

Citadel Women's 7-Aside Soccer League Rules and Regulations
January 2020

Rule 1

Registration - Players and Team Officials

- a. All players and officials of teams participating in the League, regardless of the season, shall register each year with Soccer Nova Scotia.
- b. No player shall be deemed registered for participation nor shall she compete in any game of the League unless she is registered in the Soccer Nova Scotia IT Registration System prior 24 hours prior to the game as per Soccer Nova Scotia Player Registration Policy.
- c. If the day should fall on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, then no later than 5:00 p.m. on the last business day immediately preceding this day.
- d. Each team participating in the League must register not less than twelve (12) players and no more than twenty-two (22) players.
- e. All players who register, on a team participating in the League are bound to that team, unless transferred or released, until the end of the League's current playing season, or July 15, which ever comes earlier.
- f. For greater certainty in the application and interpretation of this rule, "*acknowledge as received by Soccer Nova Scotia*" shall mean the registered in the SNS IT Registration.
- g. Only players who have reached their thirty-fifth (35th) birthday on or before Dec. 31 of the preceding year are eligible to play in the League.
- h. Players playing on Teams in the League may only be registered to play on one League team per season for scheduled League games, except for a co-ed (recreational) league
- i. The maximum number of teams designated Over 35 in the League shall not exceed 24 teams.
- j. The maximum number of teams designated Over 45 in the League shall not exceed 24 teams.
- k. A new team must declare in writing to a member of the Executive its' intention to join the League 2 months prior to the registration date of the upcoming season. New teams will be placed in the lowest division available for their initial season, their "evaluation season". Divisional placement for the following season will be decided by the executive, based on the team's performance in the evaluation season. A new team may petition the League to be placed in a higher division for their initial season. The League executive will make the final decision.

Rule 2

Team Registration

- a. Teams are to be registered for this League on or before May 1, of each year.
- b. Team registration fees must be paid in accordance with the procedure as set out in Article 7 of the League constitution. Teams applying for membership to the League must submit annually \$100.00 with each application for team registration. This fee is non-refundable and shall be applied to each team's registration fees.
- c. The League's Executive shall grant membership in a Division upon approval and acceptance of the application for team registration.
- d. Changes to the team roster must be made by and including June 30. Transfers between teams, within the same club, can be made by and including July 15th.
- e. Any team that withdraws from the League after the season has started will not be entitled to any refund of fees.
- f. Each manager must check that each player is registered with correct and eligible birthdate as per Rule 1 g. If a player is discovered to have been ineligible to play, all games in the season up to that date will be defaulted.

Rule 3

Transfer/Movement of Players

- a. Applications for transfers shall be based on published rules, which have been established by Soccer Nova Scotia.
- b. Transfer will not be permitted after July 15 in each year.
- c. A player registered with any club or team that ceases to operate and which has been declared defunct by the League shall be deemed released by that team or club and may transfer to any other team or club willing to accept her, prior to July 31.

Rule 4

Uniforms

- a. Each team participating in the League shall have one set of uniforms in a distinct combination of colors. Teams should also have another set of uniforms in a different colour or set of pinnies with numbers or material where the uniform numbers can be seen. One combination of colors shall be designated "home" colors.

- b. In the event of a clash in colors, the away team shall change into its alternate color uniform or pinnie. Away team is the team listed on the far right of the schedule.
- c. All players on a team, with the exception of the goalkeeper, shall wear the same color jersey (or pinnies), shorts and socks. Each jersey shall have a different number on the back.
- d. A player wearing a brace with any exposed hard surface must ensure that her brace is adequately covered in order to play.

Rule 5 Games

- a. Each team shall complete a League team sheet for each game. Only players whose names appear on the team sheet may take part in the game. Names may not be added to the team sheet after half time.
- b. Team sheets must be given to the referee five (5) minutes prior to the commencement of second half.
- c. Five (5) minutes before the commencement of kick - off, the home team shall provide the referee with a suitable game ball (SIZE #5).
- d. Each team may dress a maximum of 22 players per game.
- e. Default of a game will be caused by:
 - i. A team having fewer than five (5) players at the beginning of any schedule game.
 - ii. A team using ineligible or unregistered player(s).
 - iii. A winning team, or in the event of a tie the home team, not mailing/faxing in statistics to the Scheduler within five (5) days following the game.
- f. Where a team has been found to have played an ineligible player, the game shall be forfeited and awarded to their opponents with a score of 3-0 (refer to Rule 6 protest process if applicable).
- g. If a team fails to show up for a scheduled game within 5 minutes of the official game start time or fails to field a minimum of 5 players, the game is defaulted and the opposing team is deemed to win 3-0
 - i. For a first default in a season, the defaulting team pays the entire referee fee and the field rental fees (currently \$25 for summer, \$75 for winter) for the opposing team.
 - ii. For a second default in a season, the defaulting team pays a fine of \$100 in addition to the referee fee and the field rental fee.

iii. For a third default in a season, the defaulting team pays and a fine of \$400 in addition to the referee fee and the field rental fee

iv. Exception:

In winter when the driving conditions are questionable, the majority of 3 executive table officers may agree that "forfeit fee forgiveness" applies. This decision is made by 6pm on gameday.

In this situation, if a team chooses not to play, the game is scored as a forfeit and the defaulting team pays the full referee fee. However, no penalty fee is charged, and it is not included in the count of defaults. Additionally, the opposing team does not receive reimbursement of the field fee (currently \$75)

v. All fees and fines, payable by a defaulting team, must be paid to the league by the end of the playing season in which they are incurred. Any team with outstanding / unpaid fees or fines will not be able to register for the next season.

h. FIFA Laws of the Game (17 Laws) apply to Women's 7-Aside Soccer with the following modifications:

Law 1. Field of Play

The field of play shall be no less than half of a minimum regulation sized field. Field markings may be reduced proportionally.

The net size shall be 8 feet high by 24 Feet high

Law 3. The Number of Players

Not more than 7 players per team on the field. A match may not start if either team consists of fewer than 5 players.

There is no limit to the number of substitutes. Unlimited substitution is permitted on any stoppage of play *at the discretion of the referee.*

Law 7. The Duration of the Match

The game is divided into 2 halves of 30 minutes each. There will be a 5-minute break at half time.

Law 8. The Start and Restart of Play

Opponents shall be 6 yards from the ball

Law 11. Offside

There is no offside rule in 7-Aside Soccer.

Law 12. Fouls and Misconducts

If a player slides on the ground within playing distance of another player in an attempt to play the ball, an **indirect free kick** is awarded to the opposing team.

If a player makes contact with another player whilst sliding on the ground in an attempt to play the ball, a **direct free kick** (or penalty in the penalty area) is awarded to the opposing team.

Rule 6 Protests

- a. The Leagues Discipline Committee shall deal with all protests.
- b. All protests shall be submitted in writing to the League office no later than twenty-four (24) hours after the end of a game being protested.
- c. A protest fee of \$100.00 must accompany protests. In the event that the protest is upheld, the protest fee shall be refunded. If the protest is denied, the protest fee will be forfeited.
- d. Upon receipt of a protest, the League office shall within forty-eight (48) hours send a copy of the protest to the party protested against. Both parties shall have the right to attend a hearing, either may waive the right in writing, in which case the protest will be dealt with in their absence.
- e. Any team directly involved in a protest that is not satisfied with the decision may appeal to the Soccer Nova Scotia Discipline and Appeals Committee.

Rule 7 Discipline

Discipline will be administered according to SNS Policies and Procedures Handbook (Discipline and Appeals Section)

Rule 8 League Standings

- a. For all divisions, a team's standing within a division shall be determined by a points system based on three (3) points for a win, one (1) for a draw and zero (0) points for a loss.

- b. A team defaults when they do not show up for the game or they have less than 5 players on their team five minutes after the referee calls for the captains. This results in a 3-0 win for the non-defaulting team. A game that is cancelled or abandoned before half time will result in a nil/nil tie. The score of a game that is abandoned during the second half will be the score that is standing at the time when the game was abandoned.
- c. Only in the event of a referee not showing up may the game be rescheduled. The two teams affected will organize the rescheduling jointly. All costs including any additional field fees and referee fees will be borne by the two affected teams. If the game is a provincial-qualifying game, the rescheduled game must take place within 2 weeks of the cancelled game. If the game is not rescheduled the resulting score will be a nil/nil tie.
- d. Where two or more teams are tied in the standings of a division at the conclusion of the season, the higher standing shall be awarded to:
 - i. Previous Match Results – Head to head -- The team with the best record in games involving only the tied teams shall be awarded the higher standing (not applicable if three (3) or more tied).
 - ii. Goal Difference -- The team with the best goal difference (total goals for minus the total goals against) shall be awarded the higher standing. A maximum difference of five (5) goals shall be awarded in each game.
 - iii. Least Goals Against -- The team having the fewest goals against them shall be awarded the higher standing.
 - iv. Goals For -- The team having scored the most goals shall be awarded the higher standing.
 - v. Penalty Kicks -- If two or more teams are still tied under criteria (1)-(4), then the higher standings shall be decided by kicks from the penalty spot.
- e. The winning team or in the event of a tie the home team will fax or mail the results of the game and any other particulars required by the League and the Scheduler within five (5) days of the game.
- f. If a team fails to send in the results according to Rule 8 d., without proof of a fax confirmation, the winning team or the in the event of a tie the home team, the resulting score of the game will be recorded as 3-0 loss for the winning team or in the event of a tie – the home team.

Rule 9

Game Officials

- a. All games shall have a referee who shall be appointed by the League and registered with Soccer Nova Scotia.

- b. Referees shall use the yellow and red card system to caution or dismiss players or team officials from the game. The yellow or red card system shall be supplemented by the Soccer Nova Scotia automatic discipline system, which shall also govern cautions and ejections during League games.
- c. The balance of suspensions partially served during the current playing season shall be served at the start of the following playing season. For greater certainty in the application of this Rule, “play season” is defined to include both League regular games and League play off games.

Rule 10
Administrative Procedures

- a. Minutes of Meetings
 - i. Copies of minutes of League meetings shall be submitted to Soccer Nova Scotia.
- b. Expenses
 - i. All persons appointed to represent the League shall be entitled to claim expenses incurred in their duties, at rates established from time to time by the League.
 - ii. Members of the Executive shall be entitled to a refund of all reasonable expenses incurred during the performance of their duties.
 - iii. Committee chairman and committee members shall be entitled to a refund of all reasonable expenses incurred as members of a committee when those expenses have been incurred directly as a result of committee work.
 - iv. Claims for reimbursement shall be submitted promptly on forms supplied by the League.
 - v. Appropriate receipts must support all expenses.
- c. League Communications
 - i. All correspondence and communications made with respect to League matters will be made through the office of the appropriate officer of the League. It is expressly recognized that communications between Soccer Nova Scotia and members of the League concerning League matters will be made through the League’s Executive Committee.

Rule 11

Citadel Women’s 7-Aside Soccer League adopts any amendment or changes of the Rules of Soccer Nova Scotia.