



# Recreational

# League By-Laws

Updated September 03, 2013

**Recreational League Manager (RLM)** – Shall oversee the formation and conduct of Club in all things relating to the smooth operating of recreational league activates in accordance with the wider rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors.

### **1.0 Appointment of Recreational Volunteers -**

- 1.1 - The RLM shall, with the approval of the Board of Directors, appoint such persons as necessary to carry out the responsibilities of his/her office. These appointments include all age group league coordinators in U6, U8, U10, U12 and U14. The referee coordinator, the coach's development coordinator their local summer camp coordinator also report and serve at the appointment of this manager.
- 1.2 - The RLM shall have responsibility and authority to enforce the *Code of Conduct for Coaches & Volunteers* for any Recreational Volunteer, which may include the removal of any volunteer, coach or club member who is detracting from the overall mission of the soccer program. Such enforcement should be immediately reported to the Goodrich Board of Directors. The RLM will also have the responsibility to see that the duties of that removed person are fulfilled in their absence until they appoint someone else to take over that role.

### **2.0 Creation of Recreational rules of play, fields and equipment -**

- 2.1 - The RLM shall lead the development of specific rules and guidelines that are local details or exceptions to established rule sets that the executive board has directed the recreational club to follow in ARTICLE X - Playing Rules of the Recreational League.
- 2.2 - The Recreational League Rules of Play should describe how soccer is played in the club at each age group level and keep these rules documented and available for the club members to readily examine. The size of the fields, balls, and goals, length of games segments, number of players, types of tackling allowed, sides that the parents sit on, amount of clearance from the sidelines during games, use of corner flags and the allowance of players to temporarily play on other teams when there is a need to fill in for shortages including the details about players from travel teams "visiting" recreational teams or not on occasion as has occurred in the past. These and other often debated details should be clearly spelled out for each recreational league in the club.
- 2.3 – The RLM has the duty of helping the club understand what has been agreed upon and seek to help the coaches, coordinators and other club leadership reach agreement regarding proposed changes and keep the club functioning while still having the final management authority over how recreational soccer is conducted in Goodrich. These rules should be made firm in August of each year before the start of the fall season and changes clearly communicated to all of the club members in advance of any events they affect. The RLM should be open to feed back from the parents, players and coaches as to problems and opportunities to improve the operation of the club through out the year and year to year as the skill levels of the coaches and players evolve over time.
- 2.4 – The board of directors shall publish and enforce the Goodrich Soccer Club's Parent Code of Conduct.
- 2.5 – All necessary equipment will be supplied by the club to the coach. No purchases may be made

without\*\* prior approval of the RLM and Board of Directors.

### **3.0 Establishment of schedule of seasons and target dates for information flow -**

- 3.1 - The RLM will define the calendar of the start and end of the recreational club seasons with the agreement of the operating club leadership and recognizing the schedule conflicts that need to be avoided with the others uses of the fields sites such as school / church events.
- 3.2 - The RLM shall work closely with their appointed league coordinators to provide timely information regarding the field and referee scheduling so that the seasons operation can be managed smoothly.
- 3.3 - The RLM shall conduct a preseason meeting with their appointed league coordinators to cascade information about the operation of the league and also see that those coordinators communicate these items to the coaches.

### **4.0 Risk Management -**

- 4.1 - All coaches and managers must be at least eighteen (18) years of age, and must Register and be risk management certified by the MSYSA Risk Management program. This must be completed for each coach / volunteers before they can be assigned to a team at the beginning of the season. The club will pay the fees for this certification.
- 4.2 - If the RLM cannot comply with expectations of the MYSA Risk Management policy due to lack of cooperation from coaches or coordinators, or any other reason or roadblock then those issues must be brought to the attention of the operating board president for resolution and if not resolved quickly then moved on up to the executive board of directors. It is expected that no volunteers can “coach” in any form more than 1 practice in a season without having a risk management card. This will permit the occasional parent who covers for the situation where there is a late or absent coach.

### **5.0 Overseeing creation, balance and composition of teams -**

- 5.1 - The RLM shall oversee that each recreational league coordinator team assignments are generally fair and must approve the fall and spring team roster designations created by each recreational league coordinator in advance of the start of the season. It is understood that the creation of fair teams is a goal, but it is not possible to balance them perfectly to account for the wide distribution of coaching skill and individual player attendance and the players own continuous development.
- 5.2 - The RLM must approve exceptions where a player who is outside the age group desires to play in a particular league either because they are too young or too old.
- 5.3 - The RLM shall work closely with the Travel League manager regarding transfers of players out of recreational league play and into travel to be aware of the effects on team balance.
- 5.4 – Only registered recreational league players may participate in recreational league games. No coach shall knowingly allow a non-registered player to participate in a league game as they are not covered by the league insurance and it takes game playtime away from the registered players. Players may be registered on a travel league team in addition to a recreational league team.

## **6.0 Recreational League Coordinator –**

- 6.1** - U6 / U8 / U10 / U12 / U14 Recreation league coordinators shall report to the Recreational League Manager (RLM), attend meetings called by them or send a delegate coach from their league to attend in their place.
- 6.2** - This league coordinator shall abide by the decisions of the RLM regarding overall season scheduling, rules of the game, assignments of fields for practice, scrimmage and games, and also the layout and use of the clubs equipment.
- 6.3** - This coordinator determines who shall serve as volunteer coaches for each teams in their league for the current fall / spring season. He / She can remove a coach from a volunteer position, with approval of the RLM, if they feel they are not acting in the best interest of the league. They must see that the duties of this removed coach are carried out to keep the team running until they find a suitable replacement for that coach.
- 6.4** - This coordinator shall provide the fields manager and recreational referee coordinator with the information, including game schedule, times, and locations needed before the start of each season to allow them to plan for the needed fields and referees on the time schedule determined by the RLM.
- 6.5** - This coordinator shall collaborate with the Manager of club support volunteers, fund raising manager, communication manager to see that the coaches and parents can work smoothly with their actions.
- 6.6** – Coordinators shall post all schedules and rosters (player first name only) on the Goodrich Soccer Club website, and work with the RLM and Communications Manager to ensure accuracy of posted information.

## **7.0 Recreational League Coaches –**

- 7.1 - All coaches are appointed by the Recreational League Coordinator, and approved by the Recreational League Manager (RLM). Coaches agree to coach their teams for the fall and spring seasons. Coaches may not change teams or players unless required to do so by the Recreational League Coordinator.
- 7.2 – Coaches will have teams assigned by their respective Recreational League Coordinator.
- 7.3 - All coaches should obtain, and be familiar with the FIFA Laws of the Game, and the Recreational League Rules of Play for their division.
- 7.4 - All coaches should prepare and organize age-appropriate practice plans, and attend all team practices and games. Practice location and times are to be determined with the Recreational League Coordinator.
- 7.5 - All coaches are required to promote sportsmanship and fair play. All effort will be made to ensure roughly equal playing time for players regardless of skill level.
- 7.6 - All coaches are required to provide player evaluations for their team members at the conclusion of the spring season and deliver those to the RLM for use in forming teams with the league coordinator for the next season. The player evaluation format will be provided and maintained by the RLM.
- 7.7 - Coaches, their assistants and team parents must adhere to the Goodrich Soccer Club's *Code of Conduct for Coaches and Volunteers*.
- 7.8 – Coaches are encouraged to provide feedback, comments, and questions to their Recreational League Coordinator, or the Recreational League Manager, and executive board members
- 7.9 – All coaches and assistant coaches must complete the concussion training required by Michigan state law. MSYSA has taken a firm stance on youth participant concussions. All MSYSA member leagues should be aware of the symptoms and signs of a concussion as well as preventive measures and return to play procedures. All MSYSA member leagues/clubs must be in compliance with Michigan Public Acts 342 and 343 of 2012. All Youth coaches must also complete an online concussion training program and retain proof they have done so.