



# City of Kent Parks, Recreation & Community Services

## 2019 Youth Soccer Rules

### 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### I. Team Roster:

- A. All participants **must** be properly registered through the Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services. Rosters are limited to no more than 15 players.
- B. All participants must play in the grade that they are in for the 2018-2019 school year and can not play up or down a grade level. Any misrepresentation of grade or age will result in immediate withdrawal from the program and will require permission from Kent Parks to continue participation in any future programs.
- C. Players may be added to teams with less than 15 players on or before September 7, 2019. No player additions after September 8, 2019.
- D. A team shall consist of eleven (11) players on the field.
- E. Teams may play with a minimum of seven (7) players.

#### II. General Information:

##### A. Fields:

- 1) Each team and their spectators will take **opposite** sides of field. Coaches and spectators are **not** allowed on opponent's side of field nor behind either goal line or goal post.
- 2) Teams and their spectators will take the following side of the field:

**Home** team on the East Sideline ~ **Visitor** Team on the West Sideline

- 3) Coaches, parents, spectators and players not on the field of play, must remain two (2) yards behind the touchline. Coaches are not allowed between the endline and the top of the goal box. Any parent or spectator within that area assisting their team is considered coaching and are not allowed in that area. No one is allowed behind the end line or goal box.

##### B. Equipment:

- 1) Tennis shoes or rubber molded **soccer cleats** are the only shoes allowed.
- 2) Shin guards are mandatory. It is recommended that a sock is worn over the shin guards.
- 3) The referee will furnish the game ball (size #4) and sideline judges flags.

- C. **Officials:** Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services will assign the referee. Each team will supply one line judge to assist the referee. Line judges only give direction on out-of-bounds and do not call fouls or offside. The referee can overrule the line judges.

- D. **Jewelry Policy:** Participants are not allowed to wear any jewelry (necklaces, earrings, bracelets, etc.) while playing. Those participants that have medical I.D. bracelets may wear a wristband over the bracelet. Hair control devices may be worn if made of soft material and not for adornment. Earrings cannot be taped or covered, but must be removed.

### III. Game Information:

- A. Pre-Game Check:** The officials will do a cleat and jewelry check before each game. Coaches will be informed of any player(s) that must change or alter their shoes or take off any jewelry. If the player(s) are on the field with jewelry or illegal shoes, they and the coach will receive a yellow card. The player must be replaced and cannot return until the items have been removed. Any infraction from that point will lead to a red card for both the player and coach.
- B. Game Length:**
- 1) Two (2) x 30-minute halves with a five- (5) minute halftime.
  - 2) No grace period will be allowed. All coaches are expected to have their team ready for play 15 minutes before game time.
- C. Game Results:**
- 1) **Scoreline:** Winning Coach is responsible for calling in the score to the City of Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Service's at (253) 856-5027 after the game. Home team calls in a tie game. Scores must be called in by the following Monday.
  - 2) **Tie Game:** If each team has the same number of goals at the end of regulation, it will be declared a "tie game" and will be recorded as such in the league standings.
  - 3) Points will be awarded as follows: Win - 3 points Tie - 1 points Loss - 0 points
  - 4) Game results will be posted on the online version of the game schedules at [www.kentwa.gov/sportsleagues](http://www.kentwa.gov/sportsleagues) .

### IV. Playing Procedures:

- A. Participation Guidelines:** All players must play a minimum of ten (10) minutes in each half.
- B. Substitutions:**
- 1) Substitutions can only be made with the consent of the referee.
  - 2) Unlimited substitutions are allowed and may be made by either team after a goal is scored, at halftime, on a throw-in, corner kick, goal kick or free kick. Substitutes can only be made with the consent of the referee.
- C. Coaching:** Coaches, parents, spectators and players not on the field of play, must remain two (2) yards behind the touchline. Coaches are not allowed between the endline and top of the goal box. Any parent or spectator within that area assisting their team is considered coaching and are not allowed in that area. No one is allowed behind the end line/goal box.
- D. Goalkeeper:**
- 1) Goalie's dress must be distinct from that of the other players of both teams.
  - 2) The goalie may not be charged in the penalty area. Players are not allowed to kick the ball out of the goalie's hands or make contact with the goalie in the penalty box, regardless of whether or not he/she has control of the ball.
  - 3) **a. 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** When the goalie takes control of the ball, he/she may take unlimited steps within the goal area before releasing the ball into play. The goalkeeper may not hold onto the ball in an effort to stall time. An indirect free kick is given when this offense occurs.
  - b. 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** When the goalie takes control of the ball, he/she may take unlimited steps within the goal area but are not permitted to keep possession of the ball in their hands for more than six (6) seconds. An indirect free kick is given when this offense occurs.

#### IV. Playing Procedures (continued):

##### 4) Pass Back To the Goalkeeper:

**a. 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** On any pass back to the goalkeeper, the keeper is allowed to handle the ball as long as it is within the penalty area.

**b. 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** The goalkeeper is not allowed to touch the ball with their hands after putting it back into play, until it has been played or touched by another player of the same team outside of the penalty area, or by a player of the opposing team either inside or outside of the penalty area. The goalkeeper is not permitted to touch the ball with their hands when deliberately kicked to or thrown-in to them from a teammate.

##### E. Offside:

**1) 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grade:** Offside will not be called for grades 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> unless a person is "cherry picking". **"Cherry picking" is defined as a player(s) intentionally or unintentionally placing themselves in an offside position anywhere on the opponent's side of the field while the ball is on their defensive end of the field.** Result is a direct free kick for the defending team.

**2) 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Offside is in effect for grades 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. Remember: Offside is called when it becomes an advantage to the offensive team.

**F.** When a team is ahead by 5 or more goals it is highly recommended that they mix up their rotation and play kids in positions that they normally do not play. This gives both teams an opportunity to improve their skills. Running up a score does not benefit either team.

**G.** National Federation of State High School Associations rules will be adhered to other than those noted in the Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services 2<sup>nd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Soccer Rules.

**H. Protests:** No protests are allowed.

**I.** Players in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and below shall not engage in heading, either in practices or in games. *When a player deliberately heads the ball in a game, an indirect free kick (IFK) should be awarded to the opposing team from the spot of the offense. If the deliberate header occurs within the goal area, the indirect free kick should be taken on the goal area line parallel to the goal line at the point nearest to where the infringement occurred.*

#### V. Player/Coach/Spectator Conduct:

**A.** Any person(s) who is confrontational, threatens and/or is verbally/physically abusive, in any way towards a referee, player, coach, parent, spectator or city employee before, during or after the game will be suspended for a minimum of two (2) games and as much as expulsion from the league and future Kent Parks programs. Person(s) must have Program Coordinator's permission to be reinstated.

**B.** A player/coach who receives two cautions (yellow cards) or one red card will result in expulsion from the remainder of the game and as well as be suspended for a minimum of one (1) game more. Program Coordinator will decide on length of suspension.

**C.** Only the head coach can talk with the official before and during the game. Coaches, players, parents or spectators **are not** allowed to discuss, review or talk with the official once the game is over. This may result in a minimum one (1) game suspension. After the game, congratulate the kids for playing a great game and enjoy the post game snack.

**D.** Any person(s) ejected from the game will leave the field immediately or automatically forfeit the game and face possible expulsion from the league and future Kent Parks programs.

**E.** Any person(s) that is on suspension cannot attend any Kent Parks programs/activities during the length of their suspension. Failure to comply may result in possible expulsion from the league and future Kent Parks programs.

## V. Player/Coach/Spectator Conduct (continued):

- F. It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that any assistant coach(es), parents or spectators that are suspended not attend game(s) during their suspension.
- G. Coaches are responsible for the actions of their players and spectators. Unsportsmanlike conduct by a player(s) or spectator(s) will result in immediate removal from the field or the team will automatically forfeit the game. Person(s) will face possible suspension from further games as well as possible expulsion from the league and future Kent Parks programs. Person(s) must have Program Coordinator's permission to be reinstated.
- H. Any participant that is suspended from school is ineligible to partake in practices or games until their suspension has been completed.
- I. **Casual Profanity:** Casual profanity pertains to expletives and verbal unsportsmanlike language not necessarily directed at officials or opposing players, but is uttered by a player/coach or spectator out of frustration. This type of behavior is penalized by a yellow card against the offending player/person and a direct free kick to the opposing team. **Any profanity, inappropriate name-calling, or unsportsmanlike language directed to an official, player, coach or spectator may result in a red card and automatic expulsion from the game.**
- J. Coaches and spectators are not allowed on the field of play other than when motioned on by the referee to attend to an injured player.
- K. Players/spectators/coaches are not allowed to cheer against the opposing team. Everybody is encouraged to cheer for the kids, regardless of which team they are on, so that their playing experience is a joyous one. **Good sportsmanship is contagious.**
- L. **Tobacco Policy:** No person's (coaches/volunteers/spectators/staff) may use tobacco (smoke, chew, etc.) on City of Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services or Kent School District playing facilities while practice/games are in session. This applies to **everyone**, spectators, coaches and participants.
- M. The City of Kent Parks, Recreation and Community Services Program Coordinators have the authority to make rulings on all dealings regarding this league. All decisions are final.

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