



ENFIELD SOCCER CLUB RECREATIONAL LEAGUE POLICY

Revised 2019

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1. Establishment of Policy

Policy meeting will be called as needed by the Club President or Recreational League Vice President (upon notifying the club President), but at least one policy review meeting (for the upcoming year) will be held during the fall season. All Division Managers for the upcoming season will be invited to the meeting. The division managers should vote on any proposed changes, and the results of the vote transmitted to the Enfield Soccer Executive Board and the Voting Associate Recreational Board Members for their consideration before a policy change is implemented.

The Recreational League policies shall be voted on by the Executive Board and the Voting Associate Recreational Board Members (as defined in the Bylaws) before any policy change is implemented. A simple majority is needed to approve changes. Club President to break tie votes, i.e. votes twice.

2. League Philosophy

All Recreational League Divisions of Enfield Soccer are to be considered instructional in nature and scope. The development of physical skills, mental disciplines, sportsmanship and the enjoyment of all participants shall be the primary goal of the Recreational League of this organization.

3. Game Philosophy

All Recreational League divisions of Enfield Soccer shall conduct their activities with a proper regard for the "spirit of the game" as interpreted by FIFA and administered by league officials. The scope of such violations of the "spirit of the game" shall include but not be limited to:

On Field:

- _ any attempt to injure another player
- _ any attempt to gain a psychological advantage other than by physical soccer skills
- _ any attempt to communicate to other players in an unsportsmanlike manner
- _ any attempt to neutralize a competitive advantage by deliberate foul

Off Field:

- _ any encouragement of instruction to players to violate the on field "spirit of the game".
 - _ harassing or abuse of referee by any coach or supporter of any team.
 - _ verbal abuse directed towards coaches, supporters or players of either team.
 - _ failure to observe proper sideline etiquette and/or gracious behavior on sideline toward opposing side
 - _ Failure to distribute playing time or positioning among team members such that instruction or game experience is limited or restricted
 - _ Un-sportsmanlike behavior at exchange of post- game mutual congratulations
- Violations of the "spirit of the game" criteria can result in suspension or other disciplinary action by the league as warranted.

Note, under the laws of the game, the referee can take appropriate action during a game as deemed necessary by this official; however, non-action on their part during the

game does not constitute tolerance or acceptance of any violation, nor preclude any future warranted disciplinary action.

Coaches are not allowed on the field during games (all divisions except U6). Coaching may only occur on the team side of the field, and only from their corner to the mid field line.

4. Coach - Referee Communication

Coaches are to reserve any comments regarding referee calls, at quarter end, half-time or the end of the game. Problems pertaining to any game/game official should be referred to the Division Manager by the coach, who will then communicate it to the Referee Manager as soon as possible.

5. Game Cancellation

It shall be the policy of all Recreational League divisions that every effort be made to play games as scheduled. The only criteria to be considered for cancellation of any scheduled game shall be inclement weather or poor field conditions.

On the day of any scheduled games, the Recreational League Vice President shall make a determination as to cancellation of the day's schedule by 9:00 am. If participants are not notified that the day's activities have been cancelled, they are to assume games will be played as scheduled. At no time should individual coaches cancel or reschedule their games without consultation with the Recreational League Vice President.

In the event the league schedule is not cancelled and a game (or games) are not played, the Recreational League Vice President, after due consultation with the respective divisional manager, shall determine if a makeup game is sanctioned by the league. Only make up games sanctioned by the league shall be permitted to use league facilities and equipment, as well as employ the services of a league appointed referee. The referee after due consultation between coaches may call the cancellation of a game, i.e. the 30/30 rule.

6. Policy Administration

Division Manager shall be responsible for the administration of the policies outlined herein.

All exceptions and extraordinary interpretations should be reviewed with the Recreational League Vice President and if warranted, subject to the approval of the Executive Board of Directors and the Recreational Associate Board of Directors. All instructions and/or guidelines to coaches shall be subject to review prior to distribution.

7. Vice President

The Recreational League Vice President shall have broad discretionary powers to act on behalf of the league in enacting disciplinary measures or in any emergency capacity. Such powers may be delegated to other league or division managers as warranted by this officer.

Any decisions or other exercise of these discretionary powers shall be communicated in writing to the Executive Board of Directors and the Recreational League Associate Board of Directors at the earliest convenient opportunity and be subject to review.

8. Applications and Registration

Only players who have applied and registered shall be permitted to participate in Enfield Soccer programs. All such players shall be subject to a participation fee in an amount established by the Executive Board of Directors, subject to change each season. This fee shall be due and payable at the time of registration or application. A late registration fee, also in an amount established by the Executive Board, may be assessed for applications received after a predetermined announced date.

The Executive Board of Directors shall also establish and announce a final date, by which all applications for the season under consideration must be received. A postmarked envelope shall be considered evidence of receipt.

Players whose applications were subject to a late fee may be placed on a waiting list and their fee refunded if ultimate placement on a team cannot be made. Players may also be denied team placement if there are not enough volunteers for the teams.

9. Application Special Requests

The honoring of any request made on an application is to be at the discretion of the respective Division Manager and no guarantee is made by the league of its enactment.

10. Team Assignments

In all aspects of assignment of players to a team within a specific division, the division managers' primary focus of purpose shall be, to establish teams of equal skills, ability and experience.

11. Player Eligibility

No recreational league player shall be permitted to participate outside the division established for his or her age group. An exception may be made to this policy allowing a player to move up one division, providing the player has a birthday within one calendar year of that division, has a sibling already playing in that division, and has a parent or legal guardian who is a head coach in that division. This exception does not apply to the U-6 division.

No recreational league player shall be permitted to participate in the Competitive League or any other non-school affiliated team during the season in which they are enrolled in the recreational league.

12. Game Participation

A coach must make every attempt to ensure that each child play 50% of each game. In the case of a breach in league rules, the child's playing time may be affected. If a coach knows prior to the game that playing time is being reduced, the Division Manager, Vice President of Recreation and parents must be notified.

Coaches are expected to be present at the field 15 minutes prior to game times. This will ensure that players are properly warmed up to play and that games begin on time.

13. Practice Philosophy

Practices for the recreational league will be limited to no more than two (2) occurrences per week, with the duration of each practice not to exceed 1½ hours (90 minutes). The U-6 division will be limited to no more than two (2) occurrences per week, with the duration of each practice not to exceed 1 hour (60 minutes).

14. Equipment

Shin guards are mandatory for all age groups. They must be worn during all practices and games. Players without shin guards will not be able to participate. Jewelry and hard hairpieces are not allowed during play in all age groups. These items must be removed prior to practicing or playing in games.