

# Northshore Recreational Soccer League

## **I. Mission**

The Northshore Recreational Soccer League (NRSL) has been established by area soccer clubs to promote interclub play for the recreational player. Our goal is provide the older recreational soccer player a friendly, yet competitive atmosphere to play the game they have grown to love.

## **II. Membership**

Covington Youth Soccer Association (CYSA)  
South Tangi Youth Soccer Association (STYSA)  
Mandeville Soccer Club (MSC)  
Slidell Youth Soccer Club (SYSC)

Club Contact information is attached as exhibit.

## **III. Teams**

Member clubs will encourage its teams to participate in the NRSL, where appropriate. Each member understands and agrees that this league is only made up of Recreational soccer teams. Recreational Plus, Challenge, Select or Premier teams are not invited to participate in this league.

Recreational teams are formed and governed by LSA guidelines. Within these guidelines team formation is at the discretion of the participating members, however, we would encourage team balance in order to promote the goal of this league.

The NRSL will provide league play for:

Boys	U-11/12	Girls	U-11/12
Boys	U-13/14	Girls	U-13/14

Older age groups will be considered based upon demand.

## **IV. Referees**

Each member club will provide referees for home games at its own cost. These club assigned referees are required to officiate and call games pursuant to the Laws of the Game established by FIFA, as modified and amended.

The NRSL has adopted a "**zero tolerance**" policy with respect to dissent of referee calls or abusive behavior directed to referees from the sidelines by spectators and coaches or by the players. Club assigned referees are specifically authorized to hold coaches responsible for abusive behavior and dissent from parents during the game. Referees may sanction a coach of a team whose spectator's behavior is inappropriate, including presentation of a red card to the coach or termination of a game with forfeiture granted to the opposing side. This sanction may be made against the coach although the coach may be personally blameless.

## V. The Game

### a) Scheduling

Prior to each season, member clubs will participate in a scheduling meeting. One member club may be designated to issue the league schedules. It is the desire of the NRSL to schedule games on a "home and home" basis, in order to appropriately share the costs of referees as well as to promote the league.

At the end of the Spring Season each year, the NRSL will hold its league championship. A committee will be formed each year to plan and run the NRSL Championship. The cost of this year-end championship, t-shirts and trophies will be borne by the member clubs on a pro-rata basis based upon the number of teams competing.

### b) Coach Contact

Coaches are **required** to contact each other prior to game date to confirm team attendance, uniform colors, etc... Teams are expected to play games as scheduled, unless prior arrangements are made. Violations ("No Shows") of this rule will be brought to the Disciplinary Committee.

### c) Equipment

Uniforms are provided at the member club level. As teams may from time to time have identical or similar uniforms, it is incumbent upon the coaches to contact each other prior to the game to make suitable arrangements. The home team has the right to wear its standard uniform. The NRSL does not recommend these teams incur additional costs of purchasing alternative uniforms, but rather work with the clubs to utilize temporary uniforms such as "T - shirts".

All players must have appropriate shin-guards and footwear. The game will be played with a size 4-soccer ball for U-12, and a size 5-soccer ball at U-14 and above.

d) Minimum Players

U-11/12 games will be played as 8 v 8. U-13/14 games will be played 11 v 11. At times teams will not be able to field a complete team. A team may play a game with a few as six players at U-12 and seven players at U-14. Guest players may be used to play a game provided:

- the player(s) are registered players at the members club,
- the player(s) are from a REC team in the NRSL, and are at or below the age group,
- the player(s) are necessary to complete a game roster of no more than 8 players for U-12 and 11 players for U-14,
- the guest players are disclosed to the opposing coach prior to the game,

Guest players, however, cannot be used in the year-end League Championship games.

e) Sidelines

Unless impractical, or otherwise directed by the referee, parents and spectators shall view the game for the opposite side of the field from the players and coaches.

f) Substitutions

Recreational soccer permits free substitution of players throughout the game, except for the final two minutes of each half. Players may be substituted in the following manner:

- on a ball out-of-bounds, by the team throwing in only;
- on a goal kick, by either team;
- only after requesting substitution of the associate (linesman) or senior (center) referee prior to the time permitted for substitutions;
- only from the halfway line;
- players enter the field only after the substituted player has reached the touchline, or when waived on by the senior referee.

Players may also be substituted after a goal by either team after notifying the referee of any substitutions. Injured players who must leave the field may be substituted by the team suffering the injury only, after notice to the referee.

g) Special Rules for Girls

It is the policy of the NSRL that during the game, girls shall not be called for handling the ball if it strikes their arms while protecting their chest from a kicked ball. However, purposeful deflection or other movement of the arms that are deemed intended to gain advantage, in the sole and exclusive judgement of the referee, does constitute handling of the ball and should be penalized accordingly.

h) Duration of Games

Games will be scheduled and played with the following time parameters:

U-12	two 30 minute halves
U-14	two 35 minute halves

i) Weather

As safety of the players, coaches and spectators is paramount, games will be suspended or cancelled due to inclement. Referees are required to suspend games when lightning is present. When field conditions are too wet or muddy to permit safe play, the home club may cancel games as well.

NRSL members will abide by club or property owners' decision to close fields. Each club will provide a "hotline" or "weather number" to call prior to travelling to game locations to see if a particular field(s) has been closed.

Pelican Park (Mandeville) Weather Hotline - 985-626-1444  
SYSC (Slidell) Weather Hotline - (985) 649-2175  
CYSA (Covington) Hotline - (985) 867-1665  
STYSA (Hammond) - Call STYSA Coach

j) Rescheduling Games

All games that have to be rescheduled should be done so through the "home" club and with the approval of both team coaches.

k) Game Conduct

Players and coaches are expected to abide by the principles of good sportsmanship and fair play at all times. However, players and coaches are

specifically prohibited from:

- being behind either goal line during the game
- being closer than 18 yards from the corner of the field
- entering the field without the permission of the referee
- consuming alcohol or tobacco at games
- making derogatory gestures or statements to referees or opposing players and/or spectators, including particularly dissenting from referees' rulings during the game.

**Sending Off - The consequences of being shown a red card by the referee shall be that the coach or player is immediately suspended from further play or coaching during the game in progress, and is suspended from the next sanctioned NRSL league game in which his team competes.** The player or coach must immediately and without dissent leave the playing field and sidelines to a position out of hearing and sight of the referee for the duration of the game. No further contact with the game referees are permitted by the player or coach shown a red card on the day of the infraction.

Member club assigned referees shall prepare a game report regarding any conduct by coaches or players receiving a red card. This report shall be filed with the home club administrator. The home club is responsible for notifying the visiting club administrators of the red card incident for further action as dictated by individual club rules.

## **VI. League Standings**

None – The league does not keep Won/Loss records. A year-end tournament is held and the brackets are drawn at random.

## **VII. Disciplinary Committee**

Disciplinary action against a team or a player will reside at the club level. To the extent it affects the NSRL, such action will be reported to the NSRL Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee will be comprised of one member from each participating club. This committee will be convened upon need.

### a) Protests

Any protest must be lodged with the members own club and is subject to its own procedures. Any protest that further requires the attention of the NRSL must be brought by its designated NRSL representative and directed to the current NRSL director. Such protest would then be review by a committee consisting of one representative from each of the member clubs. The committee decision will be final.