

SASL
Rules
(v 03/22/2022)

I. PURPOSE

These “Rules” supplement and complement SASL Bylaws. SASL, a nonprofit organization, hereinafter referred to as the “Corporation” or the “League,” shall operate and exist for the purpose of organizing recreational soccer matches for member sides, known as “Teams” that comply with eligibility and participation requirements as adopted from time to time. In the event any Rule conflicts with The Corporation’s Bylaws, the language and interpretation of the Bylaw shall preempt or guide the interpretation of the Rule.

II. PLAYING SEASON

The Soccer Year shall begin on August 1, and shall continue until to no later than July 31 of the following calendar year.

The soccer year shall be divided into periods known as seasons as determined at the annual general meeting and/or any planning meeting.

There will be no matches scheduled Thanksgiving weekend, Easter Sunday, Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, Independence Day, Memorial Day weekend, or Labor Day weekend unless the Board of Directors decides otherwise at the annual general meeting and/or any planning meeting.

III. OFFICERS

Officers may appoint Chairs of Committees as described as follows and allowed per the Bylaws.

President: Aside from responsibilities set forth in the Bylaws, the President shall, among other things: be the League’s representative; schedule timely board meetings; ensure that information is distributed to Team representatives and officers; and assist the Registrar in the compilation of Team and roster information.

Past President: No formal responsibilities or duties are required of the Past President, whose position shall be advisory.

Vice President: Aside from responsibilities set forth in the Bylaws, shall preside in the absence of the President and may also preside as the chair of any Protests, Appeals, and Discipline (PAD) actions.

Treasurer: Aside from responsibilities set forth in the Bylaws shall, among other things, make payments as required for field permits, referees, and such other expenses as authorized by the Board of Directors and officers of the Corporation, and shall provide a general accounting of deposits and expenses at each organizational meeting prior to the start of each season.

Secretary: Aside from responsibilities set forth in the Bylaws shall, among other things, record and preserve the minutes of actions taken by the Board of Directors, make available the minutes

to members of the Board of Directors and officers, and maintain season standings and make them available to Team representatives at least twice during the season.

Registrar: Aside from responsibilities set forth in the Bylaws shall, among other things, obtain all pertinent player registration information from Teams, obtain a properly completed Team roster from each Team, as necessary prepare any Player Passes, and as necessary distribute rosters and Player Passes. The Registrar may rely on CSAN or any other League affiliate in the registration of League players.

Protests, Appeals, and Discipline Chair/Officer: Aside from responsibilities set forth in the Bylaws shall, among other things, review and investigate reports received from referees, managers, coaches, or other League participants.

Field Officer: Finding fields for League use, interacting with schools and/or park districts to reserve fields. (This function could be performed by other officers if field officer is not available.)

IV. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

A team shall be deemed eligible to participate in the League when its representative agrees and complies with the following:

- 1.** Each Team shall be limited to twenty-five (25) registered players. A Team may only play the eighteen (18) players listed on the game card, except for Teams in the fifty and over (50+) brackets may list and play up to twenty (20) players. No changes/substitutions will be allowed to the game card after the match has started, unless there are less than 18/20 respectively listed on the game card.
- 2.** Each Team shall have an identifying uniform, distinguishable from other Teams in its division, and each player on the Team shall wear a uniform with a unique identifying number.

V. TEAM PARTICIPATION

A Team deemed eligible may participate if its representative(s) provide(s), the following:

- 1.** A roster including the following information:
 - a.** Name of Team
 - b.** Coaches/Managers names, phone numbers, email addresses, and physical addresses.
 - c.** Representatives' names, phone numbers, email address, and physical addresses.
 - d.** Players' names, a valid form of government issued picture identification, date of birth, email and physical addresses.
 - e.** Team representatives must provide to the League two valid physical and email addresses where they can be reached during all times the Team is a member of the League and any communication to either address is deemed valid written notice of the matter on the date and time sent.
- 2.** Season fee(s) shall be set by the Board of Directors at the organizational meeting and must be paid timely.

3. A Team may elect not to participate in a season. A Team may return to the League subject to being placed in a lower division at the discretion of the Officers or Board of Directors provided the following conditions exist:

- a.** The Team is not on suspension. If the Team is on probation, the Officers, or Board of
- b.** Directors, must find that all conditions of the probation have been fulfilled.
- c.** The Team name is not changed.
- d.** No more than one (1) year has elapsed since the last game played by the Team in the League.
- e.** At least eight (8) players from the active roster of the Team, as of the last game played, are submitted for re-entry as active players.
- f.** All Player Passes have been returned to the Registrar.

4. A Team representative, or a member of the Team designated to act on behalf of the Team, shall attend each properly noticed planning meeting and the properly noticed annual general meeting. If a Team fails to have a designated team representative present at the above referenced meetings, the Team shall be fined \$50.00 or a fine as established by the Board from time to time. Payments shall be made to the Treasurer within 30 days of the notice of the fine. Failure to timely pay the fine shall result in the forfeiture of that Team's next game and each game thereafter until said fine is paid.

VI. PLAYER REGISTRATION

The following policies govern the registration of new players and the transfer of existing players between Teams.

1. All requests for player registration must be made prior to the last two games of the season, addressed to the League or otherwise sanctioned Registrar and include, if requested, a copy of the player's driver license or any valid form of picture identification such as but not limited to a passport, immigration papers, or other equivalent identification; as well as, a recent passport-type photograph trimmed to a size measuring at least $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{3}{4}$ ", but not larger than 1" x 1", marked with the players name and team on the back. The photograph may not be a copy, thermal processed or such composition as to be unstable when trimmed to size. The photograph shall not have been previously laminated and must not be held together with tape, glue or similar techniques. A processing period of at least 10 days is required for all new players registrations and re-activation of reserve players. Registration and Release of Liability Forms with the applicable registration fee, as per CSAN. The registration process will not begin until all materials are submitted and in acceptable form.

2. Alternatively, a Team or player may be registered electronically or otherwise through CSAN or other affiliate, as they exist from time to time, and according to processes determined by CSAN or other such affiliate and approved by the Board of Directors.

3. A player may transfer from one Team to another provided that the appropriate written release and transfer forms are completed in accordance with CSAN's rules.

4. A replacement Players Pass will be issued for a lost Pass, if a written request is submitted to CSAN or other affiliate. A replacement cost fee established by the Board from time to time will be assessed, and/or as set by CSAN.

5. No player shall be younger than eighteen (18) years of age at the date of registration.

VII. PROTESTS, APPEALS, AND DISCIPLINE

- 1.** The PAD committee shall be comprised of a Chairperson, who shall be an Officer, and at least two (2) other members selected from time to time by the Chairperson. All members of the committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Chairperson. A member will be disqualified from participating in any action to which he is one of the parties. A substitute member will be designated by the Chairperson of the PAD Committee to constitute a disinterested party for that hearing.
- 2.** The Chairperson, upon receiving any report or complaint, may investigate and make an initial assessment which he shall communicate to the Officers, and where necessary a Team's representative who shall distribute the initial assessment to any affected Team members or other persons associated with the Team. All Teams are required to provide the League with email addresses and telephone numbers for their representatives. If a Team fails to assist in the investigation by the Chairperson or Officers, that failure may be taken into consideration in making an initial or final decision. The Team representative may provide evidence to the Chairperson for consideration and may accept the initial assessment as the decision of the PAD Committee without requesting a formal PAD Committee determination. The League may enter into agreements with any member, Team, player, or other person to resolve complaints coming to the attention of the League.
- 3.** The Chairperson will receive reports from the game officials, or the Referee Assignor as submitted by game officials, or from other sources, and if an informal resolution of the matter has not taken place, shall schedule meetings of the Committee in person, by telephone or other electronic means to take the appropriate action. A quorum of at least 3 persons is required to make a final decision. The majority vote of the PAD committee shall be the decision of the League.
- 4.** Any affected party may submit a written statement of fact during the process. The Chairperson may solicit any other testimony and information, as they deem necessary.
- 5.** A party's (Team's) request for a formal decision by the whole PAD Committee shall be filed with the Chairperson within 48 hours from the time the party/Team is informed of the initial decision. The affected party shall submit a complete statement of fact(s), reasons for contesting the initial assessment, and any evidence desired to be considered.
- 6.** The formal decision of the PAD Committee may be appealed to the Officers who shall constitute the Executive Committee. The appeal shall be in writing and made within 48 hours of notification of the PAD committee's formal decision, and must include a \$50.00 non-refundable fee, or other fee as determined by the Board from time to time, payable to the League. The appeal may not include any new evidence except evidence which could not have been discovered upon reasonable inquiry and investigation. The Executive Committee shall include all Officers and may include any third persons the Officers deem necessary. A member of the Executive Committee will be disqualified from participating only if there is a conflict due to his affiliation with the Team. Nothing in these Rules shall affect the right of any person and/or Team to appeal decisions of the PAD Committee, Executive Committee, to the Board of Directors within 48 hours of being made. Any appeal to the Board of Directors shall be in the form and manner required in an appeal to the Executive Committee. The Board of Directors decision may be

appealed with CSAN in a form and manner (including applicable fees) prescribed by CSAN from time to time.

7. The following items are minimum mandatory disciplinary assessments to which a PAD decision may append additional penalties, as they deem appropriate for the infraction or other conduct. The PAD decision may assess lesser penalties only if significant mitigating circumstances are shown to have existed.

- a.** First ejection within a season - A minimum of one (1) game suspension.
- b.** Second ejection within a season - A minimum of two (2) game suspensions.
- c.** Third ejection within a season - Suspension for the remaining soccer year.
- d.** Three cautions within one soccer year - One (1) game suspension.
- e.** Abuse and/or physical assault of a referee, shall be assessed in accordance to the severity of the offence between one game and expulsion from the League, and may be in addition to any other penalty assessed. All such incidents shall also be referred to CSAN or other affiliate. The league can impose a punishment greater than that imposed by the CSAN Disciplinary Committee, but the league may not impose a lesser punishment.

8. Any player, other person or Team found guilty of violating or re-violating League Bylaws Rules, Procedures, or Agreements or any PAD, Executive Committee, and/or the Board of Directors decision will be subject to additional sanctions as required. Discipline may include, but is not limited to:

- a.** Forfeiture of all affected games.
- b.** A \$100.00 or other approved fine, payable to the League, to be paid prior to the next game.
- c.** Suspension of the Team and/or player from further play until a fine owing is paid.
- d.** Expulsion from the league or exclusion from any game or post-season tournament play and their surroundings.
- e.** One or more years of probation for the Team or player.
- f.** An additional violation may result in expulsion from the League.

9. If a game is stopped by the Referee because of violent or dissentious acts by one Team, or such acts of one or more players of a Team, the PAD decision will award a win to said Team's opponent. The score will stand if the opponent is ahead; the score will be set at 1-0 in favor of the opponent if the opponent is behind at the point of the stoppage of the game. If, in the opinion of the referee, both Teams are involved in such acts, the score will be set at 0-0 with no points awarded to either Team. The Team(s) will be placed on probation. A repeat offense during the period of probation will cause the Team and all players to be suspended immediately pending a report by the PAD Committee which may include setting the terms of dissolution of the Team and suspension of all players.

10. Any protest of a game shall be made on the field immediately following the game, and at that time, notification must be made to the other Team's representatives and the head match official who shall record, on the game card, the reasons for the protest. The protesting Team shall also communicate in writing to the PAD Chairperson, all relevant facts and reasons for the protest within 48 hours of the game and submit a fee of \$50.00, or other amount established by the Board, to the League Treasurer. Failure to follow this procedure shall invalidate the protest. A complaint that a Team has used an ineligible player(s) in any game must be made prior to the

start of the next season. The complaint against the ineligible player must include information that identifies and supports the ineligibility. No fee is required to lodge such a complaint. Any complaint of illegal use of players may remain open until resolved.

VIII. FEES AND PAYMENTS

The fees and payments for fees, fines and services set forth herein below may be set annually by the Board of Directors.

1. An initiation fee, payable to the League, will be assessed to each new Team and any returning Team that cannot comply with re-entry requirements stated in Section V.3 of the Rules.
2. A Season fee, payable to the League, will be assessed to each Team participating in the Season as determined by the Board.
3. The Referee Assignor may be paid a fee by the League for each match for which referees are scheduled and supplied.
4. Officers may receive a per diem approved by the Board of Directors.
5. Referees and Assistant Referee will be paid at approved rates by the League for each official match allotted.
6. The League may authorize other expenditures and shall reimburse any individual for out-of-pocket expenditures so authorized by the Board.
7. The Officers may, by majority vote of an established quorum at a called Officers meeting, make business decisions and authorize expenditures for the benefit of the League. Such authorized expenditures will be expeditiously disbursed by the Treasurer. The Officers may also select one Division Coordinator from each division to facilitate communications between each divisions' Team Representatives and the Officers.

IX. LEAGUE POLICIES AND CONVENTIONS

The following items shall provide an operating structure for the League game activities:

1. The Team listed first on the schedule is considered the "Home Team."
2. The Home Team shall have the right to provide the match balls. If the Home Team is not able to provide balls acceptable to the referee, the referee may solicit a ball from the Visiting Team. The Home Team shall provide a match card. The Home Team shall yield in the event of a conflict in uniform colors.
3. The Home Team of the first scheduled match at a site is responsible for obtaining the field equipment from the Equipment Manager and setting up the field for play. Field setup includes marking the field, hanging nets, and setting out corner flags. Teams that fail to properly and timely setup the field shall be fined \$50.00 or other amount approved by the Board from time to time.
4. The Visiting Team of the last scheduled match at a site is responsible for removing the League's equipment from the field and returning it to the Equipment Manager. Equipment replacement cost or a fine of \$100.00, or other amount approved by the Board from time to time, shall be imposed against any team that fails to comply with this provision. Said fine or replacement cost shall be payable within 10 days of the failure to comply with this provision.
5. Regarding referee and participants interactions

- a. Each Team must designate and identify a field captain.
 - b. Players/manager may reasonably appeal for a call if done prior to the whistle;
 - c. Once the decision is made, only the captain may reasonably and respectfully discuss the call with the ref (but not an opportunity to waste time, make a meritless argument, or be insulting);
 - d. If a violation occurs the ref will warn the player and coach;
 - e. If a second violation by the same player/coach occurs the ref may show a yellow (and 5-minute break);
 - f. If a third Team violation occurs the ref may call a dropped ball for the opposing Team;
 - g. The ref shall retain the right to card the manager, dismiss players and terminate the game: and,
 - h. Only one captain on the field per Team at a time.
- 6.** A match may be re-scheduled to another time and/or location providing both Team Representatives, the Referee Assignor, and such other parties whose participation in the League may be affected agree. The request must demonstrate that the scheduling represented an undue hardship on at least one of the Teams. The League must first approve any rescheduled match and the Team making the request shall pay any expenses related to moving the game.
- 7.** Starting time for a match will be stated on the Season schedule. A grace period for either Team of 10 minutes is allowed to obtain a legal Team of seven (7) players. The match will begin as soon after the designated starting time that each Team has a minimum legal Team. If one Team fails to field seven players within the grace period, the match is called a forfeit and no match will be played. The prevailing Team will be awarded a 3-0 victory. A Team forfeiting a match will be assessed a \$50.00 fine, payable to the League. If both Teams fail to field seven players the PAD Committee will be advised by the Referee Assignor and take action as it may deem appropriate. The game clock shall start at the scheduled time regardless of when a Team has obtained the minimum number of required players.
- 8.** A valid and unexpired Player Pass is required for each player participating in a match. There is no substitute document that will allow participation. Attempting to play a player without a valid and unexpired Player Pass constitutes a registration violation. However, a player known to be currently registered and otherwise eligible to participate and who presents valid picture identification, and provide a copy or electronic transmission of a CSAN, or other affiliates, registration records indicating the player is duly registered with the Team, may participate without such a Player Pass upon approval from any referee, or any uninvolved Officer.
- 9.** A manager shall be fully accountable for the eligibility of members of a Team. Listing or attempting to play an ineligible player shall be, at a minimum, subject to sanctions described in section VII.8 above. Any player found guilty of playing while ineligible shall be subject to League discipline.
- 10.** A Team may not concede a match; this constitutes a forfeit and the Team conceding the match is subject to a \$50.00, or other fine approved by the Board from time to time, payable to the League. If the League determines that a Team knowingly and/or intentionally conceded a match, the matter will be reviewed by the PAD Committee for possible disciplinary action. The score will stand as is if the Team not conceding is leading the match, otherwise the game will be recorded as a 1-0 forfeit win for the Team not conceding.

11. FIFA, USSF, and CSAN (or other affiliates approved by the Board) laws or rules and any modifications made to them from time to time, with the following exceptions, shall apply to games played in the League:

- a.** There shall be no sliding tackles except in eighteen and over (+18) and the First Division of a thirty and over (+30) play.
- b.** A goalie may not be charged, touched (except accidentally), or interfered with when challenging for the ball in the penalty area.
- c.** Any player may substitute into a game at any stoppage of play after having received permission to enter the game from the referee. A stoppage of play is defined as any dead-ball situation.
- d.** Any player receiving a yellow card may be substituted and must leave the pitch for at least five minutes after which time they may return to the field upon their Team's next legal substitution.
- e.** The League defines a sliding tackle as follows: playing, or attempting to play the ball, by sliding on the ground within the playing distance of another player and as determined to be unsafe by the referee. This includes both offensive and defensive play against either an opponent or a teammate. This infraction constitutes dangerous play. It is, however, perfectly legal to play the ball in such a manner away from other players.

12. In the event a player is disqualified from a match by the referee, the offending Team's remaining personnel shall enforce the ruling without argument or incident. The expelled player must immediately leave the playing and surrounding areas. In the event the player does not leave as required, the referee is entitled to call the match and notify the PAD Chair, including through the Referee Assignor, for further action consistent with the provisions of Section VII.

13. Each Team shall be responsible for field clean up at the conclusion of their match.

X. League Match Format and Tournaments

1. Match Format. The League shall from time to time adopt match formats which shall establish a minimum age and other qualifications required for players to participate on League teams which shall be divided into brackets such as 18&over, 35&over or 50&over etc. The League shall publish from time to time to all managers the age groups for each bracket and any qualifications or exceptions for each bracket as approved by the members. The League may create Divisions in each age group in order to provide each League team a competitive pairing and with the ability for each team in each Division to play each other twice in any given season. The League may use a 'relegation/advancement' process or other tools in order to reach Division parity. The League shall publish a match schedule each season stating the location, time and participants in every match to be played in that season; and, shall keep weekly records of and publish via the League website or by other means the results of each match as well as the league standings.

2. TOURNAMENTS

The League may from time to time hold a tournament. A committee will be formed for the purpose of establishing a suitable format for competition (i.e., age limits, rule variations, level of competition, etc.) and hospitality and make their recommendations for the Board of Directors.

XI. AWARDS

A trophy or other awards may be given on a regular basis to the Team who has completed the regular season in first place. The FIFA point system will be utilized: 3 points for a win, 1 point for a tie, and 0 points for a loss. Ties will be broken based on head-to-head results, followed by aggregate goal differential between the competing first place Teams. If there is still a tie, the first place Teams' records against the third place Teams, and if necessary, the 4th, 5th, etc., Teams shall be compared in a like manner to determine the tie breaker. The same process will be applied, as necessary, to cases of ties between Teams being considered for relegation with the loser being relegated. The League frowns upon "running up scores" against non-competitive Teams and this may be considered a factor in awarding a first-place prize. Other awards may be authorized by the Board of Directors.

XII. AMENDMENTS

To amend these Rules, the following procedures must be followed:

- 1.** The content of the proposed amendment must be presented to all members of the Board of Directors for review at least 15 days prior to the meeting of the Board of Directors at which the action is to be taken or as the Bylaws requires.
- 2.** A proposed Rule amendment may not act to amend the Bylaws and any conflict between a Rule and the Bylaws shall be interpreted in favor of and be preempted by the Bylaws.
- 3.** A quorum consisting of one-half (1/2) of the members of the Board of Directors must be present at a meeting considering amendment to the Rules.
- 4.** A majority vote is required for passage.