A message from Roanoke County Parks, Recreation and Tourism:
Beginning in 2016, Roanoke County's youth soccer program began transitioning to the recommendations of US Soccer to allow kids to be more directly involved in the action of the game. It is the goal of these changes to allow for more enjoyment in playing, more contact with the ball, more tactical decisions made, and more physical movement which improves the player's physical fitness.

2018 Local League Soccer Rules

All Roanoke County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Youth Soccer Games will play in accordance with the FIFA rules except for the local league rules listed below. It is recommended that each coach download a rule book from FIFA at www.fifa.com.

Game Schedules can be found by visiting www.roanokecountyparks.com/athletics. Game reschedule notifications will be done via email to the head coach or his designee. It is the coach's responsibility to check their email as well as the website for up to date information.

Age – Program available to boys and girls born between 10/1/2000 and 9/30/2012

Divisions	**Players Born In**	
Under 8 Co-Ed	2011 or 2012*	*Players must be born prior to 9/30/2012
Under 10 Boys and Girls	2009 or 2010	to ensure a minimum age of 6
Under 12 Boys and Girls	2007 or 2008	
Under 14 Boys and Girls	2005 or 2006	
Under 17 Boys and Girls	2002, 2003, or 2004	
Under 19 Boys and Girls	2000* or 2001	*Players must be born after 9/30/2000 to ensure a maximum age of 18

1. **Team Formation Regulations**
   - 1.1. Teams should be formed using a fair and equitable draft procedure.
   - 1.2. Teams must feature at least 2 subs and it is recommended they carry more as Roanoke County Parks and Recreation does not reschedule games due to the inability to field a team. Any deviation of this rule requires Departmental approval.
   - 1.3. Team rosters must be filed with the Youth Athletic Department by 5:00 p.m. a week prior to practice and must show name, address, telephone number, birthday, league age and the school each player attends.
   - 1.4. Players born in the last year of an age division may play up in the next division if the coordinator believes the player has the skills to compete in the upper age group. The moving up of players is only for those rare cases in which the player would not benefit by staying in his normal age group because of their exceptional skill.
   - 1.5. Players who play up must have parental approval and have a letter on file with Roanoke County stating the acceptance of the reclassification. Moving up for convenience or to have enough players to form a team is not allowed.
   - 1.6. If a player has been moved up in an age division, he or she is not eligible to return to the lower division during the season.
   - 1.7. Recreation Clubs may choose to disallow the playing up of players as they see fit.
   - 1.8. Players on each team's rosters must meet the eligibility guidelines set forth by the Clubs hosting Recreation Department. Each Recreation Club is responsible for verifying the information on their clubs

rosters. If players are found playing on an incorrect team based on the eligibility guidelines set forth by the Clubs hosting Recreation Department, the player will be removed from the team. Please note that the team may be required to forfeit the games played with an ineligible player if the Clubs hosting Recreation Department determines that the Club, Coach or Player intentionally attempted to fraud the program.

1.9. No players can be added after the first regular season game unless permission is granted by the Clubs hosting Department.

2. Equipment Regulations

2.1. Uniforms must include matching jerseys with a number on the back, matching shorts and matching socks. Sweat pants may be worn if the matching shorts are worn over the sweat pants.

2.2. Shin guards must be worn for all practices and games. Shin guards must be high enough to give adequate amount of protection. If the referee deems shin guards inadequate that player will not be allowed to play.

2.3. The home coach is responsible for making sure goals are secured and netted properly. No game will begin until goals are safely secured.

2.4. Ball Sizes will be as follows by division

U8 Division	Size 3
U10 Division	Size 4
U12 Division	Size 4
U14 Division	Size 5
U17 Division	Size 5
U19 Division	Size 5

3. Practice Regulations

3.1. In an effort of fairness, Recreation Clubs are responsible for ensuring that all teams within its organization follow the practice guidelines set below. Failure to meet any of guidelines set below will result in the Head Coaches suspension from 1 (first offense) or 2 (second offense) games and the loss of one (first offense) or two (second offense) practice privileges the following week. No warnings will be given.

3.2. A practice schedule, containing the date, time and place should be communicated to the team's Recreation Club before a practice is permitted to be held. Any deviation from this schedule should also be notified to the Recreation Club.

3.3. Each team is permitted the following maximum amount of practice per week:

- 3.3.1. 4 times a week when **school is not** in session.
- 3.3.2. 3 times a week when **school is in** session and a team **does not** have a scheduled game.
- 3.3.3. 2 times a week when **school is in** session and a team **does have** a scheduled game.

3.4. Teams may not practice until August 1st

3.5. Teams may not practice more than once in a 24-hour period.

3.6. Teams may not practice when the temperature is 100* or more.

3.7. Scrimmage games lined up by Coaches count as a practice outing.

3.8. Only screened youth coaches a permitted to lead games, practices or scrimmages.

3.9. Coaches are required to wear their ID badge at all team practices and games.

4. Game Regulations

4.1. Field Dimensions and Goal Sizes

4.1.1. Division	Field Size	Goal Size	Format
U8 Division	30 x 20 yards	4 x 6'	4 v 4
U10 Division	47 x 30 yards	6 x 18'	7 v 7
U12 Division	75 x 47 yards	6 x 18'	9 v 9
U14 Division	120 x 75 yards*	8 x 24'	11 v 11
U17 Division	120 x 75 yards *	8 x 24'	11 v 11
U19 Division	120 x 75 yards *	8 x 24'	9 v 9#

*Fields may be a minimum of 100 x 60 yards when limitations prevent regulation fields

Teams may elect to play traditional 11 v 11 should both teams have sufficient numbers

4.2. Pregame Information

4.2.1. No game is to start prior to the scheduled game time unless both coaches agree.

4.2.2. The home team is to provide a game ball.

4.2.3. Head coaches are responsible for the actions of his coaches, parents, and players.

4.2.4. Head coaches must submit numbered roster to head official prior to game.

4.2.5. Field Set-up for players and parents. Teams must be on one side of the field and parents and spectators must be on the opposite side of playing field from the teams.

4.3. All Play Rule

4.3.1. All teams are required to play the minimum playing times listed below. Teams which fail to abide by the below rules may be required to forfeit the game. In addition, the coach my face additional penalties including suspension from future games.

4.3.2. 8U Divisions

4.3.2.1. All Players are required to play a minimum of ¾ of the game

4.3.3. 10U Divisions

4.3.3.1. Teams with 9 or less players are required to play each player ¾ of the game

4.3.3.2. Teams with 10 or more players are required to play each player ½ of the game and have each player sit for ¼ of the game

4.3.4. 12U Divisions

4.3.4.1. Teams of 12 players or less will be required to play each player ¾ of the game.

4.3.4.2. Teams of 13 players or more will be required to play each player ½ of the game and have each player sit for ¼ of the game

4.3.5. 14U and Older Divisions

4.3.5.1. Teams of 14 players or less will be required to play each player ¾ of the game.

4.3.5.2. Teams of 15 players or more will be required to play each player ½ of the game and have each player sit for ¼ of the game

4.4. Game Clock

4.4.1. Length of games

U8 Division	Four 8-minute quarters
U10 Division	Four 10-minute quarters
U12 Division	Two 25-minute halves
U14 Division	Two 25-minute halves
U17 Division	Two 25-minute halves
U19 Division	Two 25 minute halves

4.4.2. Game Breaks

U8 Division	Four minutes between quarters
U10 Division	Four minutes between quarters
U12 Division	Eight minutes at half time
U14 Division	Eight minutes at half time
U17 Division	Eight minutes at half time
U19 Division	Eight minutes at half time

4.5. Substitutions

4.5.1. U12, U14, U17 and U19 divisions may substitute according to the USYSA rulebook.

4.5.2. U8 and U10 divisions may only substitute during breaks between quarters unless:

4.5.2.1. The player is injured

4.5.2.2. The player receives multiple fouls and is deemed out of control by officials or coaches

4.6. **Heading – U12 and under players cannot engage in heading the ball.** Violation of the rule will result is an Indirect kick if intentional and a drop ball if unintentional.

4.7. Goalies – No goalie will be used in U8 and under divisions.

4.8. Carded Fouls

4.8.1. If a player receives a Yellow Card for unsportsmanlike conduct, the player is required to sit for five minutes of the game clock if a legal substitute is available. A player's time out for a yellow card counts towards their play time requirement.

4.8.2. If a player receives a Red or Yellow/Red Card the player is required to sit out for the remainder of the game and based on the severity of the action, may face further disciplinary action based on their conduct.

4.8.3. If a coach is sent off, they are required to leave the game area and based on the severity of the action, may face further disciplinary action based on their conduct.

4.8.4. Coaches are required to report yellow and red cards to the department within 24 hours of game completion.

4.9. Overtime

4.9.1.1. Games which are tied at the end of regulation will be considered final.

4.10. Officials

4.10.1. Authority - Youth Sports Officials have the authority to remove any coach, player or spectator from Roanoke County property.

4.10.2. Lack of Game Officials –

4.10.2.1. If no Officials Crew is present, the game will be canceled and rescheduled. Teams may choose to use the time for scrimmage if they choose. No self-officiated games are permitted.

4.10.2.2. If a partial Officials Crew is present (more than half of regular crew) the game will be played as scheduled.

4.10.3. Question Callings – No questioning of judgment calls is permitted by any coach, player or spectator. If a rule interpretation is disagreed on, please call a time out to discuss the rule with the official.

4.11. Protests

4.11.1. Protests of FIFA rules are not permitted in accordance with FIFA Laws

4.11.2. Protests of Local League rules are not permitted. If rules are not being properly interpreted, please contact the Parks and Recreation Office as soon as possible.

4.11.3. Protests of player eligibility are permitted. Eligibility would include non-rostered players, age, residency or other factors which makes the player eligible when they should not be.

4.11.3.1. How to protest

4.11.3.1.1. Protest must be done during the game.

4.11.3.1.2. As soon as the player in question participates, call timeout and inform head official that you are protesting an opposing player due to ineligibility. Ask the official to notify the opposing coach. Please note that the game will continue as normal and the player is permitted to play.

4.11.3.1.3. Within 24 hours of game completion, an email must be submitted to the Athletics Division which should include game date, time, location, opponent, player protesting, and justification of protest (reason and knowledge why).

4.11.3.2. Protest Review

4.11.3.2.1. The Athletics Division will work with the appropriate recreation clubs to investigate and determine if the player is ineligible.

4.11.3.3. Protest Findings

4.11.3.3.1. If a team is found to be using an ineligible player, the team may be required to forfeit the games in which the player played.

4.11.3.3.2. If a team is found to knowingly using an ineligible player, the Head Coach may face additional punishments.

4.11.3.3.3. The decisions of the Athletics Division will be final. No appeals will be heard.

5. Inclement Weather -

5.1. Roanoke County's Cancellation Line, 540-387-6455 extension 6.

5.2. In the event adverse weather conditions develop while an activity is in progress and a representative from Roanoke County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism is not present, it is the responsibility of the league representative, coach, teacher, or the scheduled official to determine whether or not conditions that exist will endanger the safety of the participants and whether or not the activity will have a serious adverse effect on field conditions. If a league fails to cancel field use during inclement weather and such use causes extensive field damage, the league will be responsible for any repair costs.

5.3. Heat Policy – Games or practices will be canceled under the following conditions.

5.3.1. Actual Temperature 100* or above - All games and practices canceled.

5.3.2. Heat Index of 100* or above - All games canceled and practices restricted to no pads

5.4. Lightening Policy - If thunder is heard, be aware and keep a look out for lightning. If thunder lightning is seen, all players and spectators shall be moved to a sheltered area or to their cars. Wait at least **30** minutes from the last streak of lightning to resume play or practice.