12.
- b. Size 5 for Under-13, Under-14 and older.

LAW III. The Number of Players

- a. An official game shall start on time if four (4) players are present from each team in the Under-7 and Under-8 divisions, six (6) players are



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

present from each team in the Under-9 and Under-10 divisions, and seven (7) players are present from each team in the Under-11, Under-12, Under-13 and Under-14 divisions. A period of fifteen (15) minutes will be allowed to a team which does not have the required minimum of players, as stated above, at the scheduled starting time. If after fifteen (15) minutes a team is still unable to field the required minimum number of players, as stated above, that team shall forfeit.

- b. If one team has fewer than 5 players in the Under-7 and Under-8 divisions, fewer than 8 players in the Under-9 and Under-10 divisions, or fewer than 11 players in the Under-11, Under-12, Under-13 and Under-14 divisions, and the other team can field a full amount, it is recommended (for sportsmanship) that each team play with an equal number of players on the field.
- c. A team forfeits the game if the team plays a player who is not on the official team roster of that team. If a team plays a player who is not on the official team roster of that team during a House tournament, that team forfeits the remainder of the games during that House tournament.

Substitution of players will be allowed, with the permission of the Referee, at the following breaks in play:

- i. By either team prior to a throw-in,
- ii. By either team prior to a goal kick,
- iii. By either team after a goal,
- iv. By either team after an injury to a player. If a coach, etc. comes on the field for an injured player, that player must be replaced, unless that player is the goalkeeper or the team has no substitutes.
- v. At half-time by either team.
- vi. A cautioned (yellow carded) player **MUST BE REMOVED OR SUBSTITUTED** pending the next legal time of substitution for the team, at which time the player may return.

Note: ALL substations must enter at the halfway line.

LAW IV. The Player's Equipment

The minimum uniform for team members, aside from the goalkeeper, shall be:

- a. Team shirt,
- b. Black shorts, as designated for the team,
- c. Socks, as designated for the team,
- d. Protective shin guards underneath the socks.
- e. No boots, baseball, football, hard-sole shoes, shoes with metal cleats,



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

or bare feet are allowed.

- f. No earrings (with the exception of taped starter earrings), metal or plastic hair adornments, belt buckles, rings, watches, religious emblems, allergy pendants or any other item, which in the opinion of the Referee may constitute a hazard to any player may be worn during the game. Non-removable medical alert bracelets can be worn if, in the opinion of the Referee, it is properly protected.
- g. No player shall be allowed to participate wearing a rigid cast or finger brace. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS. Other supports, braces or bandages, which allow normal motion and which contain no exposed metal or rigid plastic parts may be allowed. The Referee is the SOLE judge as to if a piece of equipment may be worn.
- h. Eyeglasses may be worn, however, it is STRONGLY recommended that players DO NOT wear them during match play.
- i. If a player is wearing a hooded sweatshirt, the hood shall be tucked under the jersey.
- j. Players shall not be allowed to participate if the minimum uniform requirements are not met.
- k. The Referee's decision on all articles of player's equipment shall be final.

LAW V. The Referee

- a. If a parent or spectator harasses the Referee, the Referee will stop the game, call the coach of that person's team onto the field, point out that there is a problem and remind the coach that he or she is responsible for the conduct of his or her spectators.
- b. If the harassment continues, the Referee will give final warning with a yellow card to the coach of the offending side, and advise him/her that the game will be terminated with a recommendation to the Governing Board for forfeiting against the offending team.
- c. If the harassment continues, the game will be terminated with a red card to the offending team's coach, and a written report to the Director of Referees for review.



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

LAW VI. The Assistant Referee

- a. If no official linespersons are present, or if only one Referee is assigned to the game, each coach must provide a linesperson who is acceptable to the Referee.
- b. The Referee will explain and specify the linesperson's duties.
- c. The Referee may dismiss a linesperson and order a new linesperson be provided at any time should the selected linesperson fail to perform their duties or behave in a manner which is, in the Referee's opinion, detrimental to the game.

LAW VII. The Duration of the Match

- a. At the commencement of a game, and once the game is underway, the Referee shall be the sole judge as to whether play can begin or continue with regards to field conditions, except if ordered to discontinue the game by the Club President or designate.
- b. Referees will always stop games when there is lightning observed or detected.
- c. Referees will not restart a game until 30 minutes after the last lightning strike, or until detectors sound an all-clear indication.
- d. Length of the game shall be:
 - 1. Under-7 and Under-8 – three 13-minute periods with 5 min breaks;
 - 2. Under-9 and Under-10 – two 25-minute halves;
 - 3. Under-11 and Under-12 – two 30-minute halves;
 - 4. Under-13 and Under-14 – two 35-minute halves;
- e. All games shall have a five minute half-time.

LAW VIII. The Start and Restart of Play

- a. Ball must clearly move to be in play for all kicked restarts.
- b. Ball can be kicked in any direction at kick-off.

LAW IX. The Ball in and Out of Play – no modifications

LAW X. The Method of Scoring – no modifications



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

LAW XI. Offside

- a. In the Under-7 and Under-8 divisions, no off-side rule applies.
- b. In the Under-9 and older divisions – no modifications.

LAW XII. Fouls and Misconduct – no modifications

LAW XIII. Free Kicks

- a. There are to be no direct free kicks in the Under-7 and Under-8 divisions. All free kicks are indirect.

LAW XIV. The Penalty Kick

- a. There are to be no penalty kicks in the Under-7 and Under-8 divisions. All penalty kicks are indirect, and shall be taken from the point on the penalty area nearest to where the foul occurred.

LAW XV. The Throw-in

- a. In the Under-7 and Under-8 divisions, being instructional, a player should be allowed to retake a throw-in, following player receiving instruction as to the proper method of taking a throw-in by either the coach or the Referee.
- b. In the Under-9 and Under-10 divisions, players are allowed to retake one improper throw-in.
- c. In the Under-11 and older divisions – no modifications.

LAW XVI. The Goal Kick – no modifications

LAW XVII. The Corner Kick – no modifications



PALATINE CELTIC SOCCER CLUB HOUSE RULES OF PLAY

Section 5. GUIDELINES FOR U.S. SOCCER'S PLAYER SAFETY: CONCUSSION INITIATIVES & HEADING FOR YOUTH PLAYERS.

- .1 Consistent with the U.S. Soccer mandates on heading the ball, heading is banned for all division players U-11 (U-12 and below for programs without single age divisions) and below in both practices and games.

Limited heading in practice for players in U-12 and U-14 programs. More specifically, these players shall be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes of heading training per week, with no more than 15-20 headers per player, per week.
- .2 An indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team if a player age 10 or younger, deliberately touches the ball with his/her head during a game.
 - a. The indirect free kick is to be taken from the place **where the player touched the ball** with his/her head.
 - b. An indirect free kick awarded to the attacking team inside the opposing team's goal area, **must be taken on the goal area line** parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the player touched the ball with his/her head.
- .3 Neither cautions nor send offs shall be issued for persistent infringement or denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity related to the heading infraction.
- .4 **Referees should enforce these restrictions by age group according to the specified rules.** Referees will not be assessing the age of individual players on the field; they will enforce the rules for the age group.

Section 6. CODE OF CONDUCT

- .1 Players, coaches, parents and spectators shall display good sportsmanship at all times. Actions such as taunting, yelling, negative comments, confrontations with coaches or referees shall not be tolerated.
- .2 Coaches shall not run up the score. If a team is ahead by three or more goals, the coach shall take appropriate action to make it more difficult for their team to score another goal while they have a three goal lead.
- .3 Coaches shall be responsible for resolving referee complaints regarding their players and spectators.