



## SPRSC Playing Time Policy

### Purpose

Sherwood Parkdale Rangers Soccer Club (SPRSC) believes that playing time during games is a critical factor in the development of individual players. Games provide playing conditions that can be simulated, but not reproduced in a training environment. Lack of playing time during games inevitably limits a player's ability to improve technically and tactically.

At the same time, SPRSC does not believe that players on its competitive teams should receive equal amounts of playing time during games without regard to certain factors, including the following:

- Commitment to attend (and arrive on time for) practices and games
- Effort, attitude, and behaviour during practices and games
- Fitness level
- Ability to work/play well with teammate

In addition, SPRSC believes that technical and tactical abilities should be considered as a factor (only) for players U13 and older.

### Guidelines

Based on the above, SPRSC has adopted the following policy regarding playing time for its competitive program:

- 1) Players on teams U11 and younger should have equal playing time in all team games, including League games, Exhibition games, Tournament games and organized scrimmages. Coaches may reduce playing time at their discretion for individual players due to any of the following (not to go below 10 minutes playing time per half):
  - a. Poor attendance and/or punctuality at practices and/or games
  - b. Poor effort, attitude and/or behaviour during practices and/or games
  - c. Poor fitness level, including injuries
  - d. Inability to work/play well with teammates



- 2) Playing times for players on teams U13 and older should play 1/3 to 1/2 of the game at the Premier and 1<sup>st</sup> Division level and have equal playing time at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division level for all League games, Exhibition games, Tournament games and organized scrimmages. Coaches may reduce playing time at their discretion for individual players due to any of the following (no to go below 10 minutes playing time per half):
  - a. Poor attendance and/or punctuality at practices and/or games
  - b. Poor effort, attitude and/or behaviour during practices and/or games
  - c. Poor fitness level, including injuries
  - d. Inability to work/play well with teammate's
  - e. Lack of technical and/or tactical abilities
- 3) SPRSC expects its coaches to communicate decisions to limit/reduce playing time to the players who are affected by those decisions. Coaches should communicate the factors in their decisions, as well as any steps that the player(s) can take to receive more playing time in the future. SPRSC expects its coaches to consider what is best for individual players *and* what is best for the team as a whole in determining how much playing time individual players receive.
- 4) Players with questions or concerns about playing time may approach their coach directly in a manner prescribed by the coach.
- 5) Parents with questions or concerns about playing time should follow the 24 hour rule and address their concerns to the Team Manager or designated Team official.