

High School Indoor League Laws





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League Laws

- **LAW 1 – Field of Play**
 1. Games are played on a regulation 9v9 field.
 2. Game locations:
 - TCU Indoor Turf
- **LAW 2 – The Ball**
 1. All games are played with a FIFA approved size five (5) ball.
- **LAW 3 – Players**
 1. Girls games will be played in 9v9 format (8 field players + a goalkeeper). Teams must have at least 7 players (6 field players + goalkeeper) to play.
 2. Girls teams will forfeit their game if they are not able to field seven (7) eligible players. Teams have until 5 minutes after the designated start time to field enough players or they must forfeit.
 3. Boys games will be played in a 5v5 format (4 field players + a goalkeeper). Teams must have at least 4 players (3 field players + a goalkeeper) to play.
 4. Boys teams will forfeit their game if they are not able to field four (4) eligible players. Teams have until 5 minutes after the designated start time to field enough players or they must forfeit.
 5. To be eligible to play, an individual must be listed on the official team roster.
 6. Substitutions are unlimited; however, the ref must be notified prior to the new player entering the field. In case of injury, the ref may stop play until the injured player can be moved from the field of play.
- **LAW 4 – Players' Equipment**
 1. Goalkeepers must have a different color jersey that distinguishes them from the rest of the players on either team regardless of home/away designation.
 2. Shin-guards are required and must be covered by socks.
 3. Teams must have matching jerseys that easily distinguish them from other teams in the league. If your team's color is navy blue, sky blue is not an acceptable color.
 - Players are not allowed to share jerseys for any reason.
 4. Jewelry of any kind is prohibited. This includes bracelets, necklaces, earrings, and any similar accessories, i.e., watches must be removed.
- **LAW 5 – Referees and Assistant Referees**
 1. Two referees oversee management of the game. There are no assistant referees. Decisions made by the referees are **FINAL**.
 2. For 5v5 games one referee will oversee management of the game. Decisions made by this referee are FINAL.
- **LAW 6 – Duration of the Match**
 1. Games are 50 minutes with two 25-minute halves and a 5-minute halftime.
 2. The clock will start exactly on time regardless of whether the teams are ready to play.
 3. The clock will continue to run without stoppages, with the only exception for the last one minute for all stoppages of games with the score difference of two goals or less.



4. In case of any serious injuries with a lengthy delay, the clock will be stopped to address the player.

• **LAW 7- Ball In and Out of Play**

1. The ball is considered out of play if:
 - It completely crosses over the touch line or goal line.
 - If it strikes any object hanging from the ceiling.
 - If the referee signals an offense or infraction.

• **LAW 8 – Start and Restart of Play**

2. Kick-off: The away team will kick off to start the game. The home team will kick off to start the second half. The ball is in play as soon as it is moved in any direction by the team kicking off.
3. Throw-in/Kick-in:
 - a. 5v5 games: When the ball completely crosses the touch line, play is restarted with a kick-in.
 - b. 9v9 games: When the ball completely crosses the touch line, play is restarted with a throw-in on the line nearest to where the ball went out of bounds. At the time of the throw-in, all opposing players must be at least 3 yards from the ball.
4. Corner Kick: If the ball completely crosses over the goal line and is last touched by the defending team, the correct restart is a corner kick for the attacking team. The referee will indicate which corner to take the restart from. The ball must be placed anywhere within the 1-yard arc and is in play once the ball has been kicked and moves. The defending player must stand on the edge of the 18-yard box until the ball is in play. The ball is in play when touched and it clearly moves.
5. Goal Kick: If the ball completely crosses over the goal line and is last touched by the attacking team, restart of play is a goal kick from anywhere within the goal box, the kick is a direct kick.
 - Goalkeepers may not punt or dropkick the ball. Doing so will result in an indirect free kick for the opposing team in the penalty area, near where the offense occurred.
 - Goalkeepers cannot throw the ball over the halfway line. If it goes over the halfway line untouched or doesn't bounce before the halfway line, it is an indirect free kick for the other team on the halfway line.
6. If the ball touches the center field wire, the ref will stop play, and restart of play will be a drop ball to the team last in possession before it hits the center wire nearest where the offense occurred.
7. If the ball touches the wires above the goal line, possession will be awarded to the other team, and restart of play will be a goal kick/corner.
8. If the ball touches the wires above the touch line, possession will be awarded to the other team and restart of play will be a throw in.
9. If the ball touches the lights/dome wall/ceiling, possession will be awarded to the other team, and restart of play will be a throw-in on the side closest to where the contact occurred.



- **LAW 9 – Scoring**

10. A goal is scored when the ball completely crosses over the goal line, between the two goal posts and under the crossbar. A goal may be scored directly from a kickoff, corner kick, direct free kick, or goal kick. A goal may not be scored directly from a throw-in or an indirect free kick.

- A goal may be scored directly from a goal kick, but only against the opposing team; if the ball directly enters the kicker's goal without being touched by another player, a corner kick is awarded to the opponents.

- **LAW 10 – Offside**

1. The offside rule is not in effect.

- **LAW 11 – Fouls and Misconduct**

1. **Direct Free Kick:** A direct free kick is awarded to the opposing team if a player commits any of the following offenses: Holds an opponent, handles the ball, slide tackles an opponent, kicks an opponent, trips an opponent, jumps at an opponent, charges an opponent, strikes, or attempts to strike an opponent, or pushes an opponent.

- A direct free kick is taken from the spot on the field where the offense occurred. All opposing players must remain at least 10 yards away from the spot of the free kick.

2. **Indirect Free Kick:** An indirect free kick will be awarded to the opposing team if:

- The goalkeeper receives a ball with their hands after a teammate intentionally played the ball to them with their feet.
- Sliding on the field of play for any reason.
- If the goalkeeper handles the ball for longer than 6 seconds before distributing the ball.
- If the goalkeeper punts or dropkicks the ball.
- A player plays in a dangerous manner, obstructs an opponent, or prevents the goalkeeper from releasing the ball.

Indirect free kicks are taken from the spot on the field where the offense occurred. All opposing players must remain at least 10 yards away from the spot of the free kick.

3. Yellow Cards are issued for the following offenses:

- Unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Dissent.
- Persistent infringement.
- Delaying the restart of the game.
- Failure to respect the required distance on restarts.
- Player enters or leaves the field of play without the referee's permission.
- A substitute player interferes with play before the player coming off is completely off the field of play.
- Slide tackling an opponent.
- The player has improper equipment.
- If a player spits or blows their nose onto the turf.

4. Players who rack up 3 yellow cards during the course of one season will IMMEDIATELY serve a one game suspension.

5. Red cards are issued for the following reasons:

- Serious foul play.



- Violent conduct.
 - Spitting at another opponent or referee.
 - Denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity.
 - Directing abusive language towards an opponent or the referee.
6. If a player receives two yellow cards within the same game, they will be shown a red card.
 7. Any player who receives a red card will be dismissed from the game and must leave the facility immediately. The player's team must play with one player less for the remainder of the game.
 8. A first-time red card offense will result in the player being removed from the current game and will serve a minimum of a 1-game suspension.
 9. A second red card offense in the same season will result in the player being removed from the league. Red cards are tracked during the season and over the course of all Tri-City United leagues throughout the year. Suspension carries over from league-to-league meaning the player is ineligible to play in any league while suspension is being served.
 10. All red card incidents will be reviewed by the league committee and additional suspension may be determined based on review of such incident.
 11. Team captains may be asked to assist escorting their red-carded teammates out of the facility if they are not cooperating. Play may be halted until said player leaves.
- **LAW 12 – Penalty Kicks**
 1. A penalty kick is awarded for any offense occurring in the defender's penalty area, which would normally result in a direct free kick. The ball is placed on the penalty spot (10 yards from goal) and is in play once it has been kicked and moves forward.
 - **LAW 13 – Disciplinary Matters**
 1. TC United holds the power to handle disciplinary matters for violations of the League Laws and misconduct by any team, player, spectator or official as it sees fit, including contacting law enforcement.
 2. Any abusive or threatening behavior towards another player, coach, spectator, referee, or administrator will not be tolerated. Any player found guilty of this will face disciplinary action, which may include removal of the game and future permanent suspension.
 3. Fighting will not be tolerated. Any teams or players involved in a fight will be removed from the current league and any future leagues.
 4. Verbal and physical abuse will not be tolerated towards other players, game officials or members of TCU staff. If a player violates this law, he/she will be removed from the current league and not allowed to register for future leagues.
 5. All offenses for which a player is ejected shall result in a minimum of one game suspension.
 6. Team captains will be accountable for their teammate's behavior, and may be responsible for serving their suspension, if deemed necessary by the league director.



League Policies

- **Game Time Check-in**
 1. Referees will check rosters each game day.
- **Fines**
 1. The following fines will be issued for violations, offenses, and misconduct:
 - Red card violations fines will be as follows:
 - First red card: \$20
 - Second red card: \$40
 - Third red card: \$100
 - Yellow card violations:
 - Five yellow cards in one season - \$30.
 2. Teams with player(s) who cause the official to terminate the game before it is completed - \$100.
 3. Fighting (each player; per team) - \$100.
 4. Any player fine is the same as a team fine, as the team or team captain will ultimately be responsible for payment.
 5. Payment of a fine is due 24hrs prior to the next scheduled game. If not paid, the player will not be eligible to play until payment is made. If a payment is not made within 14 days from the day it was issued, the team will forfeit their next scheduled game until payment is made.
 6. If a fine is issued in the last week of the season, and not settled within 14 days, it will be enforced in the team's registration for the following season (changing the name of the team will not prevent the fine from being enforced). If a player switches teams, the fine will follow the player. If the player does not register for the following season, the team or team captain will be responsible for payment.
- **Referee and Game Procedures**
 1. All qualified referees will be assigned to do games by an appointed referee scheduler.
 2. Referee judgments are final and cannot be protested.
 3. Only team captains shall talk to the referees, and it should be in a calm respectful manner.
 4. Referees' authority begins when they enter the area of play and will end leave the area of play.
 5. Referees shall have the power to suspend or terminate the game at any time for any infringement of the laws or interference by spectators, or any other situation judged by the referee.
 6. If a team/player is responsible for the termination of a game, that team will forfeit the game with a 7-0 loss.
- **Code of Conduct**

As defined by the United States Soccer Federation Policy Manual page 42:

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

(4): (a): (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 referees' property or equipment.

(b): Abuse includes, but is not limited to, the following acts committed upon a referee: using foul language towards the referee that implies or threatens physical harm; spewing any beverage on referees' personal; or spitting (even if not on) the referee.

1. Violent Conduct: Verbal and physical assault towards other players, game officials or members of TCU staff will be treated as violent conduct, and anyone found guilty will be removed from the facilities.
2. Verbal Abuse: Players shall not use foul language when speaking to spectators, referees, other players and TCU staff. Players found guilty of verbal abuse will be removed from the game and face possible suspension.
3. Players who are found guilty of violating the code of conduct will be removed from the game, the facilities and be permanently suspended from the league. NO EXCEPTIONS.
4. Drug Free Environment: Any player under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be allowed to play. Absolutely no alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco allowed in the facility.