

# ***BSC Recreational***

## ***Soccer Guidelines***



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## **BSC**

The BSC is a non-profit, public, educational soccer organization with the purpose of advancing the cause of soccer within its jurisdiction. BSC is affiliated with Ohio South Youth Soccer Club and the United States Youth Soccer Club.

The Board of Directors leads BSC. Board members are:

<b>Board Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>President</b>	<b>Tim Vaughan</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Kristen Simers</b>
<b>Past President</b>	
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Jessica Barrett</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Lynne Bable</b>
<b>Registrar</b>	<b>Dan Matheny</b>
<b>Referee Coordinator (s)</b>	<b>Mike Matheny, Arika Moats</b>
<b>Recreational Coordinator</b>	<b>Nate Newbanks</b>
<b>Field Maintenance</b>	<b>Matt Rhodes</b>
<b>Concession Coordinator</b>	<b>Kristen Simers</b>
<b>Fund-raiser Coordinator</b>	<b>Amy Coyner</b>
<b>Member(s) At Large</b>	<b>Keith Brock</b>

## **RECREATIONAL LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY**

The primary goal of the recreational soccer program of the BSC is for the players to have fun within a learning/teaching environment. The recreational program is not about winning, it is about teaching, so that children have fun, learn to love the game of soccer, and become as skilled a soccer player as they are capable of becoming.

The single most enjoyable aspect of soccer for the players is kicking the ball. Small-sided games are used for U-6 through U-10 to provide each player more opportunities for contact with the ball.

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- Teams may only participate in games approved by the BSC Board of Directors.
- Only properly registered players in good standing with the BSC (i.e., not suspended) are allowed to participate in league games. The playing of an ineligible player for any length of time shall result in a forfeit (1 – 0 loss) of the game. The person responsible for allowing the ineligible player to participate shall be referred to BSC Disciplinary Board.
- Regularly scheduled BSC games are mandatory. A coach cannot withdraw the team he represents from any scheduled competition as a means of protest. Any such action shall be referred to the BSC disciplinary Board. Non-appearance for regularly BSC games without prior agreement with the opposing team’s coach will result in a forfeit (1 – 0 loss) for the offender unless a valid reason for non-appearance is supplied to the Recreational

coordinator. A referee cannot award a forfeit, the information must be turned in to the Recreational Coordinator, and that person must issue a decision.

- The Recreational Coordinator is the final authority on the decision to reschedule the game.
- In inclement weather, games shall be played as scheduled and only the referee coordinator, the Recreational Coordinator, and/or the President has the authority to cancel such games.
- If a player misses three sessions in a row or five sessions in any ten-session period, the player may be subject to removal from the BSC program. Removal of a player can only be done with the approval of the BSC Registrar. A session is defined as a scheduled practice or a scheduled game for which the player had adequate notification.
- A player, who commits at the beginning of the season to play both travel and recreational team soccer, may not quit the recreational team without quitting the travel team unless the player has prior approval from the President of BSC.
- Any injury to or damage caused by a BSC participant must be reported to the Registrar who is in charge of the insurance and safety program.
- No one except participating players will be permitted to stand within 5 feet of the touchline or within 15 feet of the goal line during the play of game.
- No parents are permitted to be on the same side of field as the players during the game.
- Any damages to the BSC fields and/or equipment due to vandalism/destruction of property must be reported to BSC President, or any BSC Board Member who should report damage to President within 48 hours.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

- At the conclusion of each game, the participating teams will line up on separate sides of the mid-field line and exchange gestures of good sportsmanship. The game officials will observe this activity. Failure of players to participate in this display of good sportsmanship will receive a “red card”, resulting in their suspension from the following game.
- It is the duty of each player, coach, parent, and other persons in attendance at BSC activities to conduct themselves in a civil manner. Anyone who exhibits behavioral tendencies which are detrimental to the enjoyment of the game for others is subject to removal from the game or suspension from the BSC. Specific problems are to be referred to the BSC Disciplinary Board.
- Players receiving a yellow card during game shall be removed from active play and may re-enter at referee’s discretion.
- Any person displaying gross unsportsmanlike conduct resulting in an ejection (red card or two yellow cards in one game) must serve a suspension for the following regularly scheduled BSC game.

### **AGE GROUPINGS**

The playing season for BSC recreational soccer extends from August 1 of one year to July 31 of the following year. The appropriate age group for any player is determined on August 1 of the year and remains the same for the entire 12-month playing season. All players must be a minimum of 4 years of age on August 1 to register for BSC league play anytime during the playing season unless with prior approval by Registrar. No child will be allowed to play in any age group other than their own without the written permission of the parent or guardian. The

Club President and/or Registrar may refuse request for players to play above their appropriate age group. A child may move up only one age bracket (based on previous Fall/Spring eligibility) and may not move down any bracket below their current level of eligibility as defined by OSYSA. A player wanting to move up may only do so after playing at least one year in their current eligible age group.

AGE GROUP	Players age on Aug 1
U-6	Under 6 years of age
U-8	Under 8 years of age
U-10	Under 10 years of age
U-13	Under 13 years of age
U-14	Under 14 years of age
U-17	Under 17 years of age

### TEAM SIZES

	U-6	U-8/U-9	U-10	U-13 through U-17
Minimum roster	4	6	6	8
Maximum roster	8	9	10	18
Players on Field	3x3 or 4x4	5x5 or 6x6	6x6	8x8 up to 11x11
Minimum players each team for a game	3	5	6	8

Having less than the minimum number of players present for game will result in a forfeit ( 0-1 loss, pending Referee Coordinator approval). We encourage both teams to play even in the event of the eventual forfeit, even allowing other children to sub for the team that is short on players. Score will still be recorded as a 0-1 loss for the forfeiting team regardless of outcome. In case a team is short of players but is within the guidelines, the opposing team may reduce its number of players on the field to an equal number. Any changes in the number of players on the field must be approved by referee. In the event of an ejection during the course of the game, the opponent does not have to reduce in kind by the number of players ejected.

### TEAM FORMATION / PLAYER ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

- The Registrar is responsible for insuring eligibility of all players on all teams within the BSC. Any player must present a birth certificate or other legal proof of age to the Registrar upon request.
- No player under the age of 18 may register without written consent of parent of legal guardian.
- A player becomes an official team member only after payment of required registration fees and acceptance of a registration form by the Registrar. Underprivileged scholarships will be available as determined by the Board of Directors.

- No refunds may be given without consent of the Registrar and Treasurer.
- The goal of the team formation process is to form recreational soccer teams that are equally competitive. Players will be assigned a rating from their coach at the end of that season. Players will be placed on teams by club using an “open” draft procedure of all eligible players in each age group.
- To insure that all coaches follow team formation guidelines and the draft procedure, league officials will closely monitor the player draft. The Registrar & Recreational Coordinator shall be present with each age group during the entire draft process and shall co-coordinate the draft. The Fundraising Coordinator may be present, however, if not present they shall present a sponsor list to Registrar/Recreational Coordinator beforehand.
- No registration of players will be accepted after the published cut off dates, except at the discretion of the Registrar and with approval from all affected coaches in that age group in filling minimum team rosters. Players may be kept in a “holding pattern” to allow another player of different skill level to be placed ahead of them to maintain the best balance of teams. Any player, coach, or parent shall have the right to ask for an appeal by the Board of Directors if they feel they are being treated unfairly.
- A player may be a member of only one recreational BSC team at any time, excluding BSC competitive teams. No BSC recreational player may participate in a recreational outdoor soccer league not sanctioned by US Soccer during the game season. Games may not be rescheduled around a player’s or coach’s non-recreational schedule.
- The Board of Directors reserves the right to refuse participation to any person, coach or player.
- Teams shall not be formed on a major/minor league basis under any circumstances.
- Two teams constitute the minimum required for regular league competition.
- Team names shall bear no offensive references to religion or nationality.

### **DRAFT PROCEDURE**

1. The Registrar will record personal data for each player and make available at the time of the draft all information including player’s name, date of birth, number of seasons playing experience, previous coaches’ rating, etc.. A notation will be made on if there are special circumstances that should be considered when forming teams (see below for special circumstances allowed).
2. Coaches in each division as a group, review the personal data available about each player in their division. Using this information and any personal knowledge the coaches may have about a player’s abilities, a rating will be assigned to each player in an ABC format. A “C” rating is assigned to any players unfamiliar to the coaches and whose personal data does not provide an indication of above average ability. All coaches must declare their children and related children playing to the other coaches at this point. Kids with Travel or Competitive experience will be so noted but not automatically given the highest designation, rating will be evaluated based on skill level. The ratings will be agreed to by a consensus of the coaches and then recorded.
3. Coaches shall pick their child first in that respective “grade level”. No assistant coaches may be picked before the draft. Coaches may pick openly between skill levels, and are not required to pick the next available child in that group. Teams are formed when all available children are placed on a team. The only circumstance in which a trade must be made is when honoring a parent’s request to allow two or more children of the same immediate family to play on the same team.

4. All trades to be made must be approval of Registrar, in cooperation with ALL involved coaches. Players must be swapped on an equal value basis, and all involved persons must approve.
5. At the end of every season, coaches are to be given player evaluation sheets to be turned in to the registrar before tournaments. The registrar is responsible for making these player evaluations available to all coaches present at draft.
6. If a coach is not present, a BSC board member shall draft in that coach's best interest. Coaches shall draw a number to determine draft order. Each coach shall then pick a player from the spreadsheet in their draft order, top to bottom, then bottom to top.
7. No one participating in the draft shall "pass notes, drop hints or otherwise signal" any coach which player to choose. The coach picking his/her team is responsible for their own picks with the player information available. The registrar will be responsible for filling in blank information about players before the draft starts.
8. This information and draft procedure shall be printed and distributed to all coaches during the coaches meeting. Any coach not present shall be given procedures and given a few minutes to review before the start of the draft.
9. The Registrar shall work with the Recreational Coordinator to make sure player lists are distributed to all coaches, present or not present. The Registrar is in charge of keeping notes of draft order and last team to pick after draft is complete.

## **FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT**

### **A. Fields**

The field size, markings, goal area, penalty area, corner area, and goals will generally be according to FIFA laws or the recommendations contained in USYS brochures titled "The Official US Youth Soccer 3x3 Program for Under 6", "The Official US Youth Soccer 4x4 Program for Under 8", "The Official US Youth Soccer 8x8 Program for Under 10". Field size is dependent on the space available. Exact field layout and goal size for the BSC will be determined by the Recreational Coordinator in conjunction with the Referee Coordinator.

	<b>U-6</b>	<b>U-8/U-9</b>	<b>U-10</b>	<b>U-11 through U-17</b>
<b>Recommended dimension</b>	<b>25 x 15 yds 75 x 45 ft</b>	<b>50 x 30 yds 150 x 90 ft</b>	<b>70 x 42 yds 210 x 126 ft</b>	<b>100 x 60 yds</b>
<b>Center Circle (radius)</b>	<b>3 yds 9 ft</b>	<b>5 yds 15 ft</b>	<b>7 yds 21 ft</b>	<b>10 yds 30 ft</b>
<b>Corners</b>	<b>2 ft arc</b>	<b>3 ft arc</b>	<b>3 ft arc</b>	<b>3 ft arc</b>
<b>Recommended goal size</b>	<b>4x 6 ft</b>	<b>6.5 x 18.5 ft</b>	<b>7 x 21 ft</b>	<b>8 x 24 ft</b>
		-	-	-
<b>Goal area</b>	<b>3 yd arc 9 ft arc</b>	<b>3 x 10 yds 9 x 30 ft</b>	<b>4 x 14 yds 12 x 42 ft</b>	<b>6 x 20 yds 18 x 60 ft</b>
<b>Penalty area</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>9 x 22 yds 27 x 66 ft</b>	<b>13 x 31 yds 39 x 93 ft</b>	<b>18 x 44 yds 54 x 132 ft</b>

**B. Balls**

<b>Division</b>	<b>Ball</b>
<b>U-6, U-8</b>	<b>Size 3</b>
<b>U-10</b>	<b>Size 4</b>
<b>U-13,U-14, U-17</b>	<b>Size 5</b>

**C. Players Equipment and Casts**

- **All players on the field of play must wear shin guards during all practice sessions and games.**
- **No metal cleats, watches, rings, other jewelry, or anything the referee deems unacceptable or dangerous to any players will be worn during BSC practices or games. Non-metal cleats must conform to FIFA equipment standards.**
- **Each player will be properly dressed while on the field of play. Properly dressed includes wearing a shirt with their team colors and any other requirements stipulated by the FIFA guidelines, unless otherwise stipulated by the BSC.**
- **In inclement weather, players may wear additional clothing, provided it is worn under the issued uniform.**
- **Players fitted with any type of cast, air cast, or splint may not participate in league games or practices, pending referee approval. a signed medical release from a doctor must be on file with the Registrar.**
- **Once player is deemed to be “out for season”, he or she may be replaced by another player of similar skill level, and receive a pro-rated refund if requested. Once replaced, the injured player may return to be eligible for placement on any team in that age group, placement to be determined by team need. Once refunded, players may not return at all. No injured player that’s not active by the last game of regular season will be eligible for tournament play.**

**PRACTICES**

- **There will be no practices by any recreational team sooner than three weeks prior to the first game of the season. A practice is any session involving soccer drills or strategy that includes a parent or coach, more than three members of a single team, and is restricted by team membership or age group.**
- **No practice will last longer than 1 ½ hours (less time is recommended for U-6 and U-8 teams) and not more than two recreational practices per week are permitted.**
  - **Practice sessions should involve passing, shooting, dribbling, and development of other foot skills.**
  - **Good sportsmanship and player fun should be of emphasis.**
  - **Coaches should ensure proper breaks for water and/or restroom visits.**

**GAME DURATION**

<b>Division</b>	<b>Game Duration</b>	<b>Half Time</b>	<b>Quarter Breaks</b>
<b>U-6</b>	<b>8 min quarters</b>	<b>5 min</b>	<b>2 min</b>
<b>U-8</b>	<b>12 min quarters</b>	<b>5 min</b>	<b>2 min</b>
<b>U-10</b>	<b>25 min halves</b>	<b>7 min</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>U-13</b>	<b>30 min halves</b>	<b>10 min</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>U-14</b>	<b>35 min halves</b>	<b>10min</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>U-17</b>	<b>40 min halves</b>	<b>10 min</b>	<b>N/A</b>

- All team members should arrive at the playing field a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game time.
- Length of quarters, halves, and breaks is at the discretion of the referee, but a minimum half time of 5 minutes should be allowed for all games.
- If a game has been stopped by the referee before the completion of the time specified in the rules for any reason stated in Law V of “FIFA”, Laws of the Game”, it must be replayed in full if the first half has not been completed. If after halftime, the game score will be recorded
- And the game will be rescheduled to start at the second half.
- All games during the regular season resulting in a tie at the end of regulation time will remain a tie.

**PLAYING TIME**

All registered players in attendance at the start of regular season games or league tournament games must play in at least half of the game, including overtime. A player arriving after the first half of a play is completed may be played at the discretion of the coach. Exceptions may be granted for illnesses and injuries. It is the coach’s responsibility to ensure all players the required amounts in each game. Failure to do so will result in a forfeit (0-1 loss). Coaches failing to provide required playing time for all players on their team will be referred to the President and Recreational Coordinator on the first offense, then to the BSC Disciplinary Board for further offenses.

**SUBSTITUTIONS**

Free substitutions will be allowed in all age groups in accordance with FIFA Rules. Substitutions are allowed only with the referee’s permission during breaks in the game play. Coaches must have players prepared to enter the playing field before the game breaks occur. Game play must not be delayed waiting for players to be ready.

**SPECIAL U-6 PLAYING RULES:**

- Coaches, assistant coaches, or parents act as referees. One coach from each -- team is allowed on the playing field for the entire game.
- No one can pick up the ball in the field of play (no goalkeeper).
- Players from either team are not allowed inside the goal area unless the ball is in the goal area (no goalkeeper).
- Balls kicked out of play on a touchline will be returned to play with a kick-in or throw-in. Balls kicked out of play on the goal lines will be returned to play with a goal kick or corner kick.
- Goal kicks may be taken from any point inside the goal area. Opponents must be on their own half of the field until the ball is kicked.
- There are no penalty kicks.
- No offside rules are observed.

**SPECIAL U-8 PLAYING RULES:**

- If league referees are available they will call the game; otherwise, a coach, assistant coach, or parent will act as the referee. Only the individual acting as referee is allowed on the playing field during the game. The acting referee may be exchanged between teams during half time if desired by the coaches.
- On throw-ins, players will be given 3 attempts to properly throw the ball into play. The referee will explain any improprieties regarding an improperly thrown ball before allowing the re-throw to occur. After 3 attempts, the referee may ask another child to throw the ball into play if the first child is unsuccessful in doing so.
- There are no penalty kicks (except when awarded by referee for coach's behavior). No free kicks can be taken within the opponent's goal box.
- All free kicks are direct. All fouls will result in a direct kick with all the opponents five yards away from the ball (except where the foul occurs close to the goal). Defenders are allowed to form a "wall" in front of the ball or on goal line. A goal cannot be scored from a direct kick that is a kickoff.
- No offside rules are observed. However, no one but the defensive team is allowed in the goal box unless the ball has entered the goal box during a corner kick. The referee asking the players to leave the goal box without stopping play will handle initial occurrences. The referee warning the coach during a stoppage of play will address repeated offenses. Finally, continued offenses will result in an direct kick for the opposing team of the offender.
- Goal kicks may be taken from any point inside the goal area. Opponents must be on their own half of the field until the ball is kicked.

**SPECIAL U-10 PLAYING RULES:**

- Players will be given 2 attempts per throw in.
- Player distance on free kicks must be at least 8 yards.
  - A penalty kick shall be awarded by referee for excessive behavior by coach.
  - Offsides will be observed.
  - Kicks as a result of penalty will be direct or indirect as per FIFA guidelines.

### **SPECIAL U13, U14, AND U17 RULES:**

**Players shall follow all FIFA established rules .**

**A penalty kick shall be awarded by referee for excessive behavior by coach.**

### **COACHES**

- **All coaches will be required to complete a Kidsafe form thru OSYSA, who may randomly conduct background checks. A signed copy of this form must be turned in to Recreational Coordinator prior to the opening of season to be eligible to coach.**
- **Any coach that has a history of conduct that is not conducive to player development and enjoyment of the game is subject to review for eligibility by the Recreational Coordinator, and either the President or Vice President. If a coach gets yellow carded during the season, he must meet with the Recreational Coordinator and the Referee Coordinator. A second yellow card and or a red card resulting in ejection will facilitate for a meeting between the coach and the entire Disciplinary Board. Two red cards or ejections during any season will result in permanently not being able to coach at Belpre Soccer Club.**
- **A coach shall be responsible for their own conduct as well as that of all players and parents associated with their team while a game is in progress. Parents who are disrupting a game by their actions may be asked to leave the vicinity of the field by an official. It shall be the coach's responsibility to see that the offending parents leave. If the coach fails to do this, the game will be halted and the offending team shall forfeit (0-1 loss).**
- **A coach shall ensure that their team has the highest regard for good sportsmanship and respect for game officials.**
- **Coaches or other persons shall not enter the field of play unless requested by the referee. (See special rules section for U-6 guidelines).**
- **Realizing that the BSC is an instructional league, the coach and assistant coach are permitted to give positive team encouragement from the touchline. However, coaching during games shall be limited to the sideline area only. No coaching will be allowed from behind or around the goal area. The coach and assistant coach must be on the same side of the field. (See special rules section for U-6 guidelines.) No parents may be on the same side of field as team.**
- **. No coaches should make any remarks about any other team, it's players or it's coaches. Any such remarks shall result in an automatic red card and suspension from the next game.**
- **All volunteer coaches should attend coaches' clinic prior to the beginning of the season.**

### **REFEREES**

- **The BSC referee has an awesome task and responsibility. Once they are given authority, all BSC officials, coaches, parents, and players must support them. ANY ABUSE OF**

**REFEREES WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.** Referees may award a penalty kick for abusive behavior by a coach directed towards any member of the officiating crew.

- BSC referees will enforce the rules of competition defined by BSC, OSYSA, and FIFA. Where BSC and OSYSA rules are not specified, the laws of FIFA prevail.
- BSC referees will always place primary emphasis on the welfare of players. They will officiate the game in a manner conducive to clean competition and good sportsmanship.
- Referees shall not be faulted for judgmental decisions and opinions rendered in good faith during the course of officiating a game. Coaches should address complaints of overall referee performance (not specific call) to the BSC Referee Coordinator.
- Referees are encouraged to give pre-game instructions to both players and coaches concerning any special conditions that may have any impact on a game.
- Referees are encouraged to verbally communicate to players and/or coaches their decisions made during the course of the game.
  - In the event of a shortage of certified referees, linesmen may be selected from spectators or advanced players.
- If an ejection (red card or second yellow card) of a player, coach, or spectator occurs, the referee shall request that the offending party leave the immediate area of the game and have no further contact or communication with the remaining players/coaches. If they refuse, the referee may suspend the game. In the event the game is suspended, the referee shall report in full, in writing, within 24 hours, the circumstances involved, the score up to that time, and any other relevant details to the Referee Coordinator. The BSC Disciplinary Board will decide the outcome of the game as to replay or forfeit, as well as any additional action to be taken. In all cases, the Referee Coordinator shall send a report to the BSC within 48 hours of the occurrence.

### **REVISION OF RECREATIONAL GUIDELINES**

These BSC Recreational Soccer Guidelines are the general rules for recreational play as defined in the BSC By-laws (Article Six: General Rules and Guidelines). These guidelines may be modified at any time at the discretion of the BSC Board of Directors. Approval of modifications requires a majority vote of Board members present during any board meeting (regular or special) with a quorum present.