

Reynoldsburg Parks and Recreation

2011 Youth Soccer Rules

1. The Reynoldsburg Youth Sports program is conducted for the benefit of youth who reside in the Reynoldsburg City School District and are in grades 2 – 8 inclusive. As a recreational program, the main goal is to provide opportunities for Reynoldsburg youth to develop sports, social interaction and directional skills, experience in game situations and **TO HAVE FUN!**

2. All youngsters registered and having paid the registration fee shall be placed on a team based on a blind draw, with all divisions being decided by grade make-up after all registrations have been received.

3. All players should be in Reynoldsburg Parks and Recreation uniform for all regularly scheduled games. Players are **required** to wear shin guards covered completely by socks, and soccer appropriate foot wear while they are playing (regular tennis shoes are acceptable). Mouth pieces are recommended. No other equipment/attire is to be required by the coach or any other team representative.

4. The Parks & Recreation Department will award to all participants a certificate to show their participation in the league this season. The Parks & Recreation Department discourages the awarding of trophies by coaches or parents due to possible financial burdens that could arise by the purchase of trophies. If trophies are to be purchased, **then awarding of these trophies should be done at a private affair for the team at the conclusion of the season.**

5. It is expected that all team personnel (coaches, players, parents and attendants) will conform to sportsmanlike behavior. A **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy will be in effect. **Violations such as the following (but not limited to) will not be tolerated:**

1) Verbal/physical abuse and negative behavior towards officials, parks and recreation department staff, coaches, participants, parents or attendants.

2) Only the head coach can discuss ruling issues with the official during a time out, half time, or end of game. A violation example is (not limited to):

1. Questioning a call while play is occurring (i.e., offsides, tripping, etc.).

An exception would be (not limited to):

1. Asking/reminding the official of a specific league rule (i.e., tripping, mercy rule, etc.)

3) Game ejections.

4) Foul, profane, or obscene language or gestures.

5) Tampering with player rosters during or following the team drawing/draft.

6) Violation of Parent, Player, or Coaches' Code of Ethics Pledge.

7) Recruitment of an assistant coach in order to gain an advantage of having that assistant coach's son or daughter on the team. Assistant coaches must assist the coach in the majority of games and practices by instructing and coaching the participants.

The following are the disciplinary actions that will be taken by the Parks and Recreation Department should one of the above violations occur:

1) If staff or officials observe any of the above violations, the violator will be asked to leave the park and will be suspended a **MINIMUM** of 2 games (25% of the season)

2) A repeat offender will be suspended either the remainder of the season or longer (i.e., one calendar year).

3) Probationary coaching status.

4) Permanent expulsion from the Parks and Recreation program.

5) Coaches who are permanently expelled will no longer be eligible to Coach in the Reynoldsburg Parks and Recreation Department Youth Sports program. Further, the Parks and Recreation Department will apply for revocation of the Coaches NYSCA certification.

6) Coaches should be aware that officials and staff will be checking rosters to insure that the appropriate players are playing. Attempts to alter rosters will result in player reassignment and permanent coach expulsion and revocation of NYSCA certification.

10) Verbal or physical threat or verbal or physical assault towards any person in attendance at a Reynoldsburg Youth Sport function will result in a call to the Reynoldsburg Police Department and a report being filed.

6. **For the safety of all involved in this activity, participants will not be permitted to wear any sort of jewelry including earrings, rings, necklaces, hard hair barrettes or accessories. These items may not be taped. They must be removed. Any type of hair barrette that is metal, wooden or “hard” must be removed.** Parents should be discouraged from getting their child’s ears pierced until the season ends.

7. Each match for the 5th - 8th grade boys/girls leagues will be played using eleven players on each side (10 field players plus a goalie). Failure to have eight players by game time will result in a forfeit being declared by the referee. Teams are encouraged to be flexible and play even strength.

8. Each match for the 3rd & 4th grade boys/girls leagues will be played using 9 players on each side (8 field players plus a goalie). The 2nd grade leagues will be played with 8 on the field per team (7 field players plus a goalie). A minimum of 6 players must be present at match time for 2nd – 4th grade leagues. Less than 6 players will result in a forfeit. Teams are encouraged to be flexible and play even strength.

9. All teams must keep their activities to two per week (Monday – Friday) and one over the weekend (Saturday – Sunday), unless otherwise scheduled by the Parks and Recreation Department. Teams may have 1 game on Saturday and either 1 game and 1 practice or 2 practices during the week (Monday – Friday); or 2 games during the week with 1 practice over the weekend (Saturday – Sunday).

10. All players shall participate equally in matches and practices in order to increase the learning experience. All players shall participate in at least one half of the match, and more than the minimum amount of time is recommended for each match. Coaches shall make every effort to permit players to play all of the different positions throughout the season. Similarly, if a child misses practice, playing time can be reduced for the next game by as much as 25%. There is just as much obligation to attend practices because this is where skills and strategy are taught. The registration fee covers the expenses of the league. Playing time is earned by attending practices.

11. The playing time for each Division shall be:

* 2nd grade, and 3rd & 4th grade leagues - 4 quarters of 9 minutes with 2 minutes between quarters and 5 minutes between halves.

* 5th - 8th grade leagues - 4 quarters of 11 minutes with 2 minutes between quarters and 5 minutes between halves.

*Please note: playing time and half-time may be reduced if games are behind or as daylight is reduced.

12. Slide tackling is not permitted in any of these leagues.

13. Teams will switch goals only at the beginning of the second half.

14. Players who start the quarter should try to remain in the game for the entire quarter unless they are injured and must be replaced by rule. This insures that all of the players will play their minimum amount of playing time for each game. If a player needs a breather, a substitution will be allowed.

15. MERCY RULE - During a game, any team losing by a margin of 5 goals will be permitted to place one additional player on the field. Should this margin become less, the additional player must come off.

16. Parents/spectators are to be seated on the opposite side of the field from the players/coaches.

Activity Status Hotline: 614-322-6834

Remember!!!

Reynoldsburg Recreational Youth Sports Programs are P.O.S.I.T.I.V.E.

Participation Opportunities Social Interaction

Increased Skill Development Teamwork

Improved Fitness Volunteers Encouragement