

VESC Playoff Rules and Regulations

Protests

Protests must be made in writing by the team coach or manager and must be accompanied by a fee of \$75.00 **CASH** (in exact change) protest fee. Protests must be delivered to the VESC Playoff Headquarters (beside the “ref shed”) at the VESC soccer complex within 60 minutes (1 hour) of the conclusion of the game being protested. In the event that a protest is upheld, the fee shall be returned. In the event that a protest is ruled “out of order” and/or not upheld for any reason, the fee shall **NOT be returned**. No one may protest a game in which his or her team has not participated. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play are final and cannot be protested. (FIFA Law 5)

Discipline

Any player ejected from the field of play by the referee for misconduct shall receive a suspension in accordance with the OSA's Discipline Policies, the VESC Discipline Committee will inform the coach/captain of the person's team how many games the suspension shall be. Any and all discipline from the VESC tournament and all regular season games (including make-up games) shall be carried forward into the playoffs. Any coach, assistant coach and/or team representative who is ejected from a game must appear before a VESC Playoff appointed Discipline Committee prior to their team's next scheduled game to answer to the contents of the Special Incident Report. Anyone disputing his/her ejection from a game may request a hearing, such request, must be accompanied by a \$75.00 **CASH** (in exact change) hearing fee. The party must notify the VESC Playoff Headquarters of their intention to request a hearing within 60 minutes (1 hour) of the conclusion of the game.

Extraordinary Weather

In the event of severe weather conditions (e.g. continuous heavy rain, lightning, excessive heat) or poor field condition, the VESC has the authority to change the duration of the games or any other function of the playoffs, including the following:

- a) Relocate and/or reschedule any game.
- b) Reduce the schedule duration by up to 50 per cent.
- c) Cancel any game in the preliminary round, which has no bearing in deciding group winners or wild cards.
- d) To consider the game complete if 25 per cent of the game or less remained if abandoned by the referee.

Failure to Show

Teams shall be allowed a 15 minute grace period after the scheduled kick-off time before they are considered as having failed to show. A minimum of seven (7) players constitutes a team and a game will be started if a team has at least that number of players, even if it must play shorthanded against its opponent. The grace period may only be allowed if a team has less than seven (7) players. In the event of a failure to show, the offending team shall forfeit the game. If both teams fail to show, the VESC shall make a ruling.

Forfeited Games

At the discretion of the VESC, teams that fail to show or otherwise forfeit a game may be subject to dismissal from the playoffs without appeal. The opponents of a team that has forfeited a game shall be awarded a 3-0 win and three (3) points in the playoff standings.

Abandoned Games

The VESC shall review the circumstances of any game abandoned by the referee prior to its conclusion. The findings and decisions of the VESC shall be final with no appeal.

General

The VESC reserves the right to decide on all matters pertaining to the VESC Playoffs. The VESC's interpretation of the rules and all other playoff documentation is final.

The VESC is bound to observe and enforce certain rules as laid down by FIFA. FIFA has circulated instructions to referees concerning proper dress for players (i.e. proper shorts, wearing of shin guards, sleeved jerseys etc.) The referees will enforce these rules