



HAPPY FEET Soccer Rules & Modifications

Mission:

The instructional division is to learn the game of soccer and have **FUN!**

- This rule supersedes all others.

We are here to make these kids first experience with soccer an enjoyable one.

- This league is for the KIDS ... not the coaches or parents!
- A game is 4 quarters of soccer with referees
- There will be no scores or standings kept for this division.
- It's all about the FUN!

Communication:

Parents want tons of communication! You can do it or you can have a team parent do it.

- The WCSC website offers email/discussion
- Other apps are: Band, TeamStuff, GroupMe, Snap and others
 - I prefer email and text (no extra log in)

Player Equipment:

- All players must wear shin guards.
- Soccer cleats are recommended but not required at this level. Tennis shoes are fine
 - Baseball cleats are not permitted due to the toe cleat.
- No player will be allowed to wear jewelry and/or a hard cast.
- No hats can be worn during play.

Coaches are not permitted to changes the rules in this league at any time.

- Only the Instructional League Commissioner may change the rules!
- Remember, this is also an instructional league for referees!

Compliments are appreciated ... but berating these kids will not be tolerated!

- Think about it being your own kid with an over enthusiastic coach yelling at them don't do it!
- Think FUN for everyone!





Referees:

- Each game will be refereed by two (2) WCSC approved referees.
- The referees will be in charge of all elements of the game and will enforce proper conduct.
- Each referee is to be paid by the scheduled home team.
- In the event that only one referee is present, he/she will be paid the entire fee.
- Please remember these referees are also learning a different side of the game – it goes without saying to be respectful. Remember they are in-charge!

The Game:

- Field of play will measure approximately 50 yards. x 30 yards.
- Players will use a size 3 ball
- A game will be made up of four (4) quarters each lasting eight (8) minutes.
- There will be a one (1) minute interval between periods and a five (5) minute break at halftime.
- Teams will change sides of the field after each quarter. Yes, each quarter!
- In the event that a game should be cancelled due to inclement weather before halftime, the game will be rescheduled. In the event of a rain-out/reschedule = work with each other and the club scheduler, Marcie (rosenston@fuse.net) to quickly get a date and time.
- Parents and other cheering fans should cheer from the opposite side of the field from you and the team – set that expectation from the beginning. If they wanted to be on the team side then should have signed up to coach 😊
 - Referees can hold the game until fans are positioned opposite the teams.





Game Day Organization:

- You and your team should plan to arrive to your field 20-30 minutes before game time.
 - Warm up your players and let them stretch out a little
- Half to fruit/refresh and after the game drink/snack – set-up a schedule and remind the parents
 - The players that bring stuff can be the game’s Team Captains that game.
 - Example from my spring season – I modified the schedule once I received to include info I wanted to share.

DAY	DATE	CLUB	PARK	FIELD	Arrive to the field by	TIME	HOME	VIS	HOME COACH	VISITOR COACH	Captains	
											Half time Fruit	After the Game Drinks
Tues	18-Apr	WCSC	Hopewell	9	530	6:00 PM	2	8	Murley	Shaw	N Ahmad	Oberhaus
Wed	19-Apr	Little Miami	Veterans Park	SK2	6	6:30 PM	6	2	Slone	Murley	A Awad	Pocisk
Sat	22-Apr	WCSC	Hopewell	9	1230	1:00 PM	2	4	Murley	McCallen	DeVillbiss	Lewis
Tues	25-Apr	Monroe	Monroe Crossings	S/K 1	6	6:30 PM	5	2	Kiser	Murley	Hanieh	Siddige
Sat	29-Apr	Marimont	Kugler Mill	Field 1	730 for pix	9:00 AM	1	2	Jackson	Murley	Khan	Smith
Sat	6-May	WCSC	Hopewell	9	830	9:00 AM	2	7	Murley	Carrelli	Lewis	VonErden
Sat	13-May	Loveland	Phillips	B	930	10:00 AM	9	2	Caney	Murley	Li	Ahmad
Sat	20-May	WCSC	Hopewell	9	830	9:00 AM	2	3	Murley	Austin	Nelson	Oberhaus
Monday	22-May	Team Party – location to be determined! Plan for it now!										

Start of Play:

- The teams will line up and the referees will discuss the game with the teams and coaches
- A coin toss with the team captains will determine choice of goals to defend and first possession.
 - Visiting teams will call the toss with the coin toss winning team will choose the goal to defend and the coin toss losing team will take the kick. To start the game

Players & Substitutions:

- The instructional game: 6 players vs. 6 players (no goalies)
- Each team should begin play with four players in an offensive position and two playing in defense.
- Defensive players should be encouraged to move out toward the midfield as much as possible, even allowing them to cross the half line when they have possession of the ball.
- We want the kids to score goals! Please don’t allow the score to become lopsided – it should be fun for all the players on both teams! Lots of scoring by both teams – hence no goalies or players in the box.
- NO GOALIES and coaches and referees will encourage defensive players to move up into the play.
- Coaches may substitute for any player during a dead ball situation, with the consent of the referee.
 - Get your subs to midfield





- Every player must play a minimum of 2 quarters of each game, except in the case of illness or injury.
 - In most cases, it should be very easy to get all the players three quarters of playing time.
- One coach from each team may be on the field during play to assist the kids with positions.
- Another coach may be positioned off the field - behind the goal also helping position player.

Ball in & Out of Play:

- The ball is out of play when it crosses the touch line or goal line, or if the referee stops play for any reason. As instructed by the referee, the ball will be put back in play via a throw-in, goal kick, corner kick, or drop ball.
- If a player makes a mistake on a throw-in, they will be allowed a second chance. If the second attempt is unsuccessful, the player will continue to try until acceptable. Coaches should offer assistance
- If a goal kick is awarded, that kick can be taken from anywhere along the goal circle.

Fouls & Misconduct:

- It is not expected that discipline will be a factor at this level; however, the referees will enforce rules infractions representing rough play and/or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- The referees will address these issues with the coach prior to any disciplinary action.
- All rules infractions will result in an indirect kick (must hit two players)

Yes, we play in the rain!

Just because it's rainy does not mean that your game is postponed:

- Call the WCSC hotline at 513-777-1325 for home game conditions.

Weather Definition!

- Rain – PLAY ON unless the board or referee feels field conditions are not playable.
- Thunder/Lightning – Take cover in cars – 30-minute delay – restarts with each instance.
 - WCSC Board or referee will give all-clear
- Game postponed after half-time – considered complete.
- Game postponed before half-time – get it rescheduled quickly – coaches: follow the reschedule process

Rescheduling of Games: (weather or school conflicts)

- If for any reason a game needs to be rescheduled; please contact Marcie at rosenston@fuse.net
- Games cannot be rescheduled without scheduler interaction
- Rescheduling works best when the home and visiting coaches choose a mutually convenient date and contact the Club to arrange for referees.

