CECIL SOCCER LEAGUE WINTER INDOOR
LAWS OF THE GAME

CECIL SOCCER PHILOSOPY

The objective of youth soccer should be for the players to have fun. Coaches and parents should teach good sportsmanship, self-reliance, and teamwork. The emphasis should not be on winning, but on *team participation* and self-improvement in skills, coordination, and strategy.

The goal of every youth soccer coach should be to provide every player with opportunities to reach his/her maximum potential in the game of soccer. Coaches must balance fun and discipline according to the ages and ability levels of their players. Coaches should evaluate players' strengths and weaknesses in such areas as size, speed, physical strength, endurance, coordination, ball control, and tactical abilities-the ability to read and understand the game of soccer.

ADMINISTRATIVE

I. Teams must have an adult coach present at all games.

II. Teams will be on the opposite side of the bleachers at the Cecil Arena.

A. Players and Coaches should be outside the protective netting on the bench arena when not on the field. Teams should be should remain on their side of the protective net opening.

B. Players about to be substituted into the game can be inside the netting while waiting to enter the game.

III. Indoor Facility Rules

A. All non soccer playing children need to be under supervision by parents/adults.
B. The balcony is off limits to adults and children.
C. Food and drinks are allowed at the Indoor Facility.
D. No dribbling of balls or running in the hallways.
E. Safety first—no horseplay.

LAWS OF THE GAME

I. FIELD OF PLAY

A. The field is designated by sidelines and endlines and is contained within protective netting at the Cecil Arena.

SPECTATOR AREAS ARE PROVIDED OUTSIDE THE PLAYING AREA AT EACH FACILITY. SPECTATORS SHOULD NOT GATHER AROUND TEAM AREAS DURING GAMES.

II. OUT OF BOUNDS

The ball is out of play when it:

A. Travels beyond the sideline or endline.

B. Hits the ceiling; an Indirect Kick will be awarded at the point where the ball contacted the ceiling but never closer to the goal than the goal box.

THERE ARE NO THROW-INS FROM BALLS THAT EXIT THE FIELD ON THE SIDELINE. PLAY WILL CONTINUE WITH AN INDIRECT KICK FROM THE SIDELINE AT THE CLOSEST POINT TO WHERE THE BALL WENT OUT. THE BALL MAY BE MOVED INSIDE THE NETTING APPROXIMATELY ONE FOOT TO AVOID ENTANGLEMENT IN THE NETTING.

III. EQUIPMENT

A. Ball: Outdoor balls-size 3 (U8 & ROOs), size 4 (U10 & U12), size 5 (U15). Balls will be provided at the Facilities.

B. Home team wears red jersey. Home/Away teams will be designated on the schedule.

C. Indoor turf shoes or tennis shoes should be worn, cleats are not permitted.

D. Shin guards required for all players and must be completely covered by socks.

E. No jewelry is allowed in any piercings while playing.

IV. PLAYERS

A. Players need not have previous outdoor soccer experience.

B. Players can only be rostered on one team

C. Each team will play with 6 players on the field including goalie.

D. Teams must field the required number of players to start the game.

1. If a team does not have the required number of players the game can still begin. The coaches should make all efforts to play with the same number of players until enough players arrive. Teams not having the required number of players can use players from the other team for a friendly scrimmage.

E. Players can be substituted on the fly during the game, stoppage of play is not required. Player being removed must be off the field before the substitute can enter the field of play. An indirect kick will be awarded if a player that is being removed plays the ball while leaving the field.

V. COACHES

A. Coaches can only coach one team in an age group
B. Coaches should make every effort to give players adequate playing time.
C. Coaches Conduct;

Coaches are expected to conduct themselves properly at both games and practices. Coaches are a role model for many children and should not be heard using foul or derogatory language to any players. Keep in mind that your players as well as their parents are watching and forming their opinions of the League and the game of soccer based on your actions. Abusive language and behavior will not be tolerated. Referees have been instructed to take the following actions if there are problems.

1. Call coaches to the center of the field and give a warning and/or a "cooling off" period.
2. Present a yellow bench card to the offending team(s).
3. Present a red bench card to the offending team(s).

Follow-up action will then be taken by the League. Red carded coaches will serve a minimum one game suspension after receiving a red card. Coaches are also responsible for the behavior of their spectators. If necessary, please remind your parents that:

1. Children need example, not criticism.
2. Their child's experience should be positive and without pressure.
3. We all should applaud good plays by both teams.
4. Coaches will coach from their side of the field only.
5. No coaching or cheering from the end lines.
6. Coaching (by parents or coaches) from both sides of the field is prohibited.

VI. SPORTSMANSHIP

At the completion of each game it is required for all team members, coaches, and assistant coaches to meet on the field and shake hands. The referee will observe the players and coaches during this time. All FIFA rules on conduct are in force during the handshake.

We encourage teams to not let the score differential in a game become too large. If a team is trailing their opponent by 4 goals they are permitted to add a player on the field. For each additional goal above 4 the trailing team can add another player. When the trailing team scores a goal to narrow the 4+ goal differential they should pull one of the extra players from the field. The winning team may also pull players from field and play shorthanded in an effort to make the game more even. If the trailing team does not have subs to add extra players the winning team is required to remove a player from the field for each goal above the 4 goal differential. Coaches are encouraged to use their best judgment in trying to keep the score reasonable and should use tactics with their team to prevent the score differential from becoming excessive.

VII. REFEREES

A. One referee shall be appointed for each game.

B. Referee's authority commences as soon as he/she enters the field of play and decisions made on plays are final.

VIII. DURATION OF GAME

A. Games will begin on time; no grace period

B. Games will consist of;

ROO – two 24 minute halves with the first half as a practice

U8 & U10 - two 22-minute halves with a 3 -minute half time

U12/U15/HS – two 24 minutes halves with a 3 minute halftime

IX. START OF PLAY

A. Home team defends the goal opposite of the entrance at the Cecil Arena during the first half. Starting ends of the field will be determined prior to game starting at All Seasons.

B. Home team has kick-off the first half.

C. The ball may be passed back on the first touch on the kick-off.

D. Defending players must be at least 10 feet from the ball on kick-off and all free kicks.

X. OFFSIDES;

There is no offsides during indoor soccer

XI. FOULS AND MISCONDUCT

A. Any player receiving a red card will be ejected and their team plays short for 2 minutes. Ejected player cannot return but team can sub in another after 2 minutes. RED CARDED PLAYERS WILL SERVE A MINIMUM OF A ONE GAME SUSPENSION.

B. Any player receiving a yellow card will serve a 2 minute penalty in a designated penalty area and their team plays short during the penalty.

C. 2 yellow cards= a red card (see above)

D. No field player is allowed to slide tackle; penalty for slide tackling is an indirect free kick at the point of the infraction.

XII. FREE KICKS

A. Free kicks are either direct or indirect (same as outdoor rules).

B. All free kicks must be taken within 5 seconds of placement of the ball.

C. Defending players must be at least 10 feet from the ball when the free kick is taken.

D. Free kicks taken by the defending team in their own penalty area can be placed anywhere in the penalty area

XII. PENALTY KICKS-

A. Are taken from the top of the penalty area for U8 groups.

B. Are taken from the top of the arc for all other age groups (U10, U12, and U15)

XIII. KICK-INS

A. Ball will be put back in play with a kick-in. Ball can be placed 1 foot inside the sideline to avoid netting

B. A ball cannot be kicked directly in the net on a kink-in. It must touch another player before entering the goal to count as a goal.

C. Ball must be played within 5 seconds of placement

XIV. GOAL KICKS

A. To be taken by the defending team anywhere in their penalty area.

B. Ball must be played within 5 seconds of placement.

XV. CORNER KICKS;

A. Corner Kicks are direct free kicks and will be taken within 1 foot of the corner.

XVI. GOAL KEEPERS

A. Goal Keeper must wear a different color jersey than either team.

B. The goal keeper must distribute the ball within 5 seconds of handling it

C. No punting or drop kicks are allowed.

D. Goal keeper can throw the ball anywhere on the field of play.

E. The goal keeper cannot pick up a ball that has been played to him/her by their own player unless it is passed via a head ball (same as outdoor rules).

F. Goal keeper is not limited by steps in the penalty area.