



Soccer Rules

Soccer is a contact sport and injuries are a possibility. The department of University Recreation, Intramural Sports assumes no responsibility for injuries; however basic, first aid will be available.

Regulations published in the Intramural Sports Handbook will be the governing policies for all intramural sports. Participants are responsible for possessing a thorough understanding of these regulations and their implications.

Soccer will be conducted under the rules of the National Intramural and Recreational Sports Association published rule book. A review of these rules, along with the Intramural Sports modifications are as follows:

All Rule and Policy and Procedure updates/changes are highlighted in yellow.

ELIGIBILITY AND GUIDELINES

All participants must meet the eligibility guidelines as outlined in the Intramural Sports Participants Handbook.

PLAYERS AND ROSTERS

1. The game shall be played between two (2) teams of eight (8) players each. Five (5) players are required to begin a game.
 - a. **CoRec** - Teams shall consist of eight (8) players, four (4) men and four (4) women, including the goalie.
 - i. A minimum of six (6) players is required to start a game.
 - ii. Acceptable ratio's for fielding a team.
 1. 3m3f, 4m2f, 2m4f (6)
 2. 4m3f, 3m4f (7)
 3. 4m4f (8)
 - b. Roster max is 20 players.
2. If, due to injuries, a team drops below the minimum number of players, four (4), it may continue if the Supervisor feels the game is still competitive.

UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

1. All teams are required to furnish their own jerseys.
 - a. All jerseys must be of the same color.
 - b. All jerseys must have numbers on the back.
 - i. Numbers 0-5 are preferred.
 - ii. No three digit numbers.
 - iii. Numbers may NOT be taped
 1. Numbers that are painted, sharpie, marker etc. are acceptable
2. If a participant is bleeding or has blood on their jersey they will be removed from the game until the bleeding is under control. Prior to any participants re-entering a game the bleeding must be stopped, cleaned and any cuts or lacerations must be covered. Participants will not be allowed to participate in any activity until the above conditions are met.
3. **Jewelry:** Jewelry or hard hair control piece are not allowed. This includes but is not limited to necklaces, earrings, facial piercings, rings, bracelets, and watches (including fitness trackers). Individuals will be allowed to tape over any piercings.
 - a. Medical Bracelets and religious medallions may be worn during intramural sports. The bracelet or medallion must be taped and flat to the body.
4. **Shoes:** Athletic style shoes are preferred. Cleats are permitted for Intramural Sports Flag Football. NO metal cleats are permitted.
5. **Supports, Braces, & Pads:** No casts/splints will be allowed under any circumstances. No pads or braces will be allowed above the waist. Players who wear a knee brace with exposed metal or metal hinges are required to cover it. Kneepads of a soft pliable nature will be allowed below the waist. Any player wearing illegal or dangerous equipment shall not be permitted to play. All equipment shall be subject to the approval of the Intramural Sports Staff and their decisions shall be final.
6. **Headwear:** No hard-billed hats (except during softball), bandanas or anything with a knot or unyielding material will not be allowed to be worn on the head during competition. Players may wear a one-piece elastic headband made of a soft, pliable material (i.e., sleeve, sweatband). Knit stocking caps will be allowed during cold weather. Rubber or cloth bands may be used to control hair. No other headwear will be allowed with exceptions for religious materials.

Goal Keeper

One player from each team shall be designated as the goalkeeper.

1. The "goalie" shall be allowed to use his/her hands within the box to trap, catch, or hold the ball. The goalie is the only player permitted to take such actions.
2. Goalie must be wearing a distinct different color than his team and the opposing team.

3. Substitutions may be made for the goalie. The substitute must also have a distinct colored shirt. Game officials must be notified of the substitution of a goalie prior to the substitution. A goalie substitution may occur at any time regular substitutions are allowed.
4. The goalie is allowed to take six (6) seconds to hold the ball before a violation

Substitutions

Substitutions may be made on the fly. Before the substitute may enter the field the teammate, they are replacing must be completely off the playing surface before they enter the field, they must enter from midfield.

SCORING & TIMEOUTS

1. The Game

- a. A game will consist of two (2) 20 minute halves. Halftime shall last three (3) minutes. The clock shall not stop.

2. Timeouts

- a. There are no timeouts.

3. Scoring

- a. A goal shall be awarded to a team when the ball legally and fully crosses the plane of the goal line between the goal posts and under the crossbar. In the event that a team scores a goal on their own goal box the opponents will be awarded a goal.

4. 5-Minute Rule and Forfeits

- a. If one team has below the minimum number of players at game time, the 5-Minute Rule will come into effect.
 - i. The team with less than the minimum will have 5 minutes to accrue the minimum number of players to begin the game
 - ii. In this 5 minutes, the other team will accrue one (1) point for each minute that passes.
 - iii. If the 5 minutes expires and the other team does not have the minimum number of players, the game will be forfeited and the team charged the forfeit fine.
 - iv. If the team gains the minimum number of players within the 5 minutes, the game will begin. The score will stand for the first set and the clock will begin at its current time.
 - v. If NO participants appear from either team, the game will be a double forfeit
 - vi. If both teams have below the minimum number of players at game time, the 5-Minute Rule will go into effect for both teams.
 - vii. Example: Team A is on time and checked in prior to game time and Team B gains the minimum number of required players, 3 minutes late. The game will still be played but the starting score will be 3-0 and the game will begin with 17 minutes remaining in the first half.

5. Mercy Rule

- a. If a team is trailing by ten (10) or more points at any in the second half the mercy rule will be in effect and the game shall end.
- b. If a team is trailing by seven (7) or more points at any point within five (5) minutes left in the game, the mercy rule will be in effect and the game shall end.
- c. If a team is trailing by five (5) or more points at any point within two (2) minutes left in the game, the mercy rule will be in effect and the game shall end.

RULES OF PLAY

1. Starting the game

- a. A coin toss shall be used to determine which team shall kick-off or defend. The winner of the toss has the choice of deciding who shall kick-off or which goal his/her team shall defend. At the start of the second half, the team that did not kick-off shall kick and teams shall switch goals.

2. Kick-off

- a. The kickoff can be either forward or backwards. The ball must be touched by another player before the kicker plays the ball again.

3. Throw-in

- a. When the ball crosses completely over the sideline, a throw-in is awarded to the team that did not touch the ball last before it went out. The throw-in must be made with a two (2) handed, overhead throw, and both feet must be on contact with the ground. The throw-in should be made from where the ball went out of bounds.

4. Slide Tackling

- a. NO SLIDE TACKLING!
 - i. Direct Free Kick – if you perform what would traditionally be deemed a legal slide tackle, *without making contact*
 - ii. Automatic yellow card- slide tackle with contact *within the visible plain of the dribbler*
 - iii. Automatic red card- a slide tackle *from behind the player, cleats up, or when the player doesn't make contact with the ball. These players will be ejected and must undergo a disciplinary hearing before being reinstated to the sport.*

****Sliding to save a ball from going out of bounds, with no other players around will not result in a card. Differentiating between a slide and a slip will be left up to the judgement of the officials.**

****Goalies can slide head/hands first in an attempt to block a ball. Normal contact with the opposing player will not result in a foul. Any contact that is excessive/unnecessary (official's judgement) could result in a red/yellow card based on severity.**

5. Penalties

1. Off-sides

1. No off-sides penalties will be called.

6. Direct Kick

2. A direct free kick or a penalty kick is awarded if any of the following occurs inside the penalty area:

1. Charging an opponent.
2. Holding an opponent.
3. Striking or attempting to strike an opponent.
4. Pushing an opponent.
5. Tripping or attempting to trip an opponent.
6. Kicking or attempting to kick an opponent.
7. Jumping at or on an opponent.
8. Touching the ball with your hands.
9. Slide Tackling – from the front, no contact

7. Indirect Kick

- a. An indirect free kick shall be awarded:

- i. Goalkeeper taking more than six (6) seconds while holding the ball.
- ii. Behaving in a manner considered by the official to be dangerous.
- iii. Intentionally obstructing an opponent.
- iv. Double Touch (player putting the ball in play touches it first after the ball has been put in play)
- v. If the ball is played back to the goalie by a teammate and the goalie uses his/her hands to control the ball.

8. Sportsmanship Penalties

- b. At any point in a game the game will be ended due to unsportsmanlike conduct if a team receives any of the following:
 - i. Two Red cards
 - ii. One Red card and Two Yellow cards
 - iii. Four Yellow cards.

OVERTIME PROCEDURES (ONLY IN PLAYOFFS)

If at the end of regulation, the score is tied, a shoot-out will be used to determine a winner. The following are shoot-out procedures:

1. The shoot-out shall start with a coin toss to decide which team shall shoot on goal first. The team that wins the coin toss will have choice of shooting first or second.
2. Three (3) players per team will be allowed one shot each for the overtime period(s).
 1. In CoEd games one (1) of the three (3) players must be a female.
 2. If after three (3) shots the score is still tied, each team will be allowed one more shot. This process will be repeated until a winner is determined. A different player from the team will take each shot until all players on the roster and checked into the game have all kicked once. Once all players have been used the first player will shoot again. The shooting order will remain the same

1. Goals by females are worth one (1) point during a shoot-out.
2. The goalie may not be substituted for during the shoot-out, unless an injury occurs.
3. The goalie is not permitted to move forward until the ball is kicked.
4. All shots will be taken from the ten (10) yard line, top of the goalie box.

TERMINOLIGY

1. Goal Kick: A kick given after an attacker has kicked the ball over the goal line, but outside the goal. The goal kick does NOT have to leave the box before another offensive player touches the ball. All defensive players must remain outside of the box.
2. Corner Kick: A kick made by an attacking team from within the quadrant marked by a corner flag after a defender last touched the ball before it went over the goal line.
3. Penalty Kick: A kick is awarded for fouls committed by the defending team within their penalty area. The kick is taken from ten (10) yards out. Only the kicker and the goalie are allowed in the penalty area at the time of the kick. The goalie must have both feet on the goal line and may not move until the ball has been kicked. Penalty shots may be attempted by any member of the offended team provided that member is the same gender as the player fouled
4. Direct Free Kick: Awarded for major fouls (see list above, "6. Direct Kick".) A goal can be scored by a direct kick.
 - a. The fouled team is entitled to freely kick the ball. The opponents are required to be 10 yards away from the ball.
 - b. If the opponents create a "wall" in defense of the goal, the attacking team may NOT be within 1 yard of the wall in any direction.
5. Indirect Free Kick: Awarded for minor fouls (see list above, 7. Indirect Kick.) A goal cannot be scored on an indirect free kick. The ball must be touched by another player, from either team, after the free kick before it may be counted as a goal.

PARTICPANT CONDUCT POLICY

Intramural Sports prioritizes sportsmanship by all teams, spectators, and staff. The captain is responsible for the behavior of all its team members and representatives. Everyone is expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the The Code of Student Life, University conduct standards, and policies set forth by University Recreation. Actions by team members and representatives during intramural activities that extend beyond the realm of decency will not be tolerated. Individuals violating will be suspended until meeting with the Assistant Director and/or Coordinator of Club and Intramural Sports. We will be using a "2, 3, 4" method of determining eligibility for all leagues and major tournaments. The following will be in effect for the activity's season:

- a. The accumulation of TWO (2) unsporting conduct fouls in a game will result in the ejection of the individual from the game, and procedures outlined in the "Ejections" section.
- b. The accumulation of THREE (3) total unsporting conducts fouls during an activity's season will result in the dismissal of the individual from the activity for the remainder of its season. The accumulation of Three (3) unsporting conduct by a team will result in the forfeiture of the contest.

- c. The accumulation of FOUR (4) total unsporting conduct fouls by the team's individual participants during an activity's season will result in the dismissal of the team from the activity for the remainder of the season.

*Unsporting totals rollover to playoffs

PARTICIPANT CONDUCT FACTS

1. Any flagrant attempt to cause physical harm to another participant and/or staff member will result in immediate ejection and suspension from all UREC facilities and programming.
2. Any Participant Conduct will be reviewed by the Intramural Sports professional staff.