

East Tennessee Youth Soccer League 2011/2012 Season Handbook

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July 10, 2010

This handbook provides you with the policies and guidelines to follow in the operation of your team(s), please take time to read through the entire handbook and make yourself familiar with its contents.

League Regulations

Membership

The East Tennessee Youth Soccer League is opened to all teams U9 to U19 boys and girls.

Divisions

The ETYSL is divided into age divisions (U9, U10, U11...U19 boys and girls). ETYSL reserves the right to change any division for purposes of scheduling and standings. This also includes the right of ETYSL to move a team into different division, combine age divisions, or add additional divisions.

Compliance Assessment

Following each season, the League Commissioner shall review the compliance record of each team. The commissioner may find that a team has not complied with standards of the league, has not paid fees, referees, or fines and recommend corrective actions. In extreme cases of repeated non-compliance the Commissioner may recommend the termination of the team or club in question.

League Structure

Playing Rules

All games shall be played according to the rules and regulations recognized and set by FIFA / U.S. Soccer (USSF) and Tennessee Soccer, except for those exceptions noted below.

Age Bracket	Number of Players	Roster Size
U9 & U10	6 v 6	12
U11 & U12	8 v 8	14
U13 thru U19	11 v 11	18

Ball Size: Age groups up to and including U12 shall use a size 4 ball.

All age groups U-13 and older shall use a size 5 ball.

Match Duration.

U9 and U10 games will consist of two 25-minute halves; The 6v6 format will be played with the offside law.

U11 and U12 games will consist of two 30- minute halves;

U13 and U14 games will consist of two 35 -minute halves;

U15 and U16 games will consist of two 40 -minute halves; minute halves;

High School Division, U17, U18, and U16 games will consist of two 45 -minute halves;

Venue Requirements

Each team is required to have a home field to play their scheduled home games. The field must be properly marked and have goals (anchored), nets, corner flags, and provide match officials. Penalties are as follows:

If the field markings are not according to standard FIFA regulations there is a \$10 fine. No Corner flags, nets and goal posts (must be anchored) there is a \$10 fine.

Team Post-Game Responsibilities

Both teams are responsible for mailing the Game Score Sheet to the league Bob Bratta 11509 Gates Mill Drive, Knoxville TN 37934 within 3 days of a game's conclusion. The formed can also be emailed if the signed original can be scanned. The email must have signatures on it.

Game Score sheet

This is the official statistical sheet for the game, which lists the teams, scoring summary and official statistics, including a list of the game's cautions and send-offs. At the game's conclusion, the coach must initial the score sheet while the referee must verify the cautions, send-offs and goals/assists by also signing the score sheet. This form can be found in the Forms section of this handbook or on the league web site.

League Schedule

The Playing Season

The season, will be designated by the ETYSL, the dates will be provided on the league application. The league schedule is the ultimate responsibility of the League Commissioner. The official league schedule is posted on the ETYSL web site <http://webpages.charter.net/bratta>.

End of the Season Tournament

The scores from games will be posted and a league champion will be decided either by league play or by an end of the season tournament. The league commissioner will decide if a tournament is feasible and a club is willing to host the event. If a tournament takes place only the top four seeded teams will play in the tournament.

The format for the tournament will be:

semifinal game 1: seed1 vs. seed4 games ending will go directly to a FIFA kicks

semifinal game 2: seed2 vs. seed3 games ending will go directly to a FIFA kicks

The championship game will be the winner of game 1 vs. winner of game 2. Games ending in a tie will have a sudden death period followed by FIFA kicks.

Scheduling Changes

All schedule changes after the games have been scheduled must be mutually agreed upon by both teams. For all scheduling change a "Game Change Form" must be completed. It can be found on the league web site at <http://webpages.charter.net/bratta> or in the Forms section of this handbook.

League Standings

Official standings of teams will be posted on the league web site. League standings include keeping track of wins, losses, ties; goals scored for, goals scored against and total league points.

Point System

3 points for a win

1 point for a tie

0 points for a loss

-1 point for forfeit

A forfeit will result in a 1-0 win to the team not at fault

Breaking Ties in the League Standings -- The breaking of ties in the final standings, playoffs and finals is accomplished by applying the following criteria, in order of importance:

1. Head-to-head
2. Goal difference in League games (max 3 goals per game).
3. Goals scored in League games (max 3 goals per game).
4. Fewest goals allowed in all games.
5. Most shutouts (forfeits do not count).
6. By decision of the league commissioner

Incomplete Games

In the event that a game cannot continued through full regulation play the game will count if one-half of the game was completed. If there is no result and the match is suspended prior to the expiration of one-half due to inclement weather or extenuating circumstances, it will be rescheduled at a date and time mutually agreed to by both teams. Once a match has begun the Referee has the final decision on postponement due to weather or field conditions.

Game Delays and Postponements

In case the game delays or postponement due to inclement weather or field closures; the home team shall communicate delay or postponement with the visiting teams and submit a "Game Change Form" found on the league web site or at the end of this handbook with the league commissioner.

Incomplete Game / Standings -- If a game is delayed due to inclement weather or some other extenuating circumstance, and one-half of a game has been completed, the game will be considered complete.

Rescheduling a Postponed Game -- Any postponed game must be rescheduled within a reasonable time frame. If a match is not rescheduled before the end of the season the league commissioner will make a decision as to determine league standings and league compliance.

Rescheduling Considerations – The League Commissioner shall have the authority to review all the facts, (including fault on the part of either team, unavoidable conditions, expense for both teams, and requests by a team to take a particular action in the best interests of ETYSL and its teams) in determining whether and when a game shall be rescheduled, who should bear the financial burden as a result of cancellation or rescheduling, whether the game should be forfeited or cancelled permanently, and whether other fines should be levied. The integrity of the league and the home team schedule shall be given considerable weight in the resolution of these matters.

Written Explanation of Postponement -- Whenever a game is postponed or canceled, the league must receive a notice of postponement or cancellation.

Minimum Standards

Compliance with Minimum Standards

Teams are required to comply with the defined Minimum Standards. The Commissioner shall have the power to penalize, individual team members for non-compliance of minimum standards, with penalties consisting of warnings, fines, or permanent suspension from league activities. The league regularly monitors compliance. In addition, Teams are encouraged to report situations to the league which, on the surface, appear to be in non-compliance with Minimum Standards. Reporting non-compliance on the part of other Clubs should not be viewed as a negative but rather as a positive attempt to maintain consistent league-wide standards that ensure professionalism and fairness, both on and off the field. While all teams are required to adhere to Minimum Standards, some teams, because of extenuating circumstances, may have been given exemptions, approved in advance, to some Minimum Standards.

No-show / Forfeit / Cancellation / Rescheduled Games

A no-show occurs when a team willfully does not show up at a game and there has been no league approved written agreement for a change of the scheduled game. Penalties for no-show/forfeit/cancellation/rescheduled games are as follows: 1) referee fees to be paid by the responsible team (only for no show and games cancelled or rescheduled less than 7 days before game day). Plus 2) If a team, FOR ANY REASON, cancels, reschedules, forfeits, etc a game and does not play the game on the scheduled date and time; the team at fault will be fined in the amount of \$10.00 for first offense \$20.00 for the second offense and \$50.00 for each subsequent event. The team responsible for the no show/forfeit/cancellation/rescheduled game will be required to pay the fine. If the home team fails to notify the referee assignor that a game will not be played at its scheduled date and time the home team will pay the fine as well as the referee fees. Fines must be paid within seven (7) days. A forfeit will result in a 1-0 win to the team not at fault. A team unable to attend a scheduled game because of an accident, weather or Act of God should immediately notify the opponent and the league commissioner. Each situation will be reviewed by the league commissioner, which shall render a decision.

Non-Performance by the Home Team

In the event the visiting team is present at the venue and able to perform and the home team has not properly marked the field there is a \$10.00 fine. If any one of the following occurs: there are no nets, no corner flags or the goals are not properly anchored then the home team will be fined \$10.00.

Non-Performance by Both Teams

In the event, neither team is prepared to commence the playing of a game at the scheduled kickoff time. Or in the event a game is not played to a conclusion on that day or can not be rescheduled, ETYSL may declare the game to have been forfeited by both teams with neither team receiving any points for the game, and may impose further penalties on the teams.

Withdrawal of a Team

In the event a team withdraws from the league without finishing its scheduled games, it shall forfeit its membership and the following regulations will take effect: If at least half of the full schedule of games has been played, all resulting scores will stand and a forfeit will be awarded in their remaining games. If less than one-half of the full schedule of games has been played, these completed games will be deleted from the standings. The team will be fined \$50.00.

Liability

League teams assume all risks, responsibilities and liabilities for loss, damage, injury or death while using property and facilities during games in leagues affiliated with ETYSL, whether such loss, damage, injury or death be occasioned by the team or by the league, its officers, agents, or otherwise.

Fines

Fines will be assessed for violation of league rules, game changes, and any minimum standard requirements. Fines must be paid within 7 days of the violation. A table of fines is published at the end of this handbook.

Team Rosters & Player Eligibility**Player Cards**

All players and coaches must present their Player Card to the referee prior to the match. If the individual's picture is not on the player card and the card is not laminated, the individual will not be eligible for the match.

All players must be TSSA or Club soccer registered or they may be registered with another state. Player Cards and a copy of the Roster are required for each league game. Each player's number must be on the roster. Guest players are only permitted to substitute for an absent team member, a maximum of 3 guest players are allowed per game. In the event a team's roster contains less than the number of players for a full side, they will be allowed to use guest players to add to their roster to bring the total number of player up to one more than a full side, still only a maximum of three guest players.

Personnel Allowed on Bench

A maximum of three (3) non-playing personnel are allowed on each team bench. These persons can either be coaches, medical staff, or a maximum of one (1) person from team management.

Game Officials

Match Officials

Match Officials must be currently registered through USSF and assigned by the home team's designated certified referee assignor. The match officials shall consist of the Referee, and Assistant Referees (AR1, AR2).

Payments of Match Officials

The each team will split the referee's fees and pay the officials prior to the start of the game. Teams are required to split the referee fees in both league and tournament games. The referee fees for each game are listed below. If for any reason the home team has agreed to pay a referee or referees more than the rate listed below than the home team shall pay the difference. The visiting team will only pay only ½ the rate listed below. If a game has teams from different age groups playing together, the referee fees will be paid at the oldest age group rate.

Age	Referee	Assistant Referee
U9, U10	\$24.00	\$18.00
U11, U12	\$26.00	\$20.00
U13, U14	\$28.00	\$22.00
U15, U16,	\$30.00	\$24.00
U17, U18, U19	\$34.00	\$28.00

Home Team Requirements for Referees

It is the home team's responsibility to have referees assigned to their home games. They must use a referee assignor to provide referees. In the event a game is canceled or rescheduled it is the home team's responsibility to inform the referee assignor that the referees will no longer be needed. If the home fails to notify the assignor that the game will not be played as scheduled, home team will be responsible to pay the referees. All teams are required to provide a comfortable, safe, welcoming environment for officials, with the basic necessities for an athletic event. Regarding referees, teams should take note of the following:

At no time should anyone imply -- in any way at all -- criticism of the game officials or refereeing in general or make comments that criticize the visiting team. Clubs who fail to heed the above guideline will be subject to disciplinary action by the league.

Disciplinary Regulations

League Discipline

A. RULES OF CONDUCT

1. Rules of conduct and discipline shall as a minimum comply with all USSF procedures and policies.
2. The ETYSL has the authority to formulate conduct and discipline that is stricter than that of USSF.
3. Every individual that participates in any manner in events under the jurisdiction of ETYSL is subject to the policies and procedures of this policy. Such persons include the following:
 - a. Players, including all substitutes
 - b. Teams, including both traveling and non-traveling teams
 - c. Coaches, including assistant coaches and team managers
 - d. Spectators, including parents and other family members
 - e. Referees, including assistant referees, instructors, assignors and assessors

B. DEFINITIONS

1. Suspension shall be defined as no participation in the area(s) in which an individual is suspended.
2. Suspension of a team shall be defined as suspension from any competition for any team having seven or more players who were members of an offending team for the time period specified.
3. Dissent shall be defined as anything that demonstrates continuous disagreement with game officials either by action or word.

4. Threats shall be defined as remarks, verbal statements, gestures, or physical act not resulting in bodily contact that carry the implied threat of physical harm against another individual or their personal property.
5. Referee abuse shall be defined as the use of foul and abusive language toward a referee, spewing any beverage on the referee or their personal property, or verbally threatening a referee.
6. Assault is an intentional act of physical violence. Assault includes, but is not limited to, the following acts upon another individual:
 - a. Hitting
 - b. Kicking
 - c. Punching
 - d. Choking
 - e. Spitting at or on
 - f. Grabbing
 - g. Poking
 - h. Deliberate bodily running into
 - i. The act of kicking or throwing an object at
 - j. Damaging personal property
7. Next scheduled game is defined as the next game on the teams regular schedule at the time of the incident.

C. TWELVE POINT SYSTEM FOR DIVISION 1-3 YOUTH PLAYERS

1. A twelve point system shall be in effect for all Division 1-3 youth players effective September 1, 2000.
2. Players shall be given one point for each yellow card received.
3. Players shall be given two points for each red card received.
4. If a player received two yellow cards that result in a red card in a match the player will receive two total points for that match.
5. Point totals accumulate for the seasonal year, September 1 to August 31 of the following year.
6. Point totals include all cards received from both indoor and outdoor participation.
7. Players that accumulate five points must sit out their next scheduled game.
8. Players that receive a red card must sit out the remainder of that game.
9. If a player receives a red card due of their second cautionable offense or due to a sending-off offense, as defined in the *Laws of the Game*, of the match the player shall sit out the next scheduled game. If in receiving the red card the player has accumulated five or more points, the player shall sit out their two next scheduled games (one game for receiving the red card and one game for accumulating five or more points).
10. If a player receives a red card due to a sending-off offense, as defined in the *Laws of the Game*, the player shall sit out the next scheduled game. If in receiving the red card the player has accumulated nine or more points, the player shall sit out three scheduled games, (one game for receiving the red card and two game for accumulating nine or more points).
11. A player that accumulates twelve points is suspended for the remainder of the seasonal year.
12. Players that are found guilty of assault shall receive a minimum of a one-year suspension from the date of the incident.
13. A coach that knowingly plays an ineligible player shall receive a minimum of a one-year suspension from the date of the incident or from the date it is determined that the coach is found guilty of violating this Policy.

Forms

East Tennessee Youth Soccer League League Game Change Form

Please fill out the following information and e-mail or mail to the Bob Bratta 11509 Gates Mill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37934 or bratta@chartertn.net.

Age Group:
Home Team:
Away Team:
Original Date:
Original Time:
Original Venue:
New Date:
New Time:
New Venue:

Reason for the Game Change:

- I have attached the opposing club's agreement/correspondence to change the game.
- If this game was postponed for any other reason than inclement weather or field closure the team responsible for the postponement needs to send in appropriate fine found in the ETYSL Handbook. The handbook can be found on the league web site at <http://webpages.charter.net/bratta>.

This request has been made by:

Name:
Team:
Title:

East Tennessee Youth Soccer League

Game Score Sheet

Send a completed (must be filled out by the referee and signed by both coaches and mailed by both teams) game score sheet to Bob Bratta 11509 Gates Mill Drive Knoxville, TN 37934. A scanned copy can be emailed to Bratta@chartertn.net.

Submitted by manager: _____ Team: _____ Age Group U_____

Home Team	Score	Visiting Team	Score
	<input style="width: 40px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>		<input style="width: 40px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>

Home Team: _____ Visiting Team: _____

Score _____ Score _____

Match Location: _____ Match Date: _____ Match Time: _____

CAUTIONED/EJECTED PLAYERS

Player: _____	Team _____	Offense _____
Player: _____	Team _____	Offense _____
Player: _____	Team _____	Offense _____
Player: _____	Team _____	Offense _____

Continue on reverse if needed

Was the field properly marked? _____ Were the goals anchored, nets, and flags? _____

Confirmation

Home Coach: _____ Visiting Coach: _____

Printed Name Printed Name

Home Coach: _____ Visiting Coach: _____

Signed Name Signed Name

Center Referee: _____ Assistant Referee 1: _____ Assistant Referee 2: _____

Printed Name Printed Name Printed Name

Center Referee: _____ Assistant Referee 1: _____ Assistant Referee 2: _____

Signed Name Signed Name Signed Name

ETYSL Minimum Standards Table of Fines

MINIMUM STANDARD (Section and Definition)	\$ FINE (Non-compliance)
FIELD and MARKINGS	
Field markings according to standard FIFA regulations.	\$10 per violation
Corner flags, nets and goal posts anchored.	\$10 per violation
GAME DAY REQUIREMENTS	
HOME TEAM Responsibilities	
SCORESHEET. Score sheet must be legible and have a complete scoring summary filled out and signed by referee. Each team must send a copy to league commissioner by each team within 3 days.	\$10 first violation, \$15 each additional violation
VISITOR TEAM Responsibilities	
SCORESHEET. Score sheet must be legible and have a complete scoring summary filled out and signed by referee. Each team must send a copy to league commissioner by each team within 3 days.	\$10 first violation, \$15 each additional violation
TEAM OPERATIONS	
A team withdraws from the league.	One Time Fine \$50
PLAYERS	
Ineligible player plays in a game– a player on the Roster that is not eligible for the Game Day. An ineligible player shall include, but not be limited to, roster limitations or suspensions.	\$50
Illegal player – a player who does not appear on the Roster of players.	\$50
OTHER FINABLE OFFENSES	
If FOR ANY REASON games not played on the scheduled date and time the responsible team shall pay the fine. The home team must notify the referee assignor that the referees will no longer be needed. If the home team fails to notify the referee assignor than the home team is responsible for the referee fees.	Referee Fees for No-show / Forfeit / Cancellation / Rescheduled games 7 days prior to game day. Plus \$10 first violation, \$20 second violation and \$50 each additional violation.