

## BVAC Soccer Information

DIVISIONS	AGES	BALL SIZE	GAME TIMES	ON THE FIELD
Wolfpack	3-4 years	4	8 min. quarters	4 (3 to start)
Little Strikers	5 yrs-Kind.	4	8 min quarters	6 (4 to start)
Antkiller	1st-2nd grade	4	10 min. quarters	9 (7 to start)
Flashkicker	3rd-4th grade	4	24 min. halves	11 (9 to start)
Goalmaster	5th-6th grade	5	24 min. halves	11 (9 to start)
Junior Varsity	7th-11th grade	5	24 min. halves	9 (7 to start)

All registrations are online. Players must be registered and be paid in full before the first game. Players will NOT be placed on a team until full payment has been received. No new players will be added after the first game.

**Game time and pre-game:** Players and Coaches should be prepared to take the field at start time. All games begin with a prayer. Players will be checked in by the referees for proper attire and equipment.

**End lines and team sidelines:** No Coaches, Fans, or Parents are allowed on the endlines. You will be asked to move to your side of the field. Teams are assigned to opposite sides of the field. Sides are posted on the game schedule. Coaches, parents, and spectators please stay on the same side of field as their team. Coaches may not be on the playing field during the game, for LS, AK, FK, GM, JV. Wolfpack teams are allowed one coach on the field during games with restrictions. You may not touch the players or interfere with any plays they may be making. You do not have to enter the field if you do not wish.

**Weather cancellations and reschedules:** If a game is cancelled and less than half the game has been played it will be rescheduled. All other results will stand. No other games will be rescheduled unless rained out.

**Lightning:** The referees have access to lightning detectors in the concession, and will be making the decision to cancel the game. Leaving the field before the game has been officially cancelled will result in a forfeit.

**Rain outs:** Coaches only are given a rain out number, and are responsible for letting their team know if a game has been rained out. Parents and fans should check the website for rain out information (please check close to your game time as the message may change.)

**Practice cancellations:** Coaches will use the rain out number to check on field conditions for practices. Coaches are responsible for letting their team know if practices are cancelled.

**Player injury:** BVAC always puts the child's safety first. The referees may use their discretion on deciding when to stop play. They are not required to stop play immediately but may wait until the ball goes out of play. Once play is stopped, players on the field are asked to take a knee, while the referee assesses the situation. At this point the referee may allow the player's coach onto the field to assist the player. If there is a serious injury the player's parents may also be allowed to attend their child. The age of the players will be considered in each situation. No one from the opposing team (including coaches) may enter the field during this time.

**Player conduct:** 1 Yellow card- Player must leave the field, but may re-enter the game at the next substitution. 2 yellow cards in one game = a red card (player is suspended for the duration of the game and the next game). 4 yellow cards in one season = a red card (player is suspended for next game). 2 reds cards in one season = player is suspended for the rest of the season.

**Player Uniform:** BVAC uniforms-only the current official BVAC shirts for that season will be worn during the games. Players may not play in the game unless the correct shirt is worn. Players may report to the referee and join a game in progress, after obtaining the correct apparel. Each team is responsible for providing a goalie shirt. All goalies must be wearing the current BVAC shirt in addition to the goalie shirt. Goalie shirt must be a different color than team shirts. No player may add their name to the back of their shirt for of safety/insurance reasons. Players will be required to purchase a new shirt before participating in any games if their shirt needs to be replaced.

**Player equipment-**shin guards are required. Only cleats or shoes without a toe cleat are allowed. Do to insurance restrictions- no one will be allowed to play or practice on our fields in any kind to hard cast or brace with metal on it. Wrapping any brace or cast is not acceptable. Even if a doctor approves, our insurance will not. No Jewelry of any kind and no taping of jewelry permitted. No plastic or metal hair clips or beads (including bobby pins or beads in the hair). If a game must be stopped for equipment infractions a yellow card may be issued for delay of game.

**Games and playing time:** Teams will play 8 games during the season. Rain outs will be made up as quickly as possible. Only a regular season schedule will be played and all games will count in the standings. Each player should play half of every game attended.

**Awards:** All first place teams receive gold medals and all second place teams receive silver medals. Score will be kept in the Little Striker Division, however, all players will receive a gold medal. No score is kept in Wolfpack and players in that division will receive a gold medal. Team place shall be determined by: win-loss record. Both teams will receive medals if the results end in a draw.

**BVAC has a ZERO tolerance policy. There will be NO harassing of the officials, coaches, players or fans allowed.** Please allow your children to enjoy the game. No one is allowed to sell anything on BVAC or FLC grounds. NO SOLICITATIONS, NO SMOKING (vaping), NO PROFANITY, NO PETS, during all practices and games.

#### **IMPORTANT MODIFICATIONS FOR THE WOLFPACK DIVISION:**

- A smaller field TBA will be provided for this division.
- No penalty kicks will be taken for hand balls, only direct kicks .
- No goalies will be used.
- A coach will be allowed to be on their side of the field to help with the players – Coaching zones will be provided.
- No throw-ins will be taken. Only kick-ins. – If a ball goes out the side line, there will be an indirect kick from the spot at which it crossed the sideline
- No penalty kicks will be taken.
- There will be no off-sides in this division. 4 players on the field at a time.
- Substitutions will be held at restarts.
- Pushing and other physical fouls will be called.
- NO parents or coaches on the end lines.
- No score will be kept.

#### **NO OFF SIDES IN THE LITTLE STRIKERS DIVISION.**

**HEADERS:** Due to recent MSHSAA and FIFA safety guidelines, NO headers are allowed from 3 years up to 6th graders (all divisions except Junior Varsity). Headers are considered dangerous play and an indirect kick will be awarded to the opposing team. If the ball "hits" the player in his head - it will be the refs discretion if it was intentional. 7th grade players and up will be allowed to head the ball.

## Important Rules and Definitions for BVAC Soccer

All rules not specified should be taken from FIFA's Laws of the Game.

1. The game is started from the center spot within the center circle by means of a place kick,
  1. Before the ball is put in play all players must be on their half of the field.
  2. Players of the opposing team must be outside the center circle until the ball is touched.
  3. A goal can be scored directly from a kick-off.
  4. The player that kicks off cannot play the ball again until another player has touched the ball.
  5. The ball is put into play by means of a drop ball for any temporary suspension of play, except on kick off or free kick.
  6. Teams will use the same goal until half time- then they will switch goals and go the other direction.

The kick off is retaken for an infringement of 1, and 2, and an indirect free kick is awarded to the opposing team for an infringement of 4.

2. The markings on the soccer field are considered in play. The ball therefore is in play until it completely crosses the goal or touchlines either in the air or on the ground. The position of the player is not considered here.
3. In order to score a goal, the ball must completely cross the goal line between the goal posts and under crossbar.
4. The off side rule prevents a player or players from remaining close to the goal area where a goal could be scored from short range. If at the moment the ball is played, a player is nearer his/her opponents goal line than the ball is, he is off side unless:
  1. He/She is in his/her own half of the field.
  2. There are two of his/her opponents nearer to their goal line than he/she.
  3. The ball last touched an opponent or was last played by him/her.
  4. He/She received the ball directly from a goal kick, a corner kick, a throw-in, or by a drop ball by the referee.

**PENALTY:** An indirect free kick is taken by a player of the opposing team, at the spot of the infraction.

5. Free kicks are classified as direct (from which a goal can be scored) and indirect (from which a goal cannot be scored until touched by another player.)

**DIRECT FREE KICKS:** are awarded for major infractions of the rules and for personal misconduct.

Such as:

1. Offenses committed with hands and arm: handling the ball, holding, using hands and arms on an opponent in order to reach the ball, pushing or striking.
2. Offenses committed with the feet and legs, kicking, tripping, use of the knee, and jumping at an opponent.
3. Offenses committed with the body: charging from behind, charging violently, and charging an opponent who has both feet off the ground.
4. Offenses involving the goalkeeper/handling or charging the goalkeeper when he/she is inside the penalty area, handling of the ball by the goalie outside the penalty area, and when the goalie intentionally throws or strikes an opponent with the ball.

**INDIRECT FREE KICKS** are awarded for technical infractions of the rules and for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Such as:

1. When a player kicks the ball a second time before another has played it, as in a kick off, throw in, free kick, corner kick, and goal kick. When during a penalty kick, the ball is not kicked forward.
  2. When the goalie holds the ball more than 5 seconds before releasing it in the penalty box and thereby delays the game.
  3. Improper substitution and unsportsmanlike conduct from the sidelines after a warning.
  4. Unsportsmanlike conduct such as arguing with the referee. Dangerous play.
  5. Offenses concerned with an offside.
  6. Improper charging obstruction other than holding, interfering with the goalkeeper.
  7. When the ball is intentionally passed back to the goalkeeper from a friendly player and the goalie picks the ball up inside the box.
6. **CHARGING:** a method of unbalancing your opponent when he/she has possession, or is trying to gain possession of the ball. You must keep your arms close to your body as only your shoulder and upper arm may be used. Both players must have at least one foot on the ground. The charge cannot be violent and it cannot be made from behind, unless the obstruction is intentional.
7. A **PENALTY KICK** is awarded to the offended team for deliberate fouls committed by the defensive team in its own penalty area. The kick is taken from the penalty mark.
1. Only the player taking the kick and the opposing goalie may play the ball.
  2. All other players must be outside the penalty area, at least 10 yards from the penalty mark but within the field of play.
  3. The goalie must keep both feet on the ground (on the goal line) until the ball is kicked.
  4. The player must kick the ball forward and cannot play it a second time until another player has touched it.
- PENALTY FOR IMPROPER PENALTY KICK:**
5. The kick is retaken for an infringement of the rule by the defending team if a goal has not resulted.
  6. The kick is retaken for an infringement of the rule by the attacking team other than player kicking, if the goal is scored.
  7. An indirect free kick is taken by the opposing team for an infringement by the player kicking, if the attempt is unsuccessful. (i.e.: the ball hits goal post and the kicker plays the ball before anyone else touches it).
  8. If the player kicks the ball and the goalie blocks it the player may score.
8. A **GOAL KICK** is awarded when the ball is last touched by an offensive player and passes over the goal line without resulting in a goal. The kick is made by a defender (usually the goalie) from a point within the side of the goal nearest to where the ball crossed the line.
1. The ball must be kicked from the ground so that it travels forward beyond the penalty area, before being touched by either team.
  2. The kicker cannot play the ball a second time until touched by another player.
  3. **FLASHKICKER ONLY:** Goal kicks may be taken from the top of the box.
- PENALTY FOR IMPROPER GOAL KICK:**
1. An indirect free kick is taken by a player of the opposing team.
  2. In all age divisions: If the goalie kicks the ball and it does not clear the box, they will be able to kick it again until it clears the penalty box line.
9. A **CORNER KICK** is awarded when the ball is last touched by a defensive player and passes over the goal line without resulting in a goal. The kick is made by an opposing team member from within the quarter circle at the nearest corner.

1. A goal may be scored directly from such a kick.
2. Members of the opposing team must remain at least 10 yards away from the ball until it travels 27 inches.
3. The kicker cannot play the ball a second time until touched by another player.

**PENALTY FOR IMPROPER CORNER KICK:**

1. A player of the opposing team takes an indirect free kick.
10. A **THROW IN** is awarded when a ball passes completely over a touchline, either on the ground or in the air. The ball is thrown from the spot where it crossed the touchline.
1. The throw in is taken by a player of the team opposite to that of the player who last touched the ball.
  2. The thrower must face the field of play and must have part of each foot either on the touchline or ground outside when delivering the ball.
  3. The thrower must use both hands and must deliver the ball from over head.
  4. The ball may be thrown in any direction.
  5. The thrower may not play the ball a second time until touched by another player.
  6. A goal cannot be scored directly from a throw in.

**PENALTY FOR IMPROPER THROW IN:**

7. The throw in is retaken by a player of the opposite team for violation of rule 10.2. And 10.3, and an indirect free kick are taken by the opposite team for violation of rule 10.5.
11. **UNWRITTEN RULES:** Courtesy and sportsmanship are very much a part of soccer. No one enjoys playing a game with a hothead or a complainer. This certainly does not mean that we should not play aggressively, but it does mean that we have an opportunity to develop emotional control.
1. Play your best and play to win, but play for fun.
  2. Keep the game moving.
  3. Be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
  4. Congratulate your opponent and extend thanks to the officials after the game whether you win or lose.